

Austin Karen Baptist Church (AKBC)

Karen people: One of the eight major ethnic groups in Myanmar within which there are 135 sub ethnic cultures and languages. As a result of the Baptist missionary Adoniram Judson, the vast majority of the Karen people are Baptists.

Most arrived to the USA in the mid-2000's from refugee camps located just across their border in Thailand where they lived for an average of 12 years.

AKBC start: May 7, 2009. Met Thursday evenings at North Austin Christian Church through the blessing of Pastor Rick Banda.

<u>AKBC legal status</u>: Certificate of Formation approved by Texas Secretary of State in October 2011. Affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas since November 2011.

AKBC Pastors: Pastor Boun, May 2009- December 2009 (came from San Antonio)
Pastor Moe Eh, January 2010- March 2019 (passed away)
Pastor Hser Gay, currently serving

AKBC Baptisms: First baptism was June 11, 2009; over 50 baptisms since.

AKBC Locations: North Austin Christian Church, May-November 2009
Austin Baptist Church, November 2009- September 2012
Skyview Ministry Center, September 2012- December 2021
Gateway Baptist Church, January 2022-May 2025
Rosedale Baptist Church, May 2025-present

AKBC Congregation: 60 average total with 30 adults, 15 youth, and 15 children meeting on Sunday afternoon at Rosedale Baptist Church located at 4400 Maybelle Avenue in Austin. The vast majority of the AKBC congregation are now US citizens.

<u>Contacts</u>: Saw Par Ku, Deacon Chairman sawcuu@gmail.com or Mulwai Htoo Way, Church Secretary mulwaiway@gmail.com.

Sponsors: Crestview Baptist Church, Georgetown; Austin Baptist Church; Austin Baptist Association; Baptist General Convention of Texas

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