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Jack Kwok, Ohio State Exec, Announces Retirement



By SCBO Staff

Date: July 30, 2020 -Reprinted from Baptist Press (www.baptistpress.com), news service of the Southern Baptist Convention. The original story can be found at: <http://www.baptistpress.com/55175/jack-kwok-ohio-state-exec-announces-retirement>

COLUMBUS, Ohio (BP) -- Jack Kwok, executive director of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio (SCBO), announced his plans to retire during a virtual meeting of the state mission council today (July 30). When he retires Dec. 1, Kwok will have led Ohio Baptists for 24 years.

"Every Southern Baptist in Ohio should be thankful for the steady leadership of Dr. Kwok," said Ryan Strother, president of the SCBO and pastor of Central Baptist Church in Marion. "His love for the Bible and evangelism, his desire for unity, and his genuine love for all people should be qualities for which we all strive as our churches continue to carry out the Great Commission in Ohio and beyond."

During Kwok's tenure, the state convention grew by 200 churches -- from 513 churches in 1996 to 713 churches in 2020. Kwok's leadership and vision also saw 574 churches planted in Ohio over the past 20 years.

Before serving in Ohio, Kwok was a church planter and pastor in Arkansas and Tennessee before serving for eight years with the Arkansas Baptist State Convention as direc-

tor of cooperative ministries between National and Southern Baptists and Camp Paron. It was his work on racial reconciliation that caught the attention of Baptists in Ohio and led to his being named the executive director of the SCBO in 1996.

"Jack Kwok has given his life to serving pastors, leaders and churches to further the Great Commission," SBC Executive Committee President Ronnie Floyd said in a statement. "As a friend, I have watched him walk through many challenges and trials, but I have always seen him rise up with the passion to reach people for Jesus. He loves Ohio Baptists and all Southern Baptists, and we love him. Thank you, Jack, for serving Christ with your life."

Kwok and Kay McClure married in 1972 and had three children. Their oldest, J.P. Kwok, and his family serve a church in Owensboro, Ky. Their second child, SallyKay Laverne, died less than a month after her birth in 1978. Their son Edward Warrick, known as Roo, born in 1979, lives in Delaware, Ohio. Kay died June 27, 2009.

In late summer of 2009, Jack was reintroduced at a horse show to a fellow graduate of Batesville (Ark.) High School, and a new romance began. He married Wilsene (C.C.) Moody, a winner with Tennessee walking horses, a year later.

In other business during the meeting, the mission council elected Bruce Smith, current associate executive director, to serve as interim executive director upon Kwok's retirement until a successor is hired.



Baptist Press



Getting Ready for the Next Guy: Transitional Pastor Training

Transition ...interim ...between ...change ...what's next? ...who's next?

A transitional pastor has a very 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. A church's identity can be challenged; identity clarity is essential as they seek God's man to lead them.

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.

A transitional pastor will help the church seek Him as they seek His man to be the next pastor. It is a time to refocus the mission of the church. The transitional pastor's primary task is to prepare the people for the next pastor and the changes that will inevitably come with him.

Our next transitional pastor training will be **Thursday, October 22, 9 am – 5 pm. Springboro Baptist Church** (125 E Mill St, Springboro) will host the event. **Chuck Deglow** will be lead facilitator for the new and improved training. Cost will be **\$10.00** which includes lunch and materials. If you have been through the transitional pastor training before, please feel free to come and see what's new! Go to <https://www.sco.org/event/getting-ready-next-guy-transitional-pastor-training> to register.

Learn:

- 1) The stages through which each church will progress during the interim period
- 2) Guiding the congregation through a review of their ministry effectiveness based upon historic trends in attendance, giving, baptisms, etc.
- 3) Introducing the congregation to relevant current demographics and trends that indicate ministry opportunity
- 4) Selecting and training a pastor search team
- 5) Resources available: books, surveys, demographic sources, websites, etc.

Join us as we learn how to help churches navigate through the white water of a pastor transition!

2020 Training Session

Food Service, Child Care, Chain Saw, Shower Trailer, and Mud-Out Training. You must be at least 21 to train for Child Care and at least 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 - Questions? Call: (614) 309 - 9751

Training Date

November 6-7, 2020

Dover Baptist Temple
2896 S.R. 800 N.E., Dover, Ohio 44622

Missions
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FOR PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

Schedule

Friday	
6:00 PM	Registration
6:30 - 9:30 PM	"Involving Southern Baptists in Disaster Relief"
Saturday	
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

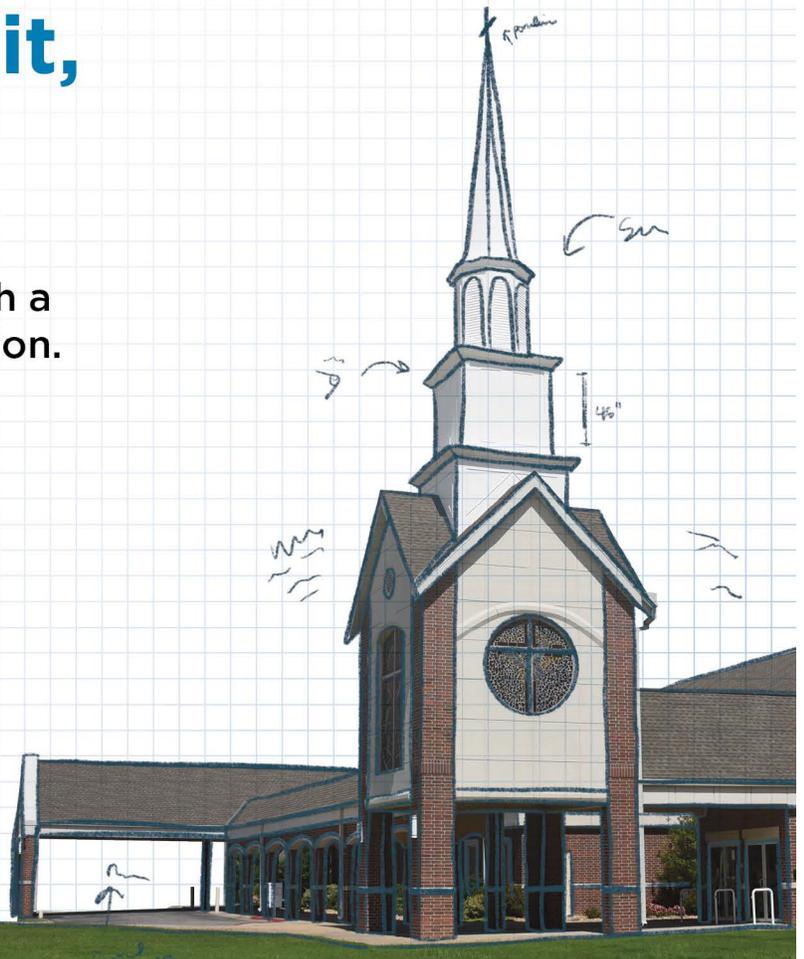


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scbo.org/foundation



The Bridge in Lancaster Celebrates Baptisms & Growth

God has used perseverance, adaptation, and a vision to reach the community to help The Bridge in Lancaster have reason to celebrate.

About a year ago, The Bridge in Pleasantville and The Bridge in Lancaster merged. Attendance in the Lancaster church plant was about 80 at the time of the merger. Now they average about 150 in weekly attendance and had 170 on Fathers' Day. When COVID hit in March, pastor Scott Gibson said, "We starting doing drive-in immediately, and it was awesome!" Even after resuming in-person worship services, offering two services on Sunday morning, an FM transmission was continued for those not ready to come into a group setting. Through May and June, the church added 20 new people, saw 6 salvations and 5 baptisms.

But the vision does not stop with reaching people for Christ in Lancaster. Pastor Scott Gibson said that an intern at The Bridge is looking toward a new church plant in the Logan area.



In Search of

New Hope Baptist Church in Windham, Ohio is accepting resumes for a bi-vocational pastor. We are seeking an energetic and passionate pastor with strong leadership skills and a desire to work with our membership. We are a small congregation but we love the Lord and are eager to learn and grow. Resumes may be sent to Kathleen Kunze c/o New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 397, Windham, OH 44288 or emailed to newhope138@gmail.com

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*Limited-time accelerated yield valid for new investments only; not applicable to funds currently invested with the Ohio Baptist Foundation.

Family Worship

by Sarah Smyth* IMB Missionary to East Asia (Name changed for security)

“Unprecedented.” Are we growing weary of this word yet? It has been a year like no one expected, and as the COVID-19 challenge lingers, we inevitably grow weary.

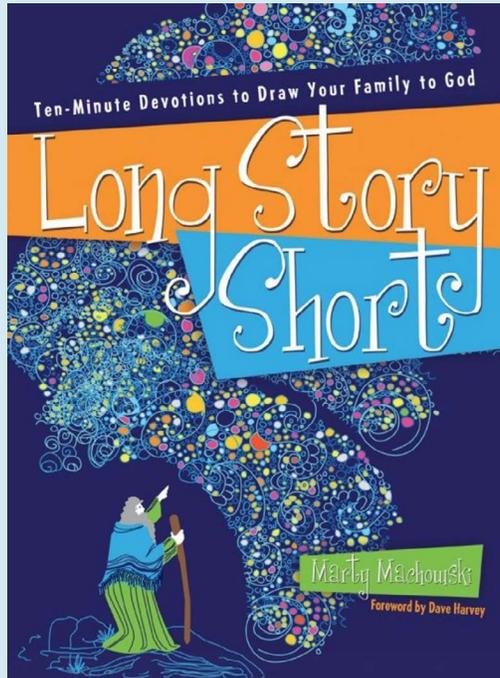
Like you, our family did not expect this. We were hoping to visit America with trips to museums, libraries, t-ball games, and lots of eating in our favorite restaurants. We were also looking forward to attending and being a part of church services and kids Bible activities that we don’t have while living in Asia.

Instead, we’ve had multiple quarantine seasons, lengthy stay-at-home orders, carry-out food and order ahead pick-up groceries.

At first glance, you might think we would be disappointed, but instead, we have been blessed by the sweetest season of rest and God’s presence in our family. I firmly believe that the key is that we have learned how to worship together.

Some of you might be overwhelmed by that idea — worship? As a family? I don’t mean a full-blown rehearsed service at home. I just mean a simple, but habitual time together to worship the Lord.

For us, it’s usually immediately after dinner. Most often, we find it easiest if everyone stays in their seats and don’t even worry about clearing dishes away. My husband starts with a short devotional. This doesn’t need to be prepared ahead of time and could be as simple as reading a few verses each day through a book of the Bible. One of our favorite family devotionals is *Long Story Short* by Marty Machowski. Our kids are currently 2, 5, 9, and 11. Generally, we start with the 5-year-old and ask him to retell the story that Dad read. Then we move up to the older



kids and have them fill in or correct anything he missed. Finally, we ask and do our best to answer any questions we have. It’s nothing fancy and generally less than 10 minutes.

Then we take turns praying. We found that many times kids tend to get stuck on certain types of prayer, so we came up with a schedule to encourage different thoughts. On Mondays, we pray for ministries, which includes churches and other organizations. Tuesday is for family members, Wednesdays are for overseas workers, Thursdays are for unsaved people, and Friday, we pray for friends. Saturdays are a free day, and Sundays, we pray for prayer requests from our church. The point is not what categories you use; the point is to make it a bit easier for your kids to choose a prayer need and broaden their perspective. We’ve also been using the IMB pray app for prayer requests from around the world.

We do this most days of the week. We miss a day or two, and sometimes we do it after breakfast if something

is happening in the evening. Then at least one night a week, we move outside and do some musical worship. Again, this is not a beautiful four-part harmony. Our two-year-old wanders around making up lyrics of his own throwing in “Jesus” every few words for good measure. Some of us know the words, and others hum along or just listen. You can use a CD, or streaming music service or the maracas and drum that your favorite uncle gifted the kids last year. It’s not about being perfect, but about sharing the joy in the Lord, and letting your children see you worship. We often take requests from the kids and sing the songs they know. Sometimes we’ve watched and sung along with Keith and Kristyn Getty. Their family hymn sing is an inspiration to us.

Unprecedented. The word of the year, and yet, could we make it a positive force in our families? Could it be unprecedented how our families grow in faith this year? I encourage you to start small and establish family worship as a habit. Then watch how the Lord will abundantly bless.





FIRST FRIDAY FAST

August 7: Praying for Awakening - Supernatural Gospel Impact

When SCBO president Ryan Strother announced the First Friday Fast 2020 initiative at our annual meeting last November, COVID-19 was not in our vocabulary. When I thought of face masks, it was about football. George Floyd died under the knee of a police officer, the cry for liberty and justice for all again challenges our nation. We anticipated 2020 to be a divisive year because of the election, still an issue, but now just one of many.

Friday, August 7, marks our eighth day of prayer and fasting in 2020. We continue to pray for the five prompts of the initiative; the prayer for awakening seems urgent. Will the current physical, social, political, economic, and cultural circumstances cause us to cry out for revival? It must.

Give me one divine moment when God acts, and I say that moment is far superior to all the human efforts of man throughout the centuries. — Denise F. Kinlaw President, Asbury College 1968-1981, 1986-1991

Recently I read the account of the Asbury revival in 1970. (One Divine

Moment: The Account of the Asbury Revival of 1970) Robert Coleman wrote in the forward:

One of these divine moments came on February 3, 1970. The visitation occurred in Wilmore, Kentucky, a small town near Lexington. While many students across America were burning down buildings and rioting in the streets, students in this college community were strangely drawn to their knees to pray. (p. 10)

Harold Spann, Assistant to the President, Asbury College writes in a chapter titled "Crisis and Opportunity:"

Our day is one of confusion and disillusionment. The optimism of the early part of the twentieth century has been destroyed by the harsh realities of a warring world. The question in the theological circles now is whether there is any basis for hope. The theologians search. The secular world wonders. The institutions which have been the heart of our society and our glory are now under brutal attack. The foundations tremble. Old norms are challenged. Many want to determine their own laws. The darkness has deepened, and

man has lost his way. Worse—he has lost his nerve. (p. 82)

Those comments made me think of revivals past. I reached out to Claude King, and he reminded me, "The crisis doesn't cause the harvest, but causes people to begin searching for stability, hope, security, etc."

The revival historian J. Edwin Orr writes about the days before the awakening of 1857-1858 (*The Event of the Century: The 1857-1858 Awakening*). He quotes Bishop Warren Candler:

"In the midst of all its plenty and pride, the nation woke one morning to find that the glory was all a dream ... a repetition of the old, old story of a people grown great by godliness, gradually departing from the true God in the worship of Mammon, futilely prostrated by its idolatry.

So whether such a panic had been caused by God, apart from the laws of trade, or whether it had been produced by God, working through those laws, it was treated by many contemporaries as the call of God to all His people to repentance, and God's call to the whole

nation to amend its backslidden and apostate ways.” (p. 19)

Businessman Jeremiah Lamphier, burdened about the sinfulness of New York City, called for a noon-hour prayer meeting. Six people came to the first prayer meeting, September 23. Within six months, ten thousand businessmen gathered daily for prayer.

Revival swept the city, and the whole nation paid attention. By 1858 people were gathered every night in cities and small towns all over America for prayer. In two years, *one million* new believers were added to churches in America, out of a population of thirty million. (J. Edwin Orr, *The Light of the Nations*, 103-105) Revival of the same proportion today could mean *ten million* new believers added to His church, in America alone! Imagine what that could mean if it also fueled our passion for taking the gospel to the ends of the earth.

Two years later, civil war began; over 620,000 American soldiers died on the battlefield, many were converted during the Great Awakening.

The nation had been prepared for the crisis to come.

Orr points out it was not the bank panic of October 1857 that ushered in the revival. He writes, *“Not the failure of the banks, but rather the success of intercessory prayer services... four months of prayer and repentance before the great gatherings and crowded assemblies”* (p. 20-21)

I return to the words of Harold Spann in *One Divine Moment*:

Man has tried his best devices. They have failed. Perhaps the despair of finding any human way of deliverance, coupled with the threat of impending catastrophe, will bring men to face reality. It has happened before. In fact, the greatest national revivals of the past have come during the darkest periods of church history. In such hours of hopelessness, men have looked up in the night and found the stars still shining. Sometimes these awakenings have saved the nation from disaster. In other times they have prepared the church to face judgments to come.

What it will be in our generation, no one now can say, but the Almighty

has come to stand in the midst of the clamor and turmoil of the world to repeat His invitation. “If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” (2 Chronicles 7:14 RSV).

Now is the hour of decision. Man must bring himself to participate in a divine moment of redeeming grace. No one can afford to gamble on when this opportunity may end or what the future holds. Finally, the future holds nothing but God. (p. 82-83)

Please join the First Friday Fast 2020 initiative August 7. Pray for awakening—supernatural Gospel impact. Resources for teaching and preaching on fasting are available. Go HERE (<https://shwca.se/FirstFridayFast2020>). New resources are added to the DropBox regularly. Be sure to check out this month’s feature *Prayer and Fasting, A Passion for Prayer*, chapter 8, by Tom Elliff.

FIRST FRIDAY FAST 2020

Praying and
Fasting for
Supernatural
Gospel Impact

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 & their families

AWAKENING

Seeking supernatural gospel impact for Ohio & beyond

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Ohio Graduate

The following graduate with Ohio ties received a degree during New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College commencement services May 16, 2020.

Heather W. Johnson, formerly of Cleveland, Ohio, received the Master of Arts in Christian Education with a specialization in Women's Ministry Leadership from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in a virtual graduation celebration, May 16, due to COVID-19 restrictions

Johnson is married to Mark Louis Johnson Sr., the former senior pastor of Liberty Hill Baptist Church, Cleveland, now serving as NOBTS Assistant Professor of Evangelism and Pastoral Ministry as well as pastor of Edgewater Baptist Church in New Orleans.

The NOBTS Master of Arts in Christian Education degree equips students for the practice of a ministry discipline as they serve in the educational ministries of local churches, missions, denominational agencies, and other related ministries.

One of the world's largest accredited seminaries, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College offer associate, baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degrees in biblical studies, theology, pastoral ministry, church history, Christian education, counseling and music. The seminary is



owned and supported by the Southern Baptist Convention. Dr. Jamie Dew is president.

Office of Communications
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Gary Myers, Director
gmyers@nobts.edu

July 7, 2020

Hope Across Ohio
September 6-13, 2020

"But I will hope continually and will praise you yet more and more."
Psalms 71:14 (ESV)

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State Convention of Baptists in Ohio

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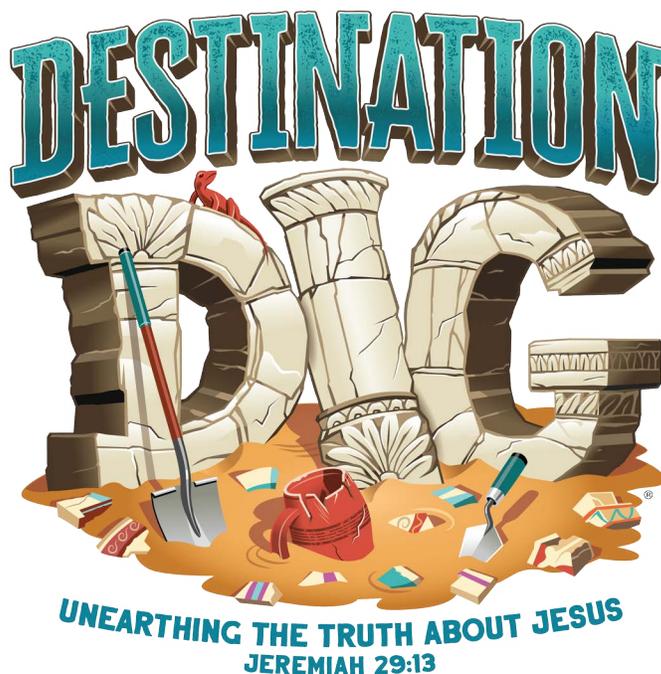
The Bible reminds us to be ready to give an account of our hope according to 1 Peter 3:15. The only way for that to truly happen is if we take hold of Jeremiah 29:13 which says, "You will seek me and find me when you search for me with all your heart."

Lifeway's VBS 2021 theme has been announced, it's called "Destination Dig." Pack your bags and grab your gear, VBS 2021 is headed to present-day Israel where an epic adventure of discovery awaits. Discover long-hidden treasures, amazing finds, and exciting evidence that proves biblical events were not just stories. They really happened.

It all starts with VBS directors coming to the VBS Directors Preview which takes place on November 7, 2020. For more information follow this link, <https://www.scbo.org/event/vacation-bible-school-directors-preview>

Location for this event is still being worked out and we will let you know just as soon as it is secured.

There is no better time than the present to get started. So, mark your calendars as we get started on a new adventure in VBS!



A VIRTUAL CASH COW

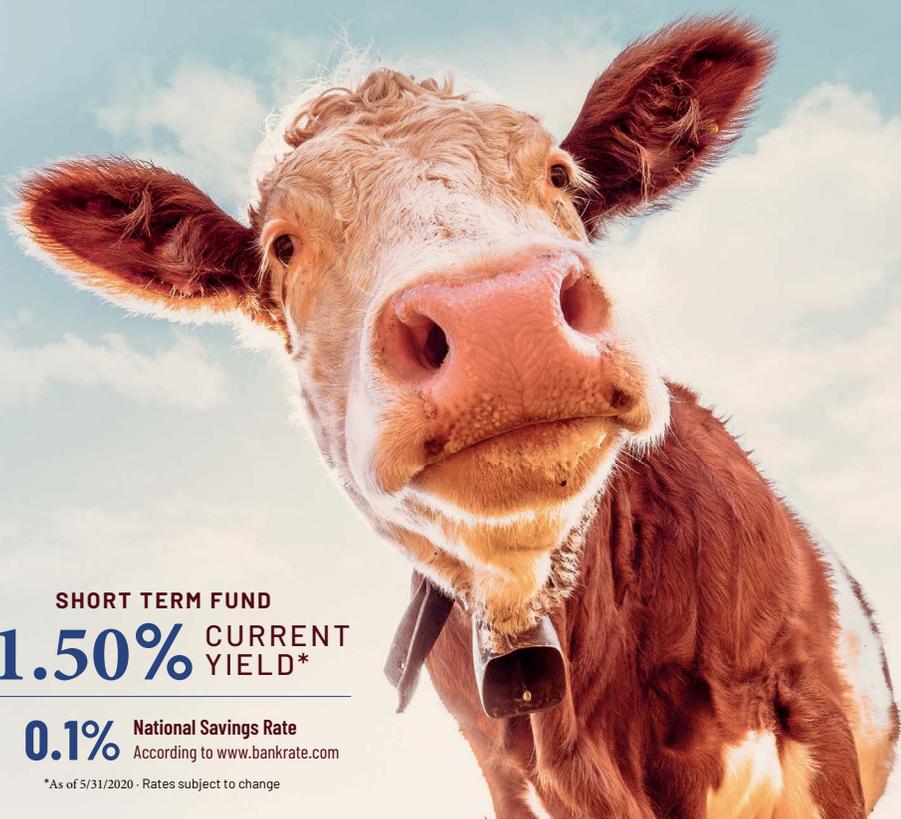
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A MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP

4 VBS Strategies FOR THIS SUMMER



VBS 2020 is off and running. Certainly not the way we thought it would, but churches all across Ohio did not want to miss the opportunity to share Jesus with children of all ages.

I'm sure you have figured out by now that regardless of how you are doing VBS, it is a lot of work. Whether virtual or live, in your home or in your backyard, it takes a tremendous amount of effort. So, thank you for putting in the time to make this year's VBS a positive one.

With that said, SCBO wanted to bring you up to speed on a NEW reports system that Lifeway has created. Beginning immediately, churches will no longer go to SBC Workspace to report their VBS ministry results. All reporting will take place at vbs.lifeway.com/churchreport. This is the direct link to the form that is housed on our VBS website at lifeway.com/vbs ... so, even if that's all a church is familiar with, they can still report there. There is a button on the far right in of the VBS website.

All Concrete & Cranes materials were printed and in circulation long before this decision was made, so you may still mail their reports directly to your convention office or contact us for help reporting. Beginning with the 2021 Destination Dig theme, churches will be instructed to report directly online. We just simplified the form to make it easier and faster to complete. Hopefully that will make it easier for you to complete.

This comes directly from our friends at Lifeway, so please let us know what you think about this new process. We think it will help everyone involved. If there is anything else we can do to help you during your VBS time this Summer please let us know. We will figure out this new normal together!

*The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio
VBS Team*



ASSOCIATIONS' 'FUTURE IS BRIGHT,' SBCAL BOOK SAYS

By David Roach

MCDONOUGH, Ga.—The small-town pastor seemed largely unresponsive as he sat across from his local associational mission strategist (AMS). “What a waste of time,” the AMS thought as he drove away from their consulting session. But he was wrong.

A year later, the pastor contacted the AMS with a report: He had done everything the associational leader suggested, and the church had outgrown its facility. The congregation had fresh energy, it purchased land for a relocation and a capital campaign was underway. “What’s next?” the pastor asked.

That is among the stories of associations’ ongoing impact conveyed in *The Baptist Association: Assisting Churches. Advancing the Gospel*. Released in June by the Southern Baptist Conference of Associational Leaders (SBCAL), the book explains the role of associations in 21st-century Southern Baptist life and offers counsel on how to lead them.

“We need pastors and Southern Baptist leaders at all levels to value our way of doing cooperative missions—starting with associational missions,” writes Ray Gentry, the book’s editor and SBCAL president. “Churches should appreciate associations for assisting them in advancing the gospel in current, tangible, and historic ways.”

The Baptist Association is the first major work on Southern Baptist associations since 1984, when the Baptist Sunday School Board published J.C. Bradley’s *A Baptist Association*. The new volume is based on recommendations and research presented in 2018 by an SBCAL study team that explored the role of associational leaders and recommended changing their title to AMS. Some of the book’s 25 contributors served on that study team.

Production of the volume was a collaborative effort. The North American

Mission Board (NAMB) paid for the first printing, and will send one to each of the 1,100 Baptist associations in the Southern Baptist family. SBCAL will be sending copies to Baptist state convention executive directors and Southern Baptist Convention entity leaders. The book was printed by Rainer Publishing, which is owned by the sons of retired LifeWay Christian Resources President Thom Rainer.

Contributors to *The Baptist Association* describe how a local fellowship of churches can remain relevant in the era of global connectivity and online ministry resources.

The book begins with a survey of associations in Scripture and Baptist history. In the New Testament, churches associated with one another to promote church planting, church health and doctrinal purity, writes Glenn Davis, AMS for the Heart of Kansas Baptist Association in Wichita, Kansas. North Greenville University Provost Nathan Finn explains that “associationalism has always been at the heart of the Baptist vision for cooperation.”

The remainder of part one addresses, among other topics, the role of an AMS, first-year priorities for new associational leaders and how associations can advance the gospel internationally and across North America. The latter two topics are addressed in chapters by International Mission Board President Paul Chitwood and NAMB President Kevin Ezell.

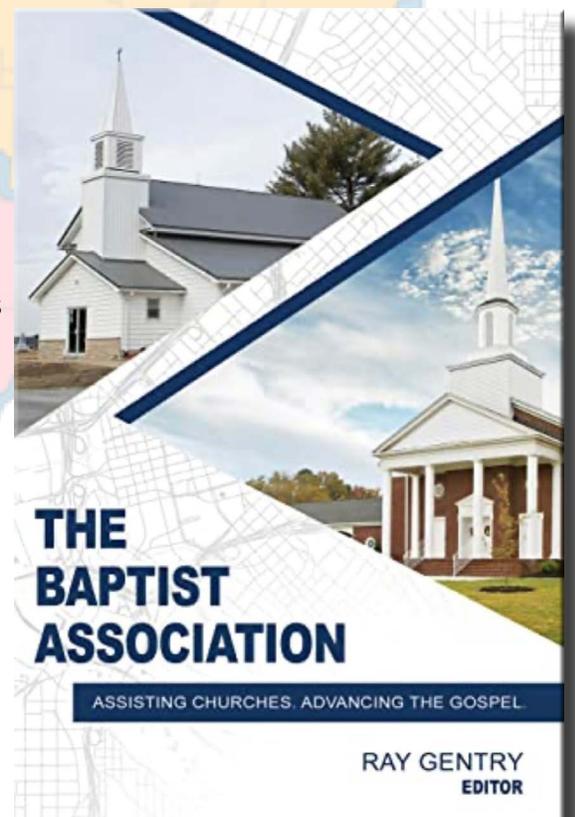
Part two includes chapters on 17 proficiencies of effective associational leaders. They are divided into “foundational proficiencies” like personal character and spiritual maturity, “relational proficiencies” like emotional intelligence and authentic vulnerability and “strategic proficiencies” like vision casting and

communication.

Other contributors include: Johnny Rumbough, executive director of the Lexington (South Carolina) Baptist Association; Tom Billings, executive director emeritus of the Union Baptist Association in Houston; Bob Lowman, executive director of the Metrolina Baptist Association in Charlotte, North Carolina; Jim Breeden, former executive director of the St. Louis Metro Baptist Association; Rick Wheeler, president and CEO of Florida Baptist Financial Services and former lead mission strategist for the Jacksonville (Florida) Baptist Association; and Mark Snowden, AMS for the Cincinnati Area Baptist Association.

“The future is bright” for associations, Gentry writes, “if we will pray and work together in humility and true partnership at all levels of SBC life for the glory of God.”

The Baptist Association is available on Amazon in paperback and Kindle editions, as well as at www.sbc.org.





NW Ohio Cares for East African Family

Covid 19 + Sewing Machine + Conversation = Mission Opportunity

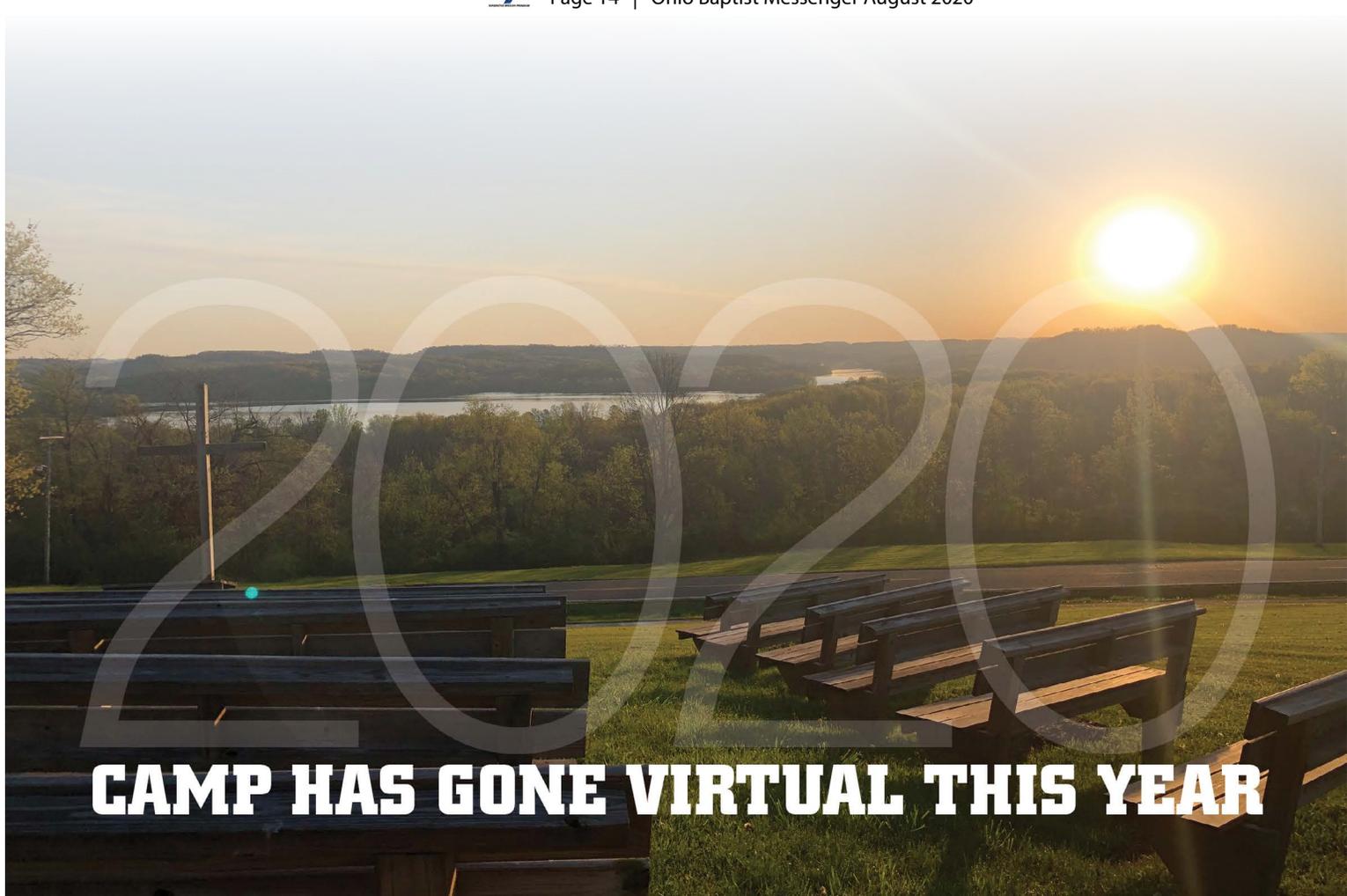
By: Teresa Bailey WMU Leader, Northwest Ohio

Virginia Cogar of FBC Perrysburg uses her sewing machine as a mission tool. Over the years Virginia has sewn clothing and quilts for loved ones and with the help of NWOBA churches countless 'little dresses' shared with peoples around the world. 2020 has given Virginia a new opportunity. She has sewn dozens of masks of all sizes. Recently, during a conversation, Teresa Bailey learned that an East African refugee family living in Columbus, Ohio needed masks for their children.

Virginia made a variety of masks for Teresa to deliver. During the visit, another need was discovered. The parents recently purchased a pack 'n play for the baby born in March. Teresa and long-time friend, Marilou Tonnesen, Westerville, Ohio, both grandmas, set it up and everyone rejoiced.

Southern Baptists all over Ohio continue to lift needy peoples to Jesus and reach out to them. Ask Jesus to reveal Himself, His love and His forgiveness through these acts of kindness. Covid 19 is opening doors and opportunities to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our neighborhoods and across the state. Praise Jesus and His amazing work!





CAMP HAS GONE VIRTUAL THIS YEAR

The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio is committed to making this summer great.

Please visit scbo.org for camp options available to use in place of summer camp this year.

For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there among them. Matthew 18:20



Praying During the Pandemic

We are experiencing a heat wave with temperatures of over 90 degrees. Heat index reaching over 100 degrees at times. The covid-19 virus has somewhat affected everyone, in one way or another. I am sitting here writing this article, thinking about Christmas Backpacks, all the children that are going to benefit from them and how will we accomplish this great task God has set before us.

This article will not be very lengthy, but will hold the key to what we need to do this year to accomplish the ministry that God has called our Southern Baptists in Ohio to do since 2017. The key that we need to accomplish this ministry this year is PRAYER. We need to pray believing that God will answer our prayers, for the need that we have with the backpacks. May our attitudes be positive. Don't let any

negative thing hinder us from providing the need of these children. Have faith, believing!

"Prayer is the key to Heaven, but faith unlocks the door; words are so easily spoken, But prayer without faith is like a boat without an oar. Have faith when you speak to the Master; that's all He asks you for; prayer is the key to Heaven, but faith unlocks the door." Written by: Robert L. Sande & Samuel T. Scott

Don't let the size of your congregation determine whether you feel you can or cannot afford to fill backpacks. You may have a congregation of 10, 25, 50, 100 or more!!! "It's not the strength of the body that counts, but the strength of the Spirit" By: John R.R. Tolkien

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thesalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)

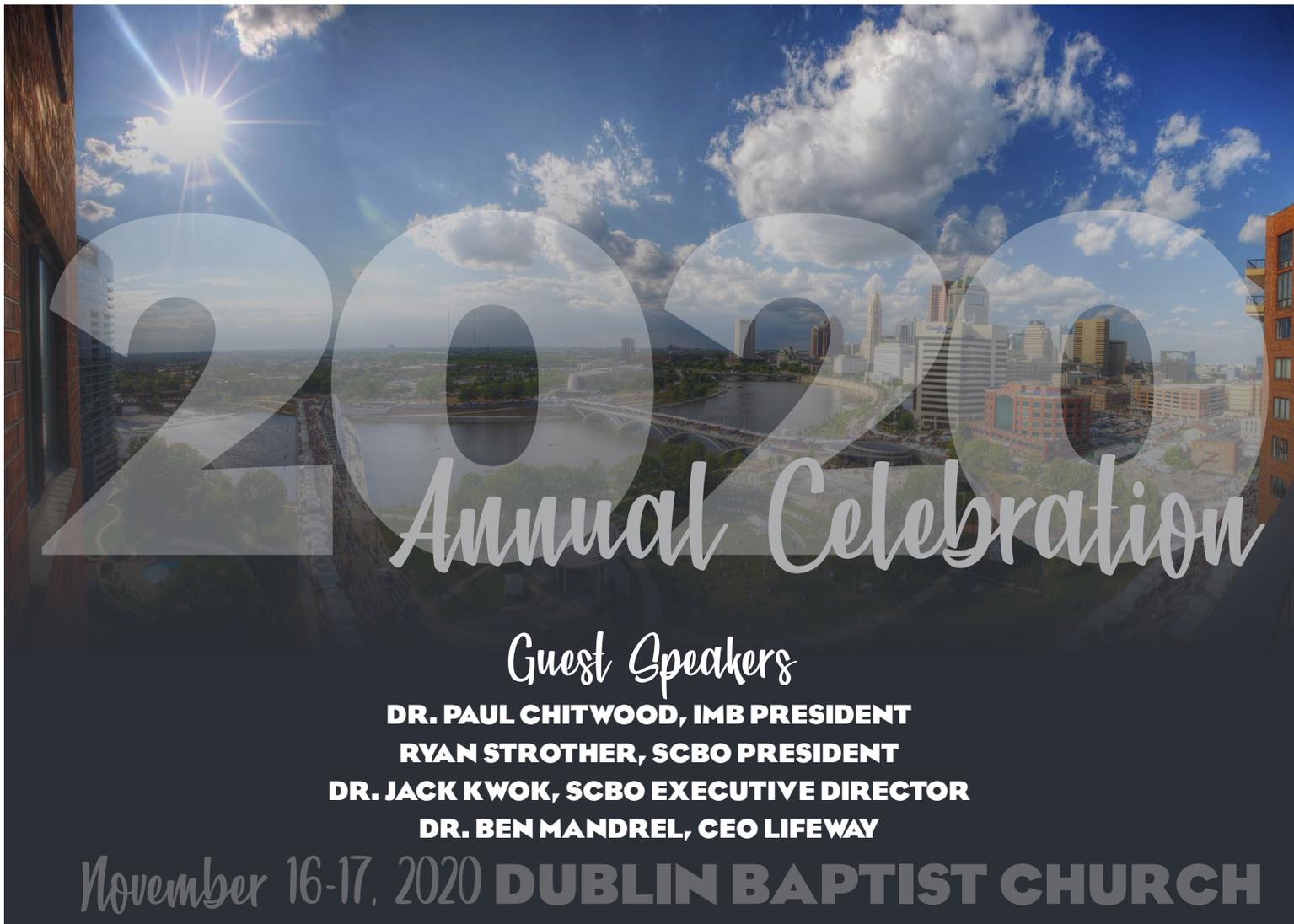


"The task ahead of you is never greater than the strength within you!" (Unknown)

"I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength" Philippians 4:13

Barbara DeLorme
SCBO WMU Coordinator for
Appalachian Christmas Backpacks
(937) 609-0231
11kidsnanny@gmail.com





2020
Annual Celebration

Guest Speakers
DR. PAUL CHITWOOD, IMB PRESIDENT
RYAN STROTHER, SCBO PRESIDENT
DR. JACK KWOK, SCBO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DR. BEN MANDREL, CEO LIFEWAY

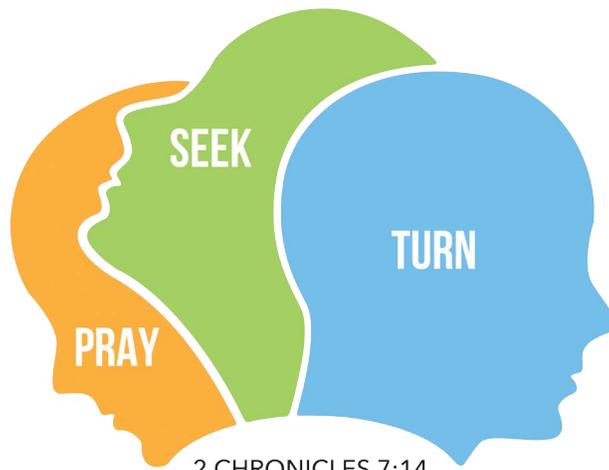
November 16-17, 2020 **DUBLIN BAPTIST CHURCH**

ARE YOU LISTENING?

Subscribe to the podcast today. If you have any questions feel free to contact Dwayne Lee at dlee@scbo.org or 614-601-6824.

SCBGO

Motivating you to be active in Mission Ohio



IN ALL THINGS PRAY

MY FAMILY • MY COMMUNITY • MY CHURCH • MY COUNTRY • MY WORLD

PrayerLink Gathering/Forum 2020 Goes Virtual!

Due to COVID-19, the **2020 PrayerLink Gathering/Forum** will now be online via ZOOM. Join prayer leaders from across the SBC Thursday, September 24, from 2-5 p.m. Register at sbcprayerlink.org for more details.

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. The PrayerLink Community/Network seeks to accomplish its mission through four functions:

- 1) Pray — Foster “one-accord” prayer experiences and a praying culture within the PrayerLink community and beyond.
- 2) Connect — Identify, embrace, develop, and or network SBC prayer leaders with the PrayerLink community and beyond.
- 3) Resource — Provide a forum where prayer resources, initiatives, ideas, and stories are displayed and shared with the intent of supporting prayer leaders as they mobilize strategic kingdom-focused intercession throughout the SBC and beyond. See our resources. (www.inallthingspray.org/)
- 4) Serve — Serve the PrayerLink network, annual PrayerLink gathering/forum, and SBC prayer leaders through the administration and facilitation of PrayerLink meetings, prayer gatherings, and collaborative SBC related prayer initiatives and efforts.

PrayerLink seeks to enlist, empower, and equip several affinity groups to develop their own prayer networks. Currently, these affinity prayer network groups are:

- **Local Church Network:** Consists of local church pastors, prayer leaders, ministry staff, etc. who provide

leadership in prayer through a local church context. MORE INFO (www.sbcprayerlink.org/cpmc/)

- **Associational Network:** Consists of associational directors of mission, associational missionaries, prayer leaders, and associational staff who provide leadership in prayer through an associational ministry context.
- **SBC Entity/State/Ethnic Fellowship Network:** Consists of SBC entity, state convention, and SBC related ethnic fellowship prayer leaders who are assigned prayer responsibilities in their respective ministry context.
- **Prayer Ministries Network:** Consists of SBC related prayer leaders who have their own prayer ministry or are involved in prayer mobilization within various ministry avenues and contexts.

This year would be an excellent year for you to check out the PrayerLink Gathering/Forum without traveling!



CHRIST-CENTERED PROCLAMATION

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SCBO AND FBC LANCASTER

9.28.20 | 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. | FBC LANCASTER

BREAKOUTS WITH:

DEAN FULKS, CINDY LANDRY, MIKE LANDRY, KEITH HURT, DANNY AKIN, MARK CLIFTON, TONY MERIDA

COST: \$35 (INCLUDES LUNCH AND BOOKS)

REGISTER AT: WWW.FBCLANCASTER.COM/PREACHING

SPEAKERS



MIKE LANDRY



MARK CLIFTON



DANNY AKIN



TONY MERIDA

SCHEDULE

- 8:30 A.M. REGISTRATION / BREAKFAST *BREAKFAST AND BREAKS SPONSORED BY BROTHERHOOD MUTUAL
- 9:00 A.M. GENERAL SESSION #1 PROCLAIMING THE BIBLICAL CHRIST [DR. DANNY AKIN]
- 10:00 A.M. GENERAL SESSION #2 PROCLAIMING CHRIST IN A SECULAR CULTURE [DR. MIKE LANDRY]
- 11:00 A.M. BREAKOUT #1
- 12:00 NOON LUNCH
- 12:30 P.M. LUNCH / PANEL DISCUSSION [LANDRY, AKIN, MERIDA, CLIFTON]
(QUESTIONS WILL BE SUBMITTED @ SESSION #2 BY PARTICIPANTS)
- 1:10 P.M. BREAKOUT #2
- 2:10 P.M. GENERAL SESSION #3 PROCLAIMING CHRIST IN A DIFFICULT CHURCH [MARK CLIFTON]
- 3:05 P.M. GENERAL SESSION #4 PROCLAIMING CHRIST TO THE GENERATIONS [DR. TONY MERIDA]

BREAKOUTS

- BACK TO BASICS PT.1 -** LEARN (OR BE REFRESHED IN) THE BASICS OF SERMON / TEACHING PREPARATION. [DR. DANNY AKIN]
- HEALTHY PASTORING IN NON-MEGA CHURCHES -** THE UNIQUE CHALLENGES OF PASTORING THE 'NON-MEGA CHURCH' IS NOT SO UNIQUE. 90% OF PASTORS ARE JUST LIKE YOU. SO HOW DO YOU STAY HEALTHY WHILE INVESTING YOUR LIFE IN YOUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY? [MARK CLIFTON]
- CHRIST-CENTERED PROCLAMATION WITH WOMEN -** LEARN UNIQUE APPROACHES TO TEACHING WOMEN WHO CHRIST IS, WHO THEY ARE IN CHRIST, AND SHARING CHRIST IN EVERYDAY LIFE. [CINDY LANDRY - SARASOTA (FL) BAPTIST CHURCH]
- CHRIST-CENTERED PROCLAMATION IN A CHURCH PLANT -** THERE ARE UNIQUE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PREACHING / TEACHING IN A CHURCH PLANT SETTING. HOW DO YOU KEEP CHRIST AS THE FOCUS WHILE BUILDING HIS CHURCH? [DEAN FULKS - LIFEPOINT CHURCH]
- CHRIST-CENTERED PROCLAMATION WITH STUDENTS -** LEARN UNIQUE APPROACHES TO TEACHING STUDENTS WHO CHRIST IS, WHO THEY ARE IN CHRIST, AND THE MISSION OF MAKING HIM KNOWN. [KEITH HURT - VIOLET BAPTIST CHURCH]
- PRESSURE OFF: HEALTHY PASTORING FOR ENDURANCE -** THE CHALLENGES OF PASTORING ARE ENORMOUS AND CAN BE OVERWHELMING. SO HOW CAN YOU PERSEVERE IN MAKING AN IMPACT FOR CHRIST...AND FINISH WELL? [DR. MIKE LANDRY]
- BACK TO BASICS PT. 2 -** LEARN (OR BE REFRESHED IN) THE BASICS OF SERMON / TEACHING DELIVERY. [DR. TONY MERIDA]



GLORIOUS FINISH

Seeking God's glory through pastoral integrity and endurance

OCTOBER 12-14 | ONLINE EVENT



Tim Armstrong



Kie Bowman



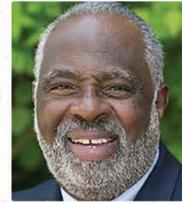
Daniel Henderson



Troy Keaton



Jeff Schwarzentraub



Robert Smith Jr



Al Toledo

REGISTER AT [GLORIOUSFINISH.CO](https://gloriousfinish.co)

6:4 FELLOWSHIP NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2020 IS COMING TO OHIO!

Glorious Finish: Seeking God's glory through pastoral integrity and endurance is the theme for this year's 6:4 Fellowship National Conference. 48 hours of jam-packed inspiration and encouragement focusing on the ministry of prayer and the Word. (Acts 6:4)

October 12-14, 2020

ONLINE EVENT

see website for details

#PrayOhio! will partner with The 6:4 Fellowship, Strategic Renewal, and others to sponsor the event.

*Early Bird Registration until July 30 \$99 / person
State Convention of Baptists in Ohio partnership
discount! Use SCBO for a \$25 discount*

PRESS TOWARD THE MARK

Except for NAMB approved church planters, the North American Mission Board ceased funding for Evangelism and Church Planting to Mission Ohio. This amounts to \$126,000 in ministry funding. To replace this would require an additional \$252,000 to the Cooperative Program budget.

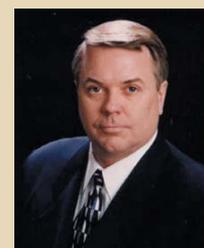
LifeWay also ceased their funding of \$55,000 for personnel in the Bible Teaching/Leadership Resource Group and funding of \$7,584 for collegiate ministry. This amounts to \$62,584. The Bible Teaching/Leadership Resource Group portion supports the salaries of Steve Hopkins and Dwayne Lee. To replace this would require an additional \$125,168 to the Cooperative Program budget.

The total amount to replace these lost funds through the Cooperative Program budget is \$377,168. This additional amount isn't sustainable. Kevin Heaton projects potential Cooperative Program receipts for the 2021 fiscal year to be \$4,416,154.

To avoid losing staff, the Executive Committee

and the Mission Council approved my retirement proposal. They have chosen Bruce Smith to serve as the Interim Executive Director until finances will support the employment of an additional position of Executive Director. Ministry reductions of \$69,035 (\$138,070 with 50/50 Cooperative Program matching) and the reduction of the Executive Director position in the budget bring the budget requirements in line with the Cooperative Program anticipated receipts of \$4,416,154. My retirement date will be November 30, 2020.

Southern Baptists are Great Commission People. "To all the world for Jesus sake" captures the heartbeat of Southern Baptists. Thank you Ohio Southern Baptists for the privilege of working in the Ohio harvest for the last 24 years. I deeply appreciate and love you. From Ohio to the ends of the earth governs the scope of Mission Ohio. Let's continue to 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@sco.org

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