

“Bound by the Word and to Each Other
... For the Sake of the Gospel”

Unprecedented Times!

How often has the word “unprecedented” been used as it refers to the times the world is presently experiencing, fighting together the invisible enemy, COVID-19? The dictionary defines “unprecedented” as an adjective meaning **“never done or known before.”** Ponder this thought: Has there ever been **“known before”** a time in recent history when:



- Hospital facilities were overcrowded; doctors, nurses, and medical personnel were overwhelmed and thousands were dying daily.
- Churches were closed for weeks under the recommendation of the government.
- Schools were closed during the middle of the school year, college and university campuses were closed and classes were taught on-line only.
- Restaurants were closed indefinitely except for carry-out.
- College and professional athletic competitions were cancelled and all theatres, concerts and entertainment venues closed.
- All were required to work from home or stay home if deemed non-essential workers.

- Gatherings (including birthdays, weddings and graduations) were limited to ten in attendance and six-foot social-distancing was advised.
- The president gives daily briefings/press conferences for weeks on end.
- and the list goes on...

This word, “unprecedented,” as heard in these pandemic days, speaks of a time **“never known before”** that is extremely difficult and challenging. **But** for the church, the body of Christ, and OARBC churches, may these days be seen as unprecedented times in terms of opportunities to proclaim the Word and spread the message of hope in Jesus Christ to a hopeless world! Has the church ever **“known before”** a time when:

- So many people are frightened, lonely and asking, “Where is God?”
- Churches are reaching more people with the gospel on-line than ever known before.
- Churches are growing in the “never done” aspect and are learning how to reach the world in ways not known before.
- Hospitals, nursing homes, and first responders are welcoming prayer, gifts and support as never before.
- Frightened in the face of health crisis or personal economic disaster, strangers and neighbors are more open to the offer of a personal prayer with them as never before.
- Families have time together as never before and resources in abundance are on-line to help them.
- ...and the list goes on!

The whole world desperately cries for these “unprecedented times” to pass and they will. People will return to frenzied schedules, preoccupied minds and selfish pursuits **OR** could it be that as God’s people pray, “redeem the time,” and go with boldness as never before that the year 2020 will not be remembered in terms of *survival*, but the year of **REVIVAL**?

“Yet who knows whether you have come...**for such a time as this?**” Esther 4:14

Council of 12

2017-2020

- David Culver, Chairman, Shawnee Hills, Jamestown
- David Conrad, Calvary, Xenia
- Ken Lowe, Hope, Akron
- Larry Nocella, Camden, Wellington

2018-2021

- Mark Ashley, Northfield, Northfield
- Noel Hack, First, Lagrange
- Dave Kisner, Wash. Heights, Dayton
- Brad Rickard, Immanuel, Columbus

2019-2022

- James Beight, Abram Creek, Brook Park
- Dave Denny, Whipple Ave, Canton
- Matt Nihiser, Calvary, Lancaster
- Dave Ryan, Grace Baptist, Canton

In This Issue

- Word from the Rep 2
- COVID-19 Responses 3
- OWM/Missions Trip 4-5
- Camp News 6-7
- Ohio News 8-9
- Across the State 10-11
- Cedarville News 12

The Link

Publication of the OARBC
Editor: Chuck Pausley
Ass’t Editor: Linda Pausley

Please send news by 8.14.2020

The Link/OARBC
17 W Maple Drive
Seville, OH 44273
lindapausley@gmail.com

Send gifts/support to OARBC

Assistant Treasurer:
Christine Stammer, OARBC
4207 W. Laskey Rd.
Toledo, OH 43623
(419) 473-3280 ex. 128

A WORD FROM THE REP

Hello, OARBC family,

It is always good to walk into your lives and share with you. We are living in unprecedented times! Who would have ever thought the world would shut down as it has—people staying in their homes, jobs lost, churches closed, restaurants and stores closed? Who would have ever thought it could happen? But it did happen and we are living proof.

Our God is not surprised. He is still in control and we have the privilege of trusting in Him. God is using this time for His glory. The Word of God is going out with power and lives are being changed. Through our OARBC churches, God's Word is being shared with people who would not normally hear the truth. People are listening and hopefully they will respond to the truth.

We are reminded that the church is not a building but the church is people. I have been able to listen to many messages online from our pastors. I've heard how people are ministering to their communities. Praise the Lord that God's church is at work! Our pastors are great preachers. The content and insight of their messages is challenging and encouraging.

I have been meeting the last several weeks on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. with many of our pastors on Zoom. There have been over 50 pastors who have been involved. I have thoroughly enjoyed it. The connection and interaction has been great. It is something I hope to continue, perhaps monthly, after the pandemic is over so that we can keep connection with each other.

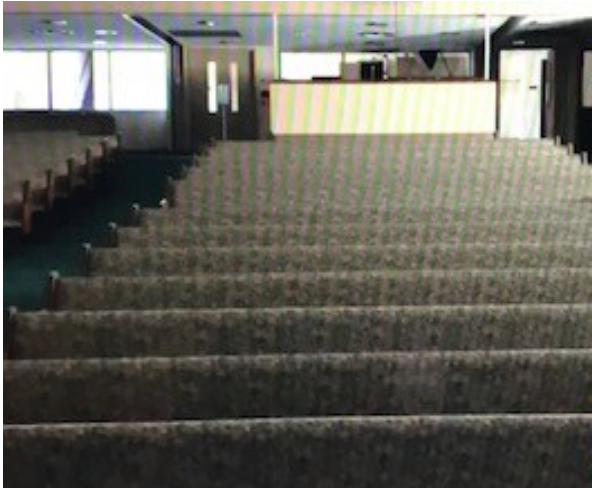
The hardest part of this sheltering in place is we are not able to get out and about in the state of Ohio and be in our churches. Pictured below are some of the ministry partners we were with before the pandemic began. We look forward to connecting with our OARBC family again in the very near future, Lord willing!

Well, my friends, keep doing what you are doing. Keep up the faith. I believe God is well-pleased. Our hope is in Him!
Psalm 62:5,
Chuck

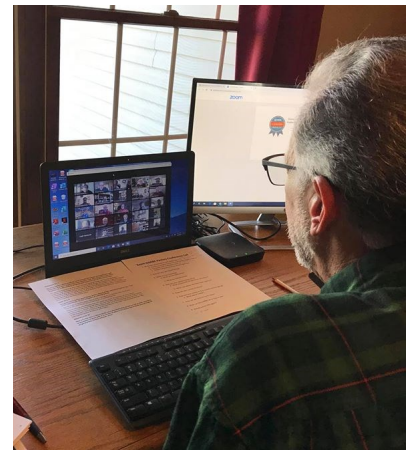


Left to Right, Top Row to Bottom:
Scott and Pam Bruns, Scioto Hills
Mike and Sherri Vanek, Cleveland
Mike Peck and Chuck, Strongsville
Tim and Vicki Mishler, Massillon
Jon and Kathy Greve, Chardon
James and Susan Hayes, Chardon
Bill and Grace Dobson, Greenville
Andrew and Wendy Box, Massillon

OARBC RESPONDS TO COVID-19



OARBC Churches cooperate with government guidelines to stem the spread of COVID-19. Pastors livestream Sunday and mid-week messages to empty pews or from their offices. Many post daily thoughts of Biblical encouragement on Facebook or in emails. There have been some OARBC churches able to hold outdoor drive-in services.



ZOOM calls enable youth groups, small groups, and Bible studies to meet virtually (left) as well as Ohio pastors (right). Survival kits have been delivered to teens (center). Churches are creative in communicating and encouraging church families.



Maranatha, Columbus, assemble packets for nursing homes (top)
Pastor Paul and Joyce Radobenko put a smile on everyone's face! (left)

Two of many neighbors enjoy an outdoor concert given by Dave and Darlene Murdoch (left). Temple Baptist, Portsmouth, is specially licensed to be open and provide daycare for children of first responders and medical personnel (center). They have around 30 children in their care.

Ohio Women for Missions (OWM)



April 2020

Dear Ladies of Ohio,

He is Risen!! He is risen, indeed! We serve a living Savior. I am trusting you are well and safe through this Covid-19 situation.

As I was reading my devotions, the Lord lead me to Hebrews 4:14-16:

“Since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us **hold firmly** to what we believe. This High Priest of ours **understands our weaknesses**, for He faced all of the same testings we do **Let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God**. There we will receive His mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.”



Donna Victor, OWM President

At this time, it is important that we **hold firmly** to what we believe. God is in control and understands what we are facing. He has this. If anyone knows what we are going through, it is the Lord. He understands completely. We can **boldly** go to Him, cast everything at His feet and He will take care of our every need. His timing is perfect. We can proclaim Christ’s great love to the those around us who need to hear the Gospel of Christ. I am praying for us to **boldly** be a light at this time. What an opportunity God has given each of us. Let us continue to pray for one another and our missionaries throughout the world that we will be the light to our unsaved families, friends and world.



2020 STATE PROJECT UPDATE

Since we had to cancel our spring meeting, please let’s not forget our State Project for the Christian School For Ghana under the leadership of Rob and Penny Whitty, missionaries with BMM. Our goal is \$10,000.00. At this time we have \$5,060.75 towards our goal. Since we have not been able to meet together with our church families, we would like to extend our deadline for the project to July 1, 2020. We hope this will give our churches the time needed to give towards our state project. Please send your donations to Karen Blasdel, OWM Treasurer, 1166 Woods Drive, Tallmadge, Ohio 44278. Make your checks out to: Ohio Women for Missions.

HEART, MIND AND SOUL SEMINAR

Before we were put under the stay at home order, fourteen of our ladies’ area officers and a few others attended the *Heart, Mind and Soul Seminar*. We looked deeply at our heart attitudes toward the Muslim community; the similarities and differences between Christianity and Islam; and then how to build a relationship with those of the Muslim culture. It was very informative and helpful to learn more about the Muslim culture and how we can reach out to them with the gospel. I would encourage all of you to consider attending one of these *Heart, Mind and Soul Seminars* or hosting one in your church. For privacy reasons, contact me for more information.

FALL OWM LADIES RETREAT

We are looking forward to holding our ladies fall retreat November 12-13, 2020 at the Carlisle Inn in Sugarcreek, Ohio. We are hoping that we will be able to gather together for this event. Our speaker will be Cecilia Weer. She is a freelance writer for “Israel My Glory” and a scholarship recipient for Holocaust studies at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. Her husband is the pastor of Chelsea Baptist Church in Atlantic City. We will have more up dates and information on our retreat as time draws closer. Keep watching your e-mails.

Hold fast and be bold for the Lord,
Donna Victor, OWM President

President

Donna Victor
2100 Springfield Center Road
Akron, OH 44312
(330) 203-3415
cmvictorde@sbcglobal.net

Vice-President

Renny Snare
1120 Tinker Lane
Proctorville, OH 45669
(419) 979-2778
rennyssnare@gmail.com

Secretary

Kim Kozy
112 Maca Drive
Tallmadge, OH 44278
(330) 807-0910
jkloveskk@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Karen Blasdel
1166 Woods Drive
Tallmadge, OH 44278
(330) 328-1143
muggys14@yahoo.com

What Do You Get When...

What do you get when you take a pastor and his wife, and ten more people, and send them to Nairobi, Kenya for twelve days? KMT20: Kenya Mission Team 2020 mission team from Shawnee Hills Baptist Church (SHBC) in Jamestown, Ohio.

On Thursday, February 27, twelve members of SHBC led by Pastor Dave and Carolyn Culver, departed for Nairobi, Kenya. Their primary goal was to assist West Nairobi School (WNS) in a Spiritual Emphasis Week for its secondary students. The Culvers' oldest daughter and her husband are missionary teachers at WNS who are supported by SHBC. The team's other focus was to serve other missionaries who are reaching impoverished Kenyans with the Gospel of Jesus Christ through compassionate care, addiction assistance, and educational tutoring in the N'gando community, a local slum. For twelve days the members of KMT20 served alongside those called by God to show and share Christ with international students and subsistence level Kenyans. It was an enriching, exciting, and pleasantly exhausting experience as the team worked full days. Each of the team members agreed that it was a "good tired," as they were thrilled to "see God" in so many situations, circumstances, and venues.



KMT20, Shawnee Hills, Jamestown



Team Member David Hamilton

The Culvers led a seven-member team to Mitrovica, Kosovo in 2018, and hope to lead another international mission team in 2022. Why? Because very few things have greater impact on members of a local church than serving overseas on a short-term mission team. When the team members were asked if they would consider going on another mission trip, each person responded, "Yes!" Some even expressed a desire to return to Kenya, and the teen girls showed interest in attending WNS for a semester. A mission trip can be a life-changer and nothing cultivates a servant's heart more than giving of time, talents, and treasure to help others and share the Gospel cross-culturally. The KMT20 consisted of two nurses, a photographer, an AV operator, two teen girls, an IT sales manager, a former pastor, and an electrician, in addition to Pastor Dave and Carolyn. It was such an example of unity through diversity—body life at work. The blessings were too numerous to count, as every day and throughout each day, God showed Himself strong, faithful, creative, compassionate, and giving.

Dave and Carolyn have served in pastoral ministry for 41 years and have visited mission fields all over the world, sometimes as a sending church pastor and wife, while at other times teaching pastors and wives as part of a Tri-M (Mobile Modular Ministry) team. But, these overseas mission trips had their genesis in 1996, when the Culvers took their four children to Hong Kong to shadow a missionary family for eight days. At the end of that time, Dave asked each member of the family, including Carolyn, "Could you see yourself serving the Lord as a missionary?" Each one said, "Yes," including Dave himself. Following that trip, there was one summer when their children were on four separate continents, each one on a short-term mission trip. Since then, their oldest daughter, after graduating from Bible college, has served the past 20 years teaching at international Christian schools in South Korea, Japan, and Kenya. Their son pastored for more than ten years and took regular mission trips. Their second daughter taught four years at an international Christian school in South Korea and for six months at Bethesda, an orphanage in South Africa. Their youngest daughter served at a Romanian orphanage and participated in mission trips to South Africa and Mexico. And, it all started with a family mission trip to Hong Kong. For the Culvers, nothing has enriched their lives, family, and local church ministries more than shadowing and partnering with those serving overseas, commingling with different cultures, and realizing that the body of Christ has a beautiful "complexion."



Carolyn Culver distributing special treats

What do you get when you step outside your culture and country for days or weeks at a time? A life-changing experience, and a view of Who God is and what He can do that is vaster than one could imagine. Remember, someday, an innumerable multitude, from **every nation, all tribes and peoples and languages**, will stand and cry, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb" (Revelation 7:9-10).

—Pastor Dave Culver, Shawnee Hills, Jamestown

CAMP NEWS



Hey folks,

I trust you are managing well! If your life has been like mine, your schedule, on the one hand, has slowed down tremendously, but on the other hand, you have become crazy busy investing in new forms of communication. Thank God for ZOOM! I was in 7 hours of ZOOM Meetings yesterday and it seems like I've been participating in camp webinars 3-4 times a week.

Please know our staff is keeping a safe distance but we are working every day, especially in preparation for summer camp. We are committed to keeping our entire team on the payroll and, by God's grace, we are able to meet their salaries, and can continue to do so for several months. We have applied for the PPP Cares Act grant for non-profits, which, if it goes through, will greatly help us. We are encouraged as we continue to receive gifts and support from our regular donors and churches.

1. Visit our website www.sciotohills.com or join our social media outlets for weekly updates and a little bit of encouragement from our hills. We are also trying to engage students with online activities and a brief devotional twice a week.
2. We are committed to respecting and honoring the wishes and mandates of our Governor and President. Like you, we patiently await news on the latest updates and restrictions. Our desire, though really difficult, is to maintain a strong testimony to our community and beyond by abiding by these mandates.
3. We are working through as many scenarios as possible in seeking to make the best decisions for our staff, summer staff and campers this summer. We are currently developing Plan A, B, C and D in an attempt to address all the possible ways to do camp this summer. We will communicate these plans ASAP. But so much is still uncertain. Our hope is in the Living God.
4. We have set trigger dates for making and communicating important decisions. I have been meeting with my staff and with the board of directors as we seek the best courses of action. The most important one is set for May 5th when we will announce our plans for the summer. We are calling it DSC Day (Decision Summer Camp Day). We want to give our families, churches and summer workers adequate time to adjust and prepare for whatever decision is necessary. Of course, we are at the mercy of our governing authorities but want to be proactive as much as is humanly possible. We are trusting God that we can call August 1 (VSC Day or Victory Summer Camp Day).
5. Please pray for us. As you can imagine, camp is the opposite of social distancing but having a summer without a week of camp is unimaginable.
6. Do not hesitate to call me if you have questions, suggestions or insights. My cell number is 740-257-2900 or you can email me at scott@sciotohills.com

We love our churches and OARBC family. We are praying for you, especially as some are facing financial hardship or risking their health working on the frontlines. Thanks for your prayers as well.

Scott Bruns, Executive Director
Scioto Hills



Hello, Ohio Churches,

We have been extremely busy around here (even with the closure of so many businesses). Lots of projects going on around camp, making improvements, painting, cleaning out and organizing, moving into our offices (furniture, phones hooked up, server installed, supplies, copier machine installed, and 22 computer workstations installed), etc.

We are STILL moving forward with our May events (depending on the government mandates), and full steam ahead with hiring our summer camp staff and hosting our busy summer camp ministry. As time marches on, keep up with changes on our website skyviewranch.org

Our NEW multi-purpose building is moving forward! The architects are busy with the needed plans, and our builder is coordinating the construction timeline. Weather permitting, the excavating will begin in May, and by early summer, concrete work will begin. By mid summer, steel girders, framing, and masonry are on tap. It's been a very busy year for SVR, to say the least, but we are moving forward with exciting plans to grow and expand our ministry, in order to reach more children, teens, and adults for Christ. *(continued next page)*

Skyview continued...

Our temporary units are coming along nicely. Our dining hall is close to completion, and new tables & chairs have arrived. Our 2 kitchen units should be on property soon. Wooden decks, ramps, and stairs are still being constructed, with more to come. Our water well will be back up and running soon, after being shut off nearly 5 months ago after the fire.

The mandated shutdown through the end of April hasn't dampened our staffs' spirits at all. We are hard at work de-winterizing the camp, preparing for a busy summer season (Lord willing), and are working through a long list of springtime projects.

We value and appreciate your prayers and financial support through these difficult times. God is good all the time!!
—Gary, Executive Director



New temporary Dining Hall facility at Skyview



Dear Friends,

As I sit here this morning, sheltered in place, I am concerned, yet full of hope because of a message from God's word in Psalm 46. "God is our Refuge and Strength, a very present help in times of trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way,"



There is a great deal we could fear in our world right now, as the Corona Virus spreads, we feel the financial shockwaves around our country, and we "shelter in place." How long will this last, what will my future hold? Later in the Psalm, the writer tells us his answer, "Be still, and know that I am God." It seems that is all we can do right now, "Be still and know that I am God."

While God is in control, I want to share some concerns we have for Camp Patmos. This time of year camp utilizes registration funds to prepare for the spring season and summer camp. As always, this time of year is financially tight since we do not have a winter season to help bring in funds. This year camper registrations have come to a halt, and the funds we usually use are not there. In addition this year, we have an unprecedented possibility of shortening summer camp or having to cancel due to the current pandemic. We are prayerfully moving forward and taking every opportunity to apply for disaster relief during this time, and we also want to trust the Lord and His provision fully. Please join us in prayer as we consider the following challenges.

Cancellations and Impact

We have had groups cancel their retreats in May, and summer registrations have stalled, creating a shortfall in expected income. (\$10,000+). We have seen our giving partners continue to be faithful, and also we recognize the impact that the pandemic has had on all of us in various ways. Please prayerfully consider a donation to camp during this time by going to our website: (<http://www.camppatmos.com>), click "Donate Now" or send your donation to Camp Patmos, PO Box 1920, Kelleys Island, OH 43438.

Retreats and Summer Camp

We are currently still planning on moving forward with our Marriage Retreat, Run for the Light Scholarship Fundraiser, and summer camp as of today, knowing that any further Shelter in place or Governmental recommendations could change it all.

Recruiting

We are still looking for good Godly young men and women to serve at Camp Patmos this summer. We know plans have changed for many of our college students, and we are still in need of counselors and support staff. Direct all applicants to the website.

Projects and Upkeep

Lord willing, we will need help this spring and summer. Please consider how you could help with current projects and upkeep for the camp property. When the "shelter in place" order lifts, contact Camp Patmos at (419) 746-2214 or info@camppatmos.com, or Chuck Perry, Trustee and Volunteer Coordinator at (419) 706-5284.

Our prayer is that this trial will lead you to take joy in considering how to respond to your family, friends, and your neighbor to show the hope that we have in the Lord Jesus Christ. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm, and secure (Heb.6:19).

Dave Sellers, Executive Director
Camp Patmos

Ohio Pastor Appointed New President of BMM

On March 8, 2020, the Elected Council of Baptist Mid-Missions was pleased to announce its unanimous choice of **Patrick Odle** as Baptist Mid-Missions' ninth president. He will succeed current president Vernon Rosenau this summer following Dr. Rosenau's retirement.

He not only has 26 years of pastoral experience but also has ministry administration experience and extensive connections to BMM through his pastorates and his eight years on the BMM governing board.

Odle graduated from Faith Baptist Bible College & Theological Seminary (1992,1998). His enthusiasm for missions was stoked by Professor Earl Dannenberg, who served with BMM in Africa, and by BMM Council member and pastor Norm Hoag, with whom Odle served as assistant pastor at Ankeny Baptist Church in Ankeny, Iowa (1991–1999). He served as senior pastor of Holmes Baptist Church in Clarion, Iowa (1999–2008) before his appointment as FBBC&TS's Vice President of Enrollment and Student Life (2008–2011). He has served as senior pastor of First Baptist Church of Elyria, Ohio, since 2011 and as a BMM Council member since 2012. He and his wife, Ruth, have been married since 1990. They have four adult children, two sons-in-law, and a granddaughter.



President Patrick Odle

Baptist Church Planters Appoints New President

With joy, on March 18, 2020, the Council of Baptist Church Planters (*Grafton, Ohio*) announced they unanimously voted to appoint Jonathan Jenks to serve as the fourth president of Baptist Church Planters, assuming his duties as president in September, 2020.

Jon is clearly passionate about communicating the Word of God and seeing it impact hearts and change lives. Through preaching, teaching and discipling, Jon carries out this passion and will continue to do so as president of BCP. He understands and will carry on the philosophy of Baptist Church Planters, which involves the centrality of the local church reproducing in fulfillment of the Great Commission. Jon is a visionary leader who will focus on the future of the Mission and its continued ability to assist churches.

Since 2017, Jon has served as Vice President of Training with BCP concurrent with serving as State Representative for the Wisconsin Association of Regular Baptist Churches. He formerly pastored in one capacity or another at Calvary Baptist Church, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin for almost 22 years.

With farming and hunting in his background, Jon loves to work hard with dependence upon God in his endeavors. Jon and Jen enjoy their three children, Rob, Joshua and Abigail. Rob and his wife Alyssa just provided Jon and Jen with their first grandchild, Alayna, this year.

The OARBC welcomes them to the great state of Ohio!



President Jon Jenks and Jeniffer

OHIO STUDENTS AMONG GARBC SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

\$2,500

Sarah Iler

*First Baptist Church
Elyria, Ohio*



\$2,500

Carson Odle

*First Baptist Church
Elyria, Ohio*



\$1,000

Hannah Dumbeck

*Calvary Baptist
Norwalk, Ohio*



\$1,000

Abigail Ryan

*Grace Baptist
Canton, Ohio*



\$500

Caleb Smith

*Litchfield Baptist
Litchfield, Ohio*



\$500

Joshua Smith

*Litchfield Baptist
Litchfield, Ohio*

Six GARBC students (pictured above) were among the twenty-four high school seniors from GARBC churches that have been awarded a total of \$25,000 in the GARBC Christian Character Scholarship competition. The scholarships were open to seniors who exemplify Christian character and express an ongoing desire to serve God through the local church.

The scholarship program, which has replaced the GARBC's Talents For Christ program, is being funded and awarded by participating colleges, with matching dollar amounts, as available, through the GARBC Christian Character Scholarship fund. The seven colleges providing scholarships are Appalachian Bible College, Bob Jones University, Cedarville University, Clarks Summit University, Faith Baptist Bible College, Piedmont University, and Shasta Bible College.

Judges for the scholarship program are comprised of Council of Eighteen members and Regular Baptist Ministries staff. Pastor Tom Alexander (*First Baptist, Wellington*), chairman of the judging committee, says, "The committee was impressed with the quality of the applications and had a difficult time ranking them into the various levels of award categories. Committee members felt blessed to be able to read the applications and references and are encouraged about the future as these young people continue to grow and serve the Lord."

The GARBC Christian Character Scholarship recognizes students who are committed to serving Christ in their communities and churches. If you will graduate from high school in 2021, plan to apply to the GARBC Christian Character Scholarship program starting Sept. 1, 2020. Application deadline is November 30, 2020. Applications will be available this fall. Information can be found at garbc.org.

The GARBC would like to match scholarship amounts to provide extra support to these incredible students. Invest in the future of the association by helping young people who want to pursue a Bible college education by giving to the GARBC Christian Character Scholarship fund by May 31, 2020.

—adapted from garbc.org

Welcome to New Associate Pastor at First Baptist, Wellington



Pastor Klinton and Andrea
Elise and Emerson

Pastor Klinton Richerson grew up in a pastor's home in rural central Illinois. He is tied for being the oldest of five children. (He has a twin brother.) He came to a realization of needing a Savior at an early age, but it was later in life that he committed his life to his Creator. God used Christian schooling and camps to instill in him a love for teens and a desire to reach this generation. A graduate of Maranatha Baptist University, Watertown, Wisconsin, he has served as an Associate Pastor in Rochelle, Illinois and Griffin, Georgia prior to beginning his ministry at First Baptist in Wellington on March 1, 2020, joining Senior Pastor Tom and Rachael Alexander.

Pastor Klinton's wife, Andrea, grew up just outside Dallas, Texas. They met at Maranatha Baptist University where Andrea received a degree in Piano Performance. She is an accomplished pianist and enjoys teaching piano, as well as writing and arranging music. She is also currently finishing up training as a piano tuner. They have two children: a daughter, Elise (3), and a son, Emerson (3 months).

When he gets a chance, Pastor Klinton enjoys hunting and fishing, along with exploring different parks with his daughter and going to sporting events, but many evenings you can find the Richersons around their kitchen table with anyone they can find who is willing to play board games with them.

With the Lord



Marge Odor, a dear sister in Christ and a friend to many of the OARBC, went to be with her Savior Feb. 26, 2020. She was 93. Her husband, Frank,

preceded her to glory in 2018. They served together in church planting and pastoral ministry for over 50 years. During those years they founded and pastored the Midview Baptist Church of North Eaton, Ohio and the Vienna Baptist Church of Vienna, Ohio. They also pastored the Bible Baptist Church in Newark from 1973-1981. Marge was active in the Ohio Women for Missions for many years. She attended Moody Bible Institute and was a graduate of Houghton College. She will be fondly remembered as a well-known soloist as well as a devoted wife and mother, pastor's wife and prayer warrior. Marge enjoyed traveling, gardening and visiting friends. She is survived by two sons, Ron (Joyce) Odor, Dr. Richard Odor and three beloved grandchildren.

Men of God 2020



Calvary Baptist, Bellefontaine, hosted its annual Men of God Conference on the final Saturday in February – yes, February 29, 2020. The theme was “For the Greater Kingdom” and addressed men's calling as citizens of heaven though also citizens of earth. Three speakers served the conference for the day: Dr. Mark Caleb Smith, Dr. Jeff Haymond and Dr. Bert Wheeler, professors from Cedarville University and contributors to a blog: [*Bereans at the Gate*](#). Each of these men (pictured above) brought years of expertise and teaching at the University while also spurring on the Church to greater awareness and action in culture for the sake of the Gospel and our Lord's Kingdom. There were approximately 225 men in attendance from nearly thirty different churches across Ohio.

NEO Fellowship

Fourteen pastors and wives enjoyed lunch together following the February monthly fellowship of the NEO (Northeast Ohio) Pastors Fellowship. Pastor Jon and Kathy Greve (Chardon) hosted, making everyone feel right at home. It was truly a family gathering! (pictured below).

State Representative Chuck and Linda Pausley were invited to give an update and information on the DREAM revitalization ministry for churches and to enjoy the fellowship over lunch.

The ten regional fellowships of the OARBC are the heart of the association. They provide the much needed connection and encouragement for pastors and churches. Information on the fellowships can be found in the OARBC Directory.



ACROSS THE STATE

Man Up Conference



Dr. Jeremy Kimble (*above*), Associate Professor of Theology at Cedarville University, was the keynote speaker for the Man Up Conference held on Saturday, March 7, 2020, at First Baptist Church, Medina. This was the second Man Up Conference sponsored by the Hebron Fellowship of OARBC Churches.

The one-day conference was designed to encourage and inspire men in the fight for biblical manhood. It was a day of challenge to many!

Calvary, Massillon



Associate Pastor Andrew and Wendy Box (*on left, above*) pictured with some of the Calvary, Massillon church family who were in attendance at the Agape Dinner held for the entire church family at the Dutch Pantry in Dalton in February. The delicious dinner was in true Amish fashion followed by Senior Pastor Tim and Vicki Mishler hosting fun games. Chuck and Linda Pausley shared that evening and were with the church family the following day for services.

Calvary, Xenia



Before COVID-19, a team from Calvary Baptist, Xenia (*above*) prepared and served a meal at a newly-opened homeless shelter just a few blocks from the church. They served approximately 30 meals. They were no doubt an encouragement to the people who worked hard for a long time to open this ministry to the homeless of Xenia. Pastor David and Diana Conrad serve as pastor and wife at Calvary.

Chuck and Linda Pausley went to Faith Baptist in Greenville to represent the OARBC in February. They renewed friendship with Allen and Linda Cox (*right*). Forty years ago when the Pausleys served in youth ministry at nearby Grace in Troy, the Coxes were youth leaders at Faith. They have continued to faithfully serve as youth leaders for 40 years! On that Sunday, they were heading up a luncheon as the youth served the seniors, bringing the generations together (*far right*).

Shout Out for Faithful Ministry—Allen and Linda Cox



Rekindle Couples Retreat

Couples of all ages and stages enjoyed a delightful weekend at the Scioto Hills Rekindle Couples Retreat in early March.

Among those in attendance were groups from Linworth Baptist, Worthington (*left*) and First Baptist, Gallipolis (*right*).



Connor's "Hart" for Service

Although Cedarville University sophomore Connor Hart of Loveland, Ohio has more than two years remaining in college, he is putting his education in 3-D printing to work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a freshman, Hart, the founder of Hands of Hope Foundation, started creating 3-D prosthetics for children with limb differences. Since social distancing has become protocol to help flatten the COVID-19 curve, Hart stopped meeting with his clients, but switched to printing masks that could help medical professionals and nursing homes during the pandemic.

"What I love most about working for Hands of Hope is knowing I am positively impacting the lives of both our clients and volunteers," expressed Hart. "Knowing I provided joy to someone else with no strings attached is what keeps me smiling and driven toward giving others the same opportunities I have been given."

His love for others fits perfectly with the core values that are espoused throughout the university: Love for God, Love for Others, Integrity in Conduct, and Excellence in Effort.

Motivated by his care for others and multiple news reports about the shortage of qualified masks for doctors and nurses, Hart searched for a way he could pitch in. When the Hands of Hope Foundation received encouragement from a team of doctors about the need for masks, he decided to begin printing and distributing reusable masks. Hart started making 3-D plastic masks last week and sent them to various medical facilities.

Hart, who is majoring in mechanical engineering, can make eight masks a day through his 3-D printing equipment and has printed and shipped 25 masks so far. Each mask can be sanitized to allow for extended use. According to Hart, each mask is completely reusable, meaning one mask can last for months if it is sanitized effectively and the filter is changed regularly. Hands of Hope Foundation has shipped masks to medical agencies, including a nursing home in Holgate, Ohio.

Hart, who is majoring in mechanical engineering, can make eight masks a day through his 3-D printing equipment and so far has printed and shipped 25 masks.

Virtually, Visiting Cedarville

Cedarville president Dr. Thomas White announced on March 27 that Cedarville University would offer virtual campus visits beginning April 1. Virtual visits are available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10:30 a.m. and can be scheduled at cedarville.edu/visit.

Prospective students click on the virtual campus visit link, which will take them to a page where they can choose a visit date and fill out a form with contact information. Cedarville will follow up with additional information about the visit and will send reminders as the date approaches.

On virtual visit day, students and their families will hear from White, view the Cedarville Experience presentation, meet one-on-one with an admissions counselor, take a virtual campus tour and watch a Bible minor class.

"We anticipated welcoming over 3,000 guests to campus this year in March and April," said Dr. Scott Van Loo, vice president for enrollment management. "To still provide information for students and families, we've launched the live virtual visit. Our hope is that we will capture the interest of students, and they will return to campus for an in-person visit in the near future."



Cedarville University Virtual Experience Presentation