



Maranatha International Church October 2026 Newsletter

OCTOBER 2026 — A MONTH FOR MISSIONS

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.”

— Mark 16:15 (NKJV)

Dear Maranatha Family,

October is a special month at Maranatha International Church as we turn our hearts once again toward **missions**.

The Great Commission reminds us that the heart of God reaches far beyond the walls of our church. Every nation, every people, every language, and every person matters to Him. And while not all of us are called to travel across the world as missionaries, **all of us are called to participate in the mission.**

We participate when we pray. We participate when we give. We participate when we encourage and support those who have answered God’s call to go. And we participate when we share Christ right where God has placed us.

As we prepare for our **Fall Missions Convention**, let us ask the Lord to give us His heart for the lost and to show each of us what part He wants us to play. May this be more than an event on our church calendar. May it renew within us a passion to see the gospel carried from our community to the nations.

THREE SPECIAL UNIFIED SERVICES

October gives us three wonderful opportunities to worship together as **one church family**, with unified services at **11:00 AM on October 4, 11, and 18.**

Please note that these unified services are for the month of October only, in connection with our Missions Convention. Beginning in November, we will return to our regular service schedule.

We begin this **Sunday, October 4, at 11:00 AM** with our Unified Service and **Pastor Appreciation Sunday**. Immediately following the service, we will enjoy a brief time of fellowship with cake and refreshments. Our **Church Council Meeting** will follow the fellowship time. Please plan to worship with us, enjoy the fellowship, and stay for this important meeting.

OUR FALL MISSIONS CONVENTION BEGINS!

The following Sunday, **October 11**, our Fall Missions Convention begins with a **Unified Missions Service at 11:00 AM**. We are especially excited to welcome **five missionary guests** during our convention this year.

Following the service, we will gather for our **Missions Banquet**, which will also be held in the sanctuary. The meal is free, and a freewill offering will be received to help with the cost of the food.

Please fill out the **RSVP card in this Sunday's bulletin** so we can prepare for everyone attending. You can also indicate on the card if you would like to bring a dessert to share.

Many hands will be needed to make the banquet a success! We need volunteers to help with **setup, kitchen duties, and cleanup**. If you can serve, please sign up in the foyer.

FAITH PROMISE — EVERYONE CAN HAVE A PART

During our Missions Convention, we will receive **Faith Promises for Missions on October 11 and October 18**.

A Faith Promise is an opportunity to prayerfully ask, “**Lord, what would You have me give toward missions?**” We encourage everyone to seek the Lord concerning what He would have you commit to giving toward missions during the next six months.

It is not simply about an amount—it is about allowing God to use us together to carry the Gospel farther than any one of us could carry it alone.

MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT WITH MISSIONS

Our missions celebration continues on **Thursday, October 15, at 10:30 AM** with a special **Missions Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall**. The luncheon is free, and a love offering will be received for our missionary speakers. Please sign up in the foyer if you plan to attend.

Then on **Saturday, October 17, at 9:00 AM**, the men will gather for our **Men's Missions Breakfast**. Breakfast is free, and a love offering will also be received for our speaker. Men, please sign up in the foyer and come ready for a great morning of fellowship and missions.

Finally, on **Sunday, October 18, at 11:00 AM**, we will conclude our Missions Convention with another powerful **Unified Missions Service**. Faith Promises will again be received. We encourage our entire church family to participate throughout the convention and take advantage of the opportunity to hear from our five special missionary guests.

Let's pray, let's give, and let's believe together for God to use Maranatha International Church to touch our community and the nations!

OUR YOUTH ARE GETTING TOGETHER!

Before the convention begins, our youth will have a **Game Night on Friday, October 9, at 7:00 PM**, on the third floor of the 9731 building. Youth, don't miss a great evening together—and **invite a friend!**

AFRICAN FELLOWSHIP

Our **African Fellowship** will gather on **Sunday, October 18, at 4:00 PM**. Mark your calendars and plan to be part of this special time of fellowship.

REMEMBERING OUR BROTHER THOM GAGNE

As we celebrate all that God is doing, we also stand together as a church family in times of sorrow.

We extend our deepest condolences to **Connie Gagne and her family** on the homegoing of her husband, **Thom Gagne**. Thom was a longtime member of Maranatha and a beloved brother in our church family. We are grateful for his life and the many years he was part of our fellowship.

A **Celebration of Life Service** will be held on **Saturday, October 24**, at The Stone Church, 10737 Orland Parkway, Orland Park. A time of greeting the family will be held from **1:00–2:00 PM**, with the service beginning at **2:00 PM**. Refreshments will follow the service.

Please continue to keep **Connie and the entire Gagne family in your prayers**, asking the Lord to surround them with His comfort, strength, and peace.

LET'S MAKE OCTOBER COUNT

October will be a full and meaningful month at Maranatha International Church. Let us not simply attend the events—**let us come with expectant hearts**.

May we worship together, serve together, fellowship together, give together, and above all, carry together the mission Jesus entrusted to His Church.

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.”

Thank you for your faithful participation and support. Please see the **church calendar** for all the events taking place throughout the month.

Serving Christ Together,

Pastor Nader Kavar

Senior Pastor

Maranatha International Church

P.S. Please see the attached October calendar for an overview of events.