

RAY ROBERTS

State Missions Offering

Prayer Guide September 22-29, 2024

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE: On the following pages you will find testimonies and prayer requests from seven different ministries who have received support through the Ray Roberts State Missions Offering. Each day, be encouraged by one of their stories and pray specifically for that ministry. Southern Baptists from all over Ohio will join with you in unity as we pray September 22-29, 2024.



Brent Beck

BRENT BECK Steel Valley Church, Youngstown

The Ray Roberts Offering has empowered Steel Valley Church to secure a facility next door to the church that will expand mercy ministry in Youngstown. The Steel Valley Outreach Center will strengthen associational churches by serving as a central hub to meet needs and change lives. Residents will have access to a food pantry, clothing and furniture assistance, daycare services, special needs programs, veteran & trauma counseling, and after-school programs.

Before the doors of the Steel Valley Outreach Center can open, additional funding is needed. Please pray for resources to make essential renovations including a new roof, HVAC system, electrical work, painting, a ceiling, and furnishings. Every prayer counts! With God's help and your continued support, Pastor Brent Beck believes the Steel Valley Outreach Center will be a beacon of hope in the Youngstown community.



Ohio DR Chaplain Sarah Jo Wright and Millie in Guam.

OHIO DISASTER RELIEF International Relief, Guam, Typhoon Response

In August and September 2023, Ohio Disaster Relief (DR) teams served in Guam alongside DR volunteers from Hawaii/Pacific, California, and Missouri at the invitation of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The mission was for DR volunteers to repair houses damaged by Typhoon Mawar, a devastating storm with hurricane force winds that struck the island in May 2023. During their time in Guam, DR volunteers repaired homes and helped a local Southern Baptist church. More importantly, they shared the gospel with a woman named Millie and she accepted Jesus as her Savior. While FEMA sponsored the work of DR in Guam, the Ray Roberts Offering provided the funds for building supplies that FEMA did not cover.

Please pray for the Lord to give all of our DR volunteers opportunities to share the gospel and the courage to step up when the opportunities arise. Also pray for local churches to continue to follow-up with those who have heard the gospel from DR volunteers.



Larry McDonald

LARRY MCDONALD First Baptist Church, Marysville

FBC Marysville is in the process of revitalization. Over the past three years the church has grown from an average attendance of 25 to the current average of 49. FBC Marysville meets in a building that was acquired in 1967 and needs refreshing. A generous gift from the Ray Roberts Offering is being used for new flooring in the church fellowship hall. FBC Marysville is grateful for the Ray Roberts Offering and looks forward to seeing how God uses this offering for other churches in the future.

We would appreciate your prayers as we finish the renovation projects and shift gears toward more efforts to reach Marysville with the Good News of Jesus Christ. We have seen baptisms and growth through the combined efforts of Southern Baptist churches. Please pray for us as we encourage one another in our walk with the Lord and continue to reach out to those who need Jesus.



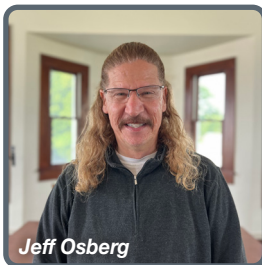
Ohio DR volunteers cleaned out basements in the flooded Barre, Vermont.

OHIO DISASTER RELIEF National Outreach, Vermont Flooding, Summer 2024

Ohio Disaster Relief (DR) responded to Barre, Vermont. The area experienced significant flooding due to the remnants of Hurricane Beryl in July. One out of five homes impacted in the region also flooded in July 2023 due to catastrophic rains.

While “mudding out” the basements of flooded homes, DR volunteers shared the gospel. Susan is an 80 year old woman who lives alone. DR teams cleaned out, power washed, and sprayed for mold in her small basement. Susan heard the gospel and was open. She didn’t make a profession of faith, but she accepted a Bible and prayed with DR volunteers. Seven people have made professions of faith so far in Vermont.

Please pray for Barre, Vermont. The area is heavily LGBTQ+ affirming and some people refused DR help because they believe that the SBC “hates them.” Many homeless people live in the area and drug use is rampant. Overdoses occur daily. Please pray that people will open their hearts to the gospel and accept Jesus, the true hope of all mankind.



Jeff Osberg

JEFF OSBERG Sovereign Word Baptist Church, Wooster

Sovereign Word Baptist Church, Wooster, is grateful for the financial help it received from the Ray Roberts Offering. The church spent the funds to purchase tables and chairs which are used during Wednesday night Bible study, weekly discipleship classes, and monthly fellowship meals.

“We appreciate and agree with how SCBO often shares that we’re better together than apart. God can be glorified and served so much more when we’re together. Thank you for your support,” said Pastor Jeff Osberg.

Please pray for God to continue to use our church to glorify him, equip the saints, provide fellowship opportunities for the saints, and reach the lost.



Ohio DR volunteers prepare and serve food in Lakeview, after the March tornado.

OHIO DISASTER RELIEF Lakeview, Ohio, Tornado Response

In March 2024, tornadoes torn through Logan County, Ohio, causing significant damage in the town of Lakeview. The Logan County Emergency Manager requested that Ohio Disaster Relief deploy its Quick Response Feeding Unit. Ohio DR answered the request and sent the Feeding Unit and chaplains to the scene. During their time in Lakeview, Ohio DR volunteers served 1632 meals to residents and recovery workers who visited the feeding site. In addition, they also provided food to the American Red Cross which distributed it to those who were unable to visit the feeding site. DR chaplains had 130 face-to-face contacts, 20 gospel conversations, two professions of faith and one Bible distributed. Ohio DR receives fifty percent of the Ray Roberts Offering and those funds help DR minister to victims of disaster.

Please pray for Lakeview and other Ohio communities that have been impacted by the 69 tornadoes that have hit Ohio communities this year. Please pray for the Lord to continue to call out new volunteers in all areas of DR so we can help provide help, hope, and healing to those in Ohio who are impacted by natural disasters.



Sam Romine

SAM ROMINE Redemption Church, Johnstown

Launched this summer, Redemption Church, Johnstown, used funds from the Ray Roberts Offering to update its facility in order to prepare for Sunday gatherings. They furnished children’s spaces, created a welcoming lobby, and updated things in the sanctuary for Sunday morning worship. “The funds were truly a blessings,” said Pastor Sam Romine.

The mission statement of our church is “We exist to exalt Christ, equip the saints, and engage the lost.”

Please pray that we can be faithful to Christ and his word above all else; that we can love, disciple, and equip the believers who are a part of our church; that we would be a powerful gospel presence in the Johnstown community; and that the Lord would use Redemption Church to bring many to faith in the Lord Jesus.