



Connecting Churches in the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches

“Spreading the Gospel in Ohio Through Healthy Churches”

You are Invited!



Dear Pastors and Churches of the OARBC,

We are delighted to invite you to the 2025 Annual Conference of the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches, co-hosted by Northfield Baptist Church and Christ Baptist Church, taking place October 20–22, 2025 at Northfield.

This year’s theme, “On Purpose,” will center our hearts and minds on the very purposes for which our association exists—strengthening churches, encouraging pastors, and advancing the gospel together across Ohio. We look forward to affirming these shared commitments through worship, fellowship, and biblical preaching.

The conference will feature plenary sessions, a special breakout for women, and a thank you and dessert celebration honoring the faithful ministry of Chuck and Linda Pausley, who have served our association with love and devotion for many years.

October is a beautiful time to visit Northeast Ohio, and Northfield is located on the edge of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, offering breathtaking fall colors and opportunities for rest and renewal. We hope you’ll come not only to be challenged and refreshed, but also to enjoy meaningful time with fellow servants of the Lord.

Please mark your calendar now and make plans to join us for this special gathering. Additional details and registration information is in this issue of the LINK.

We look forward to welcoming you in October!

In Christ,



Mark Ashley
Pastor, Northfield Baptist



Chris Hinton
Pastor, Christ Baptist Church

Register for the conference at
<https://northfieldbaptist.org/oarbc-conference>

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2025 Conference Speakers



David Burman, Jr.

Pastor David Burman, Jr. is lead pastor of First Baptist of Elyria where he has served since 2021. He was not new to First Baptist, as he served as the youth pastor there from 1999-2011. In 2011, God called him to serve as the pastor of First Baptist of Niles, Ohio for the next nine and a half years. It was at that time God led the church through a major renovation and building addition.

Returning to Elyria has given Pastor Dave the opportunity to serve alongside some of his former young people, see others return to walk with the Lord and for the Lord to continue to mold and shape the ministry at First Baptist. He is passionate about reaching the lost in the community and is a strong proponent of discipling members of the church and training leadership for ministry within the church.

Dave and his wife Jen met at Faith Baptist Bible College in Ankeny, Iowa. They have three children, two married sons and a daughter who is a senior in high school.



Dave Ryan

Pastor Dave Ryan has served as senior pastor at Grace Baptist, Canton since January 1999. His desire is for people to come to know Christ personally and to grow in a relationship with God as the Bible comes alive to them in their everyday life.

Pastor Dave is a 1990 graduate of Cedarville University and of Baptist Bible Seminary in Pennsylvania, where he earned a Master of Divinity in 1995. He has been in full-time pastoral ministry since 1994 and has been active in the OARBC in the Akron-Canton area and served on the OARBC Council of 12.

A native of Toledo, Ohio, Pastor Dave grew up attending Emmanuel Baptist. He met his wife Linda at Cedarville, also a 1990 graduate. They have been blessed with three daughters, Allie (Nate), Karis, and Abby and two granddaughters, Olivia and Charlotte.



Jeff Dilyard

Pastor Jeff Dilyard has served Christ's Church as the Teaching Pastor at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Smithville, Ohio for the past two years. Growing up, the Lord used the ministry of Pleasant Hill Baptist to draw him to faith in Christ, grow him by grace, call him to pastor, and equip him for ministry. It is his desire to "serve for God's glory, by God's grace, and with God's people."

Pastor Jeff studied at Faith Baptist Bible College and Theological Seminary, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Pastoral Studies (2021) and a Masters of Divinity (2023). He has a love and an aptitude for the original written languages of the Word, evidenced in his preaching and teaching.

In 2022, God joined Jeff with his wife Becky, and together they have enjoyed serving the Lord, going on walks, reading, playing tennis, and countless other activities since.



Chuck Pausley, Sr.

Chuck Pausley, Sr. has served as the State Representative of the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches for the past eight years. Prior to his present role, he pastored for 39 years in the states of Ohio, Iowa and Florida.

Chuck has an appreciation for pastors, especially OARBC pastors, and expository preaching of the Word of God. As he travels throughout Ohio, he is encouraged by faithful, exemplary pastors who love the Word and love their people.

After meeting at Baptist Bible College, Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania, Chuck and his wife Linda have been married 48 years. They have four married children and eight grandchildren. They prayerfully sing along with the songwriter, "All my life you have been faithful, all my life you have been so, so good."



Ken Dockery

Pastor Ken Dockery and his wife Renee spent two decades as church planters with Continental Baptist Missions in Cleveland, Ohio—dedicating themselves to building gospel-centered communities in one of the Midwest's most spiritually needy regions. Their heart for ministry, particularly in urban contexts, has been grounded in a passion for the local church and a burden for the lost.

In his mid-thirties, Ken began facing serious health challenges that would significantly impact his life and ministry. These trials tested his faith but also deepened it, reshaping his approach to ministry and personal discipleship.

Today, Ken ministers at Chardon Baptist Church in Chardon, Ohio with a seasoned perspective and a compassionate heart, drawing from decades of pastoral experience and personal suffering.

2025 Seminar Speakers/Schedule/Pricing

Dr. Jim Vogel serves as Associate Director of the Northeast Fellowship of churches. He received his theological and ministry training at Baptist Bible College and Seminary (formerly Clarks Summit University), earning his bachelors (B.R.E) and Masters (M. Div.) degrees. He later received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.

After serving for 30 years in pastoral ministry, Dr. Vogel has consulted churches in health and growth and “pastored pastors” for the last 13 years. He regularly teaches and mentors pastors in the northeast USA region and has taught pastors in Russia, Thailand, the Philippines and India. He recently edited and wrote for a book on pastoral ministry published by RBP titled: “The Pastor: A Guide for God’s Faithful Servant.”

Dr. Vogel serves as President of the Northeast School of Theology and Ministry.



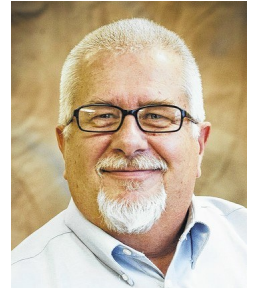
Dr. Jim Vogel

Dr. Lee Kliewer served for 20 years in various roles at Baptist Bible Seminary of Clarks Summit University (formerly Baptist Bible College), most recently serving as Seminary Dean.

Forty years of pastoral ministry experience as an assistant pastor, senior pastor, and interim pastor in the northeast and Florida has equipped Dr. Kliewer to serve as the Executive Director for Paraklesis Partnerships, a church consulting ministry.

Dr. Kliewer earned bachelors and masters degrees from Baptist Bible College and Seminary; and a Doctor of Education degree in Higher Education Administration from Nova Southeastern University.

Dr. Kliewer serves as Dean of the Northeast School of Theology and Ministry.



Dr. Lee Kliewer

Conference Schedule

Monday, October 20, 2025

- 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm **Arrivals/Check-in**
- 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm **“Evangelism on Purpose”** (Pastor Dave Burman, Jr.)
- 2:45 pm - 3:15 pm **Break**
- 3:15 pm - 4:30 pm **Seminar** (Men/Women)
- 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm **Dinner Break**
- 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm **Welcome/Well Done Dinner** (by invitation)
- 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm **“Fellowship on Purpose”** (Pastor Dave Ryan)

Tuesday, October 21, 2025

- 10:00 am - 11:30 am **“Sound Doctrine on Purpose”** (Pastor Jeff Dilyard)
- 11:30 am - 1:30 pm **Lunch Break**
- 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm **Seminar** (Dr. Jim Vogel, Dr. Lee Kliewer)
*Theological & Ministry Training for Churches:
a New Paradigm*
Ladies’ Connect (Women’s session)
- 3:15 pm - 4:30 pm **Association Business Meeting**
- 4:45 pm - 7:00 pm **Dinner Break**
- 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm **“Staying Strong on Purpose”** (Chuck Pausley, Sr.)
- 8:30 pm **Dessert Reception**

Wednesday, October 22, 2025

- 9:00 am - 10:00 am **Brunch** (sponsored by Ohio camp partners)
- 10:00 am - 11:15 am **“Church Planting on Purpose”** (Pastor Ken Dockery)
Conference Closing

Register for the conference at

<https://northfieldbaptist.org/oarbc-conference>

Conference Pricing

Early-bird by September 12

\$80 pp / \$100 per couple

After September 12

\$95 pp / \$115 per couple

First-time Attendees

\$80 pp / \$100 per couple

Retired Pastor/Missionary

\$50 pp or \$50 per couple

New Pastors attend free

*Ask Chuck Pausley, State Rep
for the registration code*

Undergrad students attend free

Please register for daytime events

All evening sessions are open to area

OARBC church families at no cost

No need to register

Northfield/Christ Baptist family

may attend daytime sessions free,

but please register

A Word from the Rep/Welcome New Pastors

Hello, OARBC family,

August has arrived and fall ministries are being planned and starting very soon. Some of our pastors' fellowships have been meeting through the summer and others will probably be starting up again next month. Pastors, I want to encourage you to be involved.

I hope you had a great summer of ministry at your churches. Linda and I are enjoying our move to Troy, Ohio, our ministry among our churches, the GARBC conference in Elgin, Illinois, and vacation time with our extended family.

Let me share with you a few reminders about upcoming events.

1. The Senior Adult Luncheon at Cedarville University is September 23. We are anticipating a great time as we fellowship together. Be sure to register for this event at www.oarbc.org. Do so by September 1 for the early bird price of \$15.
2. The OARBC Annual Conference is October 20-22 at Northfield Baptist Church in Northfield, Ohio. Northfield and Christ Baptist in Cleveland are cohosts this year. We are certainly looking forward to our conference as we hear from our OARBC pastors on the theme of "On Purpose." Be sure to register for this conference. Details are on pages 1-3 of this LINK.

Linda and I are looking forward to being with you in the next few months as we share in our churches.

Chuck



*Pastor Jordan and Kim Alexander
Jenna, Everly and Adriana*

Berea Baptist Church, Berea, welcomed the Alexander family in May 2025, where Jordan serves as Assistant Pastor.

Jordan and his four siblings were born and raised in Brazil as church-planting missionaries. At the age of five, he was saved by God's grace and began serving in ministry alongside his parents throughout his childhood. As a young teenager, Jordan developed a heart for investing in the lives of teens. After completing his ministry education, he began serving as a student pastor in South Carolina in 2017.

Jordan's greatest joy in ministry is the discipleship of hearts. He loves spending time with those in need of encouragement and is grateful for the opportunity to faithfully proclaim God's Word to the people of Berea Baptist Church. Outside of ministry, he enjoys working with his hands, cycling, and exploring the outdoors with his wife, Kim, and their daughters—Jenna, Everly, and Adriana (and new baby expected in November!).

Kim spent most of her childhood in North Carolina with her parents and three siblings. God graciously saved her at the age of five. After earning a degree in Elementary Education, she married Jordan in 2015. Kim enjoys quiet time with a good book, spending time outside, and making memories with her family.

A verse that has shaped their marriage and ministry is Matthew 20:28. *"Even as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many."*

Chardon Baptist Church, Chardon has called Pastor Ken Dockery as their pastor.

Since graduating from Bible college, Pastor Ken and Renee Dockery have devoted their lives to ministry, faithfully serving churches across Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. For 20 years, they served as church planters with Continental Baptist Missions, where they were committed to establishing and strengthening gospel-centered communities. One of their most significant ministry opportunities came through a team church plant alongside Bill and Natalie Taylor, resulting in the founding of CityView Baptist Church in downtown Cleveland. In March of 2025, Ken answered the call to serve as pastor of Chardon Baptist Church, a former church plant of Continental Baptist Missions, where he continues the legacy of expository preaching, evangelism, and missions both locally and worldwide.

Ken and Renee also cherish time with their family. They love spending time with each of their four children and delight in making special memories with their three grandchildren. Whether gathered for holidays, sharing meals, or simply enjoying everyday moments together, their family remains a central joy and blessing in their lives.



Pastor Ken and Renee Dockery

Ohio Women for Missions (OWM)



Ladies of Ohio,

The middle of summer is here and time marches on! We look forward to events in our future with excitement and expectations.

The officers for Ohio Women for Missions are currently making plans for our **Fall Retreat at the Carlisle Inn** in Sugar Creek, Ohio, scheduled for **Thursday, November 13 through Friday, November 14**. Many of our ladies return year after year and are faithful to attend. Those who have come before know what to expect and look forward to beautiful facilities, good fellowship, Bible teaching, great music, and Fun! Fun! Fun! If you have never come before, we challenge you to get a group of ladies from your church to travel together for a blessed getaway with sisters in Christ! Details will be sent by first week in August to your church email. Some ladies have provided their personal email to make sure they get the information. Watch for it and if you fail to get the information, contact our secretary, Donna Victor, cmvictorde@sbglobal.net.



Northfield ladies at the 2024 Retreat at the beautiful Carlisle Inn



*Rachel Chambers
Fall Retreat Speaker*

Our speaker for the Fall Retreat is **Rachel Chambers**, recently retired missionary from the field of Zambia, Africa. From a young age she had a desire to be a missionary in Africa. It was at Cedarville University she met her husband, Jim Chambers, who was also interested in missions and ministry. They were married in 1976. They had six children in the next 15 years. In 1992, God sent them to Zambia, Africa where they did church planting for 31 years. Now retired from the field, she continues to love relationships and opportunities God grants them to serve in Zambia. She loves the Lord, mothering, Zambia, children, teaching Bible, speaking and writing. We look forward to what she has to share with us from God's Word and her experiences.

We concluded the state project for 2024-2025, for Dave and Anne Spice, ABWE missionaries in Mevaseret Zion, Israel. The final amount raised was **\$12,160.87**, for outfitting a kitchenette and outdoor serving area for weekly services, men's and ladies' fellowships, home groups and children's programs. Our goal was \$10,000 so we **praise the Lord** for gifts above our goal.

Due to the resignation of our former treasurer, we will be voting on the new candidate, Cheryl Clason, at the business meeting which is being held at the beginning of the retreat. This announcement was made by email to all churches and contacts. Until that election has been held, continue to send all monies for the current project to **Margaret Warren, 83 24th ST NW, Barberton, Ohio 44203**.

As a reminder our current project is to partner with Faith Baptist Community Center in Cleveland, Ohio. We will help them remodel the bathrooms at the center. The goal for the project is \$12,000.

Go to <https://oarbc.org/owm-state-project-for-2025-2026/> to access prayer reminder cards for your ladies.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the Fall Retreat!
Margaret Warren, OWM President

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OHIO BAPTIST CAMPS NEWS

Dear Friends and Faithful Partners,

As the final echoes of summer fade into the fall season, I want to take a moment to thank you. We're grateful not just for your generous support, but for the eternal impact you're making through the ministries of Skyview Ranch and Camp Patmos.

Together, across our two camps, we had the immense privilege of serving 1,650 students this summer. By God's grace, the impact was outstanding! More than 100 students gave their lives to Jesus Christ, and over 500 made significant spiritual decisions to follow Him more closely or live in obedience to His word. This wasn't just another summer. It was a season of life-change, gospel transformation, and spiritual growth. Thanks for being part of it!

At Skyview Ranch, we saw one of our largest weeks ever as 220 campers filled the Ranch with laughter, worship, and pursuit of Christ. The team labored with excellence, serving with love and grace through every week of camp. At Camp Patmos, we maxed out at 120 campers during our peak week, with the island once again proving to be a powerful and sacred place where students encountered God in unique and unforgettable ways.

We are so proud of our summer staff. They gave their all, leading with heart and humility, walking with campers day and night, and shining the light of Jesus in every conversation, game, and chapel service. We are also incredibly grateful for the team of year-round leaders, volunteers, pastors, worship leaders and camp nurses who served faithfully. We are trusting God has faithfully called the next generation of missionaries, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and faithful believers to Himself this summer. May He bring glory to His own name as He uses each one for His good work.

Thanks to your ongoing generosity, numerous projects were completed this year:

Camp Patmos:

- Water treatment plant upgrades were completed and fully paid for.
- A new walk-in fridge and freezer were installed and used throughout the summer.
- Kitchen renovations are nearly complete, including a new office and pantry.
- A wraparound deck was added for improved access to refrigeration units and outdoor seating.
- New metal roofs were installed, including on the Blue Sail Camp Store.
- Premium cabins received new carpet, and restroom upgrades were made.



Skyview Ranch:

- Barn upgrades included new horse stalls and expanded program space.
- The maintenance shop received new lighting and interior finishes.
- The Ranch House's upstairs was completely remodeled, adding two new bathrooms.

Currently in Progress or Upcoming:

Camp Patmos: New garage doors will be installed on the bike shop and chapel; permits are nearing approval for our dock rehabilitation project — we've raised \$75,000 toward a \$250,000 goal.

Skyview Ranch: Final phase of the Ranch House remodel is underway adding living space to the sunroom; plans are being finalized for a complete "Chicken Coop" Cabin remodel, including new drainage, bathrooms, and interior/exterior finishes — estimated at \$250,000.

As we step into fall, retreat season has begun! Skyview is hosting three marching bands this August, and both camps are preparing to welcome youth, young adult, and adult groups for spiritually rich retreat weekends.

We're also thrilled to welcome:

A new class of Camp Interns who will live and serve at camp while being discipled and equipped for ministry, and three new full-time staff joining our team: Aaron Hurlbert (Maintenance – Skyview & Patmos), Leah Shrock (Hospitality), and Lauri Liess (Equine Ministries).

Your investment is changing lives, and that impact is eternal. From the bunkhouses to the barn, the chapels to the kitchens, every gift you give helps create a space where the gospel is proclaimed, and young people hear the truth of God's Word.

As we look ahead, we invite you to keep partnering with us:

Pray for our staff, interns, and fall retreat guests; **Give** toward upcoming projects at both camps;

Attend or send a group to one of our fall retreats; **Invite** us to visit your church, youth event, or school - our team is always ready to serve.

From all of us at Ohio Baptist Camps, **thank you.** We're honored to partner with you and grateful for your love, generosity, and prayers. Together, we are building something that will outlast us for the glory of God and the good of generations to come.

In Christ,

Jonathan Casbohm, Executive Director & CEO

Ohio Baptist Camps | Skyview Ranch & Camp Patmos

SCIOTO HILLS CAMP NEWS

A UNIQUE AND WONDERFUL SUMMER AT SCIOTO HILLS!

If you've ever heard one of my camp presentations, two words should ring in your ears: "**Camp works!**" I've said it a million times....because it's true. There's something very special about our "counter cultures" that, year after year, plays a significant role in the lives of all, and I mean all (young or old) who choose to spend part of their summer in our hills. Camp works, and might I add, it is:



MORE IMPORTANT THESE DAYS THAN EVER BEFORE!

Here are some reasons why this summer was unique and wonderful. Disclaimer: Every summer is unique and wonderful but just indulge me for a moment.

1. **Our theme: Grace and Truth** from John 1:9-17 was powerful. Numerous and significant spiritual decisions, including 15 or so legitimate salvation decisions were made. Jesus is God, He is full of grace and truth. *"You cannot hold an erroneous Christology position and be correct on any other theology."* Michael Reeves, "Authentic Ministry." Our study in John 1-3 was so effective, we're considering another round of John's Gospel for 2026. Why not?

2. **Our summer staff** (although short a few needed counselors) was truly amazing. My goal for them was 2-fold: (A) Fall in love with Jesus, make faith in Him their own, more personal and intentional. (B) Get tougher! Future generations need to toughen up. This summer did both for our team. What a blessing they were to so many. (Insert Ad Here: Every young adult who is or wants to be serious about following Christ should spend at least one summer serving at a solid Christian Camp. There's a reason SHC is a "Destination Designed for Life Change!")



2025 Scioto Hills Summer Staff

3. While we enjoyed **record attendance** for Revolution High School week, we saw a decline in junior age (New Frontier) campers. We attribute this to "COVID kids" with hesitant parents. However, ironically, Mini-Camp numbers were up with 60 first-time campers. Why? Parents know **camp works**, they just need to test the waters, to gain some trust. We anticipate New Frontier numbers will see an increase in 2026.

4. Three weeks of "**vacation with a purpose**" for families continues to be a highlight. There is something unmatched about Family Camp. Some weeks are like a huge family reunion. Many of our current summer staffers began their camp journey as "littles" attending family camp.

5. **We were challenged** by a 2-week stretch in which it seemed like everything mechanically speaking that could go wrong, did. Refrigerators, washing machines, AC units, gators, hot water heaters, septic, skidsteer, record heat waves and main water lines (no showers for high school girls for a few days, but they were troopers on an adventure finding other places on camp to clean up). And to add to the fun, I was informed that my cancer is back. But here's why all this is unique and wonderful. (A) Everything that was broken was fixed or replaced. We even received over 30K to purchase three new gators! (B) More importantly, we sent the same number of campers home each week that arrived each week. God's grace on display BIG TIME since all of **our tiny challenges** happened at the same time as the flooding in Texas. Words cannot express what that would be like, nor can they express my level of gratitude for God's "hesed" love displayed toward SHC. My heart hurts for those partners in ministry. And then to put the cherry on the top of it all...

6. **Our new Hillside Chapel is gorgeous.** Period! It should be ready for our Ladies Retreats in September. The final details are in progress. (We still need about 75K to complete it). God's goodness via gifts, skilled sub-contractors whose bids were gracious and work was excellent, our staff and numerous volunteers have made this possible. The septic for the cottages is completed, the foundation for Family Cottage #1 is in progress, hoping to be framed and enclosed by the end of the month.

Our **Expanding Our Impact Campaign** is legitimizing our name. Scioto Hills Christian Camp and **RETREAT CENTER**. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Come and see.

Visit www.sciotohills.com for all the upcoming events.

To God be the Glory, great things He is doing at SHC!

Scott

Scott Bruns, Executive Director

Scioto Hills Christian Camp and Retreat Center

OARBC TESTIMONY OF GOD'S GRACE

Every believers' salvation is special because it's a gift from God. We are all saved by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8-9). However, my salvation story may look a little different than yours.

I was 21 and as lost as lost can be. I was working as a reporter/photographer for two local newspapers. I was given the assignment "Religion in the 21st Century." My job was to visit local churches and interview the pastor, priest, etc. and find out where they thought religion was heading in the 21st century.

As I was working on this assignment, God started working on me. I began thinking, "I'm missing something in my life. I want to start going to church but have no idea where." Then, came the time to visit a Baptist church in Englewood, Ohio where Dr. Laird Baldwin was the pastor. They were in the middle of a week-long Bible conference with a lot of people in attendance but Pastor Baldwin took the time to answer my questions. Then, he turned the tables on me and wanted to know if he could ask me some questions and show me some things in the Bible. I consented and he shared with me several verses including Romans 3:23 and John 3:16. He was the only one of all those I interviewed who opened the Word of God to me. I was convicted right then and there that I was a sinner, that Jesus had died on the cross for me, and that He was buried and resurrected on the third day. I confessed I was a sinner and trusted in Jesus as my personal savior.

To my embarrassment, I started crying in front of all those strangers at that conference and I kept saying, "I don't know why I'm crying!" Of course, it didn't take me long afterwards to figure out why. I was so humbled by God's love for me "that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

I remember telling my husband Jason what happened and then from that moment on I started reading my Bible, attending church, Bible studies, and prayer meetings. Jason said, "Why do you need to go to church? You're already a good person." No, I'm a sinner saved by grace.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Pastor Baldwin and several church members, including myself, left that church and started a Bible study. The location of our services changed often in the beginning. We met in believers' homes, including the basement of one, the library of a nursing home, and the gymnasium of another church. One thing never changed though and that's God's Word and the accurate preaching of it.

Our Bible study eventually became a church, Bible Baptist Fellowship and we found a building to call our own. That's also a rather unique story. We bought a bank! The former Brookville National Bank at the corner of Main and Mulberry Streets in Brookville, Ohio is our home. We have a huge working vault in the lobby. We don't house gold and silver though but the treasures of the Word of God. The building has a rich history. It also used to be a post office, bakery, and movie theater. Now, we just celebrated our 20th church anniversary.

Once I was saved, my brother, who has since passed, was saved and baptized by Pastor Baldwin and became a member of my church. Then, I birthed my daughter Skylar, who has attended since she was a baby and is now 11. My mom Irene started coming to church once I had Skylar. When we would pick her up every Sunday morning, my dad Steve would come to the car to say hi and since the time she could talk, Skylar would say, "Paw, you comin' to church?" His response was always, "Not today."

One morning mom was getting ready for church and he said, "Aren't you going to iron my clothes?" She exclaimed, "Why, are you coming to church!" We are supposed to pray without doubting but it's funny sometimes how surprised we are when God answers prayer. Skylar and I both had the surprise of our lives when she asked "Paw, you comin' to church?" and this time he said "Yes, I'm coming." My mom and dad are both saved and were baptized by Pastor Baldwin at my church, where they are now members.

So you see, what began as a newspaper assignment was actually a wonderful work of God for a whole family. He deserves all the honor and glory, amen!

—Angela Barker, August, 2025



*Angela Barker and her family with Pastor and Belinda
L to R: Dad Steve, Mom Irene, Belinda, Daughter Skylar,
Angela and Pastor Laird Baldwin*

(Editorial note: We were privileged to be a part of the 20th anniversary of Bible Baptist, Brookville and met Angela. When we heard her story, we thought our readers would enjoy it as well).

OHIO NEWS

“Absent from the body, present with the Lord”



William Moser

Pastor William “Bill” Moser has gone to be with his Lord. Born on January 9, 1934, he entered glory on May 14, 2025 at 91 years of age.

Pastor Moser, and his wife Judy, served in pastorates in Minnesota, Florida and Ohio. Some of the churches he served in Ohio were Faith Baptist in Lancaster, Faith Baptist in Streetsboro, Berean Baptist in Marion, and Faith Baptist in Wilmington.

Pastor Moser was known for his kind and encouraging ways. “Bill filled the pulpit for us at Shawnee Hills (*Jamestown*) a few years ago. He did a most admirable job. His message and kind spirit were an encouragement to all of us” was one of the comments on Facebook when his home-going was announced.

He was preceded in death by two precious daughters. He is survived by his dear wife Judy.



Verna Dunkin

Verna Elizabeth Dunkin, passed from this life into eternity on July 17, 2025. She was 100, having lived a life marked by love for her family, her students, and her Lord.

Born in Carlisle, Ontario, Canada, Verna spent her early years in Ontario, where she began her teaching career in a one-room schoolhouse. Verna continued her calling to teach, spending several years at Elyria Christian Academy, where she shared her love for learning and the Lord with generations of students.

She was also a devoted pastor’s wife to her husband, David C. Dunkin, faithfully serving alongside him in over 18 churches throughout their ministry together. Their pastoral journey concluded at Calvary Baptist Church in Oberlin, Ohio, and Abbe Road Baptist Church in Elyria, Ohio.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 73 years, David, in 2019, and a daughter in 2023. She is survived by her children Mary Lou Hoffman, David C. Dunkin, and Jonathan R. Dunkin; nine grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren.

OARBC Senior Adult Bus Trip to Washington, DC

Early morning, June 3, 2025, 55 senior adults from across the state boarded a Baron Bus at First Baptist Church, Elyria and headed to Washington, D.C. It was an educational trip with several stops, including the Museum of the Bible, the Holocaust Museum and an unplanned stop at the White House. It was a fun trip of traveling together with sisters and brothers in Christ.



“Sea of Galilee” at the Museum of the Bible



The President was in, but this is as close as they got

OHIO NEWS

Ordinations and Church Anniversaries



Examination Council at Grace Baptist, Troy



Jeff Kliever (right) with Senior Pastor Chuck Pausley, II

South Bethel area pastors and invited guests came together on Thursday, May 1 at Grace Baptist, Troy to examine Associate Pastor Jeff Kliever on his doctrinal beliefs and convictions. The council recommended the church move forward with ordination.



20 YEARS

**Bible Baptist Church
Brookville
May 4, 2025**

*Pastor Laird and Belinda Baldwin,
founding pastor,
continues to serve*

50 YEARS

Faith Baptist Church, Wilmington, May 25, 2025

Pastor Jeff and Anne Zimmerman



OHIO NEWS

145 YEARS

First Baptist Church, Bowling Green, May 18, 2025

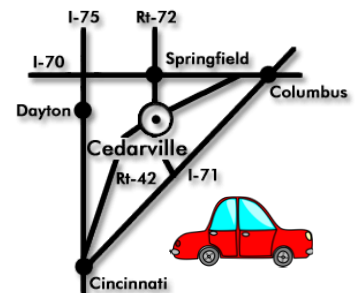
Pastor Tom and Amanda Mullins



It was a perfect day of celebration with a catered lunch following the service on the church grounds.

OARBC Senior Luncheon Tuesday, September 23, 2025 Cedarville University

\$15 pp by September 1
\$18 pp after September 1



10:00 am Chapel followed by
11:00 am Luncheon in the Student Event Center

If you have a Cedarville student from your church enrolled this September, please **invite them to attend this luncheon** with your group. It would be great if you could cover their cost.

The actual event is **11 a.m.–2 p.m. in the Event Center** at the University. However, we encourage groups to come a little early and attend the **10 a.m. chapel service** on campus, if possible.

To register, print flyers, and more info:

<https://oarbc.org/oarbc-senior-luncheon-september-23-2025/>

NEWS FROM CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY

Rooted in Truth

In a world of rapid change and growing uncertainty, a new book aims to anchor young adults in something unchanging — the truth of Scripture. “Rooted in Truth” is a practical, theologically rich resource designed to help high school graduates and college freshmen navigate questions of faith, identity and purpose through a biblical lens.

Co-authored by Cedarville University staff members [Dr. Jon Wood](#), vice president for student life and Christian ministries, and [Dr. Trent Rogers](#), dean of the school of biblical and theological studies, the book draws from years of mentoring students. Their experience walking alongside young adults inspired a work that blends biblical wisdom with relatable, real-life application.

“Rooted in Truth” draws on Psalm 1, which portrays the righteous person as a tree planted by streams of water — strong, fruitful and enduring. This is the vision Wood and Rogers have for every student who reads the book: to be deeply rooted in biblical truth and equipped to flourish in a shifting world. It will be released on July 8, with preorders available at Christian Focus and Amazon.

“We love college students and wanted to create something that would meet them right where they are,” said Wood. “College is a season where so many major life decisions are made — faith, vocation, relationships and worldview are being shaped. We wanted to offer a resource that connects those questions to biblical truth.”

The book is organized around 20 key questions divided into four categories: spiritual growth, purpose and vocation, Christian apologetics and relationships. Each chapter concludes with reflection questions, making the book suitable for personal devotion or group study.

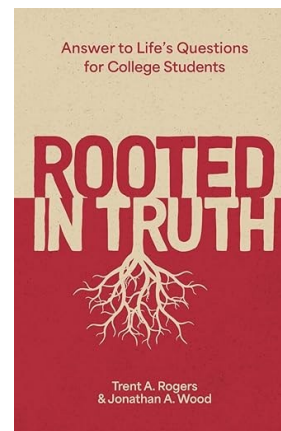
Rather than presenting theology in a textbook format, “Rooted in Truth” aims to be deeply scriptural while remaining accessible to younger readers.

“We didn’t want fluff, and we didn’t want overly complex theological jargon either,” Wood explained. “We wanted to write in a way that draws students into the Bible and helps them see its relevance to every area of life.”

Bringing together their academic specialties — Rogers in New Testament studies and Wood in theology and leadership — the co-authors crafted a book both biblically grounded and culturally aware.

“Students today are asking different questions than they were 20 years ago,” said Wood. “Our goal was to help them think wisely and biblically in a world that often encourages them to create their own truth.”

While the book stands on its own, it is also designed to serve as a discipleship tool for parents, pastors and youth leaders guiding students through foundational life questions.



Dr. Jon Wood



Dr. Trent Rogers

Save the Date!

Homecoming and Campaign Celebration
October 3-4, 2025

<https://www.cedarville.edu/events/homecoming#section5>