

# OHIO BAPTIST MESSENGER

JUNE 2019 | VOLUME 67 NO. 3

EQUIP. ENGAGE. ENCOURAGE. ENHANCE.

# ANNUAL CELEBRATION

# NOVEMBER 4-5, 2019



## Ronnie Floyd

*New President and CEO of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee*



## Dr. Adam Greenway

*President, Southwestern Seminary*

## Jack Kwok, Ph. D.

*Executive Director-Treasurer, SCBO*

## Ryan Strother

*President, SCBO*

## Stephen Owens

*President, Ohio African American Fellowship*



State Convention of Baptists in Ohio



## EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- June 3-7 Family Camp
- June 10-14 Missions Adventure Kamp
- June 15-21 Ohio Changers
- June 17-21 Kids Kamp Week 1
- June 18 Listening to Leaders Encouragement Tour
- June 24-28 Super Summer
- June 24-28 Kids Kamp Week 2
- June 28-29 Women's Ministry Leadership Training
- July 1-5 Youth Camp Week 1
- July 8-12 Youth Camp Week 2
- July 8 OBF Golf Outing
- July 15-19 Youth Camp Week 3
- July 22-26 Kids Kamp Week 3



Motivating you to be active in Mission Ohio

## Featured Articles

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# NO SILVER BULLETS

## 5 SMALL SHIFTS THAT WILL TRANSFORM YOUR MINISTRY

### DANIEL IM

**Monday, August 5**

**h2o City Church**  
1385 Neil Avenue, Columbus, OH 43201  
1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

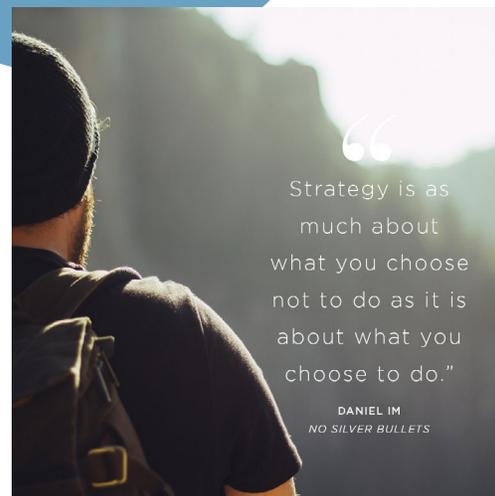
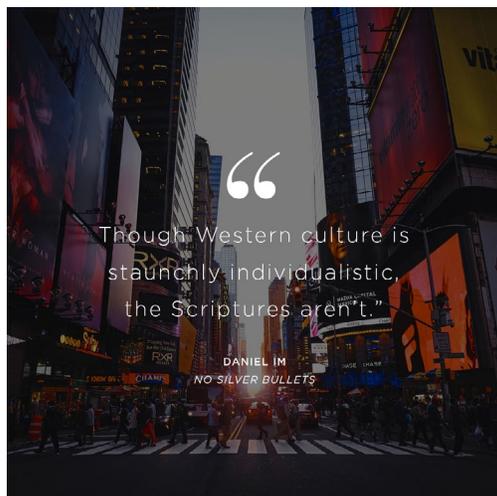
**Tuesday, August 6**

**Liberty Heights Church**  
7904 Princeton Road, Liberty Township, OH 45044  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

**\$10 registration includes a copy of  
No Silver Bullets for each participant**



Daniel Im is the Director of Church Multiplication for newchurches.com and LifeWay Christian Resources. He serves as a Teaching Pastor at The Fellowship, a multisite church in Nashville, TN. Daniel is the author of *No Silver Bullets: Five Small Shifts that will Transform Your Ministry* and also the co-author of *Planting Missional Churches: Your Guide to Starting Churches that Multiply* (2nd ed.) with Ed Stetzer.



**Wanting a better return on God's assets than what you're receiving in your church savings or checking account? Why not invest in the OBF Short Term Fund? 100% accessibility to your asset 100% of the time. No penalty for withdrawals. No minimum investment required. You can add to it at anytime. Distributions are electronically transferred directly to your church bank account. For more information, contact me, [jackhelton@scbo.org](mailto:jackhelton@scbo.org) or 614-309-9738.**

# Ohio Baptist Foundation Short Term Fund

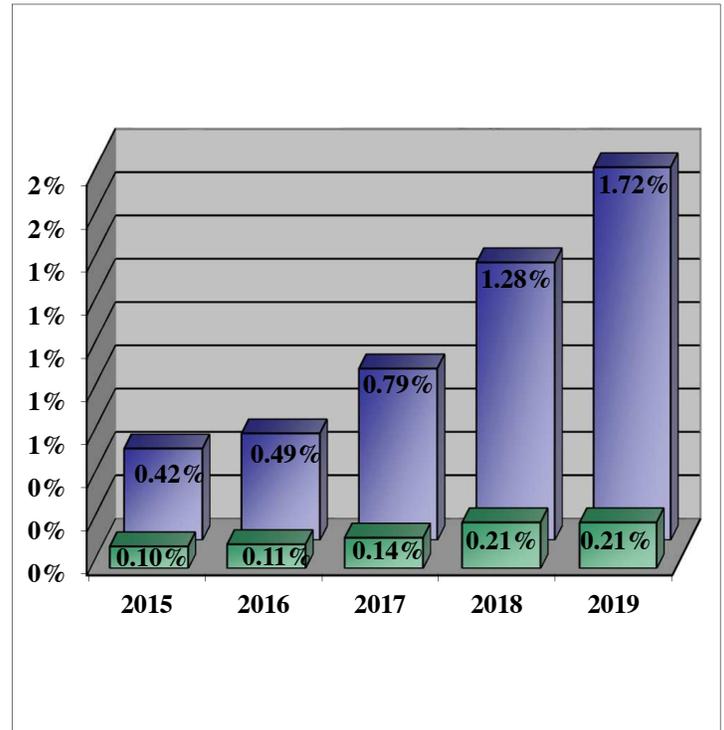
by the Louisiana Baptist Foundation (LBF)

**ADVANTAGES**

- ✓ No minimum balance per account (\$1 earns the same rate as a million).
- ✓ You may open as many accounts as needed to reach your money management objectives.
- ✓ Interest is earned daily and posted monthly.
- ✓ Deposits or withdrawals can be made daily and interest is earned for the number of days participating.
- ✓ No penalty for withdrawals and no minimum investment period.
- ✓ Open to all churches, non-profit agencies and institutions cooperating with the Ohio and Southern Baptist Conventions (not individuals).
- ✓ Earn higher interest rates (see graph).

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

- *Is our money FDIC insured?* No; we are not a bank and can't purchase FDIC insurance. The safety comes from what we are investing in (U.S. Government Bonds and insured institutions).
- *Just how easy is it to withdraw our money when we need it?* We are often told it is easier to deal with us than a local institution (use mail, phone, fax, wire or ACH electronic transfer).
- *Is there a fee for placing money with the Louisiana Baptist Foundation?* The Foundation does charge a small management fee to assist in covering operating expenses. However, the rates presented are net of this management fee. The current fee is .35% (3.5/10ths of a percent).



■ Bank Money Market  
■ Ohio Baptist Foundation Short Term Fund - YTD Annualized Yield

04/30/19



**Contact: Louisiana Baptist Foundation**  
 445-4495 (Local) or 1-877-523-3863 (Toll-free)  
 P. O. Box 311 Alexandria, LA 71309-0311  
[www.LBFinfo.org](http://www.LBFinfo.org)

Jack Kwok, State Convention Executive Director-Treasurer, Editor; Linnett Snodgrass, Administrative Assistant; Amanda Mishne, Publication Layout.  
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# Church Revitalization

## Explore pathways for reviving churches



## Do Not Despise Small Beginnings

By: Steve Hopkins

*“Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin, to see the plumb line in Zerubbabel’s hand.”*

**Zechariah 4:10 NLT**

It was called the “submarine church” by the community. The church had purchased six acres, and a basement poured with ambitious plans to add the first-floor sanctuary. Someone had even bolted a ten-foot pillar about midway of the structure. You get the picture, a gray basement sticking up about 3 ½ feet above the ground, a row of windows, in the middle of six acres, and a *periscope* sticking up—a “submarine church.” The church had gone through some rough days, ten pastors in ten years, averaging about twenty, meeting in the basement. They called a new pastor. He would need to start bivocational, teaching school the first few years; then his wife got a teaching job so he could go “full-time.” He jokingly said, “Perhaps now you will have one pastor for the next ten years.” And the work began.

The story sounds much like the rebuilding of the temple. Zerubbabel had laid the foundation for the temple, seventeen years passed with nothing added, a visual testimony of unfulfilled hope. Those that walked by commented, “nothing is ever going to

happen there.” Two improbable candidates, Zerubbabel, whose name means “descendant of Babylon” —governor under a pagan king; and Joshua, the “other Joshua” of the Bible, a high priest without a temple—minor characters in a minor prophet. But God is still here, the prophet reminded them, and He will complete what He started. (Haggai 2:3-9) How? The best-known verse in Zechariah: “Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,” says the LORD of hosts.” (Zechariah 4:6)

The temple represented God’s presence, and His blessings, left incomplete

a new church than revitalize an existing church. However, in the work of His Spirit, we can see Him finish what He has started, even when the beginnings seem small; all things are possible in Him. (Matthew 17:20)

*“God’s work done in God’s way will never lack God’s supply.”*

—J. Hudson Taylor

Are you willing to do whatever it takes to restore health and beauty to His Bride; restored for His glory? (Ephesians 5:25-33; Revelation 19:7-8) Coaches trained in church revitalization

are available for REACH Ohio. You can go to [scbo.org/revive](http://scbo.org/revive) for more information. Contact Steve Hopkins ([SteveHopkins@scbo.org](mailto:SteveHopkins@scbo.org)) or Dwayne Lee ([dlee@scbo.org](mailto:dlee@scbo.org)) to connect with a revitalize coach.

Open doors are not relative to size. Jesus evaluated the church at Philadelphia, perhaps the smallest of the churches in Revelation, a city described by

one historian as “an unimportant city full of earthquakes.” There was no word of criticism or correction, just encouragement: “I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied my name.” (Revelation 3:8) When Jesus opens a door, the possibilities are limitless. Base vision on His power—not the budget, location, or



it was discouraging and defeating to the people. They doubted they would ever be able to build the temple; they had been powerless for so long. There were internal dissension and external opposition. The glory of their God was at stake.

Do you have the assignment from Jesus to rebuild the temple? Church revitalization is not for the faint of heart. In some ways, it is easier to plant

size.

Remember the pastor of the “submarine church.” He stayed for twenty years. The church built that sanctuary, then added more educational space. But it’s not about brick and mortar, people were baptized and discipled, and churches planted during those years. Hope offered in the name of Jesus: A family home burned, one child killed, the mother critically injured; two boys lived with a church family until they were reunited with their mother. Mrs. Jesse, a widow, taught a boy’s class in Sunday School. Her daughter a slave to drugs. When Mrs. Jesse was diagnosed with cancer, a family took her into their home. When she came to church, those boys she had taught met the car with a

chair and carried her up the steps so she could worship. The stories of hope, beneath the surface to most, may have looked like small beginnings, but heaven will reveal the lives impacted in the name of Jesus.

I know the story of the “submarine church” because I was there, that pastor was my Dad. The church licensed and ordained me into the gospel ministry. I will forever be grateful for the spiritual heritage that reminds me: “Do not de-



*spise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin...”*

*“Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ”*  
Philippians 1:6

## Are you listening to SCBgO?

By: Dwayne Lee

You may or may not be aware that the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio (SCBO) has it’s own podcast. It was started last year in 2018 in hopes to reach more people with current news and stories from Ohio churches. Thanks to Ryan Strother, pastor of Central Baptist Church, Marion Ohio and current president of SCBO for starting the process and continuing to provide solid interviews from across Ohio.

We currently carry 20 episodes ranging from interviews with pastor’s, state convention leaders, children’s directors, and so on. Ryan has done a great job in finding quality stories that are relevant to our churches.

Therefore, I am excited to announce that our podcast, SCBgO, will continue it’s regular schedule of providing podcast every other week. Yet, Ryan will be stepping down as the podcast producer and host. Dwayne Lee from the Bible Teaching/Leadership resource group will be taking over as the producer and host. With all of the responsibilities as being a pastor and president, Ryan feels that he needs to focus his efforts elsewhere. Dwayne and Ryan have met and agreed this would be a good move and has the potential be more effective.

Because of this change, Dwayne and Ryan will share a podcast in June of this year to clarify any confusion and

talk about the future of the podcast. SCBO is very excited about the potential of the podcast and the future guest that will be interviewed. There has already been conversations about having a few national voices that can speak to various areas of ministry that would help our Ohio churches.

Stay tuned for all of our updates and if you have not subscribed to the podcast make sure you do that today. Follow this link to view our podcast page and to subscribe. If you have any questions feel free to contact Dwayne Lee at [dlee@scbo.org](mailto:dlee@scbo.org) or 614-601-6824.

**Motivating YOU  
to Be Active in  
Mission Ohio**

**SCBG O**

As we are swiftly approaching our summertime activities and seeing many churches preparing for vacation Bible School, I thought it would be a good idea to remind all of us once again why we do Vacation Bible school.

As I was putting notes together for this article, I came across this article that Rhonda VanCleave wrote about the Importance of Vacation Bible School. So instead of listening to me ramble take these words from Rhonda to heart as you and your church get ready for VBS!

*Dwayne Lee*

## Four Reasons VBS is Important to the Local Church

*Taken from lifeway.com*

*By: Rhonda VanCleave*

What images pop into your head when you hear the words Vacation Bible School? Do you have fond memories, or are you wondering what is VBS? VBS stands for Vacation Bible School, and it is a summer church outreach focused on giving kids a fun and creative place to learn about the Bible and to build relationships with churches and other kids in the area.

If VBS has been a great experience for you as a child or adult (or both!), you are probably smiling. Some may think of VBS as “old school” or not an event for your style of ministry. You might think VBS is OK, but you feel pressure because you need an event that sets your church apart from others in your area.

### What Is the Purpose of VBS?

Many people may wonder what the purpose of Vacation Bible School is and if it's still relevant. The answer is actually very simple: the purpose of VBS is to minister children in the church, create outreach to the surrounding communities, and to create evangelism opportunities. This purpose is supported by a creative theme of Bible study, activities, worship, and even time

for some tasty snacks.

If you are not sure VBS is for you, here are a few things to consider.

#### 1. VBS is a dependable ongoing ministry.

For 98 years, LifeWay has provided trusted VBS resources to churches, **reaching more than 25,000 churches and 3 million people annually.**

VBS can be a short-term event with long-term results.

With a typical five-day time frame, VBS offers a chance to pull out all the stops and create an unforgettable experience. Research shows connections made during VBS result in salvations, discovery of church prospects and potential workers for other ongoing children's programs. Also, it is not uncommon for a leader to volunteer to help for “just one week of VBS,” and feel God's tug on his or her heart to work with kids permanently.

#### 2. VBS creates lasting memories.

VBS is a special event that creates memories that help lock Bible truths in a child's heart and mind for a lifetime. Birthday parties and other special events have themes that use creativity to evoke feelings of excitement. Games,

food, decorations and fun all link together in a total package. VBS does the same thing. When we connect with kids through this ministry, the biblical truths that permeate all aspects of VBS also connect with their hearts and minds.

#### 3. VBS is an opportunity to share the gospel.

VBS is an intentional evangelistic opportunity.

The biblical content built into the curriculum lays foundational truths that help kids understand who Jesus is and why they need a personal Savior. The relationships you develop with kids and their families can provide many opportunities to not only show the love of Jesus, but to share the truth of the gospel.

#### 4. VBS is an event that you can customize.

VBS is what you make it.

Whether you provide an on-campus experience that encourages your church kids to bring their friends or an off-campus, community-centered Backyard Kids Club, the purpose of sharing the good news about Jesus is the same. Some churches are finding that it's worth the effort to do both. After a great on-campus experience, you can take those resources to backyards and community rooms, or on mission trips.

VBS is the resource. The name you choose can be your own! You can call it VBS, Kids' Week, Fun Zone or any event name of your choice. Kids will come to love and talk about the events that excite them, engage them, and help them know that God and the people at your church really care about them.

VBS is an opportunity to ignite the imagination of your church, involve volunteers for a specific “doable” commitment and connect with the kids in your church and community.

The methods you use will create memories. The message you share will change lives.





## Who's Your One Testimony

**It doesn't matter how many buildings we construct, churches we plant or sermons we preach if we're not intent on doing everything so that lost men, women and children will experience the transforming work of God**

*For the past 5 weeks at CBC I have been using the Who's Your One, campaign. We used the prayer cards, to pray for one person to share the gospel with this year, I used the sermons in the kit as a springboard in preparing the sermons. 5 weeks out we committed to pray for one person to invite for Easter. 2 Weeks out we committed to inviting one guest to Easter who did not know Jesus. Our average attendance for morning worship for this year is 54 (January to present) and this past Sunday we had 108 in attendance. The last two years Easter attendance has been 72 and 74 respectively.*

**Pastor Brad Whiteford, Central Baptist Church, Williamsburg**

“We need a **PASSION** to see people who are far from God experience the **NEW LIFE** He offers through Jesus Christ.”

**J.D. GREAR**

# Pray Ohio

## Great opportunity for prayer team leaders!

By: Steve Hopkins

Heads up to all prayer team leaders, a great opportunity is coming our way! The annual PrayerLink gathering is some of my favorite days of encouragement and equipping every year. Until now, it has been a distance that required a flight or a very long drive. **October 3-5, 2019** the PrayerLink Gathering/Forum and Special Prayer Experience will be in Pittsburgh, a comfortable journey for most of REACH Ohio. Pastors, church prayer team leaders, state and associational prayer team leaders will gather with the theme Pursuing God's Glory... Together.

*"Father, I desire that they ... may be with Me where I am that they may behold my glory." (John 17:24)*

PrayerLink is a network of Southern Baptist prayer leaders which 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 and networking, 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.

Thursday (beginning at 1 pm) through Friday afternoon will be the

Forum. We'll gather with local pastors and leaders Friday evening for a PrayerLink experience that will include prayer, testimonies, and a prayer challenge—always a very inspirational time. The three-day event will conclude Saturday with a prayer experience on Mount Washington looking over the city of Pittsburgh, praying for the city and our nation.

Registration is open at [www.sb-cprayerlink.org](http://www.sb-cprayerlink.org). You will also find a link for group discount rates at the host hotel (DoubleTree Pittsburgh Green Tree) Plan on taking a carload of prayer

leaders from your church or association!

PrayerLink also offers several resources for prayer leaders at the site *In All Things Pray* ([inallthingspray.org](http://inallthingspray.org)). 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](mailto:SteveHopkins@scbo.org) or 614.601.6280) or go to [scbo.org/pray](http://scbo.org/pray).



# PROGRESS IN THE PULPIT

HOW TO GROW  
IN YOUR PREACHING

Progress in the Pulpit – A ONE day learning experience for pastors and Bible teachers who want to invest in making progress in their personal preaching / teaching ministry, as well as providing some team aspects for church staff and leadership. It is geared toward practical ministry with a recognition and emphasis on the leader's spiritual journey. We will worship...laugh...learn...grow... pray...and probably cry as we lean into God's mission of Biblical and Gospel proclamation.

**Monday, September 30, 2019**

Location: **First Baptist Church Lancaster**  
1950 Pleasantville Road NE - Lancaster, OH 43130

Time: **9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Cost: **\$25** (includes lunch / snacks / books)

Registration: [scbo.org](http://scbo.org)

July 8-12, 2019  
First Baptist Church Brighton, Ohio  
Project: Install new metal roof on existing building  
Contact: Randy Sparks 740-975-4116

TBD  
First Church West Jefferson, Ohio  
Project: New metal roof  
Contact: Randy Sparks 740-975-4116

## Buckeye Baptist Builders 2019 Schedule

TBD  
First Baptist Church Marysville, Ohio  
Project: Build picnic shelter  
Contact: Randy Sparks 740-975-4116



# Memorizing God's Word Never Returns Void

By: Kimberly Jackson

Twenty eight children, youth and high school students from across Ohio converged at Reynoldsburg Baptist Church to compete in the State Bible Drills on April 27.

Thomas Bonifield of First Baptist Kettering won the High School Drill and will represent Ohio at the National Bible Drill this June in Concord NC.

Noelle Cozmyk of Pleasant Valley Church won the Youth Drill and will join Thomas in Concord, NC to represent Ohio in the National Bible Drill.

In the Children's Drill, Emily Bonifield of First Baptist Kettering, Joelle Reed and Justin Bauer, both of Reynoldsburg Baptist Church, were all declared State Winner Perfect.

Along with the opportunity to represent Ohio at the National Drill, cash prizes are awarded to the top finishers each year in the Youth and High School State Drills.

Want to start Bible Drill at your church? Contact Kimberly Jackson at [barngirl323@gmail.com](mailto:barngirl323@gmail.com) or 937-602-6108 for more information.

Congratulations to all the State Bible Drill participants.



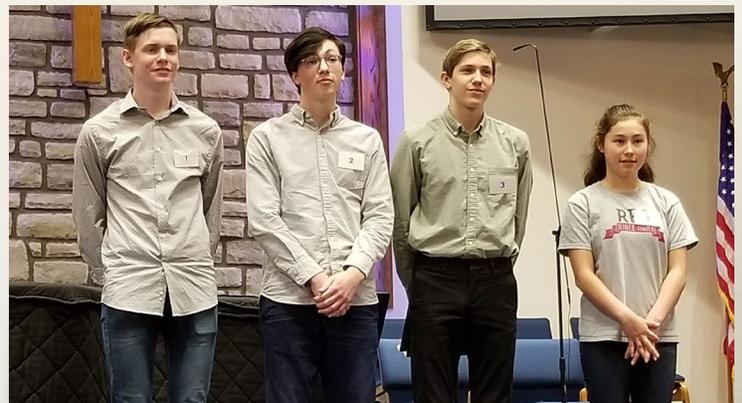
Children's Drillers L-R: Emily Bonifield, Alexa Daulton, James Burk, Josiah Witt, Micah Sharbaugh, Braydon Sells, Kaydence Weaver, Mackenna Sharbaugh



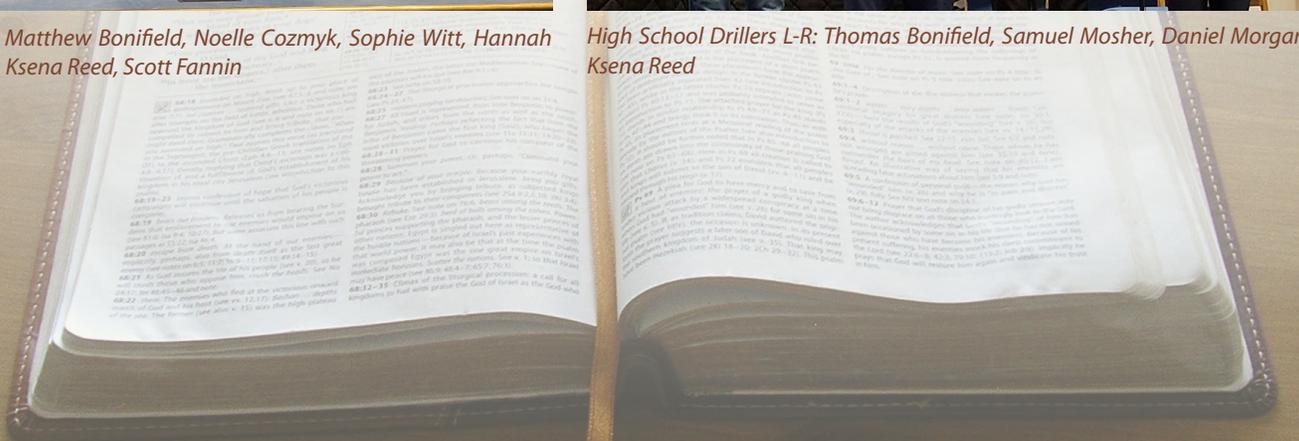
Children's Drillers L-R: Joelle Reed, Justin Bauer, Leah Rolston, Lily Bauer, Noah Rolston, Phoebe Savage, Victoria Spence, Wesley Burkholder, Zeb Prince



Youth Drillers L-R: Matthew Bonifield, Noelle Cozmyk, Sophie Witt, Hannah Witt, Austin Bauer, Ksena Reed, Scott Fannin



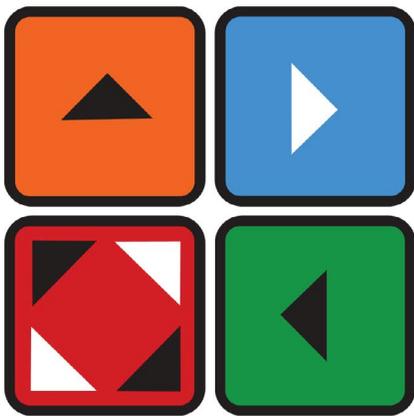
High School Drillers L-R: Thomas Bonifield, Samuel Mosher, Daniel Morgan, Ksena Reed



2019

*LISTENING TO LEADERS*

ENCOURAGEMENT TOUR



**REACH**

LISTENING TO LEADERS ENCOURAGEMENT TOUR

**OHIO**

EQUIP. ENGAGE. ENCOURAGE. ENHANCE.

As your newly elected president, I would like to gather with as many of our ministry leaders as possible for you to hear the vision and progress of your Mission Council and to get your input as we cooperate together in our state convention. It will be a time for you to listen, speak, and be encouraged with fellowship and a stack of nice resources as we strengthen our partnership to see Jesus known in Ohio.

*So, let's do lunch!*



**RSVP at**  
[scbo.org/register](http://scbo.org/register)

From the Desk of Pastor Ryan Strother  
President of the State Convention of  
Baptists in Ohio (SCBO)



**LAST CHANCE!**

**JUNE 18 IN COLUMBUS**  
**UNITED FAITH INTERNATIONAL**  
**JULY 16 IN CAMBRIDGE**  
**TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH**

11:30AM - 2PM

VISIT [SCBO.ORG](http://SCBO.ORG) FOR DETAILS

# OHIO BAPTIST FOUNDATION INVITATIONAL

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Foursome Scramble Golf Tournament



JUST  
**\$500**  
PER FOURSOME

HOLE-IN-ONE  
EARNS CASH  
**\$10,000**

DOOR  
PRIZES FOR  
EVERYONE!!

INDIVIDUAL  
AND TEAM  
AWARDS

**MONDAY, JULY 8**  
**WEDGEWOOD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB - POWELL, OHIO**

### SCHEDULE

9:30 Check In and Driving Range  
11:00 Shotgun Start  
4:00 Dinner and Awards

### REGISTRATION & SPONSORSHIP

Visit: [www.scbo.org/golf](http://www.scbo.org/golf)  
Call: 614-309-9738  
Deadline: July 3, 2019

### TOURNAMENT SPONSORS



State Convention  
of Baptists in Ohio

Proceeds to benefit the *Ohio Baptist Foundation Scholarship Endowment*. Investing in Christian leaders impacting our world!



# CHURCH LOANS THAT CHANGE LIVES.

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

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

## YOUR LOAN SUPPORTS:



Evangelism & church planting



National & international missions



Baptist universities & seminaries



Disaster relief & human needs ministries



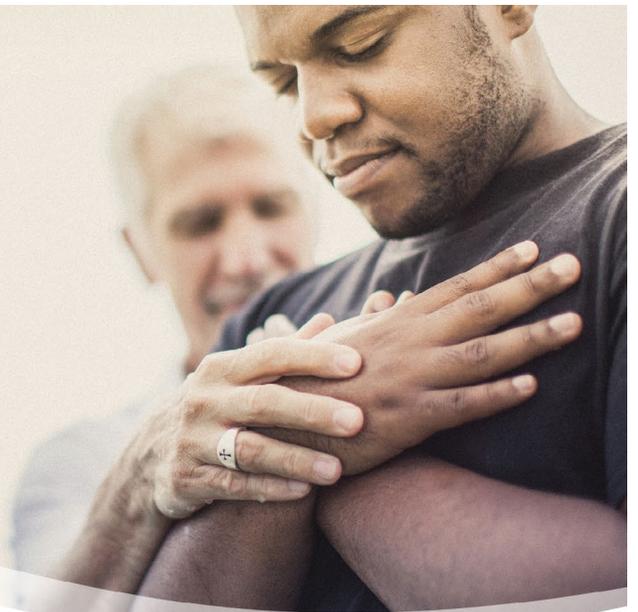
### GET STARTED AT:

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



## Make your ministry funds work harder.

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



# 3.35%

Annual Percentage Yield

2.15%	Enhanced Cash Fund
2.65%	One-Year Term Deposit
3.00%	Two-Year Term Deposit
3.35%	Five-Year Term Deposit

\*Rates updated monthly.

### GET STARTED AT:

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



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

# 2019 Training Sessions

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

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

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



## Dates

**November  
15-16, 2019**

**First Baptist Church  
590 W South Boundary St  
Perrysburg, Ohio 43551**

## Schedule

**Friday**  
6:00 PM  
6:30 - 9:30 PM

Registration  
"Involving Southern Baptists in Disaster Relief"

**Saturday**  
7:15 AM  
8:00 AM  
12:00 PM  
12:30 PM  
3:00 PM

Continental Breakfast Served  
Unit Training  
Lunch Provided by DR Food Service  
Evangelism Training  
Dismissed

### Shower Trailer

Maintain the shower unit in working condition, clean showers after use, launder towels and washcloths, also launder volunteer clothing as needed.



Removal of flood damaged furniture, carpet, appliances, etc. Basically gutting the house and preparing for rebuild.

Must wear protective gear and often mask to prevent breathing in toxic air.

### Mud Out



Care for children ages birth to 2nd grade while parents recover from the disaster. We have the equipment segregated into age groups for ease in use.

Volunteers provide loving care for the children, sympathy for the parents, and prepare meals for children.

### Child Care



## Core Values

- CHRIST CENTERED
- PARTNERSHIP ORIENTED
- LOCAL CHURCH FOCUSED
- FLUID PRACTICE
- EFFECTIVE ACTION

## Our Mission

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief is a Christ-centered partnership of national, state and associational ministries serving through the local church to bring help, healing and hope to individual affected by disasters.

## Vision

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief will be a well-defined, unified disaster response organization, demonstrating the love of Christ by providing physical and spiritual help to those affected by disasters.

### Chain Saw

Cut down trees and stack in location designated by the property owner. Also, pull brush and stack accordingly.

Safety is of utmost and all volunteers will wear the safety attire provided.



Prepare hot meals using a field kitchen, line feed, prepare containers for use in Red Cross or Salvation Army vehicles for serving. Ohio equipment is capable of producing 10,000 hot meals per day.

### Food Service

**Missions**  
Support + Mobilization

# DR Flood Recovery team ministers in Fremont, Nebraska

By: Larry Randolph

Six of us arrived in Fremont, a suburb north west of Omaha Nebraska Sunday afternoon and joined multiple teams from Arkansas, North Carolina, Arizona, (Iowa/ Kansas/ Nebraska team) and Kentucky who had multiple volunteers. This was the beginning of our journey where a team of six had the joy of seeing six souls come to Christ.

Pictured four guys you won't often see in white suits, plus a basement filled with cornstalks and mud.

It's also not often we park our Mudout Unit in front of a house and God puts four people in our path to tell about Jesus and opens their heart to the gospel, as happened our last day. While I was around the corner with our



ter who soon realized church attendance wasn't sufficient and prayed for her sins to be forgiven and Jesus to save her soul. The 80 year old mom shared with me the day before how four years ago she had gone to the grocery and came home to find her husband lying on the floor. At first she thought he'd fallen, then saw the shotgun laying next to him. He had committed suicide. She needed to tell me her story to which I was very willing to listen to. There is much more than physical needs a Southern Baptist Disaster Relief Team deals with on every mission trip. This was a very exhausting trip, both physically and spiritually.

One thing that stood out in conversations I had was reference to being religious. When I quoted a favorite former Pastor and told one lady, "Religion will send you to hell," it provoked an interesting conversation. Her eyes got as big as saucers and her jaw dropped as a seriously stern questioning look came over her face. Then I told her it's all about a personal relationship with Jesus, nothing to do with sign over the Church door, then

she recuperated.

Another thing that stood out, is the appreciation folks had not only for us helping with their physical needs, but that we took the time to share the gospel and explain in ways they apparently hadn't heard before.

As I talked with our other chaplain I realized how appreciative a guy beyond retirement age and three young men in their twenties were. All expressed appreciation and thanked the chaplain for sharing the gospel with them. One young man I talked with would not look me in the eye or say much until I finally got into a gospel conversation and he accepted Christ. After that he looked me in the eye and all he wanted to do was talk. He told me about a TV show I needed to see and more.

I cannot begin to tell you our appreciation for your prayers. Please continue to pray for us as we recuperate.



Blue Hat presenting a Bible to a homeowner, whose house we finished the day before and leading her to Christ, the neighbor came over where the team was working and Mick led him to Christ. Lawn service guy in his 20's came after lunch to mow neighbor's grass. We offered him a coke and after a short conversation we led him to Christ.

Earlier when we first got to the home the 80 year old retired teacher/owner and her retired daughter dropped by. The mom introduced me to her daughter





# ACCELERATE! SMALL GROUP WORKSHOP

## SEPTEMBER 16-18, 2019

I had the privilege to be part of the “Accelerate!” workshop over three years ago in Virginia. It was such a great experience for me. I was then able to host an “Accelerate!” at our church soon after.

Whether you call them Sunday School classes, small groups, or Adult Bible Fellowship groups you will find this conference to be incredibly helpful. Steve Gladen, small group pastor from Saddleback Church, brings his years of experience to help you individually or as a team to be strategic in your planning around your group structure. You will leave with an 18-month plan to make it happen.

Finally, the most beneficial take away for me was gaining a lifelong accountability friend in ministry. Since the “Accelerate!” that I was part of in Virginia I have had monthly calls with a small group pastor from Georgia. Each month we discuss how we are applying the things that we learned from our time at the conference. This has been such a valuable experience for me. I strongly encourage you to sign up. If you have any questions please email me at [bnaess@violetbaptistchurch.org](mailto:bnaess@violetbaptistchurch.org).

*Brian Naess*

Enjoy the beauty of the Midwest in the fall, grow as a leader, strengthen your team & accelerate the health & growth of your small group ministry by attending our “Accelerate!” Ohio Small Group Workshop! “Accelerate!” is a 3-day strategic workshop designed for small group point people and their leadership teams. You and your ministry team will take a 360-degree view of your small group ministry and then develop a comprehensive action plan for 2019 - 2020. This workshop not only gives you stimulating ideas, but you will leave with a plan that you can begin to implement immediately. Attendance is limited to give you more interaction with other participants.

### **SMALLGROUPNETWORK.COM/EVENTS**

For questions contact:  
Daniel Thomas  
[daniel@smallgroupnetwork.com](mailto:daniel@smallgroupnetwork.com)  
or (423) 534-9321



**Steve Gladen**

**Violet Baptist Church**  
8345 Blacklick-Eastern Road NW  
Pickerington, OH

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION (NOW – June 26, 2019)  
Individual Registration - \$195.00  
Team of 2 Registration (price per person) - \$185.00  
Team of 3 or more Registration (price per person) - \$175.00

# Church Planters and Wives from Across Ohio Gather at Dublin for the Church Planter Forum

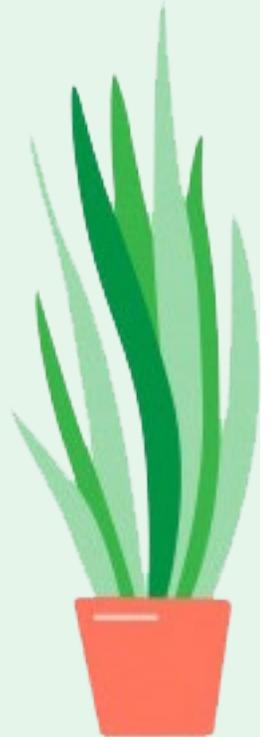
By: Bruce Smith

Twenty-one church planters and fifteen of their wives gathered at Dublin Baptist Church for the annual Church Planter Forum on May 9-10. The forum offers opportunity for planters from across the state to network with one another and encourage one another. Steve Renfrow, Associational Missionary for Southwestern Baptist Association, led devotions each morning from Ezekiel 37 which helped all listen to God. Dan Ghramm, pastor of Gateway Church in Ridgeville, led a breakout session on Listening to Your Family. Steve Long, Associational Missionary and Church Planting Catalyst for Northwest Ohio Baptist Association, utilized a chapter from Clark's book Evangelism as Exiles to help with dialogue about Listening as Exiles. Bruce Smith, Associate Executive Director and SCBO Church Planting leader, facilitated breakout discussions on Listening to Your Church. Wives

gathered in breakouts with Charlotte Barbo, administrative assistant for SCBO church planting, to considering Hearing and Listening. The Church Planter Forum is organized by the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio in partnership with the North American Mission Board.



Wives during Hearing and Listening discussion.



Edwin Okai Dominion Firehouse Chapel



Jason and Samantha Williams Church in the Wild



Planter Forum General Session



Josh and Kari Ortega H2O Wright State



# COMMUNICATION CONFERENCE

## July 23, 2019

State Convention of Baptists in Ohio Building

**10 AM to 3 PM**  
Lunch provided

**\$10 per person**  
Register at [scho.org/register](http://scho.org/register)

**At this conference designed specifically for church leaders, Chris will address some of the most critical, and often misunderstood, aspects of communication for churches. Some of the topics to be discussed include: ministry identity, event promotion, and more based on your suggestions and questions...**



*Chris Turner is the communications director for the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board. It was quite a 25-journey to get there. Although his aspiration in life was to either be the Atlanta Journal-Constitution's beat writer for the Atlanta Braves or a presidential speech writer, the Lord had other plans. Chris migrated from a sports writer, to an overseas correspondent living in Panama and then an overseas communications director living in England for the International Mission Board, to serving for seven years as media relations manager at LifeWay Christian Resources. He loves baseball, Formula1 racing, obstacle course racing and sitting in the garage drinking coffee with his golden retriever, Dakota (although Dakota doesn't drink coffee; he just lays there while Chris does). However, the two of them would prefer sitting on the porch of a cabin at a secluded mountain lake. Chris, his wife, Michelle, and daughter, Madison live in Franklin, Tenn.*

# PRESS TOWARD THE MARK

The last week of May at least 20 tornadoes drummed areas of Ohio. Some were EF 4 and 3. Southern Baptist Disaster Relief teams sprang into action. Ohio Southern Baptist churches have mobilized to supply resources and minister to the affected families. We are grateful for the hundreds of volunteers that staff Disaster Relief teams and Southern Baptist churches that support the Cooperative Program and the Ray Roberts State Mission Offering.

Southern Baptists support a worldwide missionary enterprise through the Cooperative Program. This missionary enterprise includes supporting missionaries from the United States to the ends of the earth; seminaries to train missionaries, pastors, and church leaders; and missions and ministries in the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio. Disaster Relief is one of these very important ministries. Southern Baptists through the Cooperative Program have a worldwide footprint of missions and ministries.

Messengers from Southern Bap-

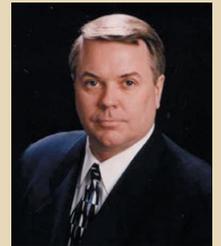
tist churches will gather in Birmingham, Alabama June 11-12 for the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. Pastors Conference and WMU Conference precede the SBC Annual Meeting June 9-10. The Southern Baptist Conference of Associational Leaders meeting is June 8-10. Other important fellowships meet during this time period as well. The main purpose of the annual meeting is to conduct business that supports the worldwide mission outreach of Southern Baptists.

Ohio Southern Baptists will gather for the Annual Celebration November 4-5 at Rolling Hills Baptist Church located at 5742 Pleasant Avenue Fairfield, Ohio 45014. Messengers from cooperating churches will conduct business of Mission Ohio. Fellowship and worship are important aspects of the Annual Celebration as well. Speakers for this year include new SBC Executive Committee Executive Director Ronnie Floyd, new Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

President Adam Greenway, SCBO President Ryan Strother, Mt. Calvary Baptist Church in Bedford, Ohio Pastor Stephen Owens, and Executive Director Jack Kwok.

Next month July 23, the State Convention of Baptists is holding a Communications Conference at the Baptist Building 9000 Antares Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43240. Chris Turner will lead the conference. He is the Director of Communications for the Tennessee Baptist Convention. This is part of the Tennessee-Ohio partnership. Chris will help church leaders with ministry identity, event promotion, and issue response. Please register on the [www.scbo.org](http://www.scbo.org) website.

Mission Ohio is the cooperative effort of Southern Baptist to reach 1,000,000 believers in 2,020 congregations by the end of 2020. Let's press toward that mark.



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

## How to Become a Christian

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

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

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

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

we ever gave Jesus our lives.

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

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

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

## How to submit Church News

Send all church news and information to Linnett Snodgrass at [lsnodgrass@scbo.org](mailto:lsnodgrass@scbo.org)