

“The heavens declare the glory of God...”



The total eclipse as captured by Linda Barbina, Associate Pastor’s wife, Huntsburg Baptist Church, Huntsburg, Ohio (left). The path of totality through Ohio, 2024 eclipse (right).

On April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse cast its enormous shadow over North America, cutting a 115-mile-wide, 10,000-mile-long path of sudden darkness across the continent. Spellbound, approximately 44 million people viewed the eclipse in its full splendor, many of them here in the state of Ohio. Businesses and schools were closed. Watch parties were organized. Travelers came from near and far. Everyone was united in the excitement of experiencing the total solar eclipse that Monday afternoon. The brief twilight followed by the disappearance of the sun and a quiet, almost eerie darkness will be etched forever in the minds of those who experienced it.

Many viewers, believers and unbelievers alike, described the experience as “spiritual.”

Believers were reminded of Genesis 1:1, “*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth*” or many other Scriptures that point to the splendor and majesty of God (*Hebrews 11:3, Psalm 8:1, John 1:3, Isaiah 45:12, Colossians 1:16*). As Ken Ham, President, *Answers in Genesis*, simply states, “The precision of the eclipse is a wonderful reminder that, yes, **there is a Creator.**”

Some unbelievers admitted to feeling insignificant, so small in a vast universe. Perhaps it was a seed of truth planted in the heart to be pursued in a spiritual journey leading to the Creator.

“*For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse*” Romans 1:20 (ESV).

For many Americans, this was the last opportunity to see a total solar eclipse for 20 years. The next one won't be visible across the contiguous United States until August 2044 and visible in Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. For most Ohioans, the 2024 eclipse was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, as the next eclipse that will bring totality again to Ohio will be in 2099.

Council of 12

2021-2024

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2023-2026

Jeff Beckley, Memorial, Columbus

James Beight, Abram Creek, Brook Park

Chuck Pausley, II, Grace, Troy

Jeff Willetts, Calvary, Bellefontaine

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The Link

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A Word from the State Rep

As I look out my office window, I see the United States flag blowing in the wind reminding me of the privilege and the freedoms we experience as US citizens. I am also reminded of the privilege and freedom we experience as followers of Jesus Christ. We are blessed.

As highlighted on the front page, the eclipse was amazing, wasn't it? It was a privilege to be in the path of totality right on our back deck. "The heavens declare the glory of God..."

I want to personally thank our churches and individuals for financially giving to the Ohio camps scholarship fund offering recently. We received over \$5,000 for the offering that will be divided between our three camps in Ohio. We didn't reach our goal, but I realize many of our churches already have their own camp scholarship programs.

We are looking forward to the Senior Adult Bus Trip to Lancaster, Pennsylvania for the Sight and Sound presentation of Daniel June 5-6 sponsored by First Baptist, Elyria. There is a bus full going with many standbys waiting to see if they can still go.

The national conference for the GARBC is coming soon. It is being held in Elgin, Illinois, June 24-27. We are planning to have an OHIO GATHERING Dinner on Tuesday, June 25 at the conference center. We need you to pre-register as it will be catered for \$20 per person. You may pay by credit card on the home page of the website <https://www.oarbc.org>.

The annual OARBC Senior Adult luncheon is planned for September 24 at Skyview Ranch. We are looking forward to a great time sharing, fellowship, music and meal. Plan to come to this special event. Sign up will begin at www.oarbc.org after June 1.

The annual OARBC Fall Conference at Grace Baptist Church in Canton is Oct. 21-23. The Grace leadership along with the OARBC conference committee is planning a great conference. You will certainly enjoy the new auditorium and foyer along with the ministry of God's word and fellowship. You are invited to attend.

Linda and I enjoy ministering in and attending services in our churches. It's great to see what God is doing through you. It is a privilege to attend area Pastors' fellowships. The combined Good Friday service of NEO (Northeast Ohio) churches at Cedar Hill, Cleveland was a special blessing. Relationships is one of our core values and I love to see it at work.

We presently have ten churches without pastors. Be in prayer for these churches as they seek for a new pastor and wife.

Berean, Marion
First, Niles
First, Willowick
Emmanuel, Paulding
Grace, Kent

Nottingham, Willoughby Hills
Faith, Kenton
Immanuel, Columbus
Huntsburg, Huntsburg
Bible Fellowship, West Lafayette



The Pausleys in trendy eclipse glasses and the totality eclipse from their deck in Seville

For Him and the OARBC— **Chuck**



NEO (Northeast Ohio) Fellowship



South Bethel Fellowship



North Bethel Fellowship

Ohio Women for Missions (OWM)

Greetings Ladies of Ohio ,

What a mighty God we serve! God can do anything but fail!

Our theme for this year is **“Our Ever-present God”**

Look back and thank God - Look forward and trust God

Psalm 16:8

We were so blessed from God’s Word at our spring meeting April 20. Sarah Weiden, missionary with BMM to Romania, shared four important points pertaining to our theme. 1. **Remember:** look back and remember what God has done in your life. 2. **Listen:** read His promises from His word. (Heb. 13:5; Ps.34:17-18; John 11:25). 3. **Pray:** have faith; God is in control; cast all your cares on Him; praise Him. 4. **Counsel:** we need a community, our church, to keep us accountable, to encourage us, to pray for us, and give us tangible help.

Ladies, go to <https://www.facebook.com/millersburgbaptistchurch/videos/1113488319982797> and view our entire meeting! Receive a blessing from God just as the 61 ladies in attendance were blessed.



*Sarah Weiden, BMM
Appointee to Romania*

OUR STATE PROJECT FOR 2023-24 is: Fueled 4 Missions



God has wonderfully provided for our project, **Fueled 4 Missions** with BMM. The total giving thus far is \$11,106.95 and we still have until the end of May to give. What a mighty God we serve! God can do anything but fail!

As we look forward to the future:

OUR STATE PROJECT FOR 2024-25 is a new church plant just outside Jerusalem in Mevaseret Zion, Israel. Dave and Anne Spice, missionaries with ABWE, have a compassion need to outfit a kitchenette and outdoor serving area for weekly services, men’s and ladies’ fellowships, home groups and children’s programs. Our goal is to help them by raising \$10,000 or more for the space for a gospel outreach and spiritual growth. Go to: [OWM Project Video 2025](#) to view or download an informative video of their need. Please present this video to your women’s groups and church. This is such a timely project. **We ask that you do not share the video on social media due to the situation in Israel at this time.** Contact Donna Victor for a prayer card master page to print and give to your ladies as a reminder to pray for the Spices and their need.



Mandy Butler

Mark your calendar and look forward to:

OWM Fall Ladies Retreat

November 14 - 15, 2024 at the Carlisle Inn, Sugar creek, Ohio.

Speaker: **Mandy Butler**, missionary with BMM serving with EBI (Spanish Publication Ministry) in Sebring, Florida.

Watch for further details in your email and the LINK.

To be sure you receive the information for the retreat, send your address to Michaela Brown at **OWM email: owm1929@gmail.com**

Keep Looking Forward,
Donna Victor, Renny Snare, Michaela Brown and Elizabeth Bird
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Meet the OARBC Council of Twelve

JEFF BECKLEY, MEMORIAL BAPTIST, COLUMBUS



*Pastor Jeff Beckley
Memorial Baptist, Columbus*

It has been a joy and privilege to serve at Memorial Baptist Church for the past 13 years, nine as the youth pastor and the past 4 years as the lead pastor. Being born and raised on the westside of Columbus, it was a joy to be called back to where it all started.

Speaking of where it all started, my relationship with the Lord began at a young age, accepting Christ as a child. And it was at a teen leadership conference when I was 16 years old, God gripped my heart, and it was at that moment I first began to feel the calling into ministry.

As I entered college at Cedarville University, I had a minor “Jonah moment” refusing to declare my major. But thankfully God continued to pursue, and the calling became louder and louder. And in my sophomore year, I knew God wanted me in full-time ministry. Following studies at Cedarville and Grace Seminary, I was able to serve as an associate pastor in Cincinnati for four years. Then, in 2011, I returned to my home land of Columbus to serve at Memorial .

My relationship with the OARBC goes all the way back to birth, as my family attended Maranatha Baptist throughout my childhood. It was there at a church picnic, while I was in a squirt gun fight, and she was in a stroller...I met my wife. We didn’t get married until a few years later. And the squirt gun fights and strollers continued, as God has blessed us with three daughters and two sons.

The OARBC has been a stalwart in my life for many years. From attending lock-ins and youth events as a teen, to conferences as a pastor...I have seen the rich benefits and care the association provides to churches in numerous ways. This is my first year on the Council of Twelve, and it is an honor to help continue the tradition of care and support of our association of churches.

JAMES BEIGHT, ABRAM CREEK BAPTIST, BROOK PARK



*Pastor James Beight
Abram Creek, Brook Park*

I grew up in Indiana and came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ at the age of four. As a teen, I felt God’s call to serve in full-time ministry and enrolled in Cedarville College, now Cedarville University. While there, I participated in various singing groups, missions trips, and the puppet team. I graduated in 1987, majoring in Pre-Seminary Bible and minoring in Biblical Greek.

While serving an internship at Calvary Baptist in Lancaster, Ohio, I met and married my sweetheart Amy Maddux. I served the next six years as associate pastor and interim pastor at Calvary Baptist in Ashland, Ohio, before being called to Madison Avenue Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1994. In 2009, when Madison Avenue merged with Midbrook Baptist Church in Brook Park, Ohio, I became the pastor of the combined ministry called Abram Creek Baptist Church. It is my joy to be a preacher and teacher of the Word of God and love the church family and the community of Abram Creek.

God has blessed us with four children: David, Stephen, Andrew, and Sarah. We enjoy spending time with our family and friends, and I personally enjoy an occasional round of golf.

I feel a huge debt of gratitude and loyalty to the Regular Baptist Movement. My whole family was saved due to the ministry of Bethesda Baptist in Brownsburg, Indiana which was GARBC. When I attended Cedarville, my appreciation for the OARBC began. One of my college roommates was Tim Brock whose dad Bill Brock was the OARBC State Representative during the 80’s. He supplied my resume’ to Calvary Baptist Church of Ashland for an associate position in 1988. Larry Fetzer was the OARBC State Representative who gave my name to Madison Avenue Baptist back in 1994. So I have been blessed by the association and their assistance in my life and ministry. Therefore, I want to contribute to the success of the association and serve on the Council of 12.

Meet the OARBC Council of Twelve

CHUCK PAUSLEY II, GRACE BAPTIST, TROY

I had the privilege of growing up in a pastor's home and having parents who taught and lived out the truth of the Scriptures in front of me. I grew up attending Grace Baptist Church in Troy where my Grandpa was the Senior Pastor and my Dad was the Youth Pastor and then the Senior Pastor. I am thankful for the godly heritage of my grandparents and my parents.

My heavenly Father chose me to be His and has pursued me my entire life. When I was five years old I said a prayer, but as I grew older it became evident that I had not given my life over to Jesus to be my Savior. After a lot of spiritual struggles, I surrendered my life to Jesus at the age of 17 on July 21, 1997. My decision as a teen guided my future plans, and I chose to attend college to study pastoral ministry and reach the next generation with the Gospel. It was in college I met my gorgeous wife Emily. She is an amazing wife and ministry partner.

My Heavenly Father has been faithful in my 21 years of ministry. I was a Youth Pastor for 18 years in three churches and currently I am the Lead Pastor at Grace Baptist Church in Troy. In ministry, I have seen God work through the greatest joys and the deepest grief and sorrow. It has taught me how He uses every moment to declare His name and to draw His people to Himself through the power of the Gospel.

The OARBC has been part of my life from the very beginning and still today has an impact on my daily life for two reasons: I am the Lead Pastor at an OARBC church and my Dad is the OARBC State Representative. The greatest benefit the OARBC gives me is the opportunity to build and foster relationships with other pastors around the state. These men are such an encouragement to me in my personal walk with Christ and in my ministry. It is my privilege to serve on the Council of 12.



*Pastor Chuck Pausley
Grace Baptist, Troy*

JEFF WILLETTS, CALVARY BAPTIST, BELLEFONTAINE

I grew up in the OARBC. My parents were members and served at Berea Baptist Church where my grandfather was the pastor. By the grace of God, I was raised in a godly home where I frequently heard about Jesus Christ. It was after a powerful message from my grandfather when I understood my sin and my need for Jesus Christ in my life and surrendered to Him. It was at a missions conference in our church that I felt compelled to serve the Lord full-time. God continued to work in my heart, and at Camp Patmos during my high school years I surrendered to vocational ministry.

I went to Cedarville to study for ministry. God gave me more than an education when He also gave me my wife Cathy. I served 13 years as a youth pastor in Quincy, IL, and Rochester, MI. During this time, I completed a masters program at Grand Rapids Seminary. God brought me back to Ohio and to the OARBC in 1995 when I was called to Calvary Baptist Church in Bellefontaine where I have been privileged to serve for the past 29 years.

God blessed us with three sons who are all serving in their churches. Two are pastors in the OARBC and one teaches at Marion Pleasant Local Schools. Cathy and I enjoy spoiling our eight grandchildren. Besides the grandchildren, I enjoy spending time hunting or anything outdoors.



*Pastor Jeff Willetts
Calvary Baptist, Bellefontaine*

Pastor Jeff Beckley and Pastor Chuck Pausley II have been elected as first-time Council of 12 members. Pastor James Beight and Pastor Jeff Willetts are returning Council of 12 members. Each of these men will serve 3-year terms that expire in 2026. The entire Council of 12 members are listed on the front page of this publication.

Two OARBC Seniors Awarded Scholarships



Elizabeth Niemi

Elizabeth Niemi, Grace Baptist Church, Troy was awarded **\$2,500** from the 2024 GARBC Christian Character Scholarship (*General Association of Regular Baptist Churches*).

A graduating senior at Troy High School, Elizabeth played singles on the varsity tennis team for four years and participated in the choir and an acapella group.

Elizabeth uses her musical gift as a member of the Sunday worship team at Grace and also on the youth group worship team. Last year, she participated in the teen missions trip to Salt Lake City supporting the local church in Utah and plans to travel to Utah with the group again this year. She has also served in the AWANA program and VBS throughout her high school years.

Elizabeth plans to attend Cedarville University in the fall and major in nursing. She says, "Working as a nurse apprentice...has affirmed my call into nursing and I am excited to use nursing to shine the light of Christ to others."

Congratulations, Elizabeth!



Anne Oliver

Anne Oliver, Grace Baptist Church, Lima was awarded **\$1,000** from the 2024 GARBC Christian Character Scholarship (*General Association of Regular Baptist Churches*).

A senior at Bath High School, Lima, Anne has played on the tennis, basketball and softball teams and has been involved in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). She also has served as the National Honors Society (NHS) Secretary.

Anne plays bass in the Grace worship team and is a youth group member. She also serves in various ministries of the church when needed, such as children's church and church outreaches.

This fall, Anne plans to attend Cedarville University majoring in biology/pre-optometry with the goal of having a private practice as an optometrist.

Anne likes going on bike rides and, she says, "...just enjoying and admiring God's creation from anywhere, but I like sitting out on my front porch especially!"

Congratulations, Anne!

Parents, Pastors, Youth Leaders, School Administrators—Spread the Word

The above scholarships are funded and awarded by participating colleges, with matching dollar amounts, as available, given through the <https://www.garbc.org/christian-character-scholarship/>. The colleges providing scholarships are Appalachian Bible College, Bob Jones University, Cedarville University, Clarks Summit University, Faith Baptist Bible College, and Shasta Bible College.

Whether students plan to pursue vocational ministry or enter the secular workforce, attending a Christian college or university will help students develop a Biblical worldview so they can start their careers on the right foot and prepare to serve in their churches.

High School Seniors who are members of GARBC churches may apply after September 1 and by November 30, 2024 at <https://www.garbc.org/christian-character-scholarship/>

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU

Ohio Gathering at RBM (GARBC) Conference

Harvest Bible Chapel

Elgin, Illinois

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Join other Ohio Conference Attendees

4:45 p.m.

Harvest East Lobby

Catered meal in the Conference Center

\$20 per person

Please pre-register and pay by card at oarbc.org
(or pay by cash or check to State Rep Chuck Pausley)

OARBC Senior Adult Luncheon

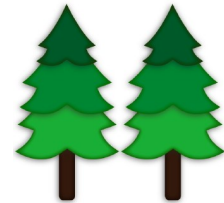


Seniors from all over the state of Ohio
come gather at **Skyview Ranch**

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

11:00 am—2:30 pm

\$15.00 per person



Lunch followed by a concert

of the former 1970's "Collegians" Quartet

Bill Glenn, Lee Kliewer, Chuck Pausley, Dan Parker

Registration begins after June 1 at oarbc.org



Ministry Opportunity

Be blessed on beautiful Kelley's Island join

Giving Gardeners

volunteers who weed and water
the flower gardens at Camp Patmos.

For information, contact Polly Strong

PollyS@aol.com

330-908-2021



With the Lord

Phyllis Louise (Culver) Tucker born August 10, 1933 went home to be with her Lord and Savior on February 19, 2024 in Lancaster, Ohio where she was a member of Calvary Baptist Church. She was born in Warren, Ohio to Donald and Goldie (Cross) Culver.

Phyllis and Max married June 16, 1952, and immediately headed into ministry serving in many churches across the Mid-West, including Calvary Baptist in Sandusky, Fostoria Baptist in Fostoria and Norwood Baptist in Cincinnati. She served alongside her husband as the Church Planting Coordinator of the OARBC from 2000-2006. Phyllis faithfully served the Lord through her secretarial skills, teaching, women's groups, missions, and singing. She never stopped sharing her love for the Lord, even when she was laid up in the hospital or in assisted living. She touched many lives and leaves a special mark on everyone.

Phyllis is survived by her loving husband of 71 years, Rev. Max Edward Tucker, son Keith (Karen) Tucker, daughter-in-law Lorna Tucker, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Her son Timothy Tucker preceded her in death.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints" Psalm 116:15.



Phyllis Tucker

Grace, Troy Calls New Associate

Grace Baptist Church of Troy has called Jeff Kliewer as their Associate Pastor of Discipleship and Connections. He began on January 16, 2024. An installation service for Pastor Jeff was held on Sunday, April 7. Guest speakers were his father, Pastor Lee Kliewer, his mentor and pastor, Pastor Tom Wright and his brother-in-law, Missionary-Pastor Nate Bell, who spoke on video from South Africa.

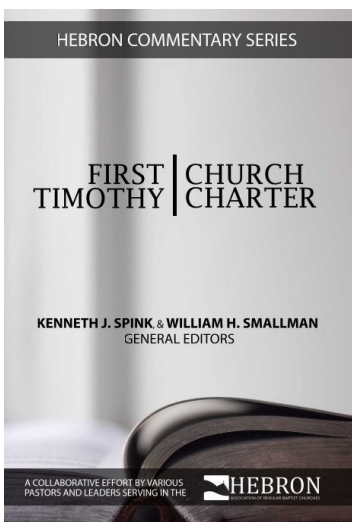
Pastor Jeff graduated from Baptist Bible College with a degree in Bible and graduated from Cedarville University with a Master of Ministry. Pastor Jeff and his wife, Megan, recently served on staff for 9 years at Scioto Hills Christian Camp where they met while serving as summer staff counselors.

Pastor Jeff and Megan have three children, Sully, Malcolm, and Eisley. They enjoy a good book, coffee, and spending time outside as a family.



Pastor Jeff and Megan Kliewer and family

Hebron Fellowship Publishes Third Commentary



The third commentary in the Hebron Commentary Series is now available. The First Timothy commentary titled "Church Charter" is a collaborative effort by various pastors and leaders serving in the Hebron Association of Ohio Regular Baptist Churches. Most of the twenty-six association churches are located in the greater Cleveland Area.

The majority of the contributing authors are pastors of the Hebron churches. The General Editors of the series are Pastor Ken Spink, Senior Pastor, Berea Baptist Church in Berea and Dr. William Smallman, retired administrator with Baptist Mid-Missions.

This third commentary on First Timothy will be available at the 2024 Hebron Gathering on Sunday evening, May 5, held at First Baptist Church, Elyria at 6:00 pm. The cost is \$10. The inaugural Hebron commentary on First John "Confident Christianity" was published May 2022 followed by volume two on the book of James "Authentic Faith" published in May 2023.

The book can be ordered from Berea Baptist Church (440) 234-9797 or email info@bereabaptist.org There is a \$4 fee for shipping. The commentaries may also be purchased at www.amazon.com after May 5.

Two Ordinations in South Bethel Area Fellowship



Cameron Sardano (seated), Grace Baptist, Cedarville

Cameron Sardano was examined by an ordination council at Grace, Cedarville on Thursday, April 25, 2024. He and his wife Carissa are called to church planting and pastoring in the Greater Boston Area. They have been part of the Grace family for over four years and are being sent out with their blessing.



David and Phyllis Douglas (seated)

The Shawnee Hills Baptist Church, Jamestown, family held an ordination service Sunday, April 14, 2024 for Associate Pastor David Douglas. He and his wife Phyllis have been serving at Shawnee since 2020. It was a very special day for the Douglases and for the church family.

Faith Baptist Church, Mt. Vernon, Mortgage Burning



Faith Baptist, Mt. Vernon, Mortgage Burning

Faith Baptist Church, Mt. Vernon celebrated a mortgage burning on Sunday, April 14, 2024. The mortgage was for the addition of the gymnasium and educational space behind the front worship center and paying it off was a significant milestone for this ministry.

Pastor Matt Otto cut up the mortgage paper and distributed it to church leadership so all could participate in the burning.

Founding Pastor, Merlyn and Nancy Jones, came from Michigan for the celebration. He gave an interesting history of the church with personal stories of God's blessing. There were two charter members and other guests in attendance as well. A slide presentation was shown of the construction of the addition and the ministries that have been possible over the years since its completion.

Chuck Pausley, OARBC State Representative, congratulated the church on their achievement. Pastor Matt shared a biblical challenge and a catered luncheon made everyone happy, especially the ladies who are usually in the kitchen!

Lead Pastor Matt Otto and Krista came to Faith as youth pastor and wife in 1995 working with Pastor Merlyn and Nancy Jones. Pastor Matt has been serving as lead pastor since 2021. They have been faithful in ministry at Faith for 29 years.

"It was truly a special day. We were privileged to be invited to share in this celebration" (Chuck and Linda Pausley).



Merlyn and Nancy Jones, friends of the OARBC

MEN'S MINISTRY ACROSS THE STATE

Saturday, March 2, 2024 there were two great opportunities for the men of Ohio to get together for worship, fellowship and challenge from the Word. Calvary Baptist Church, Bellefontaine, hosted the annual **Men of God** Conference. This was the 25th year Calvary has organized and offered this excellent conference for the men of Calvary and area churches.

Saturday, March 1, 2025 is the date of the 2025 Men of God Conference at Calvary Baptist, Bellefontaine.



Dr. Dan Dewitt, Southern Seminary, keynote speaker, Men of God



Pastor Mark Warren, Grand Heights, Fairborn teaches break-out session, Men of God

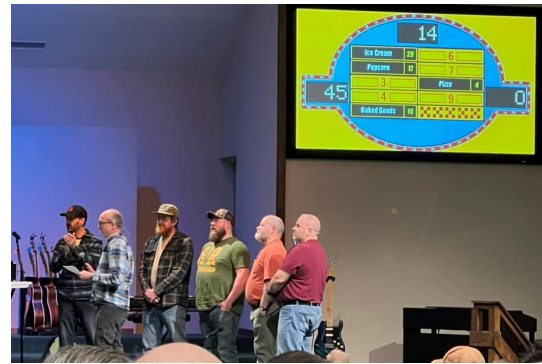
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The **Man Up** Conference began in 2022 on the east side of the state and is hosted by various churches. The first two years it was held at First Baptist, Medina. This year it was hosted by Northfield Baptist in Northfield.

Saturday, February 22, 2025 Man Up will be held at Camden Baptist in Wellington.



Robert Brooks, Cleveland Browns Chaplain shares at Man Up



Always a little fun in the mix at Man Up

* * * * *

A third conference, **Kinsmen Men's Conference**, met for the second year Saturday, April 13, 2024. Kinsmen of the Cross, the Men's ministry of Faith Baptist, Defiance (Pastor Mick Sobiek), hosted the event. Men were invited from area churches and met for five sessions of challenge from various speakers. The Executive Team of Kinsmen of the Cross encourage men "to return to your home churches with a re-energized passion to serve Christ and engage the men in your church...and continue the momentum throughout the year." Future conferences dates will be announced.



Kinsmen Men's Conference, Defiance Welcome



Kinsmen Men's Conference, Defiance Afternoon Panel

ACROSS THE STATE

Primetimers Grand Prix, Calvary, Sandusky

The third annual Primetimers Grand Prix was held Thursday, March 14 from 10 am to noon at Calvary Baptist, Sandusky. This event is conveniently scheduled the Thursday following the AWANA Grand Prix.

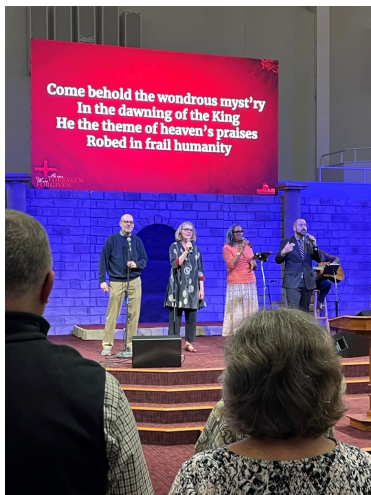
Sixteen cars were raced the seniors had made. Other cars were brought in by some whose spouse had passed away. These cars had been raced at some time in the AWANA Alumni Race and are now raced in memory of their loved one. There are a few cars brought in for display only.

An addition this year was an elaborate hot wheels track and several hot wheels were raced, too. Trophies for the winner, participation ribbons, race-themed decorations and snacks all added up to tons of fun for this group!

Steve and Lynne Young have been giving leadership to the Primetimers of Calvary for eight years.



Calvary, Sandusky Primetimers race their cars



NEO (Northeast Ohio) Fellowship combines for a Good Friday service, Cedar Hill Baptist, Cleveland



Eclipse Party
Faith Baptist
Greenville



Christ Baptist Church, Cleveland, love their pastor and wife, Chris and Cecelia Hinton (left), and celebrate every year in a special way the anniversary of their coming to the church. This year was number 14.



Brads Receives M.Div Preaching Award

Cedarville University's Master of Divinity Text-Driven Preaching Award was presented to Andrew Brads on Monday, March 18, during the 10 a.m. chapel service. This award is presented by Cedarville's [School of Biblical and Theological Studies](#).

Brads is a fifth-year student in the Accelerated Master of Divinity (M.Div.) program. He is on staff at his hometown church, [Emmanuel Baptist Church](#) in Xenia, Ohio. When considering his time at Cedarville and the ministry opportunities he has experienced, Brads explains how his coursework has shown him that he enjoys teaching and has trained him to do that well.

"My task when preaching is not to get in the way of the Bible, because when God speaks to us, he requires us to respond in a certain way," said Brads. "The purpose is to read it, to explain it and to point out the ways it presses on us to obey it."

Brads originally wanted to be an engineering student, but after a gap year in Costa Rica studying Spanish and the Bible, he decided to pursue a degree in biblical studies. His time abroad helped him realize his passion for languages as he was studying Greek and Hebrew at Cedarville. This award culminates a student's progress through the classes, from foundational material to practical application of the material. It is based on the competency of the student academically and his ability to accept teaching, the student's conviction to take what he has learned and transfer it to ministry opportunities and a demonstration of his exceptional character of maturity and humility when presenting the Word of God.

Dr. Billy Marsh, director of the M.Div. program, recalled when he had Brads in [Bible and the Gospel](#), the first Bible class every student takes at Cedarville, and realized a level of maturity not seen in all college students.

"He has always been a mature, hard-working student," said Marsh. "Through the years I have enjoyed seeing the flourishing of his care and thoughtfulness for his relationships and schoolwork."

Brads has been influenced immensely by those who have walked alongside him and demonstrated a life that honors the holy Scriptures. "I would like to thank my professors, my pastor and his wife for all their dedication to the Word and their support through my years at Cedarville," he said.

After finishing his degree at Cedarville University, Brads will complete an internship with Emmanuel Baptist Church. He expects to remain on their staff next year.



Andrew Brads

Cedarville University in 2024 Eclipse Path of Totality

The 2024 Eclipse brought much excitement to the Cedarville University as the campus is located on the southern edge of the path of totality. Cedarville family, students and guests gathered to view and experience together the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. View this memorable video of what happened on Cedarville campus on April 8, 2024: <https://cedar.to/c9FKJg>



Cedarville University students in awe of God's creation during the 2024 solar eclipse.