



# Connecting Churches in the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches

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



## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH of ELYRIA

August 2018

Dear Fellow Pastors,

One of the richest New Testament words is the word fellowship – koinonia! This amazing word has multiple nuances ranging from communion to togetherness, and from sharing to making a contribution. I trust that you love fellowship. God has blessed us with a wonderful fellowship in the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches. Each fall we have a special opportunity for fellowship at our annual conference. I hope that you will join us October 22-24 at First Baptist Church of Elyria as we have the pleasure of hosting this conference. Our very appropriate theme is “It’s All About the Gospel.” I know you will enjoy some great fellowship through the preaching, worship, workshops and personal interaction.

One of the special interests of our association is missions. Because of this interest, I want to encourage you to invite your missionaries to attend this conference as well. While there won’t be room for individual missionaries to set up their displays, they will be introduced in one of the services and will have ample opportunities to interact with pastors. Missionaries are also welcome to greet people at their agency’s display. Perhaps your church would also consider covering the cost of the conference for your missionary. Our church families have limited free housing for those who might need it as well.

Please register online at [firstbaptistelyria.org/oarbc2018](http://firstbaptistelyria.org/oarbc2018) as soon as possible. It is also important for you to make a reservation at the conference hotel by September 20<sup>th</sup> in order to get the greatly reduced room rate. I look forward to seeing you and enjoying fellowship with you at the conference in October!

Serving the Savior,

*Pastor Patrick Odle*

Pastor Patrick Odle

### Council of 12

2015-2018

- Dave Burman, *First Baptist, Niles*
- Dave Hixson, *Calvary, Sandusky*
- Dave Ryan, *Grace Baptist, Canton*
- Ken Spink, *Berea Baptist, Berea*

2016-2019

- Tom Alexander, *First, Wellington*
- Dave Denny, *Whipple Ave, Canton*
- Matt Nihiser, *Calvary, Lancaster*
- Jeff Willetts, *Calvary, Bellefontaine*

2017-2020

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

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Deadline for Next Issue  
November 15, 2018

connecting people with God

# A Word from the Rep

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The summer is behind us and school has now started. It's hard to believe that Linda and I have already completed our first year in our role as State Rep and wife. **Every day I still count it a great privilege to serve our OARBC fellowship.** I thoroughly enjoy coming to your churches and fellowshiping with Pastors and the OARBC family. **Pastors are my favorite people.** We are continuing to meet pastors all over Ohio who are faithful to their calling. We were just recently at Faith Baptist Church in Elida and had the opportunity to participate in their Annual Sunday Night Sing when four churches met together for the evening service. I enjoyed spending time with the four area pastors.

Be sure to read Pastor Jeff Willetts interesting article on **pastoral sabbaticals.** Hopefully, in the future, more of our pastors will have a sabbatical opportunity. May I encourage our churches to think of the benefits of a sabbatical for your pastor and wife and the church family. I have been burdened with the preparation of pastors for retirement. I am glad the GARBC is working on a **plan for retirement** for pastors and church staff. **[GARBC.org/retirement](http://GARBC.org/retirement).**



(L to R) Pastors Matt Oliver, Tom Cooper, Shawn Hurley, Brent Gibson with Chuck

By now our churches should have received in the mail the annual statistical report from Tom Alexander, our Council of Twelve secretary, which includes the opportunity to make nominations for the Council of Twelve. We have three council members who are not eligible for re-election because they have served two consecutive terms. Your nominations are vital for the election this year at the conference. **They need to be returned by September 22.**

I am looking forward to being with you at the annual conference this year at First Baptist Church in Elyria on October 22-24. **You need to register soon to receive the early bird discount.** It is going to be a great conference. Don't miss out.

By His grace,  
Chuck Pausley, OARBC State Representative

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## OARBC FALL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### Monday, October 22

- 9:00am Golf Scramble at Forest Hills Golf Course
- 12:00pm Registration Opens
- 1:30pm General Session, "It's All About Jesus" - Chuck Pausley
- 2:45pm Ladies' Coffee and Crafts - Ruth Odle
- Men's Session, "Intentionally Presenting the Gospel in the Workplace" - Brian Hanson
- 5:30pm Dinner New Pastors Welcome Dinner at the church – all are welcome (registration required) or area restaurants
- 7:00pm General Session, Council of 12 Election, Cedarville Presentation, "It's All About Grace" - Dave Kisner
- 8:15pm Dessert Fellowship provided by Cedarville University

### Tuesday, October 23

- 9:00am General Session, Camp Presentation, "It's All About Adoption" - Andrew Shearer
- 10:30am Business Meeting, Camp Presentations
- 12:00pm Lunch provided by First Baptist Church of Elyria
- 1:30pm Ohio Women for Missions Meeting - "Taste and See" - Panel Discussion and International Tastings
- Modules: "Breaking into our Communities with the Gospel" - Kevin Fath and Rick Thompson
- "The Steps for Church Revitalization" - Steve Little
- "The Radical Impact of a Reproducing Church" - Clare Jewell
- "Social Security Planning" - Dale Whiting
- 3:00pm General Session, "It's All About Repentance and Faith" - Larry Green
- 5:00pm Dinner in Area Restaurants
- 7:00pm General Session, "It's All About Sanctification" - Duke Crawford
- 8:15pm Dessert Fellowship provided by Camp Patmos, Skyview Ranch and Scioto Hills

### Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>

- 9:00am General Session, "It's All About Heaven" - Patrick Odle
- 10:30am Dismissal

## OARBC FALL CONFERENCE 2018 GENERAL SESSIONS SPEAKERS

### **Chuck Pausley** *Monday, 1:30 p.m. "It's All About Jesus"*

Chuck Pausley is the State Representative of the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches. Chuck has Ohio roots, having graduated from Garfield in Akron and attending Malone University before graduating from Baptist Bible College, now Clarks Summit University. Grace Baptist Church in Troy, Ohio, was his first ministry where he served for 17 years, followed by pastorates in Iowa and Florida, before coming "home" to Ohio in 2017 to serve as OARBC State Representative. Chuck serves on the Council of 18 of the GARBC and on the Church Care Board of Baptist Church Planters. He and his wife Linda are blessed with four adult children, their spouses and eight grandchildren.



### **David Kisner** *Monday, 7:00 p.m. "It's All About Grace"*

David Kisner has been the Lead Pastor at Washington Heights since 1996. He is a graduate of Cedarville University and holds a Master's of Divinity degree from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Before coming to WHBC, he served as Assistant Director of Christian Ministries at Cedarville University, Associate Pastor at North Baptist Church in Rochester, New York and Senior Pastor at Westmont Bible Church in Westmont, Illinois. David and his wife, Wendy, have been married for 37 years. Wendy is a fourth grade teacher in the Centerville Schools. They have two adult children, Amy and Nathan. He also enjoys flying (he holds a private pilot's license), reading, golfing and home maintenance projects.



### **Andrew Shearer** *Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. "It's All About Adoption"*

Andrew has been serving as pastor at Maranatha Baptist in Columbus, Ohio for the past two and a half years. He and Sarah, his wife and partner in ministry, have six children. Andrew grew up in Cedarville, Ohio, the son of Byron and Libby Shearer. He was impacted by the faithful ministry of Paul Jackson and the members of Grace Baptist Church. A 1994 graduate of Cedarville University with a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering, he moved to Los Angeles, CA to work for Hughes Space and Communications Company. While there, God refined his convictions, confirmed his call, and enabled him to attend the Master's Seminary. After graduating from TMS in 2006, he served as a pastor in Chicago and Southern Ohio before coming to Maranatha. His favorite passage of Scripture is Philippians 3:7-11 and his prayer is that Christ would be the supreme object of his affection and joy.



### **Larry D. Green** *Tuesday, 3:00 p.m. "It's All About Repentance and Faith"*

Larry has served as the pastor of Cedar Hill Baptist Church since the Fall of 2009. He is a fourth generation pastor who has previously served churches in Ohio, Michigan and South Jersey, spanning a period of thirty-two years. He presently serves on the board of Clarks Summit University having previously served on the boards of Skyview Ranch in Millersburg, Ohio, ABWE in Harrisburg, PA, and the Council of 15 in the State of Michigan. He has traveled and ministered internationally and has written adult curriculum for Bible study as well materials on ministry and leadership development. He received his undergraduate degree from Cedarville University in 1982 and a Masters of Divinity from Grand Rapids Theological Seminary in 1986. He and his wife, Beth, who is also a graduate of Cedarville University, have four sons, a daughter-in-law and three granddaughters.



### **Duke Crawford** *Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. "It's All About Sanctification"*

Duke is senior pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio. Before coming to Emmanuel in 2009, he was a senior pastor in Iowa. He is a graduate of Faith Baptist Bible College and Seminary, and a certified biblical counselor through the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC). He began a biblical counseling program at EBC as a free outreach to the community. He has enjoyed ministering the Word internationally in India, Hong Kong, Haiti, Mexico, the Ukraine, Argentina, Malta and Israel. He and his wife Deb, have 3 grown children: Anthony, Austin (Ametheny) and Abby (Jason).



### **Patrick Odle** *Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. "It's All About Heaven"*

Patrick Odle has served as the Senior Pastor at First Baptist Church of Elyria, Ohio since 2011. Before being called to First Baptist, Patrick served as the VP of Enrollment and Student Life at Faith Baptist Bible College and Theological Seminary, his alma mater, in Ankeny, Iowa. In addition to his love for expository preaching and local church pastoral ministry, God has given him a great passion for youth ministry and missions. The Lord has opened the doors for him to be able to preach at youth camps in eight states and to minister on six foreign mission fields. He has been married to his high school sweetheart, Ruth, for twenty-eight years. God has blessed them with four children, ages 17 to 26. In June, the Odles' oldest daughter and son-in-law bestowed upon them the highly coveted title of "Grandparents." In his free time, Patrick unapologetically cheers on his beloved Nebraska Cornhuskers football team and enjoys spending time outdoors, especially deer hunting.



# OARBC FALL CONFERENCE 2018 MODULES

## MONDAY 2:45

### Intentionally Presenting the Gospel in the Workplace

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The goal is to be teaching our people to live their lives with the ultimate objective of sharing the gospel. Although our people are sure of their salvation, they may have difficulty articulating the gospel. Let's spark the fire for evangelism and outreach.



Brian Hanson

## TUESDAY 1:30

### Breaking into the Community with the Gospel

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Most believers would agree that in a day and age of skepticism, stranger-danger and overall apathy towards anything "Christian," it is hard for a church to break into a community. However, the community needs the Gospel more than ever and we are called to "go into" in order to be salt and light. But how does the church break into the community in order to have an opportunity to share of the hope that lies within us? Join us as we want to be challenged, encouraged and glean from one another as to how to break into our communities with a burden and boldness to show, and Lord-willing, to share the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



Kevin Fath



Rick Thompson

### The Radical Impact of a Reproducing Church

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The United States is ripe with gospel opportunities. Less than 20% of the population attends a local church on a regular basis. More than 3500 churches close every year. There are nearly 500 people groups now living in our neighborhoods. We have become the third largest mission field in the world! Jesus calls us to reach these people with the Gospel and equip them to live for Him. The best way to do this is through local churches committed to reproducing disciples, leaders and churches.

Come and discover:

1. How to be a reproducing church that is more fully engaged in the mission of God.
2. How a focus on church planting can revitalize your church.
3. How to partner with other churches to accomplish church planting in your region.



Clare Jewell

### The Steps for Church Revitalization

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What are the steps and processes for church revitalization?

Who should be part of the team? How is progress measured?

How does a missionary get involved? What part does the missionary's sending church play?

What about the autonomy of the church being revitalized?

Come to this workshop to discover an ecclesiastical view for church revitalization.

Let's diagram it and discover it together!



Steve Little

### Social Security Planning

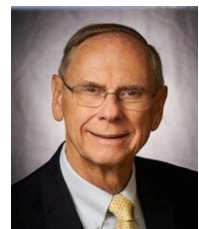
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Will Social Security be there? How much can I expect to receive?

Will Social Security be enough to live on in retirement?

When should I apply for Social Security? How can I maximize my benefits? The decision can mean \$50,000 or more in a person's cumulative retirement during the retirement years.

Thoughts and answers for ages 25-70.



Dale Whiting

# Blessed with a Sabbatical

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My wife Cathy and I have been privileged by God to serve at Calvary Baptist Church, Bellefontaine, Ohio, for the past 23 years. We raised our sons in this church and watched as each of them have grown to love serving the Lord. We love this church.

This past year my wife and I were blessed by Calvary with a three month sabbatical to rest, read, and be refreshed. Our leadership team appreciates the role of the pastor and all that it includes. They had a desire to keep us healthy and keep us around. Permit me to share a few things I have learned from the sabbatical. I will answer the three most frequent questions I have been asked.

## What is a sabbatical?

The word sabbatical comes from the word for Sabbath. In pastoral ministry, a sabbatical is used for rest or study or both. There is a Biblical pattern of rest. God set that example at the conclusion of creation. Israel was told to give the land a sabbath rest every seven years. Debts were to be cancelled and servants were to be freed all as part of the picture of rest from work.

In our western culture, we give great value to “doing” more than “being.” The concept of a sabbatical with a pastor “doing nothing” flies in the face of corporate America, but the goals of the church are not “the bottom line.” I personally wrestled with the idea of a sabbatical and wondered if I would go crazy if I was out of the office for three months. After much prayer and after seeking counsel, I accepted their gracious sabbatical gift.

**When the concept of a sabbatical first came up in a deacons’ meeting, I wasn’t certain if it was a good idea. I was wrong!**

## What did you do?

Our sabbatical began January 1, 2018. One of the couples in our church offered their condo in Florida as a home for us throughout the sabbatical. Our church also gave us a love offering that removed the financial burden of the sabbatical. Cathy and I spent most of the time reading, walking, beaching, resting and just spending every hour together. We had a daily routine but without the pressure of a schedule. I attended two conferences, visited 11 churches, read 14 books, walked two miles every day and enjoyed just hanging out with my wife and sitting by her during church.

## What did you learn?

1. It is harder to be on sabbatical when you are still home. While we were away, we had no internet, routed all email through the church office, had no satellite or cable, and didn’t see a local paper. We came home for the last month of the sabbatical, and it was harder to rest.
2. Doing too much can actually be doing too little. Effectiveness dwindles with over-commitment and over-involvement. This is still a hard lesson to learn. I had to learn the word “no” is the most helpful word I can give at times.
3. There is nothing new under the sun. While we were away, I was looking for the next great thing that would make our church explode for the Lord. What I learned is that every church has highs and lows. Every church struggles from time to time. Faithful living and faithfully proclaiming the Word of God is what God expects of me.
4. There is no place like home. While we visited many beautiful churches and enjoyed wonderful feeding from God’s Word, we missed our home church.
5. We are deeply loved. We are loved by God. Being still on our sabbatical allowed that truth to wash over us again and again. We are loved by this church, and their actions demonstrated their love. We love Calvary. Our love grew deeper, and our desire to express our love to them intensified.
6. Sometimes God blesses inactivity as well as activity. We are told to “be still” but we value being active. It is in those still times that we can see that He truly is God.

When the concept of a sabbatical first came up in a deacons’ meeting, I wasn’t certain if it was a good idea. I was wrong! It was a very good idea. I came back excited to be home. I came back more in love with our church family. I came back closer to my wife. I came back with a greater desire to serve Calvary Baptist Church. I highly recommend every church develop a sabbatical policy to strengthen both the minister and the ministry.

—Jeff Willetts, Calvary Baptist Church, Bellefontaine, OH

**“Be still and know that I am God...” Psalm 46:10**

# Ohio Women for Missions (OWM)



August 2018

**KNOW** | Corinthians 2:2 **MODEL** Colossians 2:2 **SHARE** | Peter 3:15

Ladies of Ohio,

Our purpose as the Ohio Women for Missions is to support, pray, and promote missions throughout the state of Ohio in all our OARB Churches. Together we join our resources and meet the needs of our missionaries. The Ohio Women for Missions was established in 1929. This means the OARBC ladies of Ohio have been ministering to our missionaries and different mission agencies for 90 years coming up in 2019—what a legacy we have been given!

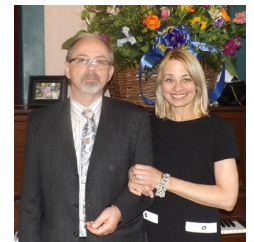
**STATE PROJECT UPDATE: Rayitos Feeding Center in Tangara, Nicaragua** - Mark & Jennifer Holsinger, ABWE missionaries. Our goal was \$10,000.00 to feed more than 100 children for a year. We sent **\$13,569.72!** What a blessing you have been to the children in Nicaragua. Here is a word of appreciation from the Holsingers:

*We love Rayitos! It is an amazing ministry that allows us to reach kids. We cannot adequately express in words how much it means to us that you come alongside and partner with us so that we can feed the kids four times a week! Especially during this time of civil unrest we continue to feed the children four times a week. There is something that is stable for them. Thank you so very much for being tangible hands and feet of Jesus to these kids. Thank you for loving them in a tangible way! It cost us about \$22,000 annually for operating costs, (electricity, water, very small offerings for the workers) and the feeding of over 400 kids per week, 1,600 kids per month, over 19,000 kids per year! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!*

*We are humbled and honored by your extravagant generosity! From all of us at Rayitos, we love you and we thank you!!*

*Much Love,  
Jen and Family and our Rayitos kids!*

**OUR NEW STATE PROJECT FOR 2018-2019:** Jeff & Debbie Davis, Christar, Muslim Ministry, Dearborn, Michigan. The Davis' have been privileged to serve God together among Muslim people for 25 years. Their need is for an electronic sign on which they could put Scripture and engaging spiritual questions on a daily/weekly basis. Their church sits at the junction of five streets and the stoplight is long. They are reaching those who come into their building as well as their networks, but they would love to ramp up the interest in the community. Childcare is also a great need as they teach English classes. We have bookmarks with detailed information available for you. Please contact Kim Kozy or Donna Victor. Our Goal is \$10,000.00. God can do anything but fail!!



Jeff and Debbie Davis

**We want YOU to join us!**

**OWM FALL MEETING** It will be held in conjunction with the OARBC Conference, Tuesday, October 23, 2018, at First Baptist church of Elyria starting at 1:30 p.m. We will have a **Missionary Panel** sharing their ministries and heart needs followed by an **International Tasting**; with tasty samples of foods from different countries. We still need a few more churches to participate in providing international dishes. If your church would like to participate, please contact Donna Victor for details.

**OUR LADIES FALL RETREAT** It will be November 8 and 9, 2018, at the Carlisle Inn in Sugarcreek, Ohio, beginning at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday. Jill Nihiser, pastor's wife at Calvary Baptist Church in Lancaster, will be our speaker. Again, we will have the Live Basket Auction and a Style Show as well as the WAR store and a craft. Registration deadline is October 5, 2018. The information should have come to your church recently. If you did not receive a packet, please contact Kim Kozy or Donna Victor.

Yours by redeeming grace,  
Donna Victor, OWM President

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# Swift and Beautiful Feet

Nick Taylor is a runner. He came to Toledo on a track scholarship to attend the University of Toledo. When he graduated, he left with a civil engineering degree in hand, a bride at his side, and Christ in his heart. Through the witness of a roommate, and through the discipleship of Campus Bible Fellowship, Nick came to Christ and was grounded in the faith. He continued to grow in Him as he and Amy became members of Emmanuel Baptist Church where the Taylors lent sweat and toil to many missions trips and served on the missions committee. While still working, Nick obtained a seminary degree from Baptist Bible Seminary in Clarks Summit. After an internship at EBC, Nick and Amy were called to full-time missions service.



On August 10th, a commissioning council was convened. Seventeen men questioned Nick on his biblical, systematic, and practical theology. After three hours of questioning, the council, which included Dr. Dale Marshfield of Tri-M Ministry and Bob Rohm of Grace Global Missions, unanimously recommended that Nicholas Andrew Taylor be ordained. A commissioning service finished out the weekend with the laying on of hands by the EBC deacon board. Romans 10:15 queries, "How shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!'" Nick's swift and beautiful feet have helped him qualify for the Boston Marathon this coming year—a lifelong dream. But before then, those feet will take him to the mountains and steppes of Mongolia to preach and teach God's Word to pastors. He will be privileged to bring the Good News of peace and salvation to the neighbors as the Taylors pursue raising support and to the nations as he trains pastors with Tri-M.

—Jennifer Christiaanse of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio



## Meet us at the OARBC Conference!

My name is Ryan Dea and I am the Representative for **Compass 28:19**, a non-profit 501(c)(3) short-term mission organization, with offices located at Northfield Baptist Church in Northfield, Ohio. [www.compass2819.org](http://www.compass2819.org)

### **Compass 28:19's VISION**

"To actively enable and aspire the effective spread of the gospel around the world, while providing the ministry of discipleship among our short-term and long-term ministry personnel."

We exist to mobilize local churches in Matthew 28:19's directive of "making disciples" through the avenue of short-term missions. We accomplish this by providing excellent training for teams as they launch short or long-term ministry trips both internationally and domestically.

Many ask, "What makes **Compass 28:19** different from other ministry organizations?" The answer? Our five core characteristics:

- Short-term Focus**
- Ministry Excitement**
- Discipleship-Driven**
- Local Church Commitment**
- Customized Trips**

In the two years that I have been working with **Compass 28:19** and Executive Director, John Jackson, we have deployed short-term ministry teams to Costa Rica, Kosovo, New Zealand, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua and even the state of Tennessee. In addition, we support longer term missionaries in the US and abroad.

Please stop by the **Compass 28:19** display table at the OARBC state conference in Elyria, October 22-24. I look forward to meeting you and would enjoy sharing how **Compass 28:19** can be of assistance to your discipleship and missional programs.

Ryan J. Dea, Representative  
440-214-5181  
[www.compass2819.org](http://www.compass2819.org)

## Grace Baptist, Troy Welcomes New Associate Pastor



*Chuck and Emily Pausley with Grace Baptist Elders*

On Sunday, July 22, Grace Baptist Church, Troy, Ohio, welcomed Pastor Chuck Pausley, II, as their new Associate Pastor, along with his wife, Emily. Pastor Chuck is the third generation of Pausleys serving at Grace. His father, also Chuck Pausley, and current OARBC State Representative, delivered the sermon that morning. Pastor Chuck & Emily are both graduates of Clarks Summit University. They have served in youth ministry for 16 years in Florida and in Michigan prior to coming to Troy.

## Pastor Bill Baker Retires



*Pastor Bill and Faith Baker and family*

Faith Baptist Church, Greenville, would like to announce the retirement of Pastor Bill Baker. He and his wife Faith have been ministering in Greenville for the past 14 years. Before coming to Faith Baptist, Pastor and Faith also served in OARBC churches at Riley Creek, Bluffton; Emmanuel, Paulding, and Emmanuel, Toledo. A lovely retirement luncheon was hosted by the church on Sunday, August 12, and they were honored to have family and friends join them in their celebration. The church family thanks them for their years of ministry and congratulates them on their retirement with best wishes and God's blessing.

## OARBC Youth Committee Event

Join us Saturday, October 13, 2018 at Faith Baptist Church, Amherst, Ohio as we spark a church-wide movement of teens for the cause of Christ! **DARE 2 SHARE LIVE!**

This one-day outreach event is an incredible way for you and your students to reach people in your communities and schools by praying, serving, and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Simulcast live from Denver, CO to locations across the United States, this event is your chance to make a difference and share the love of Jesus with people right in your community! Tickets are on sale now for \$20. Registration includes lunch. They have special packages for those that pre-order tickets. Go to **OARBC Youth** facebook page to register.

## Kenoyers Retire from Maranatha



*Pastor Tim and Judith Kenoyer*

For Tim and Judith Kenoyer, July 31, 2018 marked the end of 32 years of faithful ministry as pastor and wife at Maranatha Baptist Church in Columbus. They have now officially retired. A church fellowship and reception was held on Saturday, July 21. The following day there was a special service honoring them for their years of ministry. They were presented with flowers, a financial gift and a porch swing. What does retirement look like for Pastor Tim? He immediately began an interim ministry at a nearby OARBC church!

## Sixth Annual Sunday Night Sing

Sunday evening, August 26, four churches in the Mid-Bethel fellowship region combined for the Sixth Annual Sunday Night Sing held at Faith Baptist Church, Elida. Pastor Tom and Dianne Cooper love music and are both musically gifted. Six years ago they invited OARBC churches, Grace Baptist and Meadowbrook Baptist, both in nearby Lima, along with another area like-minded church, to join them for a Sunday Night Sing in Elida. It has become an annual blessing for all. Each church brings its own special music, and when interspersed with congregational singing and refreshments to follow, it makes for a memorable evening of worship and fellowship.

## “Absent from the Body...Present with the Lord”



Frank Odor, a pastor for 50 years, died June 20, 2018. He was 92. He was a faithful servant and friend of the OARBC. He was the founding pastor of Midview Baptist Church, North Eaton, Ohio, and served as pastor there from 1955 to 1965. While living in North Eaton, he also taught sixth grade for three years at Eaton Elementary School.

After serving in North Eaton, he started a Baptist church in Vienna, Ohio. He also pastored Bible Baptist Church, Newark, Ohio, and led that congregation through an extensive building program. He then returned to Midview Baptist Church, where he served as associate pastor from 1996 to 2004. In addition to his pastoral ministry, he was involved at Camp Patmos, Kelley's Island, Ohio, and spoke many times for the camp's weekly chapel. He was also a member of Baptist Missionary Builders' executive committee.

Frank served with the US Army from 1944 to 1946 in the 32nd Division Infantry in the Philippines. He reached the rank of staff sergeant and received a Purple Heart.

Frank is survived by his wife, Marjorie; two sons, Ronald and Richard; and three grandchildren.

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## GARBC Conference 2018, Fishers, Indiana Highlights

### Julia Hettinga, First Place Talents For Christ Winner

Congratulations to Julia Hettinga, from First Baptist Church, Elyria, who won first place in the strings category at the 2018 National Talents For Christ competition in Fisher, Indiana. Ohio has had many state winners go on to compete at the national level over the years. All of those who have competed have represented Ohio well and we are proud of them.



Julia Hettinga

**Ohio Talents for Christ 2019** will be held at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Smithville, April 7. A new state Bible quizzing program for teens is beginning in January and will culminate at the TFC state competition. Details will be available at the OARBC Fall Conference.

### National Representative John Greening retires and Mike Hess is affirmed

Recognition and appreciation was given to GARBC National Representative and wife, John and Daria Greening, for their 21 years of faithful service to the GARBC. Mike Hess was affirmed by the messengers' overwhelming vote to serve as the new GARBC National Representative. Mike and his wife Christina have most recently served as senior pastor and wife at Calvary Baptist Church in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. Visit [garbc.org](http://garbc.org) and hear Mike share his passion and challenge for the future of the GARBC.

### Ohio Church Plant Recognized

It was exciting to welcome a new Ohio church plant into the GARBC on Thursday evening of the GARBC Conference. The Fitchville Baptist Church in Fitchville, Ohio is led by Pastor Bill and Stephanie Wilson. The Wilsons have been sent out by First Baptist Church of LaGrange and have been laboring in Fitchville for three years. To God be the glory!



Fitchville Church Plant welcomed to the GARBC

### OARBC Pizza Gathering

Thursday evening of the conference, during the supper hour, there was a pizza party held at the host church for all OARBC conference attendees and special friends. Not only was the pizza extra good, but the fellowship around the tables, the making of new friends, and the renewing of old friendships was extra special.

### 2019 GARBC Conference to be held in Des Moines, Iowa

Don't miss the opportunity to be part of this exciting week, focusing on the theme, "Essence of Worship." Circle the dates of June 25-28 on next year's calendar and plan to attend the conference to be held at the Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport/Conference Center.

# Camps Who Serve the OARBC Churches Make them YOUR camps!



## ANOTHER WONDERFUL SUMMER AT SCIOTO HILLS!

We are rejoicing in the blessings of God upon our 54th summer ministry.

It was a unique summer in the sense that for the first time since my arrival all but two counselors were brand new to SHC. After working through the "deer in the headlights" looks they all had the first few days of camp, they settled in and did another masterful job of taking care of our campers (your church kids). Our "support staff" also rose to the challenge and provided the assistance we need to make a camp experience a success. All 49 summer staffers played a huge part in making sure we offered a safe, professional and enjoyable environment for all in attendance. As always, many of them made life changing decisions. I believe, at least 5 have made career changing decisions to head into full time ministry.

Because our camper numbers were up, many of whom were "first time" campers, our professions of faith were up as well. We rejoice in 18 or so who trusted Christ for the first time and the countless other spiritual decisions that happened in our hills.

Our family camp numbers are growing as well, since we added the second family week in 2017. Here's what one new family wrote about their experience:

"This summer we attended family camp session 1. Our first impression of camp was absolutely wonderful with the welcoming staff who even went so far as to lead us to our cabin. I don't think I can even come close to expressing the thankfulness we felt towards the staff as a whole and especially our amazing counselors *who assisted our family during the week*. We have told many friends and family how God blessed us through our stay at Scioto Hills. Please extend our thanks to the rest of the staff and please be encouraged to continue the great things you are doing. One of the best parts of camp was actually when we came home. Our 3-year old randomly started singing the Gospel song he learned during class. He sang the whole thing to us and I was in disbelief! I have had him sing it to most people we come in contact with, including non-believers. What an amazing testimony!!! Thank you so much for everything and God bless!"



*Scioto Hills Family Campers, 2018*

Good things continue to happen in our hills. Praise God for His hand of blessing. We give Him all the glory!

By Grace,  
Scott Bruns  
Executive Director



**Rejuvenate**  
**Refresh**  
**Rewind Campout**  
**Seasoned Saints**  
**Rediscover**

**REMEMBER**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Ladies Retreat September 14-16  
Pastors & Wives Retreat September 24-26 *Free!*  
Dads and Kids (6-12) September 28-29  
Luncheon and Concert October 11  
Homeschool Retreat (Outdoor Education)  
October 18-20  
We do Guest Group Ministry Year Round!

Go to [www.sciotohills.com](http://www.sciotohills.com) for costs and registration.

## SKYVIEW RANCH SUMMER STAFF 2018



This is Skyview's 49<sup>th</sup> year as a ministry to the Lord, and once again He has blessed us with a tremendous camping season with **70** first time decisions for Jesus, and **300** spiritual decisions!

We have had some amazing projects completed around camp and some still in the works. We have hired a new Guest Services Director, Josh Witry (he moved laterally from being our Office Director for 5 years); a new Maintenance Director, Bob Bird (our Chefs's husband), and are interviewing candidates to fill our Office Director position (which should be filled very soon).

**For the first time in 49 years...**our long lane coming into camp will be getting paved soon, thanks to a generous gift. It will be paved from the entrance sign all the way to our dining hall, along with a new layer of limestone rock laid on our lower parking lot.

The best part of this summer has been, by-far, our talented, servant-minded, and dedicated staff. What a blessing to serve alongside these men and women who love the Lord and love teaching children, teens and adults about the love of Christ and the Gospel message. God bless all of our campers we had this summer.

—Gary Adams, Director

## CAMP PATMOS

Greetings from overseas, over the seas of Lake Erie. Camp Patmos had a beautiful summer of ministry again. We served over 500 youth campers and nearly 150 family campers with 41 salvations and many, many, more rededications and commitments to serve the Lord. I was recounting with former campers who came back to camp for a visit, the many testimonies from our campers at our Friday night campfire where they shared what God has done during their week of camp. We heard over and over again from our campers, "I didn't know if God was real," or "I doubted if God even existed, but I saw God working in my life this week!" "I felt Satan haunting me, grabbing me and dragging me down, but thanks to the scholarship provided by Camp Patmos, I was able to come to camp. I didn't think God was going to do anything, or anything was going to happen, but God impacted me this week, and provided people to encourage me, to rebuild me—thank you!" "I was saved at Camp Patmos a couple of weeks ago, and I came back because I see a difference and it makes me happy, and my friends see a difference in me!"

Camp Patmos is still impacting lives for Christ, and God is working mightily! I am humbled and blown away by what God has done this summer! Please pray for Patmos and the many challenges we face, and ask how you might be able to help. We see a 35% increase cost in our water filtering from the EPA, rising costs in food prices, fuel, and electricity. If the camp has impacted your life would you be willing to help us impact the lives of this generation for Christ? Can you start giving monthly, a one-time gift, or help send campers to camp?

Also, we once again have our traditional men's Retreat coming up September 6-8th, and a new retreat, "Real Men Don't Retreat" on October 26-28. This retreat is a camping retreat, you will need to bring your tent and sleeping bag, and the camp will provide the water and the food that will be cooked over the fire. Dave Sellers, our camp director, will be our speaker. Join us and see from God's Word how Godly Men Must Not Retreat.

Don't forget Banished! Yes, Banished on the weekends of September 14-16 and September 21-23. Carl Kerby from "Reasons for Hope" will be our speaker. Bring your youth group, your friends and your leaders to this exciting weekend event!

As always, we are available to share what God is doing at camp in your local church, youth group or Christian school.

Shining the Light for this generation!

—Dave Sellers, Camp Director



# NEWS FROM CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY

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## **Maximizing the Strengths of the Small Church** Saturday, September 22, 2018 **One-Day Seminar**

Presented by Ron Klassen, Executive Director, RHMA Information/Registration at [www.rhma.org/cedarville](http://www.rhma.org/cedarville)

Picture a small church that is not trying to imitate large churches but studies itself and its community and then prayerfully designs ministries uniquely suited for its place and time. This seminar will help this picture become a reality as we explore the distinctive characteristics of the small church and how they might translate into more effective ministry.

## **Cedarville Pastors Conference with 9Marks** Tuesday-Wednesday, November 6-7, 2018

This year's theme is **Discipleship and Growth**. We are pleased to welcome back Dr. Mark Dever, senior pastor of Capital Hill Baptist Church who will lead our conference. Special Early Bird pricing is available through Sept. 8 and your registration includes lunch and all conference materials. Information/registration at [cedarville.edu/event/9Marks](http://cedarville.edu/event/9Marks)

## **Church and School Safety Seminar** Wednesday-Thursday, November 7-8, 2018 *with Tina Lewis Rowe*

This conference begins at the conclusion of the Pastors Conference. Tina Rowe is the author of the most widely distributed material on church safety and security—over 35,000 copies distributed, world-wide, without charge. Her expertise comes from 34 years in active law enforcement—25 years with the Denver Police Department, retiring as a Captain, and 8 years as the Presidential appointed United States Marshal for Colorado. Registration is now open at [Cedarville.edu/churchsafety](http://Cedarville.edu/churchsafety).

## **New M.Div. Program Provides New OnRamps to Biblical Education**

Faster, cost-efficient and now with more specialized options, Cedarville University's Master of Divinity (M.Div.) program has announced attractive upgrades for students seeking a professional ministry degree. Students will save time and money, while having the chance to specialize in one of eight new tracks.

"By adding the advanced M.Div. for students who have previous studies in Bible, along with our streamlined M.Div. program, Cedarville has become a more attractive option for students," noted Lee. "What makes Cedarville's M.Div. special is that we have maintained the entire core of our program." Students taking any of these M.Div. pathways may be eligible for financial aid up to the amount of their estimated cost of attendance. Check out Cedarville University's M.Div. programs, visit [cedarville.edu/MDiv](http://cedarville.edu/MDiv).

## **Ranking Places Cedarville #4 in Ohio**

If you gathered all university rankings and student satisfaction scores from across the internet, and somehow combined that information into a meaningful big-picture comparison, what would you find? You'd discover Cedarville University among the top universities in Ohio.

According to College Consensus, Cedarville University ranks fourth among Ohio colleges and universities. Cedarville is the lone Christian university in the ranking.

College Consensus ([collegeconsensus.com](http://collegeconsensus.com)) pulls all rankings from sources such as U.S. News & World Report, Forbes and many others and averages those numbers, then receives scores from student review sites like Cappex and Student Review to create an overall value. Cedarville scored a 59 in the publisher scale and an 82.5 among student sites for a composite score of 70.8.

"Our commitment to the truth found in Scripture drives us to serve our students well and prepare them with excellence to follow the call that God has placed upon them," said Tom Mach, vice president for academics. "In so doing, we believe we will offer the best possible education to our students and create a community on campus that facilitates their preparation for a life of service."

