

church planting

(CEDAR CITY CHURCH)



David and Renee Hackney moved their family from an established home in Hamilton to their new hometown of Lebanon, Ohio with the specific goal of starting a new church. Beginning with small gatherings in their own home, *Cedar City Church* has become a true part of the fabric of Lebanon as they continue to love, grow, serve, and join their lives together with others in the community.

The church is in a unique position. Located in a diverse, lower-income part of town – they have been given a ‘front row seat’ to a wide variety of visible brokenness. It is a regular occurrence for *Cedar City Church* to engage with people who are homeless, who are addicted to substances, and who need all types of practical assistance.

David shares that “Our desire is to love, serve and be a gospel witness to ‘the least of these’ as well as the entire Lebanon, Ohio community.” This church is indeed a family formed by the gospel and sent on God's mission to reach the lost.

- Pray for many to be saved and discipled through our new food co-op ministry.
- Pray for more people to make Cedar City Church their home and for new leaders to be trained and empowered to lead.

activation

(LIFE CHURCH MONROE)

In 2018, Shawn and Michelle Peoples were in a season of prayer seeking for a church planter to come to Monroe, Ohio. They wanted God to send someone to bring the Gospel message of Jesus Christ and reach the city that had been their home for the past two years.

As they continued to pray, God started forming connections between the Peoples and other families – many of whom were far from Jesus. The relationships they were building through sports, family activities, and community events began to shape what God had in store for them. Before long, Shawn and Michelle realized that God had sent them to the city of Monroe. They were to be His representatives to ‘seek and save’ the lost.

A new church sprang up as a result called *Life Church Monroe*. Already the life-changing message of Christ is making an impact on their city. Shawn passionately articulates what he sees God doing through their new church: “We desire to see lostness go down by 5% in the next 10 years and that God would plant other churches in the Mid-west through us.” The leaders of Life Church Monroe have already begun working on the next church plant in a nearby city!



- Pray that Life Church Monroe will see, and be empowered to engage, the needs of their city.
- Pray for more workers and leaders to join the effort to reach these communities for Christ.

Will You Join Us?

As Southern Baptists all over Ohio partner together, we make a bold proclamation for the Kingdom of God! We stand firm on the love of Jesus Christ and on His message of reconciliation through the Gospel. The Ohio missionaries featured in this brochure agree with you, and work to spread this amazing Good News throughout the state.

Please join us to pray for these ministries and missionaries, and for the continued advancement of God's Kingdom in Ohio!

FOR QUESTIONS & TO REQUEST ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FREE OF CHARGE, PLEASE CONTACT

MISSIONS SUPPORT & MOBILIZATION RESOURCE GROUP

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State Convention
of Baptists in Ohio



STATE CONVENTION OF BAPTISTS IN OHIO
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JACK KWOK, PH.D. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-TREASURER

**THE RAY ROBERTS OFFERING
FOR STATE MISSIONS IN OHIO**

*“But I will hope continually and will
praise you yet more and more.”*

Psalms 71:14 (ESV)



Hope Across Ohio
Prayer Guide

THE RAY ROBERTS OFFERING
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how to use this prayer guide:

Each of the missionaries and ministries highlighted in this brochure depend on your support & partnership through *The Ray Roberts State Missions Offering*. This brochure has been designed to guide you as you pray for God's work in Ohio during the week of September 6-13, 2020. We ask that you take a few moments each day to read about one of the ministries, then join us to pray for God to be at work – It's that simple!

As we partner together we know God will faithfully continue to reach out through these missionaries and through all of the ongoing work of *Mission Ohio*!

a cooperative effort:

Please also consider supporting Mission Ohio with a financial gift. 100% of all State Missions Offering donations go directly to missions: to spread the Gospel of Christ and engage Ohio for the Glory of God!



diversity

(LAKOTA HILLS)

The Greater Cincinnati area in Southwest Ohio is home to a vast array of people groups representing every corner of the globe. Lakota Hills Baptist Church and their pastor, Travis Smalley, have established a friendly and welcoming community of multiple generations and ethnicities – but they are working to do even more!

Through ministries like on-site classes in "English as a Second Language," a summer lunch program, and free community festivals; Lakota Hills serves members of over thirty-five different ethnic groups every week. At the location in West Chester alone, regular gatherings take place for worshippers who are English speaking, Korean, Arabic, and Hispanic.

But the message of Jesus doesn't stop at the borders of their hometown. Lakota Hills is launching new churches all over the region. With six different church starts already active, Lakota Hills is hoping to impact each of the fifty-two neighborhoods of Cincinnati by fostering the growth of many more new faith communities.

As Pastor Smalley says, "We believe heaven will include people from every ethnic group and our church is to reflect this diversity, being a little taste of heaven on earth."



- Pray for the church to stay focused on reaching Neighbors, the Nations, and the Next Generation for God's glory.
- Pray for health and growth for the Arabic Church Plant from Lakota Hills.

generations

(BARBARA DELORME)

In 1954, Barb DeLorme had an unforgettable summer camp experience at Seneca Lake Baptist Assembly. This fledgling camp tucked away on a beautiful site in Eastern Ohio was hosting events for the first time ever – and lives were already being changed. Recognizing the prompting of God's Spirit, Barb responded to the call over her life to become a missionary.



65 years later, she returned to Seneca Lake Kid's Kamp. As the featured daily missionary, Barb was given the opportunity to share her personal story with a brand new generation of missionaries.

The young campers learned how they could share the Gospel today through the "Christmas Backpack" ministry. Barb works together with other state coordinators around the country to collect and distribute thousands and thousands of backpacks filled with essential supplies and fun surprises. This simple act of love is expressing God's love to thousands of people every year and spreading the life-changing message of Jesus Christ through the Gospel.

- Pray that the backpack ministry will be an encouragement to all: the children receiving gifts as well as the donors and volunteers.
- Pray that God is honored and glorified as He brings many children into His Kingdom.

influence

(URBANCREST)

COVID-19 has had an impact on the way churches operate in Ohio. *What an understatement!* But Tom Pendergrass and his church – *Urbancrest Baptist Church* in Lebanon, Ohio – continue to wrestle with the effects and implications that such a massive health crisis presents.

Urbancrest is a major influence in Southwest Ohio with ministries and programs offering critical support to so many in their local community. But Urbancrest is also a key hub of activity, leadership, and support to other ministry organizations in the area as well as internationally. In fact, two of those other local ministries are also featured in this prayer guide: *Life Church Monroe* with pastor Shawn Peoples and *Cedar City Church* pastored by David Hackney. These ministries as well as others are linked together through Urbancrest to form a solid, effective support network of encouragement and resources.

Numerous church plants, empowered leaders, practical resources, and innumerable messages of encouragement & hope have sprung from Urbancrest through the years. Tom and his team want the mission of the church to carry on through the troubled environment of 2020 without losing any momentum at all. As he puts it, they are ready and willing to get involved in "any way we can to support and lead others to the Gospel."



- Pray for wisdom to lead through the challenges presented by a global pandemic.
- Pray for the physical health of Urbancrest Baptist Church including the Pendergrass family.