

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cross Theological Seminary and The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Announce Academic Partnership

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS — March 16, 2026 — Cross Theological Seminary is pleased to announce a formal academic partnership with The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (SBTS) in Louisville, Kentucky. This partnership reflects a shared commitment to confessional fidelity, rigorous theological education, and the preparation of pastors and ministry leaders for faithful service to Christ and His Church.

Under the terms of the agreement, graduates of Cross Theological Seminary who complete the Master of Theological Studies (MTS) degree may transfer the full complement of their degree hours into the Master of Divinity (MDiv) program at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Students may then complete an additional 39 credit hours to earn the MDiv degree. The partnership also provides clear academic pathways for students seeking to pursue advanced theological study at SBTS, including doctoral programs.

Dr. Jeff Crawford, President of Cross Theological Seminary, welcomed the partnership:

“We are grateful for the confidence The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has placed in Cross Theological Seminary and in our mission to provide a theologically faithful and academically rigorous foundation for ministry. This partnership represents a meaningful alignment between our institutions and affirms our shared commitment to the authority of Scripture, the mission of the church, and the careful preparation of pastors and ministry leaders. We are pleased to offer our students a clear and trusted pathway for continued theological training at an institution that has served the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention with distinction for generations.”

Founded in 2024, Cross Theological Seminary is a ministry of Cross Church in Northwest Arkansas. The seminary currently offers full-tuition scholarships for all accepted students enrolled in its Master of Theological Studies program.

For more information about Cross Theological Seminary and its partnership with The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, please visit www.CrossSeminary.com.

Media Contact:

Brian Dunaway
Director of Communications
Cross Theological Seminary
Email: briand@crosschurch.com
Website: www.CrossSeminary.com