

PUBLICATION OF THE STATE CONVENTION OF BAPTISTS IN OHIO

# OHIO BAPTIST MESSENGER

JUNE 2017 | VOLUME 65 NO. 3

OHIO PASTOR'S CONFERENCE

**NOVEMBER 7, 2017**

CHILICOTHE BAPTIST CHURCH



**64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

State Convention of Baptists in Ohio

**November 8, 2017**

Chillicothe Baptist Church

# Summertime in Ohio means it's time for camp!



## Summer Schedule

### June

- 5-9 Family Camp
- 12-16 Missions Camp
- 19-23 Kids Kamp
- 26-30 Kids Kamp
- 26-30 Super Summer

@Cederville University

### July

- 3-7 Youth Camp
- 10-14 Youth Camp
- 17-21 Youth Camp
- 24-28 Kids Kamp

**RESCUE THE LOST A.R.T.**  
 You  
 Ephesians 2:10  
**Kids Kamp**

BOYS AND GIRLS GRADES 1-12

JUNE 12-16  
2017 MISSION CAMP



DIVE IN TO:  
SEEING GOD AT WORK  
KNOWING JESUS  
SALVATION  
GOD'S LOVE

**Visit [SCBO.ORG](http://SCBO.ORG) for more information.**

# Children's Ministry Conference

*An age graded conference designed for all children's workers!*

**September 9, 2017**

**9am-4pm (includes lunch)**

### Core Sessions

- Maria Brannen, Older Children
- Scott Patrick, Younger Children
- Jenni Carter, Older Preschool
- Susan Allen, Younger Preschool

*Various Electives will be available.*

**FBC South Lebanon  
505 Mason Rd.  
South Lebanon, OH 45065**



**Steve Parr, Guest Speaker  
along with the Georgia Baptist Mission Board Sunday School Team**

**Register at [www.scbo.org](http://www.scbo.org)**

# RA Congress 2017

This year's Royal Ambassador Congress was held at Violet Baptist Church May 5-6. Boys in first through sixth grade from Violet Baptist and North Fairfield Baptist came together for competition, missions and fun.

We started off with Race Night on Friday. Boys raced RA Racers (pine wood cars) then we designed, built, and raced Line Gliders. Trophies

were awarded for first, second, and third places in two divisions for each of the races.

Saturday morning started off with breakfast, a time of worship, and then hearing stories and testimony from missionary Dale Warton and how God has used him to reach people in China. Brother Dale challenged the boys to be ready and prepared for how God will use them.

Saturday continued with camp craft training and competition, with medals awarded for first, second, and third place teams in two divisions. We then had an opportunity to serve Violet Baptist and the community by passing out information to promote Vacation Bible School. We wrapped up with a few rounds of dodgeball.

Look for information and

dates for Ohio RA Congress 2018. If you would like information or resources on starting or getting involved in Royal Ambassadors please contact SCBO or Bryan Carpenter at [ambassadorbc@aol.com](mailto:ambassadorbc@aol.com).

Ambassador for Christ,  
Bryan Carpenter  
OhioRoyalAmbassadorDirector



# Church Secretary Retires after 57 Years of Service

By: David Frasure, Pastor

In 1960, our church hired one of the teenagers to create bulletins and newsletters on a part-time basis. That was how Paula Brandenburg's career began. Back then church secretaries used typewriters, paper spreadsheets and mimeograph machines to keep track of church business. Paula has seen the "latest office gadgets" come and go over her 57 years of service to the Lord and His Church, but her character and integrity have remained consistent. That is why she has been used of God to be such a blessing to the church family of First Baptist Church, South Lebanon, Ohio.

As a church secretary, Paula has served alongside six different pastors. She has been able to adapt to their different styles, respond to their various

desires and be patient with their various quirks along the way. She has been a trusted assistant to each one. She added value to each pastor's ministry.

Ms. Paula has earned the trust of our people over the years, as well. She has handled church finances with great integrity. She has watched people in crisis come and go into the pastor's office without yielding to the temptation to gossip or ask personal questions. She has developed a sixth sense about when to volunteer information and when to keep it under wraps. Her honesty has been proven time and time again. She has walked in the integrity of her heart and God has rewarded her for it.

Change is inevitable for all of us. Although technology has changed much in the last

six decades, Paula has learned to adapt and be flexible and teachable. She has had to learn new administrative and technical skills along the way. In spite of the many changes, she has been faithful and dependable to the tasks at hand. She has always been willing to make her needs secondary to the need of the congregation, leaving a legacy of sacrificial service to the Lord and His people.

As Paula retires from her position of Church Secretary (a term she preferred over Administrative Assistant, Office Manager, etc.) she will be truly missed. We will miss her friendly voice on the phone and her memory of various policies and procedures that were developed along the way in our church's history. I'm sure we will be bewildered at



Paula Brandenburg times without her amazing ability to remember who's who on the church roster, who they are related to, when they were saved and where they sit on Sunday morning. She has loved our people with a sincere love and for that we will always be grateful.

# Women's Spring Retreats

## Metro Columbus Spring Retreat

*Faith, Freedom, Forgiveness, & Inspiration*

### Guide Church hosts ladies from Metro Columbus Association

*By: Sue Stickel*

Thank you to Guide Church in Hilliard for hosting the Metro Columbus Retreat on April 29. The ladies enjoyed hearing from Linda Ulrey and Chell Perry about Faith, Forgiveness, Freedom and Inspiration. We were challenged to go and inspire others in their walk with Christ and to tell others about His love.

The worship team from Guide Church led us in a wonderful time of worship through music as well.

The ladies were able to shop at the Lifeway and World Craft tables. What a great way to have spent that stormy Saturday morning. If you didn't come you missed a huge blessing. Plan on joining us next year.



*Freedom Speaker, Chell Perry*



*Worship Team at Guide Church*



*Ladies in worship*

Jack Kwok, State Convention Executive Director-Treasurer, Editor; Linnett Snodgrass, Administrative Assistant; Amanda Mishne, Publication Layout.  
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# Is Sunday School Dead?

That is a question that I have been asking myself lately...

At first glance, many would say no, Sunday school is not dead. It is a thriving dynamic in the overall ministry of the church. While others would emphatically say, "Yes, Sunday School is dead!" And they would cite the decline in attendance, enrollment, activities, the lack of interested teachers, and many other reasons as their defense.

Honestly, there seems to be a lack of interest in people wanting to receive training or churches looking at Sunday School as a major source of ministry. Ask yourself the question, "Why does Sunday School exist?" Maybe a better question would be, "Does Sunday School exist for us?"

In some form or fashion, every church has Sunday School or Small Groups. These groups have existed for

years and week in and week out teachers prepare a lesson, teach the lesson and then prepare for next week. "For what" is my question? What is the reason or purpose that we do this? Many would say, "To teach the Bible." again I ask "Why?" Is it to dispense biblical knowledge or to see true transformation of lives? Eric Geiger, Vice President of Life-way Christian Resources, said in one of his meetings, "teaching is not about information (although there will be some), nor is it about behavior modification (although there will be some of that). Most importantly it is about teaching for transformation! If we are not preparing to teach in that manner, then we have missed the mark. Let me remind you of this, just because you are teaching does not mean they are learning!

Although I would say Sunday school is not dead, I might

consider the ministry to be flat. What I mean is that classes meet from week to week with no purpose other than completing a Bible study. Bible study is great, and as a teacher, you should be as prepared as possible, but is there anything else taking place outside of the classroom? Are there times of fellowship or caregiving? Are conversations taking place outside of the classroom?

While both views may be valid it boils down to how you view your Sunday School or small group ministry and its effectiveness. Could it be in your church that Sunday School is simply existing or is it flourishing as one of the most predominant ministries in your church?

The Bible Teaching/Leadership Resource group exists to help you with your Sunday School needs. Let me share with you four things that will help define that statement.

- 1) Equip - we want to help equip you and your church by using tools and resources that make a greater impact in the classroom. To help the teacher understand their role and the role of the class better.
- 2) Engage - we want to help the class engage each other within the classroom and then also outside of the classroom.
- 3) Encourage - we want to encourage you to go deeper into God's word, engage in outside activities that include outreach, fellowship and ministry.
- 4) Enhance - finally, we can help enhance the overall structure, purpose, passion, and fulfillment for your group.

Let us help you, as we minister together for the kingdom of God! Let me leave you with this thought, "Is Sunday School dead?" probably not. But "Is it alive?".... You decide!

## *New Pastor & Staff Orientation*



# September 12, 2017

**9:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.**

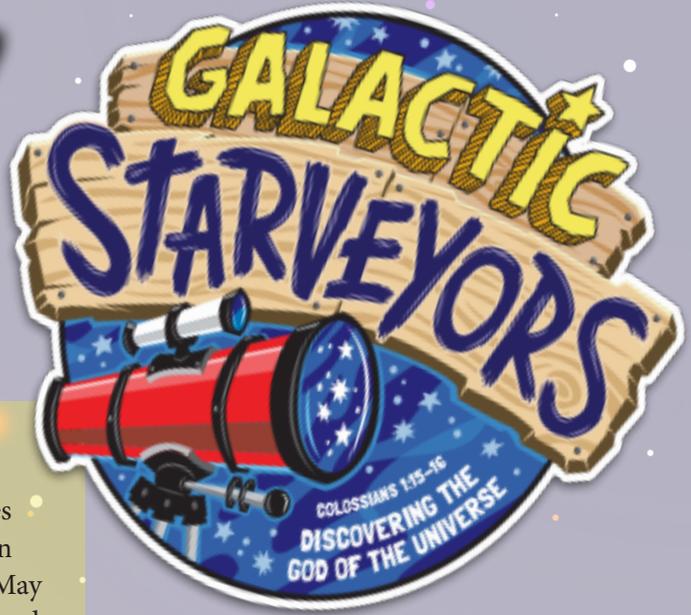
**State Convention of Baptists  
SCBO Resource Center  
9000 Antares Avenue  
Columbus, OH**

The New Pastor and Staff Orientation provides opportunity to meet the State Resource Team Leaders and learn what resources are available. There is no registration fee; however, advance registration is necessary through Linnett Snodgrass. Spouses are invited and encouraged to attend. Orientation begins at 9:30 a.m. and concludes by 3:00 p.m.

Contact Linnett Snodgrass (lsnodgrass@scbo.org) or Bruce Smith (brucesmith@scbo.org) for more information.

# VBS 2017

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



### 3...2...1...It's time for VBS!

As Vacation Bible School training is coming to a close for Ohio in 2017, churches are gearing up to turn their kids into Galactic Starveyors! As kids focus their telescopes on the marvels painted in the sky by the Creator, they will discover the wonder above everything that the invisible God wants a personal relationship with them!

Make sure to invite your kids into the clubhouse and show them the God who is over the moon in love with them. Whether you are teaching from a class room or a backyard discover the incredible mysteries of the final frontier. Your telescope becomes a portal through which you encounter amazing and wonderful things designed by a Creator who is even bigger than the vastness of His creation.

Thank you to all the churches across Ohio who participated in VBSI and the regional clinics. May God give you everything you need as you continue to plan and prepare for another great year of VBS!

Remember, if SCBO can assist you please feel free to contact us directly by calling 614-601-6789.

In His Service,  
Dwayne Lee  
State VBS Director



Snack Time!



VBS Clinic Teaching Team



VBS Staging



**OBCD**

# OHIO BAPTIST CONFERENCE OF THE DEAF

## June 23 to 25, 2017

Liberty Heights Church  
7904 Princeton Road  
Liberty Township, OH 45044

For more Information and  
Registration contact  
Beth Tanner at [OBCDinfo@gmail.com](mailto:OBCDinfo@gmail.com)

If you have a Deaf Church, Bible Study Class, or Interpreted Ministry to the Deaf, we would like to add your Church's ministry to our database.

Please send information & contact person to Sam Kelley,  
Missions Support & Mobilization Team  
9000 Antares Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43240  
(614)601-6852 or [skelley@scbo.org](mailto:skelley@scbo.org)



OBCD is looking for qualified Sign Language Interpreters to facilitate communication at state wide SCBO events.

If you are an ASL Interpreter (certification is not needed) please send a short video or a video link of you interpreting a short program with your contact information to:

Beth Tanner  
215 West Kemper Road  
Cincinnati OH 45246  
or [ehtanner@fuse.net](mailto:ehtanner@fuse.net) (subject: OBCD)



# 2017 Ohio Disaster Relief Training Sessions

State Convention of Baptist in Ohio—9000 Antares Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43240  
Jack Kwok, Ph. D. Executive Director—Treasurer—A COOPERATIVE PROGRAM MINISTRY



***Food Service, Child Care, Chain Saw, Shower Trailer, and Mud-Out Training. You must be 21 to train for Child Care and 18 for all other areas.***

**We will collect required information, during the training session, to perform a background check.**

**Pre-Register  
at:  
SCBO.ORG**

**Questions?  
Call: (614)  
309 - 9751**

**November 17—18**

**First Baptist Church  
525 South 30<sup>th</sup> Street  
Heath, Ohio 43056**

**Friday  
6:00 PM  
6:30 - 9:30 PM**

**Registration  
“Involving Southern Baptists in Disaster Relief”**

**Saturday  
7:15 AM  
8:00 AM  
12:00 PM  
12:30 PM  
3:00 PM**

**Continental Breakfast Served  
Unit Training  
Lunch Provided by DR Food Service  
Evangelism Training  
Dismissed**

**PRE-  
REGISTRATION IS  
REQUIRED FOR  
ALL TRAINING.**

**You are welcome to bring your bed roll and sleep in the church at any training session. Meals are provided. The cost is \$35 per person or \$50 per couple (sharing a training manual).**

# 2017 State Bible Drills

Congratulations to the 25 children, youth and high school students who participated in the State Bible Drills Saturday at Reynoldsburg Baptist Church.

Of the 14 who participated in the Children's Drill, 13 were declared state winners, including six who were State Winner Perfect. These children represented four different churches – First Baptist Kettering, First Baptist New Carlisle, Pleasant Valley and Reynoldsburg.

In the Youth Drill, Daniel Morgan and Thomas Bonifield of FBK finished fourth and third, respectively. Kasi Reed of Reynoldsburg finished

second and Samuel Mosher of FBK won. Samuel will represent Ohio in June at the National Invitational Tournament in Brunswick, GA.

The High School Drill featured a true spirit of camaraderie amongst the drillers. By scoring at least 270 points each (of 300 possible), all six were declared State Winners. After they exited the sanctuary, they were high-fiving and hugging each other. Siblings Matthew and Elizabeth Allen of Reynoldsburg finished first and third, respectively, with Joseph Mosher of FBK finishing second. Because Matthew Allen cannot attend the NIT,

Joseph will represent Ohio in the high school division.

Cash prizes are awarded to the first, second and third place finishers in the youth and high school divisions. Although prizes vary year to year (as they are provided by donations), this year's prizes were \$300 for first, \$200 for second, and \$100 for third. Congratulations to all the participating students. They are all true winners as they are



All participants representing First Baptist Kettering, Pleasant Valley, Reynoldsburg and New Carlisle.

hiding God's Word in their hearts.

If you are interested in starting Bible Drills in your area, or if you have any questions, please contact Kimberly Jackson Kubik via email at [kjax@voyager.net](mailto:kjax@voyager.net).



High School Drillers - L-R - Joseph Mosher and Devonae Morgan, First Baptist Kettering; David Imre and Elizabeth Kastelein, Pleasant Valley; Matthew Allen and Elizabeth Allen, Reynoldsburg Baptist Church.



L-R - Thomas Bonifield, FBK, 3rd place youth; Samuel Mosher, FBK, 1st place youth; Kasi Reed, RBC, 2nd place youth.



L-R - Joseph Mosher, FBK, 2nd place high school; Matthew Allen, RBC, 1st place high school; Elizabeth Allen, RBC, 3rd place high school.

## Help Needed

FBC Lancaster, Lancaster, Ohio is seeking a Senior / Lead Pastor.

Candidates must have / be:

1. Born Again man called of God
2. Masters in Divinity / Theology
3. Minimum 5 years Pastoral experience
4. Theology in accordance to the Baptist Faith & Message (2000 edition)
5. Exemplify Godly character and be a man of one wife

Qualified candidates can send resumes to Hugh Gordon at [fbclancastersearch@gmail.com](mailto:fbclancastersearch@gmail.com)

Sunday Morning Pianist needed at Worthington Baptist Church.

Contact: [wbc@worthingtonbaptist.org](mailto:wbc@worthingtonbaptist.org) attention: Josh Pollock



- Scramble Format
- Loads of Prizes
- 2 Free Meals
- A Great Cause

# 2017 OBF Golf Invitational

**REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!**

[scbo.org/golf](http://scbo.org/golf)



**Monday July 10**

**Wedgewood Golf & Country Club**

 **OHIO BAPTIST  
FOUNDATION**  
Investing in God's Kingdom Since 1969

# Teaching Tips for Bible Teachers

By: David Frasure

I can still remember my wife giving me a few tips when I was preparing my very first sermon. She said, “Pray much, study hard and don’t use me for a sermon illustration.” Those were helpful tips and I have generally followed two out of three! No matter how long you have taught, it doesn’t hurt to get a few friendly teaching tips. Recently, I was able to spend a few hours with David Apple, a conference leader for LifeWay. He shared several tips I’d like to develop for you today.

There are three basic parts for a good teaching session. The first is to create interest. This helps to draw the learners in, so they will participate in the lesson. This is where we use a catchy story, a meaningful illustration, a fun activity, etc. that will create interest for the pupils and allow them to get engaged in the lesson. A wise teacher understands that boredom is every teacher’s enemy. If a learner is bored from the start of the lesson,

you will likely never gain their attention.

The second part of a lesson is to discover and apply the Word of God. The word “discover” is key. We tend to retain and apply what we have discovered, while we tend to be indifferent and forget what we have merely been told. Jesus was the Master at asking provoking questions to help people discover the truth. The word “apply” is also vital—the Pharisees knew what the Bible said, but they often missed the life-change and attitude-change that learning the Bible requires.

The third basic part of a teaching session is to bring closure to the lesson. Here we summarize, fit the lesson into the bigger picture of God’s redemptive plan and challenge the learners to deeper personal study after class. The closing of the lesson is likely to be the most memorable part of the lesson. If we are not careful, we can be like the athlete who competes well but stops short of the finish line.

Or, imagine a farmer who does a great job planting and cultivating, but never brings in the harvest. All three of these basic parts are essential for a strong lesson.

There are three basic questions to ask while preparing a Bible lesson. The first question is “What am I teaching?” This means understanding the context of the passage you are teaching as well as the content. It means having a grasp on the word meanings and how these ideas are handled in other parts of the Bible. This anticipates what the learners may need to understand to better comprehend the passage you are teaching.

The second question is, “Who am I teaching?” What are your students going through, what struggles are they experiencing, where are they in their walk with Christ? We will often need to adapt our teaching style to the learning level and the receptivity of the pupil. Children learn well in the context of play. Teens are going to be responsive

to cool technology or more social activities. Some adults may enjoy a conference-style lecture, while others want more discussion in the class. All learners are responsive to genuine love and encouragement.

The final question is, “How am I teaching?” Most every teacher needs to learn to use a variety of teaching styles. Someone has said, “The worst way to teach is the way you teach all the time.” An illustrated lecture may work well, but maybe not every week. Following a question and answer approach may be a nice change for your class members. If you use a discussion approach to your class on a regular basis, it might be good to mix it up with more activity or role-playing. Mixing up how you teach keeps people curious and every teacher knows that when a student is curious, he is much more teachable.

Dave Frasure is CABA’s Disciple-making Catalyst and pastors FBC So. Lebanon, OH



**MOVING BEYOND**  
A ONE DAY LEADERSHIP EVENT

WITH  
**JOHNNY HUNT**

**AUGUST 24,  
2017**

**JERSEY BAPTIST  
CHURCH  
NEW ALBANY, OH**

**REGISTER  
TODAY**  
[SCBO.ORG/MOVINGBEYOND](http://SCBO.ORG/MOVINGBEYOND)



**North American  
Mission Board**

# Buckeye Baptist Builders Perform Construction and Maintenance at Seneca Lake Baptist Assembly

By: Sam Kelley

Beginning in 1970 with Campers on Mission, volunteers from across the state have been ministering to Southern Baptists in Ohio by giving a week of their time to construct and maintain the great facilities housed at the Seneca Lake Baptist Assembly (SLBA) campgrounds.

Projects such as building cabins, boat docks, sports fields (softball, volleyball, horseshoes, etc), miniature golf, dining hall, shelters, Frisbee golf, and snack shacks have been built and maintained over the years. The

not, if you only knew what God has done for me!; I look forward all year to this week, because we get together, work hard, renew friendships, and get closer to our Father!

Truth be known, there are countless thousands who have surrendered their lives to Christ at SLBA. Some have gone into ministerial professions, such as pastors or onto the mission field. Some have gone on to minister more boldly in their local church. Some have moved on to other endeavors in life and are raising their children and grandchildren to know God. What



Cabin Roof Work

Walburn, were added to the memorial. Vince Waters, Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Sidney, Ohio, provided words of encouragement and dedication.

This year, May 1-5, ministry

was continued, approximately 40 volunteers were led by a new team leader, Dale Patterson. Patterson, has been a long time Baptist Builder and is also the leader of the Metro Columbus Association Build-



Shelter rail installation

work was done under the direction of great leaders such as Gene Wilcox and Ray Morris.

When asked why they would give a full week of their time to be away from home and family to work hard for no pay, you get answers such as: This is like a week of revival, working for Our Lord to provide a place for young and old to come and learn about Him; You can't out give God; Why

an awesome legacy to be a small part of.

Beginning in 2000, the volunteer builders began honoring those team members who passed on and went to be with Our Lord during the preceding year. Plaques, in builder's tradition, were affixed to the shelter fully donated and built by the builders. This year, number 19 – Joyce Randall – and number 20 – Dennis



Miniature golf course cleaning

# Buckeye Baptist Builders 2017 Schedule

June 9-16, 2017

Indian Lake Baptist Church

Lakeview, Ohio

Project: New Build

Contact: Dale Patterson 614-882-1375 or 614-352-0884

July 17-21, 2017

Crossway Church

Eaton, Ohio

Project: Pitched roof over flat roof and building a connector section

Contact: Dale Patterson 614-882-1375 or 614-352-0884

August 7-18, 2017

Senecia Lake Baptist Assembly

Senecaville, Ohio

Project: Chapel Wall Rebuild

Contact: Dale Patterson 614-882-1375 or 614-352-0884



Top Left: A two handed hammer presented to Joyce some years ago by the team. Joyce would sit and pound nails using both hands, thus the idea came to the team to help her out with her effort! Top Right: Vince Waters, Pastor Emmanuel Baptist Church, Sidney, Ohio provided words of recognition and encouragement during the ceremony honoring Joyce and Dennis. Dale Patterson, Team leader is looking on. Bottom: The plaques honoring Joyce and Dennis.

ers team. He is very active in his home church, First Baptist Westerville and leads the Disaster Relief Chain Saw Unit.

Volunteers completed new metal roofs on the final three cabins, cleaned and maintained the mini golf park, placed mulch, repaired and painted 3 paddle boats, and removed and built a new boat dock ( 80 feet X 16 Feet) for 24 paddle boats! Quite an accomplishment for a rain filled week. A couple of projects were rained out, so there is still work to do.

don't have to wait until next year to join Baptist Builders! No sir, we have two more weeks scheduled at the camp to work on the Chapel walls. Dates are August 7-18. If you want to get involved before then, we have some churches on our list too. Contact Sam Kelley at the state office for more information. FREE FOOD AND LODGING AT THE CAMP. FREE FOOD AT THE OTHER PROJECTS (LODGING IS FREE IF YOU CAMP OR SLEEP IN THE CHURCH).

Thinking of work to do, you

# PRESS TOWARD THE MARK

June begins the Vacation Bible School season. Every year, effective Vacation Bible Schools contribute significantly to professions of faith and baptisms in Southern Baptist Churches. To all the wonderful leaders and volunteers who conduct Vacation Bible Schools, thank you for your investment in the eternal futures of children and their families reached through VBS. Let us pray for the 2017 Vacation Bible School season.

Another June event is the 2017 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. Each year elected local church messengers gather to receive reports from the SBC Agencies, approve the Cooperative Mission Program budget, and conduct other business. The annual meeting of the

Southern Baptist Convention is also a time for fellowship through renewing of enduring friendships and participating in moving worship. Let us pray for the 2017 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

June also marks the beginning of the third quarter for the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio fiscal year. Through April the 5th month of the fiscal year, receipts from SCBO churches total 92.7% of the budget-to-date. At this rate, the SCBO fiscal year budget would experience a shortfall of \$337,649.72.

Messengers to the 2016 SCBO Annual Meeting adopted the 2016-17 mission budget which employs a 50/50 ratio in the distribution of Cooperative Mission Program receipts from the

churches. Of the undesignated receipts from SCBO churches, 50% will support worldwide Southern Baptist missions and 50% will support Mission Ohio.

This move to the 50/50 ratio distribution in one year represents a decrease of \$78,059 in personnel costs and an increase of 16.65% (an additional \$630,447) in contributions from the SCBO churches. This additional decrease in SCBO staffing, brought the total to a 52% reduction in positions implemented over the years in order to continue supporting missions from Ohio to the ends of the earth.

The need of the day is to promote and support the Cooperative Mission Program. Thank you for stepping up to the challenge of engaging SCBO churches to support

Southern Baptist missions worldwide through the Cooperative Mission Program.

Mission Ohio is the cooperative effort of Southern Baptists to reach 1,000,000 believers in 2,020 congregations by the end of 2020. Supporting missions from Ohio to the ends of the earth is the heartbeat of Ohio Southern Baptists. The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio exists to assist Southern Baptist churches and associations in Ohio obey the Great. Let's press toward that mark.



Jack Kwok, Ph.D.  
Executive Director-Treasurer  
State Convention of Baptists in Ohio

## How to Become a Christian

If you are not a Christian, have never surrendered your will to the Lord Jesus, let me share briefly how you can make this life changing decision. **GOD WANTS YOU SAVED.**

**FIRST**, you must believe that God loves you and wants you to have peace in your heart and an everlasting life (John 3:16).

**SECOND**, you must recognize that you are a sinner, that you have done things which have displeased God and that you have separated yourself from Him (Romans 3:23; 6:23).

**THIRD**, you must believe that Jesus came to this earth, was actually God in the flesh, lived a perfect life, and yet went to a cruel cross, dying for your sins, paying once and for all the penalty of sin (I Peter 2:24). However, it's

not enough just to know these three things. Many of us knew them for years before we ever gave Jesus our lives.

**FOURTH**, you must personally ask Jesus to come into your life and forgive you of your sins (Revelation 3:20).

You can pray this prayer now and if you mean it with all of your heart, Jesus will come in just like He said. He cannot lie.

*Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner. I'm really sorry for my sins, Lord. I ask you now, Lord Jesus, to come into my heart, forgive me of my sins, take control of my life, and make me the kind of person You want me to be. I now receive You into my heart. Thank You for coming in. I will follow You all the days of my life. In Your name I pray, Amen.*

## How to submit Church News

Send all church news and information to Linnett Snodgrass at [lsnodgrass@scbo.org](mailto:lsnodgrass@scbo.org)