

COMMUNITY

(CHURCH PLANTING)

Karlle Hale is very familiar with the near-west side of Cleveland, Ohio. This is the neighborhood he grew up in, and now he and his wife Angie have returned to make it home. You can enjoy the picturesque views of Lake Erie from the beach at Edgewater Park or you can grab a bite at a trendy new restaurant in Gordon Square. This is a city with a long, rich history that is apparent as you step on centuries old cobblestones and pass buildings that were built more than 10 generations ago. But it's the people of this town who matter to *One Love Community Church*.

On Sunday mornings they gather in a local elementary school - which instantly provides a comfortable and safe space for kids and parents. Other times you might find the church connecting at *Gypsy Beans* coffee in the square, outside a local burger joint offering prayer and support to those driving past, or in a neighborhood park playing games and collecting school supplies. No matter the setting, they are leaving an indelible mark on the whole community as they love like God, serve like Jesus, and Share the Gospel.



- Please pray that community bonds will lead to even more followers of Christ in Cleveland.
- Pray for God to soften the hearts of those Ohioans who have chosen to give up hope.

IMPROVEMENT

(OHIO CHANGERS)

"Why would a teenager want to stay at a church on an air mattress, take showers in a shower trailer, work outside all day in this ninety degree weather, and *pay to come and do it*? You know, only because they love Jesus and they want to share that love," says Sue Stickel, one of the leaders of Ohio Changers.

Each year a group of excited volunteers gathers to provide some very practical aid to some of our Ohio neighbors that truly need a helping hand. Experienced adults with skills and know-how are partnered together with energetic crews of young people to complete construction, remodeling, and other labor oriented tasks. Their hope is to provide a small change to improve a neighbor's life while opening doors to share the Gospel of Jesus - the only way to truly change lives now and for all of eternity.

One homeowner helped in 2019 had this to say: "God has been working through the students and through the whole ministry. I've gotten a lot of encouragement talking to the kids... We've had quite a few conversations about God... They're so much fun to be around."



- Pray for those who have received aid to recognize God as their provider and accept the Good News.
- Pray for the willing hearts, energy, and resources to continue changing lives through service ministries.

Will you join us?

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

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

"TWO ARE BETTER THAN ONE BECAUSE THEY HAVE A GOOD REWARD FOR THEIR EFFORTS... A CORD OF THREE STRANDS IS NOT EASILY BROKEN." Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NCSB)

Together WE ARE Better

THE RAY ROBERTS OFFERING
FOR STATE MISSIONS IN OHIO

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PRAYER GUIDE

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THE RAY ROBERTS OFFERING FOR STATE MISSIONS IN OHIO

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HOW TO USE THIS PRAYER GUIDE:

This brochure will guide you as you pray for God's work in Ohio during the week of September 8-15. Each of the missionaries and ministries highlighted in this brochure depend on your support & partnership through *The Ray Roberts State Mission Offering*. We ask that you take a few moments each day to read about one of the ministries, then join us to pray for God to be at work! It's that simple. As we partner together we know God will faithfully continue to reach out through these missionaries and through all of the ongoing work of Mission Ohio!

A COOPERATIVE EFFORT:

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

CULTURE
(CHURCH PLANTING)

The community at *Iglesia Red de Vida Unlimited* is more diverse than you might think. Though services take place almost exclusively in Spanish, more than 10 different countries are represented when they gather together.

Pastor Hector Fernandez and his wife Aurora began hosting a bible study just a few years ago. In the short time since, their church has grown much larger. Until recently their services took place in a large fellowship space at *The Crossing Community Church* in Hilliard, Ohio. But earlier this year *Red de Vida Unlimited* moved their Sunday services into the main auditorium. This group of joyful, excited, spirit empowered Spanish speaking worshippers now gathers every Sunday afternoon and Wednesday evening to praise the Lord and fellowship with one another.

Though they come from diverse backgrounds, it is what unites them that matters most: a common language, a love for one another, and an overwhelming love for Jesus Christ.

Iglesia
Red de Vida
Unlimited



DAY 1

- Pray that cultural differences would never be a barrier to spreading the Gospel of Jesus.
- Pray for this church to share their faith boldly, and for the Lord to continue transforming lives in the Spanish language community.

RECOVERY
(OHIO DISASTER RELIEF)

Volunteers with Ohio Disaster Relief (DR) began preparations before the storms even arrived. The next day, as Dayton, Ohio began to come to terms with the destruction left behind by multiple tornadoes, DR workers were already on the scene making assessments and coordinating the cleanup and recovery. For several weeks, different groups of volunteers with unique skill sets shared their time and talents with homeowners in the community.

Tools like chainsaws and heavy equipment were used to clear tons of debris like fallen trees, damaged roofs and walls, and other dangerous items. Others provided food, clothing, clean water or helped to arrange for temporary housing. DR chaplains stepped in to lend a comforting ear, offer prayers and emotional support, and to share the true message of hope found in the Gospel of Christ. This doesn't even begin include all that was done for the residents of Dayton and the surrounding areas in 2019, but this was only one "DR response." Ohio DR teams often mobilize for dozens of disasters every year - serving in communities all around Ohio and around the U.S.A.



DAY 2

- Please pray for the victims of natural disasters and other tragedies to accept the saving grace of our Lord Jesus.
- Pray for more volunteers to join Ohio Disaster Relief to allow even more lives to be impacted.

IN THE WILD
(CHURCH PLANTING)

Sometimes church just doesn't look like what you imagine. Not even yet one year old, *Church in the Wild* is making an unmistakable impact in their community of Westerville, Ohio. Every Saturday morning, it's workout time at *Raw War Crossfit*. Pastor Jason Williams and other members of the church are pushing themselves through the paces of an intense exercise routine - right alongside a group of others who might only have come in hopes of improving their physical wellbeing. Between sessions, someone steps up to share a message of hope through the Gospel. Tough topics like sin and the need for a savior aren't avoided, and the people have responded in an amazing way!

The church stays busy building strong relationships, and God continues to add to their number. A Sunday service was established that has already drawn over three hundred for Easter, while volunteer teams regularly serve at *Stowe Mission* and participate in other community events.

It's clear the folks at *Church in the Wild* are authentic, loving people who want to not only act friendly but to be a true friend.



DAY 3

- Pray for the people of Westerville Ohio to grow hungry spiritually so that they seek out Christ.
- Pray that God will continue using relationships to create fertile soil to receive the Gospel message.

