

PUBLICATION OF THE STATE CONVENTION OF BAPTISTS IN OHIO

OHIO BAPTIST MESSENGER

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Welcome Dr. Jeremy Westbrook



I'm. Coming. Home. These were the words that began an article written by LeBron James. I first read them on a July afternoon in 2014 via social media as I sat in a dentist office with my kids in Dublin. Several years earlier, he had left Ohio for Florida in search of winning his first NBA championship that had eluded him for so long. He did eventually win not just one, but two titles. More importantly, he said he learned how to become a champion in Florida and was now returning back to the great state of Ohio to win a title in his homeland. I never forgot that story.

Several years ago, the Lord called our family away from Ohio to Florida to be part of a global church planting movement and also to serve as an AMS/DOM leading a local association. In many ways, I learned from one of the best churches and state conventions in the country. I believe the Lord called me away to prepare me to come back home to the great state of Ohio to be part of advancing the Kingdom of God. Through helping plant a church in Marysville in 2008 and serving as President of the SCBO in 2016, these incredible experiences gave me a deep love for this state, our churches, and our pastors that comprise The State Convention of

Baptists in Ohio.

My family and I look forward to the years ahead of seeing how the Lord will move among us. Change is on the horizon and that is a good thing. I am excited to share more with you soon, but until then, please continue to pray for us and I want to thank you for your faithful support of the Cooperative Program. Personally, I am thrilled to travel the state and preach in many of our churches and meetings to say thank you and challenge us with fresh new vision.

I am already scheduled to preach this fall in several churches and some annual associational meetings. Please let me know if I can ever serve you in any way. Always feel free to email me at jwestbrook@scbo.org if the SCBO can come along side to help you or your church. It's good to be home. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your new Executive Director-Treasurer.



**The State Convention
of Baptists in Ohio**

AMPLIFYING LEADERS TO ACCELERATE GOSPEL IMPACT



June 28 – July 2 Kid's Kamp 1 Returns!!!

2021 Kid's Kamp theme, Truth Factor, is based on II Timothy 3:15-17. Pastor Nick Osborn created a Truth Lab for chapel where the campers experienced a new truth each night and Friday morning. The Truth Labs included: You are special, Psalm 139; I am loved, Psalm 8:3-4; I am forgiven, John 1:9; I am called, Matthew 4:18-20; and We are called, Matthew 28:16-20.



1



2



5



3



4

Picture Captions:

- 1. Campers enjoyed singing truths.
- 2. A special welcome back to camp, The Rock Climbing Wall!
- 3. Gathering at Darty Stowe Lake.
- 4. Miracle Pound's Baptism
- 5. Celebration!





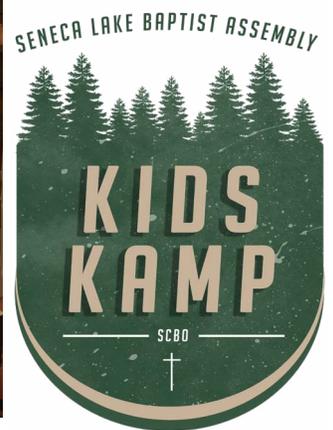
One hundred fifty six campers, chaperones and staff were welcomed back to Seneca Lake Baptist Assembly on June 28! Bible Study, Recreation, Missionary, Worship, and the fun Free Time activities were amazing!

The Thursday Morning Fun Run was a great success! (photo above) Our new State Coordinator of the Southern Baptists Ohio Disaster Relief, John Heading, was one of the missionaries who shared his mission. White Hat, John Heading asked the campers to create bookmarks that DR Chaplains will place in the Bibles they give to victims of disasters.



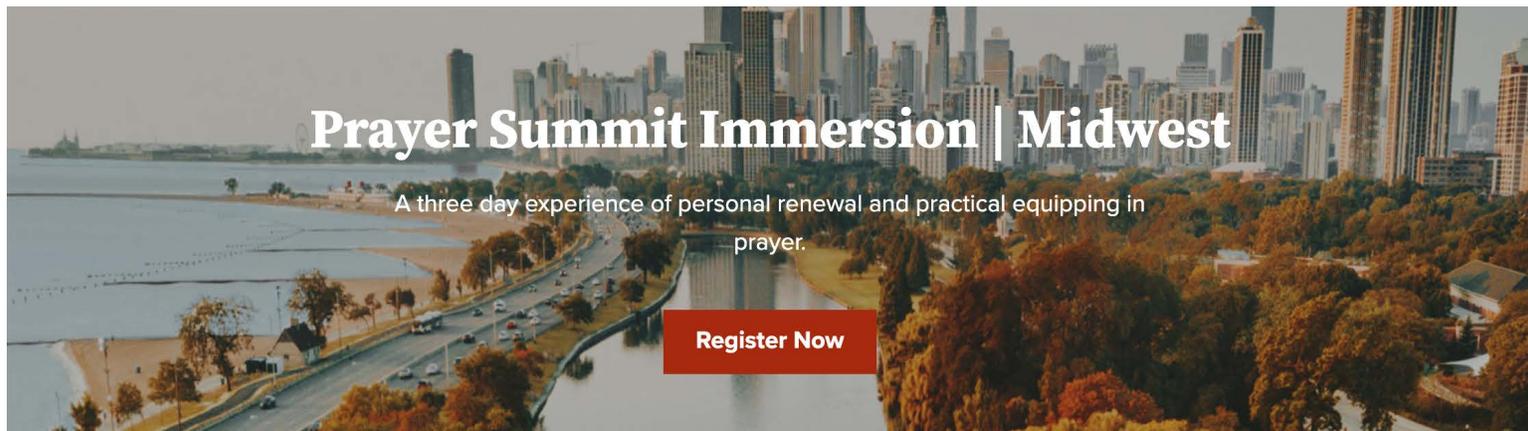
Please pray for Ohio Disaster Relief as they expand and embrace a new calling to reach the nations. Contact John Heading to find out how your church may partner with another country to assist in Disaster Relief overseas.

The greatest joy at camp is God's work! We may never know all He did, but we are celebrating seventeen decisions for salvation!



John Heading, jheading@scbo.org





Plan now to take a group to the Prayer Summit Immersion, September 9-11

Three days. No agenda. No obligations. No meetings, except for one. To meet God and hear from Him.

The Prayer Summit Immersion is a one-of-a-kind event some have called the "most New Testament prayer experience" you will ever have. Enjoy three restful and renewing days of no agenda other than seeking God and finding refreshment in Him. Go home with fresh tools to lead your church in prayer.

The focus is 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 draw near to Jesus together. Come with no personal agendas and leave with His agenda.

Daniel Henderson and Jon Hoekema will lead 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*, leads The 6:4 Fellowship. Henderson has facilitated hundreds of summits over the last 30 years and is a sought-after coach in helping churches experience health and renewal through a culture of prayer.

What Is a Prayer Summit?

Prayer Summits are a unique and life-giving prayer experience with a framework adopted from the Early Church. It's a no-agenda gathering where the simplicity of worship, prayer, and Scripture lead to profound renewal as we seek God together.

In our culture of hyper-productivity and busyness, we have lost the art of slowing down to hear from God. These Prayer Summits are both profoundly personal and an enriching corporate environment.

This *Immersion and Training* experience will also include times of instruction and Q&A with facilitators to teach you how to multiply this life-changing framework in your ministry context.

Location and Lodging

All the Summit sessions will happen on the campus of Calvary Community Church in Schaumburg, IL – conveniently located just 15 miles west of O'Hare Int'l Airport. All attendees are responsible for their lodging. There are

dozens of major hotel chain options in Schaumburg, particularly in the Woodfield Mall area.

Pricing

All pricing includes lunch on Friday and additional conference materials.

- **Single registration: \$149**
- **For groups of 4 or more**, a 35% group discounted rate is available. Go to scbo.org/article/prayer-summit-immersion-midwest-2021 for more information and link to registration.





November 16, 2021
Violet Baptist Church, Pickerington
**ANNUAL CELEBRATION
STATE CONVENTION OF
BAPTISTS IN OHIO 2021**



Ohio Women's Training 2021

By: Ginny Howell, Ohio Women's Leadership Team
Ohio WMU/Women's Missions & Ministry

June 26th twelve women from throughout Ohio embarked on a journey to New Orleans, Louisiana to learn about Human Trafficking, identifying victims, and to advocate for awareness of this growing problem. Many think this issue is fiction. Many deny that it's happening in Ohio. This team explored the facts.

Ohio is particularly vulnerable because it has both large transient and immigration populations, large urban centers and rural counties, as well as five major highways with easy access to other states and Canada.

The training was based at Baptist Friendship House in New Orleans with Dr. Kay Bennett and her team.

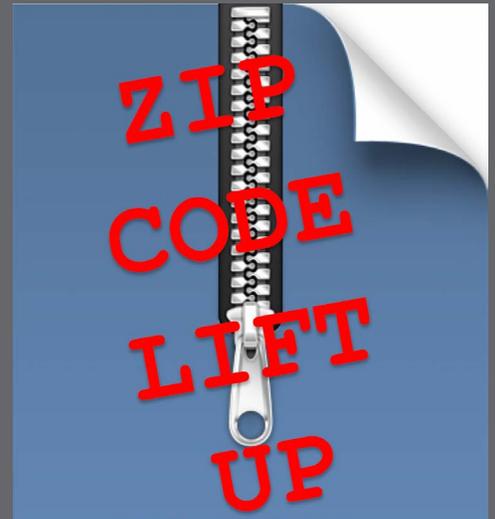
As a result of this training, the Ohio Women's Leadership Team wants to amplify Ohio leaders to accelerate Gospel impact in our state by sending trained leaders to churches. Jean DiFilippo, Ohio WMU President, is organizing a 2 By 2 ministry to send out teams of 2 to inspire, inform, and possibly involve your church to explore resources in your area. Please ask the Father where He is working in your neighborhoods and join Him. Contact Jean DiFilippo to request a 2 by 2 team, jeandifilippo@yahoo.com. For Ginny's detailed report click on this link <https://scbo.org/article/being-mission>



We praise God that the number of churches in Ohio is increasing; but we know that the number of people in Ohio who are not in any church remains significant. To help identify some strategic locations within the state, an Opportunity Scan from MissionInsite brings to the forefront multiple zip codes with substantial populations where a church could be planted. With each issue of the Ohio Messenger, we plan to highlight four of those zip codes in Ohio with no Southern Baptist church.

Would you join us in prayer to begin to impact those areas with the gospel of Jesus Christ? Ask God to direct you to a specific zip code for which you will pray or pray for all four. Perhaps you can involve your whole church in adopting one or more of these zip codes and began to pray specifically for that area.

Watch for more zip codes and information in the next issue of the Messenger!



CHOOSE ONE OR MORE TO PRAY FOR:

• **ZIP CODE 45638 – IRONTON**

Ironton is located in Lawrence County. The nearest city of 50,000+ is Huntington, West Virginia. Ironton has a population of about 11,000 while the Zip Code 45638 has a population just under 22,000 with 20% claiming to be Protestant, 3% Catholic, 77% claim no church affiliation. Lawrence County has over 60,000 in population. The most common industries in Ironton is Healthcare followed by Educational Services. FUN FACT: The most common last name in Ironton is Smith.

• **ZIP CODE 44107 – LAKEWOOD**

Lakewood is in Cuyahoga County. Lakewood has a population of almost 50,000 while the Zip Code 44107 has 50,900 with 19% of the population claiming to be Protestant, 29% Catholic, and 47% claim no church affiliation. Cuyahoga County population is 1.2 million. The most common industries in Lakewood are Professional, Scientific & Technical Services followed by Healthcare. FUN FACT: The most common last name in Lakewood is Miller.

• **ZIP CODE 43613 – TOLEDO**

Toledo is located in Lucas County. Toledo has a population of over 272,000 while the Zip Code 43613 has about 33,531 with 22% claiming to be Protestant, 24% Catholic, and 55% claiming no church affiliation. Lucas County has over 400,000 in population involving eight Zip Codes. The most common industry in this Zip Code is Accommodations & Food Service. FUN FACT: The most common last name in Toledo is Smith.

• **ZIP CODE 45030 – HARRISON**

Harrison is in Hamilton County, and has about 12,000 in population while the Zip Code 45030 has just under 20,000 with 24% claiming to be Protestant, 26% Catholic, and 48% claiming no church affiliation. There are over 800,000 people in Hamilton County. The most common industry in this Zip Code is Accommodations & Food Service. FUN FACT: The most common last name in this zip code is Smith.

ADOPT A ZIP CODE:

PRAY

For lost in the area
For planters to be called
For new churches

ENGAGE

In prayer walking/driving
In exploratory events
By meeting area leaders

PLANT

As a supporting church
As a sponsoring church

There are over 800,000 people in Hamilton County. The most common industry in this Zip Code is Accommodations & Food Service. FUN FACT: The most common last name in this zip code is Smith.

Some of the data provided may be up to two years old.





PrayerLink Gathering/Forum September 23-25, 2021!

By: Steve Hopkins



Heads up to all prayer leaders! The annual PrayerLink gathering are some of my favorite days of encouragement and equipping every year. September 23-25, the PrayerLink Gathering/Forum will be hosted at the WMU National Headquarters in Birmingham, AL. Pastors, church prayer team leaders, along with state and associational prayer team leaders will gather with the theme **Praying in Hope Together**.

PrayerLink is back in person, as well as online! Join us September 23-25 either in Birmingham, Alabama, or online via live stream and Zoom for those who can't be in person or have travel restrictions.

"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13

This year's PrayerLink Gathering participants will pray, connect, share God's activity related to prayer mobilization/resources and participate in affinity prayer networks.

PrayerLink is a network of Southern Baptist prayer leaders that seeks to foster a culture of Kingdom-focused prayer toward revival and spiritual awakening throughout SBC life and beyond. At the PrayerLink Forum we will be praying together, connecting, networking, and sharing God's activity related to prayer mobilization and other resources. There will be affinity prayer network discussions for church, associational, state, and ethnic fellowship prayer leaders.

The Forum will be Thursday (beginning at 1 pm) through Saturday (1 pm). We'll gather Thursday evening for a banquet and worship, prayer, and a guest speaker—always a very inspirational time. Friday night will be a local flavor dining experience.

Registration is open at www.sbcprayerlink.org. You will also find a link for group discount rates at the host hotel (Hyatt Place Birmingham/Inverness).

PrayerLink also offers several resources for prayer leaders at the site In All Things Pray (inallthingspray.net). The Facebook group page: Pray SBC features insights and encouragement for prayer leaders. For more information about the PrayOhio! prayer initiative, please contact Steve Hopkins (SteveHopkins@scbo.org or 614.601.6280) or go to scbo.org/event/prayohio-2021-prayerlink-gathering-and-forum



Getting Ready for the Next Guy: Transitional Pastor Training October 19

Getting Ready for the Next Guy: Transitional Pastor Training October 19 will be at the SCBO building (9000 Antares Avenue, Columbus, 43240). Chuck Deglow will facilitate the training, drawing on his experience in leading over twenty churches during the transition of pastors. You will leave the training with a booklet full of notes, books for further study, and a better understanding of the transitional pastor's role.

Chuck shares the transitional pastorate is an intentional way of leading a church family to navigate the whitewater of a pastor transition. The church without an under-shepherd (1 Peter 5:4) can be very vulnerable. The average time between pastors is between 9 and 18 months. Much can happen during that time to affect the church either positively or negatively. *"The one purpose for this ministry is the glory of God,"* Deglow emphasizes.

Topics include:

- The stages through which each church will progress during the interim period — grieving, regrouping, and going forward
- Guiding the congregation through a review of their ministry effectiveness based upon historical trends in attendance, giving, baptisms, etc.
- Introducing the congregation to relevant current demographics and trends that indicate ministry opportunity

- Selecting and training a pastor search team

Often the church sees the time between pastors as a *"hold things together, keep things going"* period. Some people approach the time as a *"wait and see"* period. However, with effective leadership, the time can be productive — a time of growth spiritually, sending roots deep into His word and presence. Consistency in the pulpit will help steady the congregation during the uncertain days without a pastor. The transitional pastor's primary task is to prepare the people for the next pastor and the changes that will inevitably come with him.



To connect with Chuck Deglow about transitional pastor questions, or for a list of those trained that may be available to help, please contact Steve Hopkins at SteveHopkins@scbo.org or 614.601.6280.



VBS Success! *By: Jackie Frasure*

When your church meets in a movie theatre, it's almost impossible to have a Vacation Bible School, but get in a permanent place and you can make it happen. That's exactly what Covenant Church in Grove City did. They are currently in the old LA Fitness building by the Target in Grove City, so they decided to give VBS a try. What a huge success it was!! They began planning and used Lifeway's VBS, called Destination Dig, where they transformed their church to present-day Israel. The kids unearthed more than sand and dirt as they dug up exciting evidence that proves biblical events were not just stories. As junior archaeologists, the kids explored real-life archeological finds that helped uncover the truth about Jesus! Every child that came to VBS heard about the good news of Jesus and just how much they are loved by Him. Twelve kids said they were ready to ask Jesus to be their Savior, were prayed with, and will have a follow up visit.

For their first VBS, Covenant registered 118 kids and had over 80 volunteers! It was complete with a Kidsfest kick-off the week before, theme nights, offering taken up each night for Stowe Mission, a pie in the face for Dr. Dug...AKA Pastor Travis Davenport, and tons more fun!



AMPLIFY PREACHING CONFERENCE
Christ-Centered Proclamation
 Sept 27, 2021 | FBC Lancaster



Danny Akin



David Mahan



Tony Merida



Danny Forshee

The **SCBO Preaching Conference** returns to FBC Lancaster after a Covid-19 hiatus. Make plans to attend this worthwhile conference that will encourage, equip, and energize your sermon preparations, illustrations, and applications. You'll leave with tons of ideas, resources, and swag! Hope to see you there!

More details, registration and schedule can be found on the SCBO website event page.

Thank You WMU!

By: Pastor Todd Bolton, Willoughby Bible Church

Last year (2020), I was contacted about being featured in Missions Mosaic during the week of my birthday in December. I was happy to be involved. I must admit that I didn't expect much, but was pleasantly surprised, and blessed by a multitude of birthday cards from several different WMU groups around the country. The handwritten notes were amazing and I shared many of them with our church leadership team. Those who retrieved the church mail were also amazed by the outpouring of prayers offered for our ministry in these cards. What a blessing, not only for me, but for all of our leadership. Just knowing that we had been prayed for was very special to us.

The faithfulness of so many women in our

denomination to support missions is something that I have learned about in a very personal way. It prompted me to begin considering how our church women might be able to get involved. We identified a few women who might be potential leaders and we reached out to our state convention for assistance. Much to our surprise, Jean DiFilippo and her husband made a 3 hour trip to our church to help us learn more. It's our hope and prayer to have a WMU group start here.

Thank you WMU for all that you are doing!



Pastor Todd Bolton,
Willoughby Bible Church

Partnering and Planting the Gospel for God

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. Galatians 6:9-10 ESV

We are pleading with churches and individuals to fill backpacks for our Appalachian Christmas Backpack Ministry for 2021. We were way below the amount we needed last year. Many children were left without a backpack and received nothing for Christmas.

We have received requests for close to 7000 Backpacks this year. Due to Covid the poverty level has increased tremendously.

This is not only for our Partnership, with Rev. Ryan Martin, in 4 counties of Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia, but also includes the eastern Appalachian area of Ohio, which runs from Cincinnati to Cleveland.

We are asking churches to make it a matter of prayer to become partners with individual church plants here in Ohio, who have requested much needed backpacks. This

would be a partnership that could develop into a ministry relationship not only at Christmas.

Please get in touch with me and I will give you the information about the church plants.

You will not only be giving just a backpack to these children, but will be presenting the Gospel of Jesus Christ and Him crucified. You will be planting a seed that one day will be reaped.

Do not pass up this golden opportunity to be blessed as we "reach souls for Christ one backpack at a time!"

The King will answer, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40 ESV

Barbara DeLorme Coordinator for
SCBO WMU Christmas Backpacks for Appalachia
Phone: (937) 609-0231
E-mail: 11kidsanny@gmail.com





Seneca Lake – Isn't that just for Youth and Kids Camp?

Seneca Lake – Isn't that just for Youth and Kids Camp? That was the response a first time dad got from his deacon back home as he was trying to explain what a great revelation he had at Family Camp, 7-11 June 2021. How evening vespers, chapel, family led morning devotions, loosely organized activities, and free time to relax and reflect had all worked together in calling him to realign his priorities to elevate his family and take responsibility for bringing them up God's way. He came forward the night before on vesper hill sharing how God had been working on him in Family Camp as he made a renewed public commitment to his wife and family.

James Risner, missionary at Greater Dayton Association of Baptist brought the evening chapel service. The overarching message was also integrated into the morning family

devotions with self-guided instructions and short answer questions pointing to selected Bible passages for small group discovery in what happens when God's people failed in bringing up their children in His ways.

Then there's Becky O'Brien's Kids Crafts following devotions. You might think this is just for kids. But working with Becky I learn how she "craftily" brings the parents, particularly the dads, into the activity. She's observed dads are better, at least at first, in communicating with their children by doing, rather than by conversation. You can see the message received in the kids' faces lighting up as their dads help them with their crafts. In education; you can see these loosely organized activities like crafts and fishing providing the practicum bringing the lessons home.

Scott Seder's team at SLBA led by

Mitch and Kim make this all happen by taking care of, well, everything. Moms really appreciate being freed from the mundane like planning meals as they would have to do on any other family vacation. At \$145 per person for food, lodging, and social activities for the entire week; attendees find it a great value (five out of five stars) as a vacation alternative they can build on throughout the year. Perhaps you and your church should consider saving the date and plan on attending 6 – 10 June, 2022.

2021 Family Camp videos (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCflaX9kD7fULlcZ6VlVIMg>) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/senecalakefamilycamp>). Leave message or text Bob Williams at 937-212-3175.





Ohio Disaster Relief Teams and Training

The mission of Ohio Disaster Relief is to bring help, hope, and healing to people in the midst of flooding, tornadoes and other disasters. Trained volunteers remove trees, mud out flooded homes, provide food and childcare to families in crisis. Disaster Relief is a hands-on mission and an opportunity to spread the hope of Christ to people in need. So, how does one become a volunteer?

Training and certification in Disaster Relief is becoming easier. By the end of July, short online courses will cover the basic requirements needed for certification. Each section will have a brief quiz and after a clear background check, the individual will only have unit training in their specialized unit left to complete. Unit training is done in person, either on a training day or in the field.

The units for specialized training include:

Chainsaw Team- this team removes trees downed on homes, roads and driveways. Not everyone on the chainsaw team operates a chainsaw. More people are needed for general labor.

Mud Out Team – Damaged furniture, appliances, carpet etc are all removed from the home and taken to a designated location. Volunteers are

given protective gear and tools to accomplish this herculean task.

Food Service – the most used part of this team is to provide meals for our teams as they serve in the field. This would be cooking in a church kitchen for a team of 8-20. Team members are also trained in mass feeding, but this type of call-up is rare.

Assessors – These individuals are trained to assess a scene and evaluate what is needed. Assessors are trained in general Disaster Relief and then complete a specialized training to be an assessor.

Chaplaincy- Chaplains are trained to minister to the disaster victims as well as minister to Disaster Relief volunteers by providing a listening ear and comfort. Chaplains complete additional specialized training to serve.

Child Care- Volunteers care for children aged birth through second grade. This allows their parents to deal with governmental and insurance agencies to seek help with damaged homes and more. It also allows them the opportunity to return to work if possible.

Communications- In many disasters, conventional methods of communicating are destroyed. Cell towers and phone lines are often damaged, TV and internet are often

unavailable. The Communications Team is responsible for establishing and maintaining wireless radio communications between aid workers and agencies.

Shower Unit Team- Disaster relief volunteers get pretty messy and a shower at the end of a long day is truly a blessing. The shower unit volunteers maintain the shower trailer unit in working condition, clean showers after use, launder towels and wash clothes, and also launder volunteer clothing as needed.

Volunteers need to train in at least one unit, but can cross train for additional units as well. Each unit is vitally important to the mission of reaching disaster victims with physical help and the word of Christ. Please consider joining the Ohio Disaster Relief and making a difference in the lives of those who have suffered losses. You can learn more about Disaster Relief by going to scbo.org/dr, or by contacting John Heading, State Coordinator at jheading@scbo.org.

The next scheduled trainings are September 11 at Beaver Creek Baptist Church in the Dayton, Ohio area and November 6 at Jersey Baptist Church in the metro Columbus area. Registration is open now.

Ohio DR Child Care Unit Serves at SBC in Nashville

By Stephanie Heading

When the Southern Baptist Convention met in Nashville recently, media attention focused on the election of officers and the convention’s stand on current issues. However, behind the scenes, Disaster Relief child care workers provided a vital ministry to the messengers with young children. Nearly 150 DR childcare workers from ten states cared for 160 children ages birth to five years old at the Music City Center from Sunday afternoon, June 13, through Wednesday, June 16. Their day began at 6 AM with breakfast and ended with an evening meal at 7 PM. For the seventh year, Ohio DR childcare volunteers gave their time and energy to this effort. Thirteen volunteers left Ohio on Saturday, June 12, and traveled to Nashville in two vans, pulling a

trailer filled with luggage and child care equipment, such as pack-n-plays, rocking chairs, cleaning supplies, toys, and other necessities. Upon arrival in Nashville, Hermitage Hills Baptist Church became their home away from home. Volunteers brought their own bedding, cots or mattresses and their food was provided by the SBC through the Tennessee Baptist DR Feeding Unit or at the Convention Center. Volunteers were able to shower at Hermitage Hill, as well as in two Tennessee Baptist DR shower trailers. During the convention, the Ohio team worked with babies, birth through one year. “Ohio is known for caring for bed babies,” said Sylvia Randolph, the blue hat leader of the Ohio DR child care unit. “We have even started a musical group call the ‘Ohio Rockers’ who not only sing the old hymns with musical

accompaniment for the babies, but also sing for the volunteers after the evening meal.” In addition to singing and the caring for the bed babies, they volunteered to help with other age groups as needed and enjoyed their time together serving the Lord. “It’s always great to go to the Convention to meet up with our fellow Ohioans and meeting with friends we have worked with over the years from other states,” said Randolph. Ohio DR child care volunteer Sue James agrees, “I so enjoy the experience of being surrounded by loving Christians for a few days. I enjoyed renewing acquaintances with old Disaster Relief friends from previous years. If just one person from every church represented at the Convention could experience DR as we do, churches would be changed! I love it!”

2021 Training Sessions

There are new things happening with Ohio Disaster Relief Training. Below is the updated training schedule. Registration begins July 1 for the September and November 2021 training events.

Training Process:

- Step 1:** Register for training and pay fee.
- Step 2:** Complete the online course “DR101: Involving Southern Baptists In Disaster Relief”
- Step 3:** Go to training

Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age (21 years of age for Child Care unit). Serving in Southern Baptist Disaster Relief requires membership or active participation in an Ohio Southern Baptist Church.

Online course DR101: ISBIDR will be available online starting July 1, 2021.



Unit training available for:

- CHILDCARE (Both dates)
- CHAIN SAW (Both dates)
- FOOD SERVICE (Both dates)
- MUD OUT (Both dates)
- SHOWER UNIT (Sept 11 date only)

Dates

Saturday, September 11
Beavercreek Baptist Church
3511 Dayton Xenia Road,
Beavercreek, Ohio 45432

Saturday, November 6
Jersey Baptist Church
13260 Morse Road
New Albany, Ohio 43054

Schedule

- 8:00 AM Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 AM Welcome/Orientation
- 9:00 AM Unit Training
- 1:00 PM Lunch
- (Provided by DR Food Service Trainees)
- 2:00 PM Evangelism Training 101
- 3:30 PM Closing. Present badges & hats
- 4:00 PM Dismiss

Training Fees

\$40/person for new trainees
\$20/person for cross-training
For questions, please contact:
John Heading
DR Coordinator
(614) 309 - 9751 or
(937) 974 - 9265
jheading@scbo.org

A NEW SEASON TO CELEBRATE

Matt and MaryLynn Pardi – Serving with:
Reliant and The H2O Network



New Church Plant Network Growth

We are so excited to share about our month of CELEBRATION.

We spent a month at the end of the school year for a series on celebration where we celebrated four weeks of thanking God. We celebrated a child dedication, baptisms, ordination of a pastor, and ending with a new church plant to Ohio University. We sent off our new pastor and his wife, Joe and Sami Kaloger, with key staff and volunteers to move and plant in Athens, Ohio. We couldn't be prouder of Joe and Sami and the team for their faith and courage. The church raised \$25,000 to send them off and bless them. We thank God for all He did during a difficult year!

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”
Matthew 28:19

The dreams that God gives us, coming to fruition.

In 2008, God gave us a dream to plant H2O Churches all over the Midwest. I remember sitting at Portage Park near Bowling Green in 2008 and God asking me to be specific in my prayers and dreams. I wrote in a journal, God it would be amazing to be on the major campuses of Ohio and grow to 8 churches. Well, 13 years later, God made that dream come to fruition. He has answered our prayers in very specific ways. **We just sent our latest church plant to Athens, Ohio, and Ohio University is the 8th church in Ohio, and our 11th overall!** “Live by faith, and not by sight.” God made it happen, and we are thankful.

The H2O Network: 11 Churches...& Counting

OSU – Columbus	UA- Akron	IU – Bloomington, IN
BGSU – BG	UT – Toledo	WMU – Kalamazoo, MI
KSU – Kent	WSU – Dayton	UCF – Orlando, FL
UC – Cincinnati	OU – Athens	UB – Buffalo, NY - coming soon. 2022

If you can dream it, we can finance it

Bring your ministry vision to life with a loan from the Ohio Baptist Foundation.

The Foundation provides church loans for new construction, refinancing and renovation loans. Our rates are highly competitive, and the interest from your loan is given back to Southern Baptist ministries that change lives with the Gospel.

GET STARTED AT:
614.601.6881 | jhelton@scbo.org
scbo.org/foundation



The Ohio Baptist Foundation and the Louisiana Baptist Foundation offer a **Short Term Fund** to help churches and other ministries maximize their income on cash reserves and designated funds. The annualized payout rate is **1.30%** (as of 6/30/2021). Based upon our information, *this is one of the highest cash-type rates offered in Ohio to churches and other ministries at this time.*

If this would be helpful for your ministry, I would be honored to partner with your church or ministry to advance God's Kingdom here on earth. I can be reached by replying to jackhelton@scbo.org or 614-309-9738.

Jack Helton, Executive Director
The Ohio Baptist Foundation

SAVINGS YOU CAN MEASURE



**Highest savings rate in
Ohio for churches and
other ministries**

*Based upon internal data. Please let us know if you hear of a higher rate.



► Increase your ministry influence with a better rate of return on your church savings
Learn more: **614.309.9738 • jackhelton@scbo.org**

*Rates subject to change.

**Based upon internal data. Please let us know if you hear of a higher rate.



NOTICE: This is not an offer to sell our securities and we are not soliciting you to buy our securities.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN... ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILES

By Charlotte Barbo

Why do you go to the doctor for an annual check-up? Is it a useless waste of time? No, of course it isn't. You go to have your health evaluated. You want to know your vital statistics and be aware of any changes that might indicate some health concern. You get your numbers checked: heart rate, blood pressure, weight, cholesterol, sugar. Lots and lots of numbers. So it goes with the **ACP...the Annual Church Profile**. Once a year, each church pays special attention to vital statistics that can help evaluate the health of that church. Not only does that help each individual church, but it helps each state and the SBC as a whole to evaluate the health, progress, growth, or decline of the convention.

Another important aspect of the ACP is that a church must complete their ACP as one of the two main requirements to be counted as a participating church under the SCBO tax umbrella. (The other requirement is to give to the Cooperative Program). ACP participation is also necessary to verify eligibility for additional life and disability benefits provided to pastors by SCBO. As cooperating churches, it is in the best interest of all for all of us to complete our ACP every year!

Soon each church will be hearing from their Association Office about completing the ACP for the 2021 church year. Most churches are completing the ACP online, but completing the written form is still acceptable. **This year's ACP form has included two questions regarding online attendance.** Counting online attendance certainly isn't as easy or as precise as counting in-person attendance. Scott McConnell, the Executive Director of Lifeway Research, wrote an article with guidance for counting online attendance. I thought that it would be very beneficial to all of our Ohio churches to read that article and have included it below.

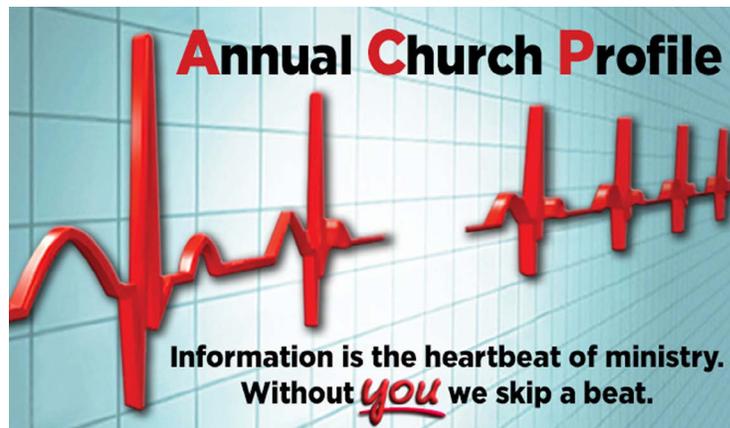
"How Can Your Church Track Online Worship Participation" by Scott McConnell

lifewayresearch.com/2021/06/10/online_participation

Not that long ago, offering online streaming of worship services was the exception. In a 2019 Lifeway Research study, 22% of pastors said their church was already in the habit of live streaming their worship services before the coronavirus.

Social distancing and health guidelines surrounding the pandemic in 2020 quickly changed that. Within months, 97% of churches were providing some form of video content online, according to a 2020 Lifeway Research study. At the end of April 2020, 67% of churches were streaming their worship services, and another 30% were posting video sermons online.

For churches who continue to stream their worship service, it is important to monitor participation in an accurate way.



First, let's consider several guiding principles and then look at tips for how to actually get the numbers on different platforms.

7 Principles in Tracking Online Worship Participation

1. Track and report online participation separately from in-person attendance

The word "church" is the English translation of the Greek word *ekklesia*. This word literally means "called out" but was commonly used to refer to an assembly of citizens of a Greek city. The fact that a local church was synonymous with an assembly is seen in the use of this word in the Greek Old Testament used during the time of Jesus. The word *ekklesia* was used to describe the physical gathering of prophets, soldiers, or people of God, according to the Holman Bible Dictionary.

A local congregation is an assembly, a regular meeting together of followers of Christ. The physical gathering together is a mark of the local church. This is an important belief about the church (our ecclesiology) that for almost 2,000 years required little direct teaching. During that time instruction tended to focus on frequency rather than format.

As new formats were added, churches have tracked these participants separately. This has been true of radio and television and should also be true of live streaming and audio or video downloads. There are similarities across formats, but there are also differences that keep them from being equivalent. As much as the methods in this article seek to line up measurement methods, there are still many unknowns in tracking online participation. Full transparency includes reporting online and in-person attendance separately.

2. Track those who are actually present online

It is obvious you don't count people who drive by your sanctuary as having attended. So, when people pass your website or other social media reference to your service and the service begins to auto-play, they should not be counted as being present either. Keep in mind someone can hit play and walk away, and you will never know it. But within your abilities, seek to only count those actually present.

3. Don't double-count viewers

When iPhones first offered panoramic photo capabilities, people got a kick out of group pictures when someone would be on one end of the picture and then would run to the other

end before the photographer finished panning the group to be in the picture twice. This can happen in a physical worship service as well when someone goes to count those present. In the same way you pick a time to count attendance during the service when very few people are moving around, you need to account for virtual “moving around” in your online attendance counts. Some devices will disconnect, and viewers will have to log back in. Our goal is not to count these additional views as additional participants. Your count should never be the number of views by itself.

4. Count viewing devices then convert it to people

Ultimately, we desire to count the people participating, but the reality is that no platform does this for you. So, first get the most accurate count of the number of devices present within the week for a substantial portion of the service. Then multiply by the average household size (2.5 nationally or look up your state average which will be close to this). The exceptions you can think of to this estimate won't come close to covering the variety of viewing situations (e.g., one person playing two devices at once or a large family in your church). This multiplier is only an estimate, but using this objective average household size basis is better than anecdotes.

Two exceptions to this principle would be 1) churches that live-stream by video conference where you can literally count people on their videos, or 2) churches that require participants to register to be counted (similar to attendance books in pews).

5. Count viewership by device within the week

The goal of your counting of online views is to gauge the participation in the rhythm of your local congregation. That rhythm is typically weekly. So, do not wait until the end of the year to obtain totals for each week's video. This does not reflect weekly participation. Instead, it will include those who binge watched some time during the year, those who selected a single topic to view, and those where the previous week's video auto-played for a while at the end of this week's service.

6. Only count those present for a substantial portion of the service

In the same way you do not count in-person attendance 30 seconds into the service, you shouldn't do so online. The specifics vary by the data available to you on the platform(s) you use, but the goal is to track those viewing all or at least half of your service. When available, it is good to take into consideration the average view time. If it is around 1/3 to half of the total time of the broadcast, then you know people were actually watching the broadcast. The higher the average watch time is the better.

Why is such a low threshold considered good? Because if one person watched all of the broadcast and one person watched one second, then the average watch time would be 50% of the total time of the broadcast.

7. Also track participation in the online service

In addition to tracking those present online, note how many engage in chat with the host, participate in a poll, use emojis, or participate in other forms of engagement as well. Typically, only a small percentage of online attendees engage in these ways, but noting this each week will allow you to see when other forms of engagement are above or below your church's typical pattern.

Specific tips for tracking online worship participation on the platform(s) you use

Just like tracking in-person attendance, you need to record the number of people participating each week you offer an online option. This will allow you to calculate the average number participating for the reporting year by dividing the sum of the weekly participants by the number of weeks in your reporting period.

How you find and calculate each weekly number depends on the platform(s) you use for streaming and is guided by the principles above.

Zoom

- Count participant devices that are logged in most of the meeting

Facebook

- See Facebook's help center entry on “Viewing Analytics For Your Page”
- Divide total minutes viewed for the first week by the length of your broadcast in minutes

YouTube

- Read “YouTube Analytics Basics” (look for analytics at the video level).
- Focus on “How to Measure Audience Retention”
- Divide “watch time in hours” for the first week by the “length of your broadcast” in hours. If this does not include your live viewers, add the “peak concurrent viewers after the halfway point” of the broadcast

Vimeo

- Go to Reports>View Engagement Report>Manage Table to get the needed statistics
- Report either “finishes” for the first week or multiply “views” for the first week by the “average percentage watched”

Instagram

- At the end of a live broadcast, the number of live viewers will be shown. Record these each week
- If uploaded to IGTV, estimate viewers at the end of the week by multiplying “views” by “average percentage watched”

I know that some of this sounds a little confusing and will take some effort, but it's the day we live in, and if we are going to track numbers, we need to do our best to be accurate. Reach out to the younger generation in your church for help in finding these statistics. It's a great way to involve them in a ministry that is definitely in their comfort zone!



A Revival Begins

My name is Jeremy Fryer and I am the lead Evangelist with the Shine the Light City-Wide Revival.

The Holy Spirit was leading me to enter a 40 day Daniel fast. During this fast, I pursued God with a passion and asked Him to teach me to follow Him.

My first lesson was the first and great commandment of God, given by Jesus, and found in Matthew 22:37.

The scripture reads, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." It was then the Holy Spirit asked me, have you been keeping this commandment? I can honestly say the answer to that question was "no"!

I asked the Lord to forgive me and to help me to love Him with all my heart, my soul and my mind. I continued the 40 day Daniel fast and the Holy Spirit granted me a personal revival, and this is how the revival began....

Recently after this experience, doors of opportunity began to open for revival. I was contacted by Pathway Community Church, a small church, that had a desire to host a revival. The church asked me to join them in prayer and asked if I would lead a revival in August 2021.



Pastor Tony Harris, Evangelist Jeremy Fryer, Rev. Jerry Byrd and SCBO President Reginald Hayes at the PRAY Cincinnati Service at Landmark Church.



Evangelist Jeremy Fryer at New Bethel Baptist Church for the Revival Kickoff Service with Dr. Johnny Hunt.



Pastor Matt Holman, Pastor Tony Harris and Evangelist Jeremy Fryer lifting up their hands during the entire two hour PRAY Ohio Service as Moses did in Exodus 17, so that God's people might prevail in this spiritual battle of revival.

I accepted the invitation and began working immediately! I asked Pastor Matt Holman of Landmark Church to partner with me and he accepted.

Together we organized an Executive Team that was comprised of Worship, Pastoral, Youth, Deaf, African American Hispanic and Missions. Our goal was to help each team reach their community with the news of prayer and revival.

We organized city-wide prayer services and partnered with SCBO President, Reginald Hayes, to host state-wide prayer services called PRAY Ohio Services. We hosted a Revival Kickoff with Dr. Johnny Hunt and a Youth Revival with Evangelist, Jamey Ragle.

Since May 2021, we have had seven prayer services with 50 local Pastors that have agreed to participate in leading prayer segments as well as 10 Christian community leaders. We have witnessed 75 professions of faith, 30 baptisms, 500 total in-service attendances and over 1,000 Facebook live views!

There are seven revival meetings scheduled starting August 28-September 1, 2021. I am so excited to see what all God has in store for Revival! For more information LIKE us on Facebook [@shinethelightrevivalministries](https://www.facebook.com/shinethelightrevivalministries)



Evangelist Jamey Ragle, Pastor Jim Fryer, Evangelist Jeremy Fryer and Pastor Matt Holman at Landmark Church for the Youth Revival.



Pastor Keith Young, Pastor Floyd Walker, Evangelist Jeremy Fryer, Pastor Art Walker and Pastor Sur Dukes during a PRAY Ohio Service at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Cincinnati, Ohio.



CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY AND THE STATE CONVENTION OF BAPTISTS IN OHIO PRESENTS



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JANUARY 28-29, 2022

FEATURING MATT PAPA

Matt Papa is as likely to quote G.K. Chesterton in casual conversation as he is to describe himself as a “weird dude.” He is a delightful combination of gifted musician and songwriter, loving husband, father, and inquisitive theologian. And with all those roles and attributes, he remains ever-focused on a singular goal: to help people see the beauty and glory of Jesus.

The past few years for Matt, his wife Lauren and their four children have been shifting sands to say the least. They uprooted from North Carolina, where their family began, then lived in Georgia for a year before settling in Nashville.

“Probably ten or more years ago I announced a little ‘never’... I will never move to Nashville,” says Papa from his home just outside of the music city where he is building a studio. “I’m convinced we start ourselves on a magnetic path toward whatever that thing is that mystifies us, scares us, annoys us, and ultimately awaits us.”

Papa, a veteran of record deals with nine albums under his belt, finds himself in a new season of life - as an indie artist (again) who is now mentoring other worship leaders and songwriters, and listening for the call of God on his life while continuing to write the songs and hymns that are inspired from his life’s pursuit.



Registration opens in September.

Witnessing: His Word, His Timing Changes Everything

Anonymous letter of encouragement received recently from a pastor.

“You might not remember me but I sat next to you on a plane recently. We started a conversation and through the course of that I confided in you about my broken marriage. You finally asked me if I wanted my marriage to succeed. I did. I wish I could say when I got home that I changed but, I didn’t. I kept doing the same old things; not praying for my wife, not loving her as God loves us, not making her a priority, or honoring her before all others. I continued to fail miserably. Some months went by and in June my wife went out to dinner with family and never came back. She was just going to stay the weekend but that quickly grew into weeks. I was broken, lost and miserable. I finally got the message that God was sending me and that I believe he used you to deliver that night on the plane. Love your wife like no other. Love your wife as God loves us, unconditionally. Give her the place she deserves. Make her a priority. I hadn’t kept the promises I made to her

before God in our wedding vows. Not one of them. I text her that night and asked her if I could call her and that began our reconciliation. The road has been bumpy many days and my wife was very hurt by how I treated her. God used you and your words to resonate in my heart and mind until I finally got my heart right with her. I focused on 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. I memorized it and recited it daily. I read a Bible study about God restoring marriages. And prayed on my knees like I had never prayed before. I have had to swallow my pride hundreds of time since that day I called her to see if we could work our marriage out. But it’s been worth every effort. It hasn’t been easy. Our marriage is improving everyday. I am thankful He made our paths cross. You said exactly what I needed to hear. I wrote this letter to tell you God used you to change my life and save my marriage. I want this to be an encouragement to you that your ministry and calling is worth every effort. Thank you for taking the time to talk to me that night. Thank you for telling me the truth and challenging me to do better.”
- Pastor “John Doe”

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

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