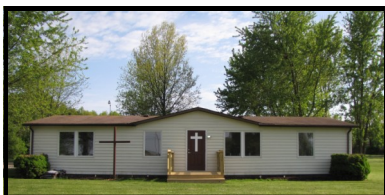


Planting, Reaping, and Harvesting

It's Sunday morning and time for church. We've grown accustomed to walking through our church doors, hearing the familiar music, and being welcomed by friendly faces. As we arrive, few of us stop to consider that somewhere in the distant past, this building did not exist. Our church was most likely a handful of people meeting in a home, because they felt called to worship God together. From these humble roots a vibrant church was then born. As we walk into our sanctuaries, we are the benefactors of these "pioneers" who faithfully met together, praying that God would use them to build a church that would proclaim the gospel in their community.

Unbeknownst to many of us, churches are still being started today; these new fellowships are called "church plants." They may meet in a house, a rented room, or even a church building, but at this point in their journey, they are not able to fully support a pastor or other staff. Yet their members are committed and praying that God would grow their numbers and plant a solid, Bible-believing church in their community. The OARBC fellowship consists of 155 fully organized churches plus four "church plants." Recently, the leaders of these four churches shared the joys and struggles that go along with their endeavor to plant a church in their community.



Tim Hitchcock pastors Hayes Road Baptist Church in Groveport, Ohio. While Hayes Road Baptist Church meets in a building now, it was not always this way. Tim and his wife, Jackie, began the church in their home with one other couple from their neighborhood who was interested in having a Bible study. The Lord has since

provided a building on 12-acres of property surrounded by nearly 30 subdivisions within a 5-mile radius of the church. Yet while their mission field is clear, reaching their neighbors has proven challenging. Canvassing and large outreaches have not been highly successful. Rather, building relationships and praying for individual needs has proven most effective. Currently the church has 10 members and others who attend regularly. While they are not able to support a pastor full-time, they are able to pay for their building and expenses as well as help to support two missionaries.



CityView Church in Cleveland also began in a home. Continental Baptist Missionaries (CBM), Ken and Renee Dockery and Bill and Natalie Taylor, along with their families, began meeting weekly, praying God would use them to begin a church in downtown Cleveland. The first family who began attending their church came through a contact on Craig's List. When the group had grown to about 24 people, they moved their church to the Wyndam Hotel, where they continue to meet. For the Dockerys and Taylors, working as a team to build their church has proven

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Graham Road Celebrates the Engles



A retirement banquet featuring a special program was held on May 7, 2012 to honor Pastor Larry Engle and his wife, Joanne. Larry and Joanne completed almost 32 years of ministry at Graham Road Baptist in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. He had formerly served 18 years at Grace Baptist Church in Toledo, Ohio.

Besides a special monetary gift presented to them on his last Sunday, April 29, the church people presented a special program at the banquet, opening with an upbeat mixed quartet with another young man filling in for Larry who regularly sang with

the group. Several members also presented a skit depicting many of Pastor's and Joanne's ministries to the people. The program also featured a video clip of pictures from his Graham Road ministry. The guests were also treated to special music by Larry and Joanne's 10-year-old grandson, who sang and played his guitar and violin.

A special blessing for the Engles were the guests present who were led to the Lord by Pastor Engle during his ministries, some as far away as Toledo, Ohio. Guests also came from Arcanum, Ohio where his parents served faithfully during Larry's youth. The OARBC wishes Larry and Joanne many years of continued influence, drawing people to the Lord. ∞

Calvary, Sandusky, Celebrates 81 years



First building

On Sunday, March 11th, 2012, Calvary Baptist Church in Sandusky, Ohio celebrated their 81st anniversary. March 5, 1931 marked their official beginning when the first pastor was called and a name was chosen. For 37 years, God prospered the assembly, and in 1970, when they felt the need to expand, they moved to their current location on Perkins Avenue.

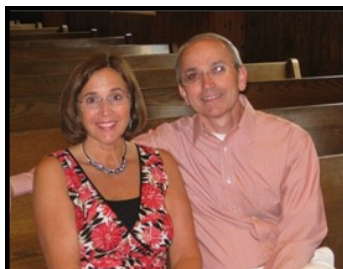


Original Perkins Ave. Building

Also on March 11th, the congregation dedicated their new education and administration wing and also included a surprise celebration for Pastor David Hixson's 20th anniversary at the church! Pastor and Faith were called to Calvary on April 1st, 1992. ∞

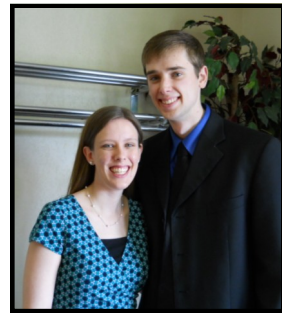


Building with Recent Addition



Walnut Creek Calls Pastor

Walnut Creek of Baltimore called Michael McManus as their new pastor and held an



installation service on April 29. Pastor Michael McManus and his wife Stephanie follow the ministry of Michael and Jan

Herbert who served there over 20 years.

Special speakers included Dr. Dave Warren and Rev. Ken Dady, Word of Life missionary who mentored Michael during his teen years while his parents, Brian and Lynn McManus, served at Faith Baptist, Elida.

Pastor Michael's parents, grandparents, and his brother Matthew were also able to attend the service. A luncheon was enjoyed after the installation. The church looks forward to what God will continue to do in and through their ministry as they reach out into the community. ∞

Mogadore Ordains a Son



Rob Seymour and his son, Paul, have served together at Mogadore Baptist as Sr and Youth pastor for 9 years. In February the church hosted an ordination council for Paul followed by the ordination service and celebration on Friday, Feb. 24, 2012. Area pastors and well-wishers were able to attend to rejoice with the Seymour family. Paul and Stephanie will begin a new ministry as youth pastor and wife at Saylorville Baptist Church in Des Moines, Iowa. ∞

Balancing Act – Deputy, Chaplain, Pastor

Testimony by Dennis Burns, Pastor of Faith Baptist, Kenton, Ohio

My experience with the police force started before I became a chaplain with the Hardin County Sheriff's Office in Kenton, Ohio. While serving as the associate pastor of youth at Wheelersburg Baptist in Wheelersburg, Ohio, I received my certification as a police officer and was appointed a deputy sheriff in 1981. I then served as a special reserve deputy for the Scioto County Sheriff's Office in Portsmouth, Ohio until relocating to Kenton in 1986, when I was invited to become part of the Hardin County Sheriff's Office, again as a special deputy. So while I might "ride-along," sometimes others rode along with me. While it was common for me to be called upon for advice regarding "religious issues" that sometimes confront agencies, I also had numerous opportunities to live out and share my faith, in both agencies. However, it was not until 2000, that I was asked to serve officially as chaplain. So, while I have been a sheriff's deputy for 32 years, I have served officially as chaplain for only 12.

Having served as a 'fellow officer' provides a different or perhaps unique perspective both for me and for the other officers. I am able to see from experience both sides of the 'coin.' **As chaplain,** I respond on scene to loss of life incidents, e.g. traffic accidents, homicide, suicide, etc. I assist with death notification to next of kin. I am present and available for spiritual counsel to the Sheriff's staff and their families as requested. I make hospital calls on staff and families. I have officiated at the funerals of members of the staff and staff families. I am called upon to provide invocations, brief remarks at public events, such as the Community Police Officer Memorial Service, National Day of Prayer, Regional and State Meetings of the Buckeye State Sheriff's Association of which I am a member and also sit on its Chaplains Committee.

Serving **as a police officer** is definitely a time commitment, so you might ask how I balance this commitment with the position of pastor. While it is not uncommon for most pastors to have a hobby, I don't play golf. This is my "hobby." It also gives me a real opportunity for evangelizing. I challenge my people to be actively involved in sharing their faith in the workplace. My workplace is among believers. So, this gives me the opportunity to engage outside the church, 'practicing what I preach.' It has provided numerous community contacts that I would never have had any other way. The church has been very supportive. Over the years I have had one officer who came to Christ and became part of our church and

another officer who attended regularly. Both are now with the Lord. I have also had numerous officers visit the church for various events, services, or counsel.



In the past year, two situations have provided for some difficult, yet rewarding, experiences. For one I was able to offer support and counsel to a member of our police staff who was the target of unfounded allegations. While he was exonerated of wrongdoing, it was still a very traumatic experience. However, it provided an opportunity to challenge him to consider God's place in his life. He has since led his family to begin attending church, though not ours, and has begun a walk with the Lord.

The second situation was the tragic death of one of our young officers and K-9 handlers in an off-duty traffic crash. The crash occurred during the shift he would normally work, but he had taken the night off to celebrate his daughter's birthday. His fellow-officers on his shift were the first on scene. When I returned to the office after visiting the hospital to see his brother who had also been a passenger in the vehicle, most of the Sheriff's staff and many family members were gathered at the station for mutual encouragement. At the Sheriff's request, I was able to pray with them collectively and encourage them to consider spiritual realities. I was involved in the office response to the needs of this officer's family and in planning the law enforcement honors for the funeral.

On a lighter note, a few years ago I was one of the first on scene at a traffic crash that involved one of our deputies who had been in pursuit of a fleeing vehicle. I leaned over him as he lay in the tall grass outside his mangled cruiser. As he opened his eyes, he said, "I'm glad to see you, but I thought I was just layin' in clover, not pushin' up daisies!" Thankfully, he was right, and after a brief convalescence, he returned to duty. ∞

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With the Lord

Perry Chronister— 1923-2011

Perry Chronister, Associate Pastor at Mogadore Baptist Church, went home to be with the Lord on August 9, 2011. He had served Mogadore as Associate Pastor and Bible teacher for the past 22 years.

Before that, he served in pastoral roles at the Chapel in Akron and at Brady Lake Baptist Church. He loved to share the gospel at nursing homes and senior apartments. He loved visiting people.

Pastor Rob Seymour of Mogadore Baptist and Dave Carroll, Perry's son-in-law, conducted Perry's memorial service on Saturday, August 13, 2011, at the Redmond Funeral Home in Stow, OH. Having served in the U.S. Army Air Force in the Pacific during World War II, burial followed with full military honors.

Pastor Perry will be missed by his wife of 65 years, Betty, his three daughters, Lynne (Jay) Detrow, Nancy (Dave) Carroll, and Maryanne Chronister, their seven grandchildren, and seventeen great-grandchildren, as well as his church family, Mogadore Baptist, where his memory will be long cherished. ∞

SCHOLARSHIP BIKE RIDE!

Saturday, September 8, 2012

Ride With Us or Support Others
for young people studying for ministry.



Richard Snavely — 1934-2012

Richard L. Snavely, retired pastor, died February 17, 2012, in Winter Haven, Florida. An Ohioan by birth, he was born September 1, 1934, in McComb, Ohio and graduated from McComb

High School. He married Naomi R. (Newell) on October 24, 1954, who survives him today. He is also survived by a son, Stephen L. (Debbie) Snavely, Highland Falls, NY, and a daughter, Rebecca J. (Bill) Gowder, Knoxville, TN, and six grandchildren.

Pastor Snavely received his BA and MA from Bob Jones University and in 1975 received an honorary Doctor of Divinity from Bob Jones. Pastor Snavely served as pastor at Calvary Baptist Church in Findlay, Ohio, for 28 years. While there, he was always supportive of the GARBC and OARBC and an encouragement to pastors in his area and across the state. He also pastored Palms Baptist Church, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, for 2 years and Fellowship Baptist Church, Deltona, Florida, for 8 years. He served on the Board of Association of Baptists for World Evangelism for 35 years and was one of the founders of the Ohio Buckeye Christian School Association, serving as president for 8 years. Funeral services were held at Calvary Baptist Church, Findlay, Ohio, with Pastors Gordon Dickson, Bill Gowder, Sam Polson, and Steve Snavely officiating. ∞

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Sept. 17-23, 2012
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Theona Smelser — 1912-2012

Theona Slater Smelser was ushered into glory on Palm Sunday, 2012 after a short bout with a severe chest cold. She resided in Sebring,

Florida, Maranatha Village, where she and her late husband, Kenn, had retired after 45 years of ministry—10 in Wilmington, NC where they built a mission, 10 in Mannington, WV, then 22 years at First Baptist, Medina, Ohio, 1951 to 1973, where they helped to plant several area churches, concluding their pastoral ministry at Barton Road Baptist, FL in 1981.

While ministering in Ohio, Theona wrote for the women's page of the Ohio newsletter, then called the OIB (Ohio Independent Baptist). Born Nov. 18, 1912 in Greenwich, Connecticut, the youngest daughter of a lawyer, Theona attended Bucknell University in Pennsylvania for two years, majoring in Latin, and then transferred to and graduated from Wheaton College of Illinois in 1934. After graduation she went to the Bible Institute of PA in Philadelphia, graduating in 1936. There she met and later married Kenn in 1938. She continued to give the Word and encouragement to those in Maranatha Village in her retirement years. She is the cherished mother of three surviving children, David (Judy) Smelser, Grand Rapids, Mich., Eleanor (Jeff) Jackson, Cincinnati, Ohio and Edward (Joy) Smelser, Elizabethton, TN. Her 7 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren will miss her love and prayers for them. ∞

**Join Us for Pizza
GARBC Conference
June 25-29**

First Baptist Stryker, Serves with Joy —

Ladies at First Baptist, Stryker, use their talents to encourage and meet needs. They recently sent 18 to 20 kitchen hand towels to Pat Warren to use as gifts in her travels. Besides those gift towels, they make pill envelopes, rolled bandages, diapers and little girl dresses for Bangladesh.

Some use their artistic skills to make seasonal greeting cards for US-based missionaries and shut-ins. They also keep their missionary closet fairly well stocked in case there is a need.

Service activities of the body include a sing and play for a dear saint of God turning 99, honoring the May graduates, hosting a monthly men's fellowship prayer breakfast and an evening VBS in July. Sister church Pastor and wife, Pete and Cindi Dodd will oversee this year's VBS, using volunteers from the Stryker church.

The church hosted the Konuchs with ABWE in Mindanao, Philippines for all the services on Mother's Day. The church also looks forward to a Fall ordination service for Assistant Pastor, Matt Dodd, who leads the growing teen group. More teens are now attending regular services of the church. ∞

Dear Ladies,

We had a blessed and encouraging Spring meeting at Faith Baptist of Streetsboro. We first must say "Thank you" to all involved at Faith to help our day run smoothly. Each part, including lunch and the Ladies Ensemble, was great.

Nadine Hennesey, along with her daughter, Lydia, and son-in-law, Lavdim, who represents some of the fruit of Nadine's labors with the House of Laughter, shared their heart and passion for Kosovo. They helped us gain insight into how God used the House of Laughter in the past and how God is opening a future ministry through the Kosovo Academy. We praise the Lord for gifts totaling \$10,281.20 for the Kosovo Academy.

In addition to being blessed by God's work in Kosovo, ladies packaged items they brought. What a generous showing of items for camp counselors and the Memorial Hospital in Bangladesh. Really! What a way to serve and minister to others for our Lord. We can never out give HIM but you have given above and beyond for these projects.

Our new project for 2012-2013 will center on three Ohio needs — Scioto Camp Pavilion, Patmos Camp water filtration system, and S.O.A.P., a ministry to offer help to girls being trafficked. The theme is "God Can" and the Key Verse is Psalm 77:13,14.

Mark these dates on your calendar for next Fall. OWM Meeting October 23, 2012 at Calvary Baptist Church in Bellefontaine. Two Retreats with identical sessions, both at the Carlisle Inn— November 8-9, overnight, and November 10, a one day program. Our speakers will be Becky McDonald (W.A.R.) and Theresa Flores, "The Slave Across The Street." Watch for information coming to your churches by the end of August.

GOD CAN!

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Mark these Dates

OWM — October 23, 2012
RETREATS — Nov. 8-9 and 10



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Serving Our Youth



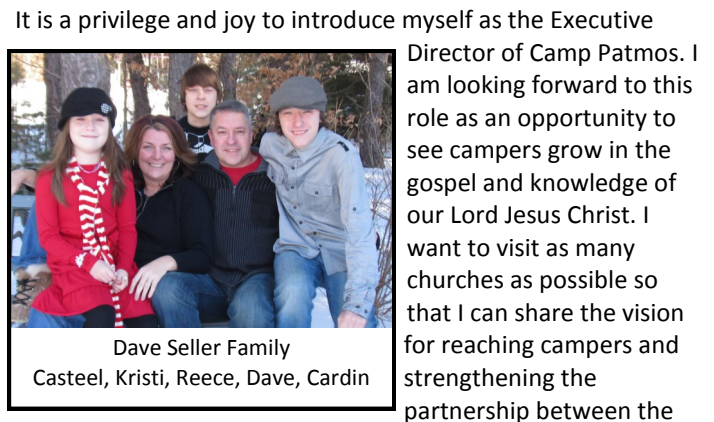
Don't blink or you'll miss something. Our schedule is hopping! With more than 700 at

our winter retreats, 2-3 guest groups every weekend, remodeling projects, new attractions, 60 senior saints at our second "Seasoned Saints Luncheon," and summer camp preparation there is no time to blink in our hills. Here's a quick summer preview of our 47th season:

- "Alive" (in Christ) is our Theme; Bible Study will be from Ephesians 2:1-10.
- Application of truth taken to new heights!
- Solid age-appropriate programming.
- Family camp — the best vacation with purpose, a vacation families can enjoy and afford.
- Air Conditioning is being installed in many of our cabins.
- New attractions to teach truth in the outdoor setting:
 1. A newly remodeled putt-putt course using the "7 C's of History" from AiG — "The Most Unique Putt-Putt Experience in the World" - learning at every hole.
 2. A 50 foot "Giant Swing" to launch campers over our pond will provide our third high ropes adventure and lots of "God talk" about trust and the Christian life.
 3. A 9-Hole Disc Golf Course that weaves around the camp and up and down our hills will create opportunities for fellowship, exercise, and friendly competition. Our best score to date is 2 under par!

We need your prayers for counselors, 1000 campers, and for final details. We are trusting God will use our daily Biblical themes to change lives. Check it out at www.sciotohills.com.

Scott Bruns, Executive Director



Dave Seller Family
Casteel, Kristi, Reece, Dave, Cardin

It is a privilege and joy to introduce myself as the Executive Director of Camp Patmos. I am looking forward to this role as an opportunity to see campers grow in the gospel and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. I want to visit as many churches as possible so that I can share the vision for reaching campers and strengthening the partnership between the local church and Camp Patmos. Together we can do more than we ever could by ourselves. We are asking you to pray for ways we can work together to see true life change.

Camp Patmos wants to grow more than a camp; we want to grow the next generation to be better disciples for Christ. Through our unique island environment, caring counselors, trained camp staff, quality speakers, and intentional programming, we focus on getting our campers to the next level in their knowledge, growth, and discipleship.



Along with our other quality weeks of camp, we are happy to offer a **new camp week** designed by local pastors just for Junior and Senior Highers, entitled Heritage Week, June 18-22. Our speaker will be Mark Davis from Faith Baptist Bible College in Ankeny, Iowa. Leading worship will be Brandon Bennett, who ministers at Abram Creek Baptist Church in Brookpark, Ohio. Teens will enjoy growing together with other teens.

Let me know how I can help you in your ministry. Please use my email dave@camppatmos.com. Check out our website, www.camppatmos.com, for camp dates and registration. We extend to you an invitation to visit Camp Patmos anytime.

Dave Sellers, Executive Director



A new swimming pool is in the works at Skyview Ranch, scheduled to begin construction in June. The pool will probably be unlike any pool you have experienced. Check out the picture. We are excited that half the \$242,000 goal has been raised! We are working to raise the remaining funds by June so that

construction can begin on time. If you are interested in donating to this project, please contact the camp. Pool features include:

- An area intentionally designed for campers to accept Christ
- A lazy river with a moving current and water cannons
- Jets located on both sides of the lazy river which can be turned off/on as needed
- A zero-level entry area allowing even our youngest campers to enjoy the fun



On May 14, we also held our Golf Marathon, a "100-hole in a day" golfing event to raise money for camper scholarships. Hundreds of kids and teens benefit from these monies. We look forward to another great season at Skyview Ranch. We'd love to see your son or daughter join us!

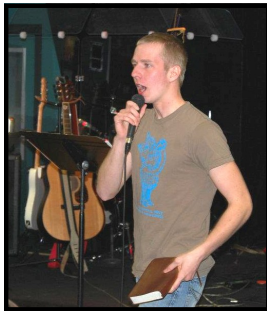
Jeremy Hales, Camp Director

Bike Scholarships—It Pays to Invest!

Enjoy testimonies from former Bike Scholarship recipients. Be sure to Invest this year!

Chris Plog attending Word of Life

“These past nine months I have had the awesome privilege of traveling around Canada with a Word of Life Bible Institute recruitment team. I have been able to preach and encourage teens to believe the Bible is the only source of absolute truth.

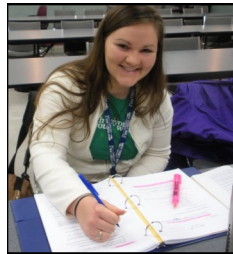


This summer I am returning for my fourth summer at Word of Life Ranch, a kids’ camp that is passionate about reaching kids with the gospel and encouraging them in their walk with

God. For the next two years, I will be at Word of Life Bible Institute in Schroon Lake, NY, interning while taking online classes at Liberty University so that I can be a Word of Life Missionary.”

Lynell Riegsecker, at New Tribes Bible Institute, Jackson, Michigan, is halfway through an intensive two-year Bible study program.

She took off one semester in 2011 to assist a missionary family in a remote tribal ministry in New Guinea and then helped a few weeks at the New Tribes base in Papua. She is waiting on the Lord's leading for the next steps after she completes the coming school year.



SCHOLARSHIP BIKE RIDE!

Saturday, September 8, 2012

Ride With Us or Support Others for young people studying for ministry.



Youth Groups and Families! Plan Now!

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TFC State Winners

Art, Open Class

- 1st—Samantha Parsons, Youngs Corners, Wadsworth
- 2nd—Alex Perez, Immanuel, Columbus
- 2nd—Emily Thornton, Immanuel, Cols.

Female Public Speaking

- 1st—Victoria Odle, First Baptist, Elyria

Male Voice

- 2nd—Jesse Parker, First Baptist, Elyria

Piano, Junior High

- 1st—Alison Crouch, Calvary, Sandusky

Piano

- 2nd—Anna Smith, First Baptist, Elyria

Strings

- 1st—Philip Baltzer, Immanuel, Col.
- 2nd—Amber Kocks, Immanuel, Col.

Writing, Open

- 1st—Mia Cherwien, Immanuel, Col.

Instrumental

- 1st—Immanuel Baptist, Columbus

Small Vocal

- 1st—Camden Baptist, Wellington

Preaching

- 1st—Christopher Kish, Camden, Wellington
- 2nd—Spencer Morrow, First Bapt., Elyria

Preaching, Open Class

- 1st—Samuel Gonzalez, Pleasant Hill, Smithville
- 2nd—Nathaniel Brumbaugh, Grace, Canton

Woodwinds

- 2nd—Stephanie Kish, Camden Baptist, Wellington

Drama

- 1st—Immanuel Baptist, Columbus
- 2nd—Pleasant Hill Baptist, Smithville

Duet

- 1st—First Baptist, LaGrange
- 2nd—Camden Baptist, Wellington

Large Vocal

- 1st—First Baptist, Elyria
- 2nd—First Baptist, Elyria

Puppets

- 1st—First Baptist, Elyria
- 2nd—Immanuel Baptist, Columbus



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With the Grand Canyon as their classroom, students in the Geology of the National Parks class examine firsthand evidence of Creation and the Flood.



Church Planting—(Continued from page 1)



invaluable. Much of their time during the week is spent downtown near their church. Ken and Bill lead Bible studies in various apartment complexes and on the campus of Cleveland State University, while Renee and Natalie hold women's Bible studies and even lead "life skills" classes with young moms in a high-rise apartment complex. They have been working in a four-block radius of their church in order to establish a church people can walk to, since many do not own a vehicle. They now have 45-50 people attending the church. While their faith has been stretched, Pastor Dockery shares, "God is building the church. His Word is very powerful. It is humbling to think that I can make plans for outreach but ultimately God does what He wants. I just need to faithfully share His Word."

Continental Baptist Mission's goal is to "rechurch" North America. About 15 years ago, another CBM missionary couple, Ross and Shirley DeFelice, began Grace Baptist Church in Geneva, Ohio. Sickness forced Ross to leave the ministry, but the church continues to meet at a Motel 6 in Geneva. It is led by their lay leader, Les Tinner. This small work is looking for a new pastor. Currently, retired missionaries and former pastors share the preaching responsibilities for the church. According to Les, to grow and eventually be self-supporting, the church needs a pastor to provide leadership. This would also help to attract young families. He would love to see a missionary church planter take on the work. According to Les, what keeps them committed to this work is "seeing the joy the ministry brings to those who do come." For Les and his wife, the small group has become like family.



The OARBC's final young church is Faith Baptist Community Church, which is part of the Faith Baptist Community Center in the inner city of Cleveland. Baptist Mid-Missions missionary, Norma Nulph, actually started the work about 50 years ago. The center offers various ministries such as a medical clinic, a meals program, job development classes, and a children's program. The church began in 1996 when the center moved to its current location on 55th street. Michael Vanek, a Baptist Mid-Missions missionary, oversees the ministry and also pastors the church. His wife, Sherrie, a registered nurse, oversees the clinic. Currently the church has 15 members, but approximately 40-65 people attend on any given Sunday. While inner city work has its challenges, lives are being

changed. Michael shares about Ruthie Rose who had been on heroine for 40 years but is now completely free of her addiction. On Saturdays she folds the church bulletin and is planning to join a discipleship group in June. Michael's desire is that discipleship groups will ground the new believers in their faith. While reaching people has been a slow process, Faith Baptist, through both the church and the community center, continues to provide a light to the hurting in the inner city of Cleveland.



Ruthie Rose baptized by Pastor

At times, starting a church can be a lonely, difficult endeavor. More established churches have the opportunity to "come alongside" and partner in the work. Financial support for the pastor or the church is an ongoing need. However, church planters shared other strategic ways that area churches have gotten involved, including running a VBS, canvassing neighborhoods, and completing a work project. Church planters also suggest that nearby churches could get involved by encouraging their pastors or deacons to visit their church plant on a Sunday, opening the door further for an established church to become a "sister church" to a new work. As churches catch the importance and vision of church planting and share this with their congregations, a partnership can be born which will strengthen the church plant while energizing the established church. ∞ CNB

**Saving for a New
OARBC Mobile
in 2013**

