

## University Baptist Church Celebrates the Journey While Dedication of New Facility

By Stephanie Heading

On Sunday, March 12, University Baptist Church (UBC), Beavercreek, dedicated its new facility and celebrated the journey of the church from its founding in 1967 to today. "The Lord has brought us this far," Pastor Jason Wing told the congregation. For the rapidly growing church, the expansion project took longer than expected, but they saw God's hand at work every step of the way.

UBC started discussing an expansion of its facilities and saving for the project in 2016. When Wing became pastor in 2018, he wanted time to settle in. "I had never led a church through a building campaign," he said. "I wanted time to learn, grow, and become comfortable at UBC."

However, the 2019 Memorial Day tornado outbreak damaged the church facilities and moved up the expansion timeline. "We were looking forward to a discussion on expansion in July 2019," said Wing. "We had over 1000 people in worship one Sunday in 2019. They were sitting in the hallways and on the stairs. We knew we had to expand."

The Covid pandemic of 2020 put the expansion project on hold again as worship services moved online.

STORY CONTINUES ON PAGE 2....



## Focusing on the Mission

By Dr. Jeremy Westbrook

The greatest problem in Ohio and around the world is lostness. Yes, we have problems in the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), but those problems are not as consequential as someone dying without a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. Did you know that for every ten people you come across here in the Buckeye State, nine of them do not know Christ as their Savior...that is a problem.

Did you know that fifty-nine percent of the world is considered unreached-meaning Jesus is largely unknown among 4.7 billion people...that also is a problem. Therefore, we must stay together and cooperate despite our problems to help provide the resources to push back the darkness across the street and around the world.

I come across many who are not aware that the International Mission Board (IMB) is the only missionary agency in the world that not only helps

send missionaries, but sustains them on the field without that missionary having to raise a dime? Why? Because of the faithful giving of churches to the Cooperative Program. Here is a recent quote from Dr. Paul Chitwood, President of the IMB, to the trustees regarding the importance of churches

**"The world's great problem, lostness, is a greater problem today than ever before..."**

giving to the CP.

"The world's great problem, lostness, is a greater problem today than ever before — literally a greater problem today than it was yesterday," he emphasized. "As much as it depends on us, we cannot let Southern Baptists remain unaware of the magnitude of this problem nor of the unprecedented opportunities that we have to address this problem with God's solution, which is the gospel."

STORY CONTINUES ON PAGE 5....

## University Baptist Church

Continued...

“We continued to grow through Covid, but we didn’t have the bandwidth to do an expansion project,” said Wing. “We were focused on Covid changes.”

UBC worship services met in a variety of locations during the pandemic. In summer and fall 2020, worship services met outdoors in the UBC parking lot. During fall 2020 through June 2021, the congregation worshipped in an empty store at the Fairfield Commons Mall.

After learning that they had to leave their mall space in June 2021, UBC returned home and found creative ways to use the facilities to the fullest, holding as many as six services every Sunday –three services in the main building and three services at the annex building across the street.

While it seemed expansion was being delayed, God was still at work in 2020 and 2021. “God has brought the people here who made this happen,” said Wing. The church learned of and partnered with “Builders for Christ,” a volunteer group of churches that work every summer helping churches with construction projects.

Things continued to coalesce in 2021, and UBC introduced “Make Him Known,” a two-year generosity initiative of UBC. According to the UBC website, “This is far more than a building campaign – this is a call to join God’s mission and invest in something that will matter for eternity. It’s about committing our lives as a church family to the cause of Christ and the mission He gave the church: the Great Commission. We want to become a church that lives not only to know Christ but to make Him known in all the world.”



“Make Him Known was not just a building campaign. It is a one fund campaign,” Wing said. He noted that the campaign raised funds for here, near, and everywhere. “Here’ is our members at UBC. ‘Near’ is for facilities and people who are nearby, and ‘Everywhere’ is for missions.”

Groundbreaking was March 20, 2022, and Builders for Christ volunteers began work on May 16, 2022. By the time the initial phase of construction was completed, 1100 volunteers from 87 churches and 25 states completed 40,000 hours of volunteer labor on the building, saving UBC approximately \$1 million. Members of UBC worked alongside Builders for Christ volunteers, investing their time into the new facility.

Their efforts culminated in a 19,000 square foot facility with an auditorium that seats 659 people, an expansive lobby with an Information Center and Café coffee bar, prayer rooms, and classrooms. UBC is also in the process of remodeling its former auditorium and its annex, UBC East. Those renovations will be finished later this summer.

During the Dedication Service, Wing pointed the congregation to the beginnings of UBC. Estill Johnson and his wife, Oleda, founded UBC in 1967. Estill remained a member of UBC until his passing in 2020. To honor the faithfulness of the Johnsons and their belief that “The church belongs to the Lord,” Estill’s Bible was buried under the spot where the pulpit sits on the platform in the new auditorium. “UBC is grounded on the shoulders of saints,” said Wing.

Amidst the joy and celebration of the Dedication Service, Wing reminded the church that a new building is not the end goal. “Ministry is not about us having a brand-new building. It’s about people having a brand-new life in Jesus. My hope is to see these seats filled with people who need life in Jesus and love in the church. It’s the mission of every Bible-believing, faithful church to go make disciples.”

### Featured This Month:

**04** - *Multiplication Pipeline*

**05** - *Focusing on the Mission*

**06** - *Regional Ministries Hub*

**09** - *President’s Pen*

**11** - *National Guard Chaplaincy*

**12** - *Ohio Disaster Relief*

**14** - *One More Child*

**15** - *Church Revitalization Help Through SCBO*



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A MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP



# Multiplication Pipeline Develops Leaders on Mission

By Steve Hopkins and Stephanie Heading

Finding people to serve and lead in ministry is difficult, but help is available through the Multiplication Pipeline.

Recently, over thirty pastors and wives gathered in the Steel Valley Association to hear SCBO Executive-Director Dr. Jeremy Westbrook and SEND Network Ohio Regional Equipper Jim Scott share how Multiplication Pipeline helps pastors train leaders and send their congregations on mission.

“Multiplication pipeline is an online learning tool to guide people from consumers to missional leaders with up to three years of material covering more than 20 areas of missional leadership,” said Westbrook. “Our future planters, missionaries, and leaders are right under our noses, and many are waiting to be given an opportunity. It’s not the seminaries who discover pastors, it’s not NAMB’s job to discover church planters, and it’s not IMB’s job to discover missionaries— it’s the local church’s job.”

There are three levels in the Multiplication Pipeline training. “Each level has various competencies (or topics) participants will cover in the modules. Each module contains the goal, a memory verse, the assignments, and more,” according to the NAMB website.

In Level One, “Living on Mission,” participants explore topics such as Spiritual Formation, Bible Fluency, Spiritual

Design, Evangelism, Relationships, Understanding the Church, and Servant Leadership.

“Disciple-Making” is the focus of Level Two with competencies such as Self Awareness, Communication and Teamwork, Understanding Context, Spiritual Readiness, Making Disciples, Multiplying Leaders, Church Planting, and Making a Difference.”

Multiplication Pipeline Level Three, “Church Planting,” prepares potential church planters for being assessed for church planting. Competencies include Healthy Emotions, Confirming Your Distinct Calling to Church Planting, Family Dynamics, Church Planting Models and Strategies, Crafting and Casting Vision, Support Development, Disciple Making and Preaching.

Ray Umphrey, pastor of Briggs Road Baptist Church and SCBO president is seeing Multiplication Pipeline at work in his church. “Multiplication Pipeline was originally developed for church planters,” said Umphrey. “You can use it for church planting or to increase your skills as a servant of the Lord.”

The pipeline at Briggs Road meets monthly and of the twenty-six who originally signed up, fifteen have continued in the training. Umphrey says that participants are exploring and clarifying their calling to ministry and four have gone to



Pastors and wives from the Steel Valley Association heard from Dr. Jeremy Westbrook at a recent Multiplication Pipeline event.



## Focusing on the Mission

*Continued...*

“Not only is every penny of the Lottie Offering used on the frontlines of overseas mission work, approximately 60% of the CP dollars coming to the IMB is also used overseas. The remaining 40% of CP giving which comes to IMB funds the organization’s vital support systems in the U.S. Just as important, Chitwood reminded the audience, is the need for strong seminaries to train missionaries.

“We need strong state conventions and a strong North American Mission Board to plant churches, strengthen churches and foster partnership with churches,” Chitwood went on. “The IMB directly and indirectly benefits from every CP (Cooperative Program) dollar. When CP dollars disappear, the IMB suffers. That’s why today’s IMB is fully committed to champion the CP.”

As Ohio Baptists, let us not focus solely on the mess around us, but rather stay focused on the mission in front of us...that’s the most important problem. We are better together. We are stronger together. We must cooperate together.

To learn more about the Cooperative Program, please visit [www.scbo.org/cp](http://www.scbo.org/cp).



Dr. Jeremy Westbrook  
Executive Director-Treasurer



seminary because of Multiplication Pipeline. “Most of the people who are in our pipeline were already serving in our church.”

Although Briggs Road is in the early stages of its Multiplication Pipeline, Umphrey is already seeing changes in the church. “I’m seeing conversations change. I’m seeing people learning. I’m seeing people grow and think. I’m seeing people building accountability into their lives.”

Umphrey encourages other pastors to start a Multiplication Pipeline in their churches. “It is work, but it’s investing in your people. Your church is only as strong as the leaders in your church.” Multiplication Pipeline training is provided by your Cooperative Program (CP) giving at no additional cost to the local church – 100% covered by CP!

“We need to change the scorecard. We have been content with addition for too long, and that’s not getting the job done,” said Westbrook. “With over 11 million people in Ohio, 76% of which do not know Jesus, we need to raise up, replicate and release, creating a culture of multiplication. Kingdom math is multiplication, not addition.”

The next Multiplication Pipeline Lunch and Learn will be Saturday, April 22, 12 pm – 2 pm, at Chillicothe Baptist Church, 14000 OH-104, Chillicothe 45601, after the SVBA annual meeting. To register, click [HERE](#). For more information, go to [namb.net/pipeline](http://namb.net/pipeline).

## IMB Tops 1200 in Missionary Pipeline

By IMB Staff – Reprinted from the International Mission Board, [imb.org](http://imb.org)

At the first of March, the International Mission Board (IMB) counted more than 1,200 candidates in the missionary application process. This is a significant milestone for Southern Baptists, as the number of missionary candidates in 2019 was three hundred.

“The IMB missionary candidate pipeline has now quadrupled over the past four years. Praise the Lord!” IMB President Paul Chitwood said. “As Southern Baptists’ generosity grows, so does the opportunity to send their fully funded missionaries through the IMB to address the world’s greatest problem – lostness. I cannot wait to see how God will use them and all of us working together!”

While each applicant represents a potential to reach the lost with the good news of Jesus, Chitwood is quick to remind Southern Baptists that lostness in the world continues to grow. Even more applicants are needed to carry the gospel to those who have never heard.

IMB’s goal is to always have more than 1,500 applicants in the pipeline. New missionary applicants mean that the potential increases to grow the number of current missionaries serving on the frontlines and to replace missionaries who are retiring or completing terms of service.

Multiple pathways, lengths of service and a variety of missionary positions are open now with the IMB. Interested persons can visit [imb.org/go](http://imb.org/go) or email [info@imb.org](mailto:info@imb.org) to get started.



# UPDATES REGIONAL SCBO REGIONAL REGIONAL UPDATES



## Matt Pardi - Northwest

The spring season and new growth reminds me of hope and new life. We gather at different events, ultimately to fellowship and bring glory to God as the giver of new life.

I am looking forward to the Northwest Ohio Baptist Association Semi-Annual Meeting on Monday, April 17. Thank you to Jeff Wallen and FBC Napoleon for hosting. Times of food, fellowship, and prayer for our Northwest Ohio churches and ministries are encouraging.

Congratulations to Steve Mayes as the new AMS in the North Coast Association. As I get to know Steve, I am encouraged by his passion, care, wisdom, and experience. Please reach out to him and congratulate him. He has a great heart to care for pastors and churches. The North Coast Association will be gathering with Steve on Monday, April 24 for the North Coast Semi-Annual Meeting. They will meet at 6 pm at Providence Baptist Church in Bellevue, OH.



## Chad Keck - West

It is exciting any time pastors and leaders in our region gather, so please mark your calendar now for two opportunities this month. On Saturday, April 22, our region is hosting a VBS Clinic at First Baptist Church of Kettering from 10 am to noon. VBS is an incredible opportunity to engage kids with the gospel. The VBS clinic will help you prepare and plan for this important summer outreach event. For more information about VBS Clinics, visit <https://www.scbo.org/event/vacation-bible-school-clinics>.

The other event is our Pastors Round Table Lunch on April 27. This lunch is for pastors and mission mobilizers who want to enjoy a free lunch from City BBQ and discuss how we can help our churches engage in world missions. Phil Nelson from the International Mission Board will be with us and will participate in our discussion. If you would like more information about either of these events, please email me at [ckeck@scbo.org](mailto:ckeck@scbo.org).



## Reagan Wagoner - Southwest

It was so good to see our Next Gen leaders from the Southwest Region this past month! Nearly sixty of you attended our Next Gen Conference to hear from Keith Hurt, SCBO Next Gen Consultant. I was especially moved as Keith shared the type of mentors that students need, and I also loved hearing how strong volunteer teams take the pressure off the pastor as the leader. I am praying for you as you build teams and continue to raise up leaders around you.

I am praying that God would use our churches as we prepare for Easter to remind those who need Him about the one day and one man who changed the world! Currently, forty-seven percent of Christians say they do not think it is their responsibility to evangelize. I am reminded that Jesus himself came to seek and to save the lost, (Luke 19:10). Since this is why Jesus came, we need to consider why we exist, what we are doing, and who we are not reaching. Recently, I heard Dave Ferguson, pastor of Community Christian Church, and founder of Exponential, ask this question, "Jesus' mission was the lost. Is it still ours?" My prayer today is that each of us would encourage our churches to ask that question.



Nearly sixty Next Gen leaders gathered at the Next Gen Leaders Conference to be encouraged and learn about ways to reach and disciple the next generation for Christ.



# MINISTRIES HUB

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## **Rick Williams - Central**

These are exciting days for the SCBO! In Central Ohio, we continue to see churches started and strengthened as we cooperate together. Buckeye Central-Erie Baptist Association is good example of this partnership. Pastor Mike Feliciano shared exciting news about the launch of Hillside Church in Rowsburg, just east of Ashland. It was a great launch for the church on March 5 with sixty-three people in attendance! Pastor Mike was very grateful for a team from Dublin Baptist Church who helped in preparation for the launch. Continue to pray for Pastor Mike and the church plant as they seek to reach their community with the gospel.

VBS Training is another exciting event coming to Central Ohio. The SCBO VBS training team will be leading the event at FBC Westerville on Tuesday, April 25 from 7 pm – 9 pm. This is a great opportunity to bring your VBS leadership team to be equipped and encouraged in preparation for VBS in your church. Follow the link for more information or to register: <https://www.scbo.org/event/vacation-bible-school-clinics>



## **Stephen Owens - Northeast**

While meeting with pastors in my region over the past month, a common theme has recurred. They are passionate about discipleship and leadership development. Pastors are discipling church members in a variety of ways, such as systematic theology classes, new member classes, and one-on-one Bible studies with the focus on helping believers grow in their faith through spending time in the Word of God. It is exciting to see the Holy Spirit stir the hearts of pastors as they shepherd their congregations with the Word of God for the glory of King Jesus.

Pastors are also interested in doing ministry with a team of leaders, and they are seeking to develop their current leaders and raise future leaders. On May 19-20, the Lead Well Conference will offer training and encouragement for pastors and their leaders. Mt. Calvary Baptist in Bedford is hosting the Lead Well Conference, and I would like to personally invite you and your leaders to come to this amazing event. Register yourself and your team today. Space is limited. <https://www.scbo.org/event/lead-well-leadership-conference>. If I can be of assistance, feel free to reach out to me at [sowens@scbo.org](mailto:sowens@scbo.org).



## **Jack Helton, SCBO Senior Staff - Southeast**

Praise God that He is still calling men to preach the gospel in the Southeast Region. Please welcome Ryan Massie, the new pastor at Fairland Southern Baptist Church in Proctorville. Ryan began his ministry on Sunday March 12. Pray for Ryan as he begins serving Fairland as this will be his first pastorate! In addition, FBC Ashville is looking forward to ordaining their new pastor, David Sells, to the gospel ministry on Sunday evening, April 23.

Dr. Jeremy Westbrook will preach the annual sermon at the Scioto Valley Baptist Association Annual Meeting, Saturday April 22 at Chillicothe Baptist Church. In addition, he and Jim Scott, Send Ohio

Network regional equipper for the North American Mission Board will be presenting the new Ohio Leadership Pipeline Strategy. Register for the event at <https://www.scbo.org/event/multiplication-pipeline-introduction>.

Finally, it is our hope and prayer that by next month, SCBO will be introducing your new Southeast Region State Catalyst.



# National DAY OF PRAYER

May 4th, 2023

[www.nationaldayofprayer.org](http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org)



Caleb Fee, Jersey Church

## Jersey Students Study Experiencing God

By Caleb Fee, sixth grade student, Jersey Church

and applicable stories that I really enjoyed. For example, one story was about one of Mike and Daniel's friends who was really into dinosaurs, so, obviously, his favorite movie was Jurassic Park. Their friend knew everything about every character and dinosaur in the movie, and one day Mike and Daniel asked if he had even seen the movie. He said, "I've never seen it. It's way too scary for me." The story helped me understand the difference between knowing God with my mind and experiencing Him in my life. I will never forget that. Every morning I woke up and then did my Bible study because I was excited to see what every day would be about.

My middle school group had about fifteen students meeting weekly. We talked through the week's study and watched the video from Mike and Daniel. Through the study, I got to know the kids in my group a little bit better and had accountability because you did not want to be the guy who had to answer a question but did not do the study throughout the week! Mike and Daniel did a great job rewriting this book for teenagers

because I felt like most of the kids around me in the group enjoyed doing this study, and many shared that they also grew closer to God because of it. I have learned a lot about what God's will is for me and I have changed. One of the things I have learned and believe is I am an unfinished masterpiece, and God is always going to be working on me to be more like Christ. I have also grown closer to God because I have developed this

**"Hey, mom, have you experienced God yet today... because I have!"**

habit of waking up and then getting into his Word. In the future, I want to keep doing different Bible studies so I can keep this good habit of following God closer in my everyday life.

Experiencing God is a great study, and Mike and Daniel did a fantastic job revising their grandfather's work for teenagers.



# President's Pen

by Dr. Ray Umphrey

In my conversations with pastors and leaders from across our state, church revitalization continually proves to be one of the most pressing concerns. Those who lead established churches face unique challenges and can feel inadequate or under-resourced to address them. For this reason, I am overjoyed to see the efforts of our state convention in coming alongside these pastors and churches to help. Our regional catalysts are in the field, establishing relationships and discovering needs. Recently, Mark Jones joined the SCBO team as Revitalization Consultant to resource pastors and churches to address revitalization challenges. Mark is a wealth of knowledge and resources, and I encourage every revitalization pastor to contact him.

I'm working with Mark Jones and Central Ohio Catalyst, Rick Williams, to host a one-day church revitalization conference to further equip and encourage pastors and leaders ministering in established churches. Mark your calendars and plan to attend "Loving and Leading the Local Church" on Thursday, August 24, 2023, at First Baptist Church Lancaster. The plenary speakers are Brian Croft from Practical Shepherding and Nick Sandefur, Senior Pastor of Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington, KY. Additionally, you can attend several breakout sessions which address specific issues related to revitalization. More details will be coming soon, so stay tuned!



I would love to hear how our state convention can better reach and equip our state in 2023. Let me know how we can serve at [president@scbo.org](mailto:president@scbo.org).

Your partner in the gospel,

Ray Umphrey  
SCBO President

## Free Bible Study Resources for Churches By Cathy Pound

The SCBO Lending Library exists to provide Bible studies to churches, allowing them to borrow studies free of charge. Churches who have borrowed from the Lending Library have heard thankful comments and encouraging testimonies from the participants. f

"My favorite study was Jen Wilkins's Sermon on the Mount which covers Matthew chapters five through seven," said Bev Smythe of Trinity Baptist Church in Ashland. "Jen dissected every verse, asked searching questions, encouraged memorization, and expanded our knowledge with references to other scriptures. I was very blessed by the opportunity to do this study."

"When I began attending women's Bible study at Trinity, I would have considered myself a baby Christian," said Kris Vererka. "I had trouble applying the Bible studies to my life and finding relationships with the other women. Over the years we have done character studies, like Jesus, David, and Gideon. These studies helped me gain biblical knowledge and desire to know more and to know God more."

Among current offerings in the Lending Library is Lisa Harper's 2021 Bible study, How Much More. Written for women who desire to experience God's extravagant love for them, the study is saturated with personal stories, exegesis, and redemptive hermeneutics to enlighten and challenge the reader.

For more information about the SCBO Lending Library and its Bible study resources, visit [www.scbo.org/content/resource-lending-library](http://www.scbo.org/content/resource-lending-library). To borrow a study, stop by the SCBO office, 9000 Antares Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43240, or email Cathy Pound, [cpound@scbo.org](mailto:cpound@scbo.org).





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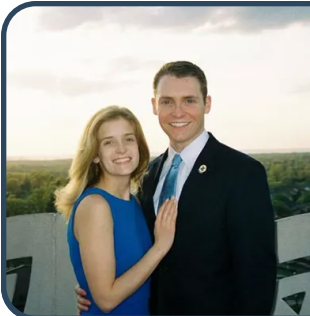
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## CABA pastor gives testimony at Ohio Statehouse



Nick Spencer, family pastor, Clough Pike Baptist Church, Cincinnati, gave testimony at the Ohio Statehouse before the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee on a bill that would provide greater access to education options for their children and that would allow them greater power to choose what education best fits the needs of their child. He answered questions from legislators and made contacts to continue fighting for and supporting the children.





The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio believes in building disciples and wants to do all we can to help you make and build disciples in your local setting. To facilitate this, we have joined together with the Disciple Leaders Network to provide their conference to you for the low cost of \$39. The conference is in Nashville, TN on April 20-21 at Forest Hills Baptist Church. They have an outstanding lineup of leaders, speakers, and practitioners that we think you will benefit from.

Click [HERE](#) to register

You will find additional information about conference content, schedule, and hotels, etc. at <https://www.discipleleaders.com/conference/>. Our team plans to attend, and we look forward to connecting with you and learning together.

## National Guard Chaplaincy: A Surprising Avenue to Reaching the Unchurched

By Chaplain (LTC) Scott Wells, pastor, FBC West Carrollton

When I joined the US Army as a seventeen-year-old, I had no idea how God would use it decades later. After transitioning to the National Guard, I discovered that my service in uniform could be combined with my service to Christ. Years later, I can afford to serve at my smaller-sized church because of the supplemental income and affordable insurance the military provides my family. Best of all, I get to continue serving a great nation, and I can connect with people who would never dream of setting foot in a church.

To that end, the endorsing agency for SBC chaplains, the North American Mission Board, rightly affirms that a chaplain's role is like that of a missionary. Chaplains interact with people of different Christian denominations and faiths as well as people of no faith. This has clarified my theological thinking and given me a deeper appreciation for my Baptist distinctives.

Pastors, chaplains are needed in the National Guard and maybe God is calling you. There is no requirement to have served in the military previously, although there are civilian education requirements: a 120-hour bachelor's degree and a qualifying graduate degree of 72 hours in the field of theological or related studies.

I can't speak for every state, but the Indiana National Guard recognizes that Sunday is the "big" day for their chaplains who are also pastors. Instead of the typical once-a-month training weekend of Saturday and Sunday, we are allowed to do an alternate day in place of Sunday. There is training that will take you away from home and church for a couple of weeks, normally during the summer. But the benefits, including potential military retirement, are well worth the cost.

Does the missionary call resound in your heart? Do you long for a direct avenue to demonstrate the love of Christ to those far outside the church? As pastors, we are already part of something bigger than ourselves. Do you want to do that on the mission field as well? If so, National Guard chaplaincy might be for you.

For more information, contact Chaplain Wells at [wellssc2002@gmail.com](mailto:wellssc2002@gmail.com).

# A Mission Field in Need of Hope

**371 million people**  
**350 languages**  
in North America  
**281 million**  
estimated without Christ

Annie Armstrong  
Easter Offering

North American Mission Board



# Ohio Disaster Relief Responds to Tornado in Middletown, Construction Mission in Hungary

By Dr. John Heading and Stephanie Heading



Disaster Relief Volunteers from Ohio and Louisiana worked with Hungarian volunteers to build a kitchen in Budapest.

Ohio Southern Baptist Disaster Relief (OSBDR) never knows when or where it will be needed to help victims of disasters or to assist those with other urgent needs. In the past month, OSBDR assisted tornado victims in Middletown, Ohio, and then sent a team to Budapest, Hungary to provide construction help to an International Mission Board (IMB) missionary.

During the last week of February, four tornadoes touched down in southwest Ohio, and the area northwest of Middletown



experienced the worst damage. The Kuykendoll family home took a direct hit from an EF1 tornado which severely damaged the house, removing the roof and trusses, ripping clothing and personal items from the second floor and scattering them around the yard and a field next door. The twister knocked down mature trees which also damaged the home.

In response, OSBDR called up a chainsaw team led by seasoned veteran Chainsaw Team Leader Dale Patterson to clean up as many trees

as possible. On Saturday, March 4, the team deployed all day and finished the job.

The OSBDR response was a blessing for homeowner Sarah Kuykendoll. "You guys are a Godsend," she said. "The insurance company won't cover any trees unless they on the



house, and we didn't know how we were going to be able to handle this mess. Thank you so much."



Soon after the Middletown tornado outbreak, an OSBDR team deployed to Budapest, Hungary, to lend aid to an International Mission Board (IMB) missionary in need.

Trey Shaw is an IMB missionary who serves in Budapest, and he and his church members started construction of a church kitchen to serve both locals and Ukrainian refugees. However, after doing all they could, they needed help to finish and reached out through Send Relief to the Ohio/Louisiana Disaster Relief partnership, which exists to respond to disasters in Western Europe.

Four OSBDR members from Ohio and two from Louisiana DR (LSBDR) traveled to Budapest to meet the need. Terry Taylor, Chillicothe BC, served as team leader with Phil Hopper, Isaac Hopper, and Ski Buchenau, all from Hill Station BC, and Louisiana team members Howard Turner and Hank Roberts completing the team.

They arrived in Budapest and went right to work, but quickly learned that their mission was more than building a kitchen. While they were working, a lady who knew they had come to work at the church stopped by to ask for prayer for a family member having surgery in Denmark and another family member having surgery in Kiev, Ukraine. Instead of seeing this interruption as a delay in working, the team saw it as a reminder that the work is a vehicle to share the gospel and respond to personal needs as they arise.

Even travel days are part of the ministry of OSBDR. On the flight home, Ski Buchenau was sharing about the mission with the man sitting next to him. When the man left his seat, the woman sitting on the other side of him asked for prayer. She heard him talking about what the team had done and assumed he was a Christian. Buchenau prayed for her as she was traveling to visit her son who has cancer.

While working and encouraging those the Lord put in their path, the team didn't know that they were ministering to IMB missionary Trey Shaw as well. "I don't have a story to relate, but I do want to express how grateful we are for the team. They were a huge encouragement to us in so many ways," he said.



"Of course, we appreciated their hard work with our renovation project, but it went way beyond that. Every guy on the team showed genuine interest in our work and the city we live in. Many times, missionaries in Europe can feel somewhat forgotten, but these guys reminded us that God always sees us and sometimes He will send a group of men across the ocean to help us and to remind us through them how much He cares for us and our service."

A colleague of Shaw's in Budapest was impacted as well. "It feels great to be seen and I feel loved and appreciated. The trip, in our eyes, was a huge blessing in so many ways."

Shaw says there is more work to do to finish the kitchen in Budapest and mission teams are always welcome. "This team is the only team who came to help us and there are no other teams scheduled at this time. We greatly appreciate the support of Southern Baptists and now the support of Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, but other teams are welcome to come and help us with the mission here in Budapest, Hungary."

For more information about serving with Ohio Disaster Relief or Trey Shaw's team in Budapest, Hungary, please contact

John Heading, OSBDR director, at [jheading@scbo.org](mailto:jheading@scbo.org) to see how we can make this happen.



**Ohio Disaster Relief 2023 Training Schedule**

- March 18** *Briggs Road Baptist Church, Columbus (Chainsaw, Mud Out, Food Service, Communications, Blue Hat Training)*
- March 25** *Cuyahoga Valley Church, Cleveland (Chainsaw, Mud Out, Food Service, Assessment)*
- April 22** *First Light, Vandalia (Chainsaw, Mud Out, Food Service, Communications, Blue Hat Training)*
- April 22** *Cedarville University, Cedarville (Mud Out, Food Service)*
- April 29** *H2O Church, Bowling Green (Chainsaw, Mud Out, Food Service)*
- Sept. 8-9** *Urbancrest Baptist Church, Lebanon (Chaplain Training ONLY)*
- October 28** *Friendship Baptist Church, New Concord (Chainsaw, Mud Out, Food Service)*
- November 4** *First Baptist Lancaster (Chainsaw, Mud Out, Food Service)*



The SCBO has partnered with the Florida Baptist Convention to introduce this new ministry to Ohio. Visit [onemorechild.org](http://onemorechild.org) to learn more...



**ONE MORE CHILD** 

Providing Christ-centered services to

**FOSTER CHILDREN**

**HUNGRY CHILDREN**

**TRAFFICKED CHILDREN**

**SINGLE MOMS**

**STRUGGLING FAMILIES**

locally and globally.

[onemorechild.org](http://onemorechild.org)

## Join the Team!

**One More Child is hiring for the following positions:**

Director of Partnerships

Director of Anti-Trafficking Mobile Teams (Columbus)

Director of Anti-Trafficking Mobile Teams (Cincinnati)

Anti-Trafficking Mobile Team (multiple positions)

To view the current job openings at One More Child, visit [www.onemorechild.org/available-positions/](http://www.onemorechild.org/available-positions/)

## About One More Child

One More Child has provided Christ-centered services to vulnerable children and struggling families for nearly 120 years. Beginning in 1904 as the Florida Baptist Orphanage, One More Child today operates in more than 50 locations in 15 countries around the world to meet the needs of foster children, single moms, hungry children, struggling families, and sex trafficked children and teens. In 2022, One More Child directly served 236,492 children and families, equipped 237,501 individuals through advocacy, training, awareness, and volunteering and provided more than 14 million meals. For more information, visit [www.onemorechild.org](http://www.onemorechild.org).



# One More Child Announces Partnership with the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio

COLUMBUS, Ohio – One More Child is excited to announce a new partnership with the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio (SCBO) and the Florida Baptist Convention to expand foster care, family support and anti-trafficking services throughout the state.

With more than 25,700 children in Ohio’s foster care system, there is a critical need to recruit more foster families who can provide a loving home for vulnerable children. As a leading foster care licensing organization, One More Child is working alongside the SCBO, the Christ Foundation, and other partners to provide foster family licensing and support services in Ohio.

“There’s an urgent need for more licensed foster families in Ohio and throughout the country,” said Dr. Jerry Haag, president and CEO of One More Child. “Through this partnership with the SCBO, we, the Church, have an incredible opportunity in front of us to be the hands of Jesus and bring light to children who are alone and hurting.”

One More Child, a global ministry that began in 1904, goes beyond serving children within the child welfare system. Its programs are also designed to prevent kids from entering foster care by helping struggling families, especially single moms.

With seventeen percent of Ohio’s population being a single parent household, One More Child is launching a Single Moms Community Program based on the successful outcomes of its Single Moms Program in other parts of the country.

Single mothers willing to participate are given access to tangible resources and assigned mentors to help improve their parenting and life skills with the understanding that God loves them deeply and has a special plan for their life. They’ll also be provided with lessons on budgeting, resume building and other skills to lead them towards social mobility.

Another focus of this partnership is the urgent need to bring hope and healing to survivors of child sex-trafficking. One More Child is launching an Anti-Trafficking Mobile Team in Ohio, which will offer resources, clinical services and provide a mentor to those who have experienced the horrors of human trafficking. One More Child’s mobile team model has been effective in Florida and has expanded to other states, including North Carolina and Tennessee. Team members walk alongside children, teens, and young adults, helping them navigate the journey to emotional, physical, and mental recovery.

## Church Revitalization Help Available Through SCBO

By Mark Jones, SCBO revitalization consultant

Church Revitalization is the process of leading a church that is plateaued or declining back to a healthy state. It is the restoring of a church’s purpose of glorifying God and mission of reaching the lost in its community. Only the Holy Spirit can revitalize a congregation, but He can use others to help in the process.

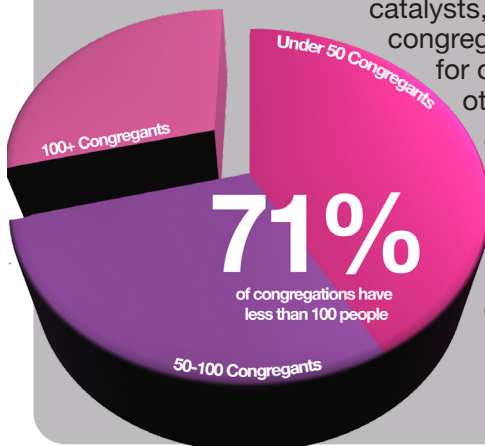
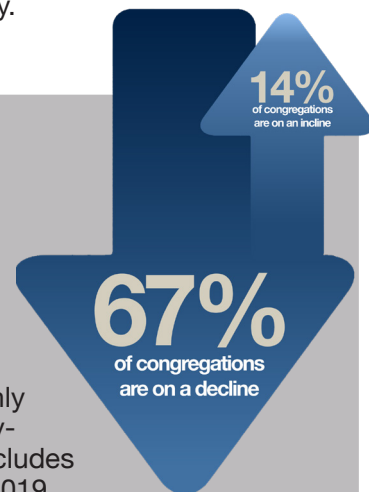
According to completed Annual Church Profiles (ACP) in Ohio over the past five years, only fourteen percent of congregations are on an incline of greater than ten percent while sixty-seven percent of congregations are on a decline of greater than ten percent. This data includes the COVID period, however, the decline started prior to the pandemic. According to the 2019 ACP, the average attendance at forty-two percent of SCBO congregations was below fifty, and in seventy-one percent of churches attendance was below one hundred.

Now is the time to focus on revitalization in our churches. In January and February, I made connections and began basic steps back to health with at least fourteen pastors in eight different associations.

The beautiful part of this process is the partnering and cooperation of churches, associations, regional catalysts, other SCBO representatives, and SEND Network Ohio. Together, we are seeing congregations encouraged to thrive again. Weekly, we post the names of pastors to pray for on our SCBO News & Views Facebook Page as an encouragement to lift each other up.

Congregations searching for a pastor have begun to utilize an updated Search Team Handbook that is available upon request. The point is you are not alone, and we are here to encourage and assist you in multiple ways. We want to see healthier pastors, healthier marriages, and healthier churches in our state.

If you would like to know how we can help your congregation, contact me at [mjones@scbo.org](mailto:mjones@scbo.org)



# Job Postings

## SENIOR Pastor, Monterey Baptist Church

Monterey Baptist Church, a rural congregation situated thirty miles east of Cincinnati, Ohio, is seeking full-time and part-time/bi-vocational applicants for Senior Pastor. The church is self-governed and shares affiliation with the Southern Baptist Convention and works in cooperation with the SCBO and the Cincinnati Area Baptist Association.

The Senior Pastor will implement church policies and practices as outlined in the church constitution and will shepherd with maturity as a model servant of his congregation, his family, and his community.

Please submit resumes to  
[Montereybaptistclermont@gmail.com](mailto:Montereybaptistclermont@gmail.com).

## SENIOR Pastor, Sidney Baptist Church

Sidney Baptist Church, a rural congregation situated thirty miles north of Dayton, Ohio, is seeking full-time applicants for Senior Pastor. The church is self-governed and shares affiliation with the Southern Baptist Convention and works in cooperation with the SCBO.

The pastor is responsible to the church for proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ, using his skills in administrative leadership, engaging in pastoral care ministries to meet the needs of persons in the church and in the community, and acting as the chief administrator of the ministerial and vocational staff.

Please submit resumes to [Sidney.baptist@yahoo.com](mailto:Sidney.baptist@yahoo.com).

## YOUNG Adults Director

The ideal candidate for Cuyahoga Valley Church Young Adults Director is humble, convinced of the power of God's Word, dedicated to prayer, committed to life-on-life discipleship, able to teach, competent to counsel, clear in their communication, and dedicated to a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Must be a born-again, baptized believer. Must affirm the Baptist Faith & Message 2000. Must be at least 30 years old. Prefer 5+ years of church leadership experience. Prefer Bible college or seminary degree.

Interested candidates should email a current resume to CVC Equip Pastor Joe Valenti at [Jvalenti@cvconline.org](mailto:Jvalenti@cvconline.org).

*Let the Ohio Baptist Messenger help your church  
find a new pastor or staff member!*

*The Messenger is offering classified ads free of charge for Ohio churches searching for new pastors and staff members.  
The Messenger is read by churches and individuals in Ohio and across the country.*

To submit a classified ad, please send brief information about the position along with a return phone number or email:

[classifieds@scbo.org](mailto:classifieds@scbo.org)

## Online Giving Now Available for SCBO Contributions

We are thrilled to share with you that the SCBO now has online giving for you or your church to make contributions to the Cooperative Program, Disaster Relief, and the Ray Roberts State Mission Offering!

Simply visit [www.scbo.org/give](http://www.scbo.org/give) and select the option that best fits your preferred method of giving. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Chief Financial Administrator, Kevin Heaton, at [kheaton@scbo.org](mailto:kheaton@scbo.org).

[www.scbo.org/give](http://www.scbo.org/give)

What is the Lord doing in your church or ministry?

-- Tell us your story --

*The Ohio Baptist Messenger is a monthly publication highlighting what the Lord is doing in SCBO churches or ministries, and we need your help! Tell us your story and we could feature it in an upcoming issue of *The Messenger*. Please submit your stories to [messenger@scbo.org](mailto:messenger@scbo.org).*

*For more information, please contact Stephanie Heading at [messenger@scbo.org](mailto:messenger@scbo.org).*

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