

# OHIO BAPTIST MESSENGER

APRIL 2020 | VOLUME 68 NO. 2



State Convention  
of Baptists in Ohio

## We are here for you!

Scripture says that we are both the salt of the earth and the light of the world; that we are also to let our light shine before men so that they may see our good works and glorify our Father which is in heaven. Our prayer is that every one of our churches in Ohio is taking the stance of steadfastness and unwavering faith. As we have been praying for each of our churches, church planters, mission points, and missionaries, we want to let you know that your convention is working diligently to resource and support you in every way we can.

Each of our resource groups is working daily to keep up with the

The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio is complying with the Coronavirus directives of Governor DeWine. Even so, the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio staff is eager to assist Ohio Southern Baptist churches and associations to reach Ohio.

Most of the staff are working from home. They are using call forwarding and/or checking their voice mail to respond to requests from church and association leaders. Contact information for all the staff is located on

changes and the new ideas that would best help our churches reach out into our homes, church family, and communities. I heard it said by one of our pastors recently, "the church has finally left the building." So, in these unprecedented times, please let us know how we can help. We are in this together.

We have been working hard at discovering resources that will best help our churches in these trying times. Things such as online giving, streaming, Facebook live, digital worship, sermon structure for an online audience, group Bible studies, prayer gatherings, etc. As

the Home Page of the SCBO Website.

Some staff members are maintaining regular hours at the office located at 9000 Antares Avenue in the Columbus, Ohio 43240 to facilitate the coordination of missionary and ministry activities. All staff and guests entering the office have their temperature checked with a laser thermometer at the front door.

The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio Resource Team exists to assist affiliated churches and associations



we continue to gather this information, it will be posted on our website under the COVID-19 page or by going to [SCBO.org/covid](http://SCBO.org/covid)

We understand that all of this is very fluid and changes almost daily. Yet the one thing we know is that the Word of God is forever constant. We leave you with this from Psalm 103:19, "The Lord has established His throne in heaven and His kingdom rules over all." None of this has taken God by surprise, and we need to depend upon him.

*Here for you, SCBO Staff*

obey the Great Commission. The staff is praying for all of Ohio, Ohio Southern Baptist churches and associations, and especially pastors and leaders of Ohio Southern Baptist churches. Churches engaged in Great Commission missions and ministries face many challenges. Yet, these challenges occasion Great Commission opportunities. Let's press toward that mark.

*Jack Kwok, Ph.D.*



## EVENTS AT A GLANCE

*For the latest details on SCBO Events please visit [scbo.org/calendar](http://scbo.org/calendar)*

## FEATURED ARTICLES

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Super Summer Update	4
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COVID-19 Resources for Ohio Churches	10-11

# FIRST FRIDAY FAST

## First Friday Fast 2020: East River Road Baptist, February 7

East River Road Baptist Church, Fairfield, hosted a First Friday Fast 2020 gathering on February 7. The church was open from 8 am – 6 pm for people to pray together for the five initiatives outlined by SCBO President Ryan Strother.

### Denominee Process and Future Team

*Seeking His future for Ohio Baptists*

### Church Revitalization

*Seeking His plan for the church*

### Church Planting

*Seeking His places for church plants*

### Pastors and Leaders

*Seeking His favor for pastors, leaders and their families*

### Awakening

*Seeking supernatural gospel impact in Ohio and beyond*

Pastors from area churches: Greg Jackson (FSBC, Camden), Danny Rollins (Rolling Hills, Fairfield), Kris Theobald (Kerusso Church, Fairfield), Andrew Hancock (Allison Avenue, Hamilton), and the host pastor, David Haarmeyer led times of prayer and Scripture reading throughout the day. Members from area churches joined as they had the opportunity.

Steve Hopkins (SCBO) led the opening session using Malachi 3:7 *“Return to Me, and I will return to you,”* says the Lord of Armies.” to set the theme for the day. Psalm 85 provided prayer prompts. The first hour closed with words of the Psalmist: *“Will you not revive us again so that your*

*people may rejoice in You?”* (85:6) and reminder: *“Revival is ultimately Christ Himself, seen, felt, heard, living, active moving in and through His body on earth.”* — Stephen Olford (Henderson, *Old Paths, New Power*, p. 221).

Pastor Haarmeyer writes:

*“As I had begun to pray in January about setting a day aside to fast and pray, which has not been a normal practice in my ministry, I began to search more deeply into the scriptures to see what Christ said and what was the practice in the OT. It was such a blessing to study, teach, and preach about what Christ has commanded us in Scripture to do. A hand full of us in January took on the challenge and the impact was huge on the day, our conversations, and our attention to intentional prayer and fasting. As I continued to pray about the following month, God had pressed it on my heart to gather more of our church body but also to include the other pastors and church families from our area. The event went out on Facebook, emails, text, and phone calls... some responded, some declined, and others came. On the onset of spending an entire day at church hearing scripture, praying alone, together, and corporately was a bit daunting for some to take in and for many time that they could not easily set aside... I would encourage you after the fact that it was totally worth it. He says, ‘Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.’ – Psalm 46:10”*

**Our next FIRST FRIDAY FAST 2020 will be April 3. Due to COVID-19, large group meetings will not be an option. Look for ways to do Zoom, conference calls, etc.!**

# 2020 Training Session

Food Service, Child Care, Chain Saw, Shower Trailer, and Mud-Out Training. You must be 21 to train for Child Care and 18 for all other areas.

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL TRAINING.** We will collect required information, during the training session, to perform a background check. You are welcome to bring your bed roll and sleep in the church at any training session. Meals are provided.

The cost is \$35 per person or \$50 per couple (sharing a training manual)  
Pre-Register at [SCBO.ORG](http://SCBO.ORG) - Questions? Call: (614) 309 - 9751

**Training Date**

**November 6-7, 2020**  
Dover Baptist Temple  
2896 S.R. 800 N.E., Dover, Ohio 44622

**Missions**  
Support + Mobilization

**REACH OHIO**  
OUR ENGAGE ENCOURAGE ENHANCE

<b>Schedule</b>	
<b>Friday</b>	
6:00 PM	Registration
6:30 - 9:30 PM	"Involving Southern Baptists in Disaster Relief"
<b>Saturday</b>	
7:15 AM	Continental Breakfast Served
8:00 AM	Unit Training
12:00 PM	Lunch Provided by DR Food Service
12:30 PM	Evangelism Training
3:00 PM	Dismissed



## The North American Mission Board has released a new awesome product...

This is an evangelism resource developed by James Merritt, that has taken two years to produce, and it is fantastic!

### The Kit Includes:

- A multi-week small group curriculum with videos from James Merritt
- Sermon suggestions and videos
- A new witnessing tool and tract
- Leader's guide
- Participant guide
- Thumb drive with all the digital assets a church needs to carry out the campaign

To request a free copy of the kit, email Jack Helton at [jackhelton@scbo.org](mailto:jackhelton@scbo.org). Supplies are limited.

In addition, don't forget about familiarizing yourself with two valuable evangelism websites that offer great resources, insights, and strategies:  
[www.whosyourone.com](http://www.whosyourone.com) [www.namb.net/evangelism](http://www.namb.net/evangelism)

## THE BEST NEWS KIT!



*Evangelism Training*  
by James Merritt

who's your **1**NE?



# 2.0

JUNE 22-26, 2020  
CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY

*More Details at* [SCBO.ORG](http://SCBO.ORG)

Super Summer is a week of intense Bible learning and leadership development for teenagers hosted at Cedarville University June 22-26. Super Summer has played a major role in equipping students across our state for the last 17 years to make a Kingdom impact that goes beyond the summer and into the rest of their lives. This summer we are unveiling "Super Summer 2.0," which is Super Summer like it has never been done before.

Summer is just a few months away and many of you are wondering about the status of Super Summer. You have questions. "Will it be canceled, or will it go on as planned?" "I haven't registered with my student group yet, should I wait or take care of that now?" "I've already registered, will my money be refunded

if Super Summer gets canceled?"

First, we want you to know that we are asking ourselves the same questions within our team. As the COVID-19 virus pandemic impacts all areas of our society, we are seeking wisdom and understanding from many sources in order to make reasonable, thoughtful, and responsible decisions about Super Summer. The situation is changing daily, and we are listening to the reports and announcements made by the CDC, all levels of government (federal, state, and local), and our conference site Cedarville University. Announcements and decisions made at these various levels can and will impact what happens with Super Summer 2020.

Second, if we decide to cancel Super Summer this June, we will refund all deposits and fees that have been paid to us. The circumstances that we are facing, and which

might ultimately compel us to cancel, are circumstances that are outside of human control.

After April 8, the participant registration fee will change from the early bird rate of \$230 to the regular registration rate of \$275. This date will not be moved back. If you have plans to register before April 8, please consider proceeding with that plan

Having said all of this, please know that we are preparing for Super Summer to still happen at this time. We want you to understand, however, that this status can change next week, tomorrow, or even this afternoon based upon the information that we receive. Please check the SCBO webpage or our Super Summer Facebook page on a regular basis for any new announcements about this summer.

*Josh Chasteen*  
Super Summer Director

## *New & Improved Schedule*

- More control of your learning path
- Theological and practical elective options (30+ options)
- More community time
- Recreation Diversity (10+ options)



**2020 SPEAKER**  
**Jon Wood**  
*VP of Student Life and  
Christian Ministries at  
Cedarville University*

RECREATION PROVIDED BY



## Make your ministry funds work harder.

The Ohio Baptist Foundation partners with WatersEdge Ministry Services to provide deposit options that help churches build strong financial futures and maximize Kingdom impact.

# 2.85%

Annual Percentage Yield

- 1.85% | Enhanced Cash Fund
- 2.25% | One-Year Term Deposit
- 2.55% | Two-Year Term Deposit
- 2.85% | Five-Year Term Deposit

\*Rates updated monthly.

### GET STARTED AT:

614.601.6881 | [scbo.org/foundation](http://scbo.org/foundation)



NOTICE: This is not an offer to sell our securities and we are not soliciting you to buy our securities. We offer and sell our securities only in states where authorized. The offering is made solely by our Offering Circular.

## Partnerships That Prosper

As the Ohio Baptist Foundation (OBF) celebrates its 50th year in ministry, I am grateful for the ministry partnerships, both past and present, that have been established since our early beginnings. In our recent past, one such partnership that has benefited both the OBF and our Ohio Southern Baptist churches is with WatersEdge Ministry Services (WEMS). In our ever changing world economic environment, I am grateful that WEMS provides

opportunities for SCBO churches to invest in competitive financial products that enhance the principles of good biblical stewardship. If your church is in need of a loan to build, renovate, or refinance, the OBF and WEMS can help! And we can assist you with your church savings through financial certificates of deposits! Why not contact us today and start increasing the value of the assets God has given you to steward as you try to impact the world for Christ?

## CHURCH LOANS THAT CHANGE LIVES

The Ohio Baptist Foundation partners with WatersEdge Ministry Services to provide loans to Ohio Baptist churches.

We offer competitive rates, and unlike traditional lenders, interest from your loan is given back to Southern Baptist ministries that touch lives with the Gospel.

### YOUR LOAN SUPPORTS:



Evangelism & church planting



National & international missions



Baptist universities & seminaries



Disaster relief & human needs ministries



GET STARTED AT:  
614.601.6881 | [jhelton@scbo.org](mailto:jhelton@scbo.org)  
[scbo.org/foundation](http://scbo.org/foundation)



# Prayer Summit

FOR PASTORS AND MINISTRY LEADERS



## Prayer Summit 2020: Timely!

When SCBO president Pastor Ryan Strother called Ohio Baptists to First Friday Fast 2020 last November, none of us had heard of COVID-19. Months ago, when we partnered with Pastor Chad Allen and Cuyahoga Valley Church to plan a Prayer Summit with Daniel Henderson, a worldwide pandemic was something in sci-fi movies. But Jesus knew what was coming. Friday, March 6, about 50 pastors and prayer leaders met at CVC for a day of seeking the Lord and His plan for our lives, families, churches, and communities.

The focus of the day was to seek Jesus' face more than His hands, to talk to Jesus, not just about Him, and to seek to understand passionately, know, and intimately relate to Jesus, first and foremost. Through a unique transformative prayer format, we drew near to Jesus together. We came with no personal agendas and left with His agenda for reaching Ohio and beyond on our hearts.

Daniel Henderson led us to worship, glorify, and enjoy Jesus through singing, Scripture reading, and prayer. Daniel, the author of *Old Paths, New Power: Awakening the Church Through Prayer and the Ministry of the Word*, is president

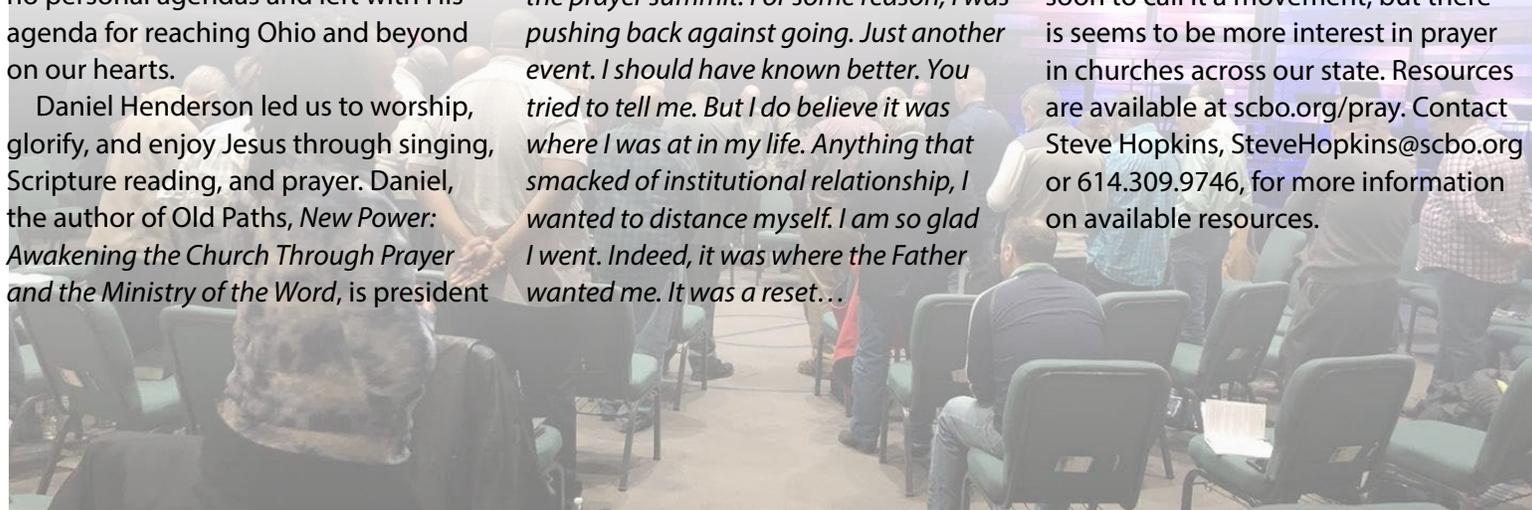
and founder of Strategic Renewal and *The 6:4 Fellowship*. The vision of *Strategic Renewal* is *Helping Pastors Succeed... God's Way*.

David Hallenbeck wrote: *"Prayer summit 2020 - Oh, what a blessing! I had never heard of a prayer summit before, but I am so glad I attended. As the world around us seems to get more troubled, we can ill afford to let the discipline of prayer to be shoved out of our lives. The prayer summit was a powerful time of drawing close to the Savior and allowing the Spirit to move among us. Why is it that these times of spiritual refreshment seem like such rare opportunities? Beloved, let us hold on tight to the Master's hand and bear down in prayer each and every day."*

Another participant shared how this affirmed the work of Jesus in his heart: *"Thank you for the persistent invitation to the prayer summit. For some reason, I was pushing back against going. Just another event. I should have known better. You tried to tell me. But I do believe it was where I was at in my life. Anything that smacked of institutional relationship, I wanted to distance myself. I am so glad I went. Indeed, it was where the Father wanted me. It was a reset..."*

Over the last few months, I have enjoyed and am experiencing a prayer life that has become free in that I don't feel like I need to tell God how things need to turn out. I have spent a lot of time telling God what to do. I have made light of that saying God says, 'Wow, I never thought of that.' But what I have come to discover is that I am not telling God how to answer my prayer. I am just working out in my mind what needs to be done. Which means I'm not really praying but just thinking through what I or someone else needs to do. The shift with "so that" is as I lift my prayers the "so that" is focused on the Father being glorified and His will being done with no help or suggestions from me. What I bring is a surrendered, obedient heart! That has moved me to what I understand now today as prayer."

Are you sensing Jesus nudging you toward a deeper intimacy? It is too soon to call it a movement, but there is seems to be more interest in prayer in churches across our state. Resources are available at [scbo.org/pray](http://scbo.org/pray). Contact Steve Hopkins, [SteveHopkins@scbo.org](mailto:SteveHopkins@scbo.org) or 614.309.9746, for more information on available resources.



# Ohio On Mission at Engage Now

WOW! Over 300 people attended this year's Engage Now 2020 Mission Gathering. "A Clear Vision for a New Day." At every level from the worship, speakers, panel,



breakouts and displays offered valuable support to those on mission. Jersey Church, New Albany provided a heart changing experience for everyone.

This year the two day conference provided something for everyone. From worship led by Randy Wagner, Worship Pastor, The Crossings Community Church, Hillard, TJ Dooley & Testimony, of Columbus, and the worship Team of Jersey Church, New Albany, led by Chris Mosley.

## In the afternoon-

Our speakers this year were Kay Bennett, Director of the Friendship House, New Orleans, Louisiana spoke to us on how to see people as Christ sees them.

Dr. Terry Dorest, Executive Director-Treasurer for the New England Baptists Convention spoke on how to reach our communities through being on mission.

## Friday evening –

Dr. Tom Malzoni, Director of Horizons Stewardship Ministries challenged us of the power of being good stewards of all God has given to us.

Governor MikeDeWine spoke by video of how we are in this together when it comes to transforming our communities. Our communities are in crisis. He pointed out the crisis is poverty, human trafficking, the drug epidemic, homelessness and fatherlessness.

Dr Johnny Fain, Retired Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church, Dothan, Alabama. Dr. Fain challenged us because of the gospel, to give of



ourselves to be difference makers right where we are while never losing sight of our call to the ends of the earth.

## Saturday morning –

The pastor of our host church, Reverend John Hays called us to partner with sister churches for the sake of the gospel.

Across the two days Steve Hopkins, Resource Group Leader for Bible Teaching & Leadership, led us through times of prayer.

On Saturday we had four times of breakout sessions to help each of us with resources, applications and opportunities to develop a clear vision for this new day of being on missions. Engage Now 2020 Mission Gathering closed with the 40 voice choir from Marietta Bible College leading us in worship.



**ENGAGE NOW**  
2020 – A Clear Vision for a New Day

But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him" 1 Corinthians 2:9

# Concrete and Cranes VBS Ohio 2020 Update

You remember the story from Charles Dickens *A Tale of Two Cities* and how the novel started, "it was the best of times, it was the worst of times." Well it sort of feels that way. We are certainly living in unprecedented times because for the most of us we have never experienced anything like this before. And yet we are called to be a people of faith and not fear. So my prayer is that you and your family are expressing your faith to those around you the best way you can even in spite of this current season.

Social media is being used by practically everyone at this moment. It is probably being used more than ever before. Every one of us are learning things and becoming better at using various platforms to share an encouraging word or to give out a bit of information. So I hope this brief article will help you as you help us share this message with others.

Recently, the Bible Teaching/ Leadership Resource Group concluded the best way for us to help our churches prepare for what we believe to be a fully-functioning summer, would be to produce a video training series. This series would include most, if not all, of the core training sessions for this year's vacation Bible school theme: Concrete and Cranes!

Therefore, by the time you read this article, simply know that our VBS team is working on ways to make that happen in a timely manner. We believe over the next 30 days we will be able to capture these sessions on video and upload them to our webpage for your viewing. This means we are looking at the 1st of May to have everything completed. Please pray for us as we try to make this happen during the month of April.



One of the other things that we would like to offer is a webinar with Steve Hopkins as he prepares us for the National Day of Prayer for Vacation Bible School which is on May 17th. The date and time will be determined in the near future and forwarded to you as soon as possible.

In closing, remember we are trying to do the very best we can with what we have. I leave you with the verse that has been selected for this year's theme, it is Philippians 1:6, "being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ." So as you and I remain confident in Christ we will get through this season of life and I pray that we will be stronger for it!

Blessings to you and all who read this article. May Christ be glorified and the body edified and may the lost see there is hope in Christ!

In His Service,  
Dwayne Lee

## DIY VBS GEAR

By: Chuck Cotton

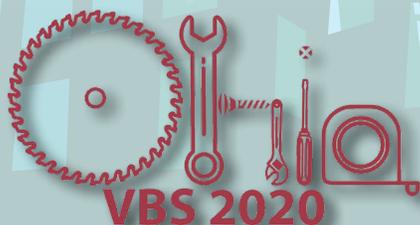
To those who are looking for an inexpensive construction helmet for Lifeway's VBS "Concrete and Cranes" here is what we came up with.

If you go to [discountsafetygear.com](http://discountsafetygear.com) you can purchase the product "Rugged Blue Defender 4-point Ratchet Hard Hat" for \$5.69 (if you purchase 20 it goes down to \$5.29 or 50+ you get for \$4.89).

If you know someone who has a "Cricut" machine you can use the VBS art to copy the "Construction

and Cranes" art and size it so you can actually get 12 (2.5" by 3.65") of these items per 10" x 12" cricut vinyl sheets. By using the transfer tape from the cricut machine here is what your finished product will look like and it will only cost you roughly \$6 per hat.

If you are operating on a tight budget for VBS you can also do your own shirts for less than \$3 by purchasing 50/50 shirts from [adairgroup.com](http://adairgroup.com) for \$1.98. These are nylon green and get the iron on transfer from Lifeway for \$6.99 for 10 transfers. They have shirts all the way to 3XL for about \$4.





# MARCH FOR JESUS

## MAY 30, 2020

March 23, 2020

Greetings Friends,

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the limits and restrictions that we are facing, it has become apparent that the **MARCH FOR JESUS 2020** scheduled for May 30, 2020 in cities across America will not take place as originally planned. Even if restrictions on gatherings were lifted before May 30th, we would not be able to conduct the many city-wide preparatory meetings that would be necessary in the next few weeks to organize the March For Jesus properly.

We feel confident, however, that God has called us to celebrate Jesus Christ on that date. We are now considering a different format to exalt Christ lavishly and to pray for our communities lovingly on May 30th. We are prayerfully discussing with ministry partners the possibility of celebrating Jesus Christ on this significant day with a simple, flexible, low-profile "PraiseWalking" model. We would encourage each city to develop a plan in which prayer teams, consisting of two or three people, would stand, walk or drive throughout their communities. Equipped with a simple, single-sheet praise and prayer guide, these teams could be confident

that they are praying in unity with God's people all over their city. Instead of gathering to march in a large procession along central corridors, small "PraiseWalking" teams will pray in different places throughout their community. Some cities may seek to organize comprehensive coverage of every street or ZIP code. Other cities will encourage small teams to pray near representative sites. Instead of a public gathering, we're going to unite in a public "scattering."

We hope to collaborate with Christian radio stations large and small, national and local, to "live broadcast" praise and prayer facilitation to support the PraiseWalking teams, who could easily tune in with their smartphones. This broadcast would engage scripture reading, praying, and praise music.

As you may know, our theme for the March For Jesus is Philippians 2:11, "...that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Paul prefaces that statement in verse 10 as he writes, "...that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow..." As a tangible way of expressing love and praise to Jesus, PraiseWalking teams would be

invited to find public, but safe and appropriate places, where they could kneel at exactly 12 noon on Saturday, May 30. While kneeling, they would unashamedly lift their hands before the Lord and declare "Jesus Christ is Lord!" Then, for at least one minute, they would remain in that posture, giving praise to Jesus Christ. Many more believers throughout their communities would be invited to join them in this simple gesture and confession of praise in or near their homes at the same time.

Obviously, this proposal is in an early stage, but we think it is something worth considering and developing further. If you have any interest in pursuing this idea with us please let us know. You can reach us at [Info@TheMarchForJesus.org](mailto:Info@TheMarchForJesus.org) or contact us by phone at 330-707-4622. Thank You.

Serving Christ,  
*Gary L. Frost*  
 National Director, March For Jesus

*Steve Hawthorne*  
 Director, WayMakers



## COVID-19 Resources for Ohio Churches

As we face together the pandemic known as COVID-19, the Bible Teaching/Leadership Resource Group is working to provide for you a list of available resources. Worship, prayer, giving, groups, etc. are covered. It is not an exhaustive list, but a good place to start as you look for help. Updates can be found regularly on our Facebook page.

We are here to help. Please let us know how we can further assist you. Blessings to you and His church where you serve!

### GROUPS

1. Existing social media or website platforms offer online public worship services.
2. Small groups can meet online through free or inexpensive teleconferencing such as Zoom video [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us). Video conferencing will generally work better for small groups because participants can interact directly through video and chat features. Video conferencing is excellent for conducting group Bible study because of the ability each person has to interact, read Scripture, pray, and share ministry.
3. Use apps such as GroupMe to maintain contact with group members each day. Groups can use this app to share prayer needs, ministry opportunities, and stay connected throughout the day without the need for scheduled meetings.
4. Facetime allows up to 31 people at a time.
5. There are tons of methods for connecting when you cannot meet in person. Consider some of the following ideas:
  1. Whereby
  2. Google Duo
  3. WhatsApp
  4. Skype / Skype for Business Basic

5. Free Conference Call
6. Conference calls (for groups less techno-savvy) can enable a lesson to be taught with Q&A or discussion, announcements, and prayer together;
7. Facebook Live and YouTube Live can enable the group leader to pray, share announcements, and teach a lesson; while this is one-way communication, it can be supplemented by text to receive prayer requests and lesson questions/comments;
8. Zoom, GoToMeeting, Google G Suite, and others can enable groups to see and hear each other and tend to work best for smaller groups if there will be much interaction; they offer chat during video which allows written prayer requests, announcements/ reminders, and lesson questions/comments (the video link and the chat conversation can be emailed to those who missed it);
9. Facebook Groups and other social media can provide posting of lesson outlines, questions, and discussion along with announcements and prayer requests;
10. Text generally works best with really small groups (2-4) and short texts; if the group or texts gets larger, then participants won't have enough time to read what is texted.

### BIBLE STUDIES

1. Utilize online Bible studies that support LifeWay's Explore the Bible and Bible Studies for Life curriculums. [lifeway.com/coronavirus](http://lifeway.com/coronavirus)
2. Ken Braddy, LifeWay Sunday School, has several resources available [kenbraddy.com](http://kenbraddy.com) and his podcast [sundayschoolguy.podbean.com](http://sundayschoolguy.podbean.com)
3. Sunday School University [sundayschooluniversity.com](http://sundayschooluniversity.com)

### GIVING

Click on the link below each to go to their website.

1. **Generosity by LifeWay** – See below for LifeWay's

gracious and special offer. [lifewaygenerosity.com](http://lifewaygenerosity.com) During this unique and challenging season due to the increasing Covid-19 concerns, Generosity by LifeWay is opening its digital giving platform to all churches immediately. LifeWay Generosity is offering the following:

- a) No setup or monthly subscription fees
  - b) No technology or website experience needed
  - c) All we need is a small bit of information like church name, address, bank account number, etc.
- Once Generosity has the needed information, they will set up a custom giving page for your church and post it live online! All churches need to do is promote the unique giving page to members and Generosity will take care of the rest. You can get started at this web address: [lifewaygenerosity.com/coronavirus](http://lifewaygenerosity.com/coronavirus)

2. **Tithe.ly** [get.tithe.ly](http://get.tithe.ly)

3. **easyTithe** [easytithe.com](http://easytithe.com)

4. **Paypal Non-Profit** – This may be the quickest and easiest to get up and running. [paypal.com/us/non-profit/fundraising/fundraising-online](http://paypal.com/us/non-profit/fundraising/fundraising-online)

5. **PushPay** [pushpay.com/resources/](http://pushpay.com/resources/)

## WORSHIP

1. Churches need a CCLI streaming license to cover webcasting of services. [ccli.com](http://ccli.com)

2. LifeWay is providing gratis a gratis streaming license for tracks, PROVIDED

- 1. churches have a CCLI Streaming License
- 2. churches request a Master License from Music Services. [musicservices.org](http://musicservices.org)

3. SWBTS – Please feel free to make any of this material your own or use our accompaniment and lyric video in any way that best fits your context. We are here to serve you and all of our SBC churches. Here is the link: [artistictheologian.com/smallgroup](http://artistictheologian.com/smallgroup)

4. The Church Digital [thechurch.digital/](http://thechurch.digital/)

5. iSingWorship has made their lyric videos (great congregational arrangements) of their entire catalog available without any additional licenses needed during this difficult time. There is also a wonderful package

discount available to get you started. Check it out at [renewingworshipnc.org/awesome-source-for-worship-song-lyric-videos-that-can-be-used-in-livestreaming](http://renewingworshipnc.org/awesome-source-for-worship-song-lyric-videos-that-can-be-used-in-livestreaming)

6. **resourcingworship.com**

## PRAYER

1. **harvestprayer.com** Several prayer resources and links to other prayer groups. David Butts, president. (Not SBC)

2. **imb.org/pray** International Mission Board prayer page.

3. **inallthingspray.net** Created by members of PrayerLink, a network of state convention and SBC entity prayer leaders partnering together to call and equip Southern Baptists to a renewed life of prayer to impact a lost world

4. **namb.net/prayer** North American Mission Board prayer page.

5. **onecry.com** Nationwide call to spiritual awakening, several denominations and faith groups. (Not SBC)

6. **blesseveryhome.com** Great website to pray for every home in your neighborhood, by name. (Not SBC)

7. **praync.org** Robust website from Chris Schofield Director, Office of Prayer, North Carolina Baptists, several free downloads

8. **prayerleader.com** Good website for prayer team leaders. Also publish Prayer Connect magazine available for subscription fee. (Not SBC)

9. **scbo.org/pray** State Convention of Baptists in Ohio webpage with prayer resources, several free downloads.

10. **strategicrenewal.com | 64fellowship.com | prayercoaching.com** Daniel Henderson – several resources for creating a prayer culture in the church, many free, including videos, etc. (Not SBC)

11. **wmu.com** Women’s Missionary Union – several resources available for praying for missions and missionaries.



# Family Camp



## Family Camp: A Time to Reset

By: James Risner

Do you ever feel like you need to hit the reset button on a relationship, a DIY project at home, or sometimes even a year like 2020? Let's be honest. We all need to live each day with the hope that tomorrow is a new day brimming with possibilities! Maybe that is exactly what your family needs right now? A time to reset. If your family could use a fresh start, I invite you to come to Seneca Lake Family Camp, June 1-5, 2020.

Every year my family goes to SLFC, we are able to take a break from our regular busyness and embrace a slower pace. Boating, fishing, swimming, putt-putt, and scheduled community games are always waiting for families. But the relaxed schedule means you can rest, refresh and play at your own pace. Meal times, morning

family devotions, and chapel are part of our regular SLFC rhythms, but the time in-between is up to each family. My family loves the week-long schedule reset that Family Camps affords.

SLFC also supports us with the time and space we need to order our family's priorities around God's Word. School, work, and laziness often brew the perfect storm to distract my family from our regular time in God's Word. SLFC builds time into the schedule following each morning breakfast for families to read and discuss God's Word, in ways that perfectly fit each family's unique age and season. For families who have never read God's Word together, we wrap around you with support.

Lastly, SLFC helps families overcome its kryptonite of isolation. If growing

together as a family is a priority, you will find that SLFC is your ally. SLFC provides families with a fire-hydrant force of togetherness.

Do not let isolation, distraction from God's Word, or busy schedules crowd out God's plan for your family to flourish. Your family has a bright future. Reset this summer at SLFC. Refresh yourself and your family by resting and soaking in God's Word, together.

Strengthen family (and church) relationships while enjoying all the amenities of summer camp for just over \$500 (lodging, meals, and evening fellowship socials included) for a family of four (4).

For more information and registration visit <https://www.scbo.org/event/family-camp-seneca-lake>

# Ohio Changers July 25-31, 2020 MIAMISBURG, OHIO

*Changing lives one home at a time...*



## WHAT IS OHIO CHANGERS? LIFE CHANGING.

Ohio Changers is a week long missions camp where students come together with adult crew leaders and work on construction projects throughout the day. At night the students and adults gather for a worship service followed by church group devotional time.

Students are challenged, encouraged, and equipped to come home closer to Christ and ready to live for Him.



Jeremiah 23:29



[ohiochangers.org](http://ohiochangers.org)



July 25-31, 2020





## Christmas in the Midst of Chaos

As I begin writing an article for the Ohio Baptist Messenger concerning the Appalachian Christmas Backpack ministry, we are in the midst of a quarantine because of the COVID-19 virus.

There is so much fear in the air. People hoarding, panicking and even fighting over toilet paper. "Chaos abounds".

Someone mentioned on social media an idea to unpack the stored Christmas decorations, put up Christmas lights. WHY you ask? It is March, the beginning of Spring! We want to see flowers, warm weather and warm sunshine. We want peace from all of this chaos.

Christmas decorations reflect the desire to see peace. Christmas carols ring of peace & joy. But we must unpack these boxes for this type of peace to happen.

The real peace comes from Jesus Christ- "The Reason for the Season". We know that – we crave that – but we do not get that "peace that passes all understanding" in the midst of all of this chaos.

We trade our FEAR for FAITH. We put our HOPE & TRUST in Jesus Christ. Let Him be our Savior. Let Him have COMPLETE control of our lives.

When people ask, "Where is God in all the midst of this chaos?" I think of the wonderful Christmas carol by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow:

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day  
Their old familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet the words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

I thought how, as the day had come,  
The belfries of all Christendom  
Had rolled along the unbroken song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head:  
"There is no peace on earth," I said,  
"For hate is strong and mocks the song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men."

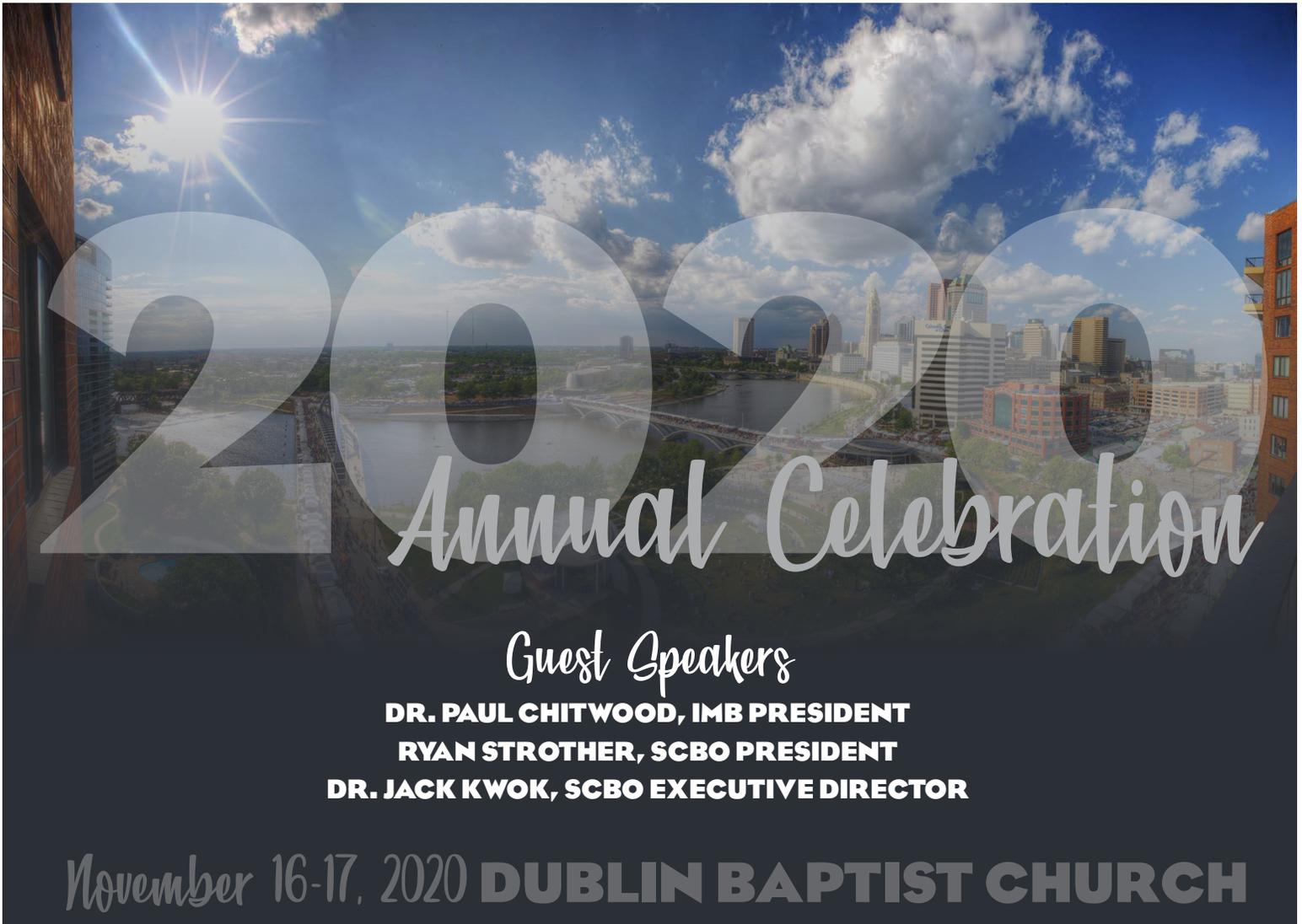
Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:  
"God is not dead, nor doth he sleep;  
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,  
With peace on earth, good will to men."

Till, ringing singing, on its way,  
The world revolved from night to day,  
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,  
Of peace on earth, good will to men!

I could not find the words I wanted to convey in an article about the Appalachian Christmas Backpack Ministry. I want everyone to pray while all are in quarantine. Ask God to show you how you can help. How your church and association can fill backpacks for the thousands of children we will be helping here in the Ohio Appalachian region and our ministry in Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee.

Jeremiah 29:11 (ESV)  
*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.*

Barbara A. DeLorme  
SCBO WMU Coordinator of  
The Appalachian Christmas Backpacks  
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**2020 Annual Celebration**

*Guest Speakers*

**DR. PAUL CHITWOOD, IMB PRESIDENT**  
**RYAN STROTHER, SCBO PRESIDENT**  
**DR. JACK KWOK, SCBO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*November 16-17, 2020* **DUBLIN BAPTIST CHURCH**

## Know Your Neighbor

Recently I took a course titled *Know Your Neighbor* from WMU, *Christian Women's Leadership Challenge*.

One of the course assignments is titled, "How do you reach out in love to your neighbors?"

During that time, I was talking with another woman about the Know Your Neighbor initiative, which she was unfamiliar with. I explained and shared experiences I have had with my neighbors in our rural area. She said that her neighbors were mostly retired and kept to themselves. She was having a hard time speaking with one neighbor who lives only a few feet from her doorstep. They have such differing opinions on God. I

encouraged her to not give up, to pray for the neighbor, and to continue to reach out . . . in love.

Consider a Spring Challenge to reach out in love to your neighbors. God will show you how, just ask Him! May God's blessings abound as you follow His leading in your neighborhood!

For more information on leadership courses offered check out: <http://cwlcladers.com/?q=content/courses>

Also, Ohio WMU is offering leadership training June 26 and 27. Register on the website: [www.scbo.org/events](http://www.scbo.org/events)



Teresa Bailey, NW Ohio Baptist Association  
 WMU Leader, Toledo, Ohio

# PRESS TOWARD THE MARK

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) has made its appearance in Ohio. In an attempt to minimize the community spread of COVID-19, Ohio Governor DeWine first issued an order (<https://www.fcnews.org/news/23835/ohio-bans-mass-gatherings>) March 12, 2020 banning gatherings of groups numbering 100 or more. Governor DeWine listed several exceptions including religious organizations. Eventually, he narrowed the size of groups to 10 and then to stay-at-home March 23 through April 6.

Each Southern Baptist Church is autonomous; each church is responsible for deciding on how to conduct public worship and other ministries. Both panic and passivity are positions to be avoided.

Here are several links to assist with information and suggestions:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>
- <https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/home>
- <https://factsand Trends.net/2020/03/11/free-coronavirus-response-training-and-resources-available-for-churches/?ecid=PDM204049&bid=609388733>
- <https://www.churchmutual.com/95/Risk-Alerts>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/2019-ncov-factsheet.pdf>

Other resources are available as well.

**Every health entity is stressing the following for individuals:**

- **Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available**
- **Avoid touching your mouth, nose, or eyes**
- **Cover coughs/sneezes with your arm or a tissue**
- **Avoid exposure to others who are sick**
- **Stay home if you are sick**
- **Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs**

**Here are some suggestions for churches:**

- **Engage members in prayer for those affected, health responders and providers, and for those experiencing anxiety and fear**
- **Activate or create prayer bands interfaced with Sunday School and/or Small Groups**
- **Keep communication channels open for all members and guests**
- **Encourage members and guests experiencing illnesses to remain at home**
- **Explore online media or other venues to provide worship services for the ill and other members and guests**
- **Intensify cleaning in church buildings especially doors, handrails, and other frequently touched features of the church facilities**
- **Provide hand wipes**
- **Suggest avoiding shaking hands (this will be hard for Baptists)**
- **Provide alternative means for members to give tithes and offerings rather than onsite**
- **Communicate regularly with Sunday School and/or Small Group leaders to encourage them and learn from them about their members for prayer and ministry**
- **Anticipate opportunities to share the Gospel with those without Christ**

During the statewide efforts to avoid spreading the Coronavirus, the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio team remains available. Most of the staff are working from home. They are using call forwarding and/or checking their voice mail to respond to requests from church and association leaders. Contact information for all the staff is located on the Home Page of the SCBO Website.

# PRESS TOWARD THE MARK

Some staff members are maintaining regular hours at the office located at 9000 Antares Avenue in the Columbus, Ohio 43240 to facilitate the coordination of missionary and ministry activities. All staff and guests entering the office have their temperature checked with a laser thermometer at the front door.

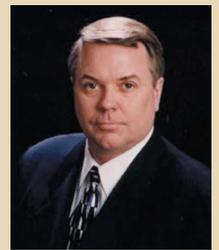
**Every Friday at 11:00 A.M., the SCBO staff is conducting a Zoom Conference to share updated information on how to minister and share the Gospel during the "Stay-At-Home" directive from Governor DeWine.**

To access the Zoom Conference, go the SCBO Website [www.scbo.org](http://www.scbo.org) and choose the COVID-19

Information Webinar site.

The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio website [www.scbo.org](http://www.scbo.org) has a dedicated section responding to the Coronavirus Health Emergency in Ohio. It contains resources, information, suggestions, and ministry opportunities from the SCBO staff and supporting entities.

Psalms 56:3 declares, "Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You." Real danger from the Coronavirus does exist. Even so, Joshua 1:9 reassures, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Let's press toward that mark.



Jack Kwok, Ph.D.  
Executive Director-Treasurer  
State Convention of Baptists in Ohio

## How to Become a Christian

If you are not a Christian, have never surrendered your will to the Lord Jesus, let me share briefly how you can make this life changing decision. GOD WANTS YOU SAVED.

**FIRST**, you must believe that God loves you and wants you to have peace in your heart and an everlasting life (John 3:16).

**SECOND**, you must recognize that you are a sinner, that you have done things which have displeased God and that you have separated yourself from Him (Romans 3:23; 6:23).

**THIRD**, you must believe that Jesus came to this earth, was actually God in the flesh, lived a perfect life, and yet went to a cruel cross, dying for your sins, paying once and for all the penalty of sin (1 Peter 2:24). However, it's not enough

just to know these three things. Many of us knew them for years before we ever gave Jesus our lives.

**FOURTH**, you must personally ask Jesus to come into your life and forgive you of your sins (Revelation 3:20).

You can pray this prayer now and if you mean it with all of your heart, Jesus will come in just like He said. He cannot lie.

*Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner. I'm really sorry for my sins, Lord. I ask you now, Lord Jesus, to come into my heart, forgive me of my sins, take control of my life, and make me the kind of person You want me to be. I now receive You into my heart. Thank You for coming in. I will follow You all the days of my life. In Your name I pray, Amen.*

## How to submit Church News

Send all church news and information to Amanda Mishne at [amishne@scbo.org](mailto:amishne@scbo.org)

Jack Kwok, State Convention Executive Director-Treasurer, Editor; Amanda Mishne, Publication Layout.  
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