

Ohio Celebrates Renewed Vision

What an incredible day we experienced as Ohio Baptists gathered together on Tuesday, November 16th for the 68th annual celebration at Violet Baptist in Pickerington. Under a theme of "Keep Moving Forward" and scriptural admonition of Philippians 3:12-14, the annual celebration had a great spirit. There were 364 messengers registered and 64 guests present, representing the largest number of messengers in 17 years and passing the largest budget in the history of the SCBO. The excitement extended to passage of a \$5,036,747.74 budget for 2022, a 6.5 percent increase from last year, of which 50 percent – \$2,518,373.87 – is to leave the state for national and global Cooperative Program needs. Ohio has had a 50/50 CP split since 2016, when I was president of the state convention. We believe the Cooperative Program is the greatest method for planting churches, revitalizing churches and calling out the called through multiplication pipelines in our state. We also believe the Cooperative Program is the best means to get the gospel across the street and around the world.

In other business, Ohio Southern Baptists approved a resolution calling for the complete and immediate abolition of abortion, and the addition of a sexual abuse task force, including both pastors and women as task force members. Messengers and guests also heard about a restructuring of the State Convention into six regions for closer connection between churches and the State Convention, and a reallocation of resources to reduce personnel costs. We desire to be a state where no pastor does ministry alone. Moving towards a regional model enables us to accomplish the vision of having the convention right beside the pastors in every corner of Ohio. The celebration continued as Ohio churches reported 1,669 baptisms and the addition of 23 new

churches between Nov. 1, 2020 and Oct. 31, 2021, with 19 churches being planted and 4 newly affiliated churches.

An additional agreement with the North American Mission Board was announced. In addition to Ohio's three Send cities – Columbus, Cincinnati and Cleveland – there now is Send Network Ohio, which brings even more church planting capacity and resources to the state that is approaching 12 million residents. Our new partnership with NAMB will open up the throttle to help plant churches everywhere in Ohio for everyone in Ohio. It truly is a new day here in the Buckeye state for multiplication.

Ray Umphrey, pastor of Briggs Road Baptist Church in Columbus, was elected president; J.D. Davis, pastor of Dublin (Ohio) Baptist Church, first vice president; Tony Harris, pastor of Highland Avenue Baptist Church in Cincinnati, second vice president. Faye Rodgers, a member at Northside Baptist Church in Newark was elected recording secretary, and Mary Leigh Snowden, a member at Clough Pike Baptist Church in Cincinnati, assistant recording secretary. The next annual celebration is set for Nov. 14-15, 2022, at Cuyahoga Valley Church in Broadway Heights, part of Cleveland Hope.

President Reginald Hayes delivered his address from Daniel 11:32 under the theme of, "Nothing To Do but To Do It" and Pastor Art Fulks delivered the annual sermon from Acts 17 titled, "Turning the World Upside Down." Also, church planter testimonies were heard from Aaron Taylor of Living Hope in Columbus and Shawn Peoples of Life Church in Monroe.

Please visit scbo.org/celebration to watch all of the messages and testimonies from the 2021 Annual Celebration.



Dr. Jeremy Westbrook

Visit scbo.org/celebration to watch all of the messages and testimonies from the 2021 Annual Celebration.

SCBO Sexual Abuse Task Force

"The Mission Council of The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio approved the appointment of The Sexual Abuse Task Force on November 9th, 2021. The task force includes Greg Jackson, David Gray, Isaac Surh, Jessica Allredge, Jean Difilippo, Ginny Howell and SCBO President (ex-officio).

The newly elected President of the SCBO will work with the newly appointed Sexual Abuse Task Force for the purpose of reviewing all policies and procedures of the SCBO and recommending best practices to strengthen and support the prevention, awareness, and reporting of sexual abuse.

The Sexual Abuse Task Force will present to the Mission Council any policy changes they recommend. The Task Force will provide a report to the messengers of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio who gather at the annual celebration November 14-15, 2022, in Cleveland, Ohio, on the work of the task force and their recommendations (if any) for strengthening."

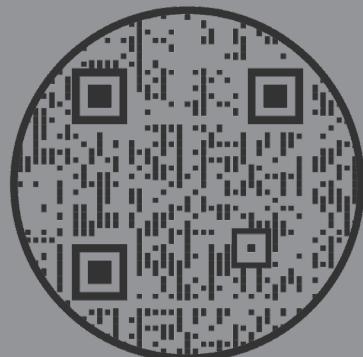


Elected Officers

Ray Umphrey, pastor of Briggs Road Baptist Church in Columbus, was elected president; J.D. Davis, pastor of Dublin (Ohio) Baptist Church, first vice president; Tony Harris, pastor of Highland Avenue Baptist Church in Cincinnati, second vice president; Faye Rodgers, a member at Northside Baptist Church in Newark was elected recording secretary; Mary Leigh Snowden, a member at Clough Pike Baptist Church in Cincinnati, assistant recording secretary.

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SCBO ▶



Larry Randolph Receives 2021 Darty and Dot Stowe Award

By: Steve Hopkins

Larry Randolph received the 2021 Darty and Dot Stowe Award at the 68 th annual meeting of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio November 16. Dr. Jeremy Westbrook made this 27 th presentation of the award.

"I had the honor and joy of serving with Larry Randolph for several years as his Pastor. I can honestly tell you that my favorite night of the week was Tuesday, when Larry and I would go out to visit and share the Gospel. Every local church needs a Larry Randolph who is not only faithful to win souls, but to encourage the Pastor to go and do likewise."

- Jeremy Westbrook

Larry Randolph has defined what it means to be a DR chaplain with an evangelist's heart. He has been quick to tell his "Highway to Heaven" presentation using an Evangecube. Larry has served on many call-outs with the Mudout Unit sponsored by the Cincinnati Area Baptist Association. Mark Snowden, CABA's director, said, "I have served with Larry and know that he is the real deal. His witness is strong and consistent. I was delighted to see him be this year's recipient." - Mark Snowden



Darty and Dot Stowe began their ministry with Mission Ohio in 1954 as director of missions for the greater Cincinnati area. A year later, he became state director of missions and then became the associate executive secretary, working closely with state executive secretary Ray Roberts. Darty and Dot loved their work in Ohio and served until his home going in 1981. Dot accepted a position as director of a women's residence hall at Georgetown College in 1983, where she influenced many young women. She moved back to Ohio in 1989 and stayed in close contact with friends in the ministry until joining Darty with our Lord in 2000.

Darty Stowe led well from the 'second chair,' with a servant's heart, leaving a great legacy in Ohio. Every year, the award is given to a pastor or minister who has served faithfully, perhaps never recognized like those in the larger, more visible churches, but leaving a legacy and serving in the spirit of 1 Thessalonians 2:3-12. Annual gifts to Georgetown College from the Stowe family provide the Darty and Dot Stowe Award.

Candidates for the Stowe Award must be currently serving Mission Ohio and have at least five years of service. Nominations are submitted to the state convention staff by October 1 each year. The award is announced during the annual meeting of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio. A recognition plaque and a financial award for the purchase of books and/or continuing education are presented to the recipient.



Prayer Renewal Weekend at Monterey Baptist

By Brenda Boberg, National Coordinator Church Renewal Journey

Prayer is the critical component of all believers' walk with Christ. It is the very essence of our relationship with Him. Prayer is vital to everything we do in the church, our families, our jobs, etc. Prayer is the oxygen of Christian life.

October 15-17, Monterey Baptist Church in Batavia, Ohio, entered their third weekend of the Church Renewal Journey, focusing on prayer. Steve Hopkins, from The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio, was the teacher for the weekend. During the weekend, the church experienced the teaching from John 17 the high priestly prayer, Matthew 6:9-13 the Model Prayer, Acts 6:4 on creating a culture of prayer, and finished with Ephesians 6:10-18 the daily need for wearing the full armor of God. A team of volunteer laypeople from Ohio and North Carolina provided testimonies, music and led small group discussions.

Greg Saylor and Len Walker, members of Monterey Baptist, were the co-chairs for their prayer weekend. Mr. Walker commented on how the teaching and testimonies were all spiritually oriented. "The volunteer team were at our church to serve and bring honor to the Lord and nothing else. Their goal was to help build the kingdom of God. On Saturday, the team led the church into a deeper understanding of the importance of corporate prayer." During this time, every church member prayed, and both Saylor and Walker stated they heard people pray that had never prayed in public before. Walker said during this prayer time that he realized the value of what they were being taught about corporate prayer.

Pastor Daryl Poe of Monterey Baptist states, "The Church Renewal Journey Weekend of Prayer was very strategic in our church Revitalization efforts. Without a biblical

understanding and application of prayer, Revitalization is impossible. Church Revitalization is People Revitalization. A maturing prayer life will ignite both a corporate and individual Renewal that values Christlikeness."

The Church Renewal Journey consists of five discipleship weekends. Awakening, Ministry, Commissioning, Prayer Empowering, and Acts 1:8 Weekends challenge church members to grow closer to God in all aspects of their Christian walk. Volunteers would be glad to come to your church to talk about the renewal process.

For more information on the Church Renewal Journey, contact Steve Hopkins at the SCBO office (SteveHopkins@scbo.org) or Marty O'Bryant, Ohio coordinator 740-591-0003. You may also contact Tom and Brenda Boberg, National Coordinators, at 252-916-6195 or NationalChurchRenewalJourney.org



GETTING READY FOR THE NEXT GUY →

TRANSITIONAL PASTOR TRAINING 2021

Getting Ready for the Next Guy: Transitional Pastor Training at SCBO

Getting Ready for the Next Guy: Transitional Pastor Training took place in the SCBO training room October 19. Chuck Deglow facilitated the training from his experience in leading over twenty churches during the transition of pastors. Twelve participants attended from all over Ohio and left the day with a booklet full of notes, books for further study, and a better understanding of the transitional pastor's role. Chuck shared with the group that a transitional pastor is an intentional way of leading a church family to navigate the whitewater of a pastor transition. The church without an under-shepherd (1 Peter 5:4) can be very vulnerable. The average time between pastors is between 9 and 18 months. Much can happen during that time to affect the church either positively or negatively. "The one purpose for this ministry is the glory of God," Deglow emphasized.

Topics included:

- The stages through which each church will progress during the interim period — grieving, regrouping, and going forward

- Guiding the congregation through a review of their ministry effectiveness based upon historical trends in attendance, giving, baptisms, etc.
- Introducing the congregation to relevant current demographics and trends that indicate ministry opportunity
- Selecting and training a pastor search team

Often the church sees the time between pastors as a "hold things together, keep things going" period. Some people approach the time as a "wait and see" period. However, with effective leadership, the time can be productive — a time of growth spiritually, sending roots deep into His word and presence. Consistency in the pulpit will help steady the congregation during the uncertain days without a pastor. The transitional pastor's primary task is to prepare the people for the next pastor and the changes that will inevitably come with him.

To connect with Chuck Deglow about transitional pastor questions, or for a list of those trained that may be available to help, please contact Steve Hopkins at SteveHopkins@scbo.org or 614.601.6280.



Together,

WE REACH THE NATIONS

2021 GOAL

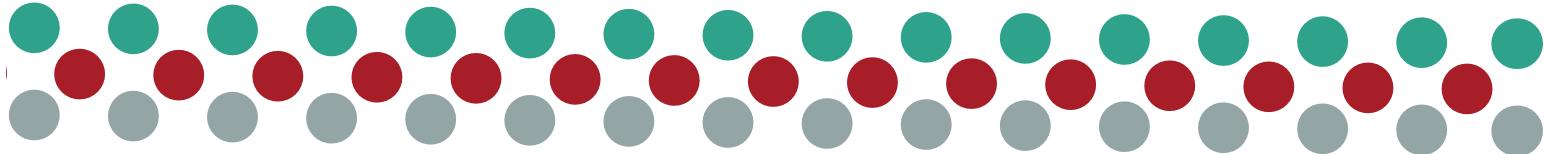
\$185
million



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I want to say thank you to everyone who packed backpacks this year for the Appalachian Christmas Backpack Ministry. So many children and teens will have a blessed Christmas because of your kindness and caring for them!

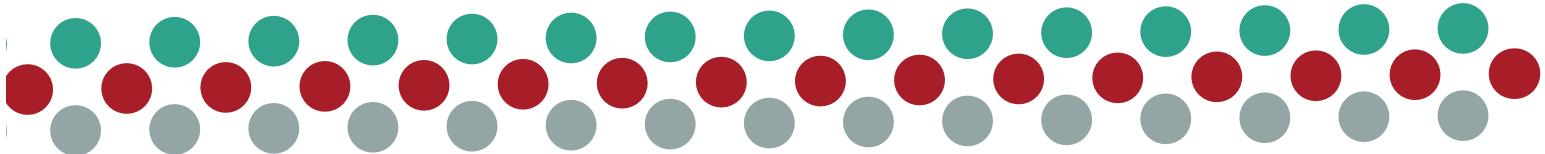
Please contact me as soon as possible if you still have backpacks to donate. There is still time to turn in backpacks that have been filled to give out to children and teens for Christmas in the Ohio Appalachian poverty areas.

Barbara DeLorme
SCBO WMU Coordinator for
Appalachian Christmas Backpack Ministry
(937) 609-0231 11kidsnanny@gmail.com

THANK
YOU



CHRISTMAS
BACKPACKS
for
Appalachia



A LIVING LEGACY: FOR TODAY, TOMORROW, AND ETERNITY

A significant number of articles and books have been written over the years on how to maximize our personal lives, including our family time, work time, and spare time. Most people sincerely want to justifiably maximize every part of their lives so that they minimize wasting time, which is always valuable and also brief. Scripture helps in revealing to us a comprehensive view on how to maximize our lives spiritually, physically, mentally, socially, and financially. Obviously then, it becomes our God given and enabled responsibility to invest in things that bring glory to God, advance His Kingdom,

and see His Kingdom ministry continue until He returns!

As we pursue ways to impact what is of value to us, we specifically strive to benefit our family. From a very practical standpoint, there are tremendous financial planning tools to impact both our family and the Kingdom, while we live here on earth and when we eventually enter into Heaven. The Ohio Baptist Foundation, in conjunction with our ministry partners, exists to help you be the best and most effective stewards over the assets the Lord puts at your disposal. In essence, we help people fund ministries, invest in

personal ministry passions, and also lay up treasures into our heavenly bank accounts.

Giving to support Christian work and Christian ministries is a means by which we can all leave a spiritual and financial legacy that will last today, tomorrow, and into eternity!

For more information on how you can increase and maximize the legacy you build for your family and the Kingdom, please call The Ohio Baptist Foundation at 614-309-9738 or email me at jackhelton@scbo.org.

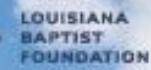
Jack Helton, Executive Director of the Ohio Baptist Foundation



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A MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP

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*Rates subject to change. **Based upon internal data. Please let us know if you hear of a higher rate.

Looking for a good rate of return on investments that need to be liquid and accessible at any moment? Then why not consider investing in the OBF-LBF Short Term Fund!

The Ohio Baptist Foundation and the Louisiana Baptist Foundation offer a Short Term Fund to help churches and other ministries maximize their income on cash reserves and designated funds. The annualized payout rate is 1.35% (as of 10/31/2021). Based upon our information, this is one of the highest cash-type rates offered in Ohio to churches and other ministries at this time.

If this would be helpful for your ministry, I would be honored to partner with your church or ministry to advance God's Kingdom here on earth. I can be reached by replying to jackhelton@scbo.org or 614-309-9738.

Jack Helton, Executive Director of the Ohio Baptist Foundation

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Your user account cannot be shared or given away to your church. It is a gift to you and your family to use for your marriage, finances, Bible Study, etc. However, because your church is a part of our State Convention, your church now also qualifies for a significant discount for FULL access to RightNow Media so you can use it to equip your families, resource your groups, and develop your leaders within your local church. If this resource is a benefit to you and your family, imagine how valuable it will be to your church community.

LEARN MORE:

RightNow Media will be reaching out to make sure you're able to access your free account and answer any questions you may have, but we also have two upcoming opportunities for a LIVE look at the RightNow Media platform:

Tuesday, November 30th @ 3:00 PM (EDT)

Thursday, December 2nd @ 10:00 AM (EDT).

Just hop onto Zoom at the scheduled time using this link - <https://zoom.us/j/9725604381> - our rep at RightNow Media will walk us through what it looks like to use the platform in the church's context with plenty of time for Q&A

Unable to join zoom? If you have any questions about RightNow Media, how to set up your free user account, or questions about giving full access to your church, [click here](#) and RightNow Media will connect with you.

The RightNow Media App gives you instant access to thousands of Bible study videos, and kid's episodes as well as the ability to watch content offline. Access biblical video content anywhere, anytime for you and your family! Get the free app with your membership here!

We hope and pray this will be a blessing to you and your families.

*Dr. Jeremy Westbrook
State Convention of Baptists in Ohio*





January 28–29, 2022
worship424.com

Cedarville University and
the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio present

Worship 4:24 Conference

Every week fellow Worship Leaders around the world have the opportunity to help shape, share, and spark excitement in the hearts and lives of their churches. At the same time we need to understand that we have a responsibility to help lead folks to go deeper in their faith journey. Worship 4:24 is a place where entire worship teams can come and gain insight and wisdom as they work on their craft and spiritual gifting. It is also a place where you will be able to network with people just like yourself.

So, whether you have been a part of this conference before or if this will be your first time, please make it a point to add this conference to your calendar of events. We will continue to discover what it means to worship God in spirit and in truth based upon our theme verse of John 4:24. We will spend two days of practical application as well as spiritual development as Worship Leaders and practitioners from around the country come together to lead us and listen to what God has given them.

The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio and Cedarville University are very excited about hosting this conference on January 28–29, 2022 at Cedarville University. You can register or review the schedule at worship424.com. We want to see you there!

In His Service,
Dwayne Lee



Mark your calendar now!

Plan to attend the Worship 4:24 Conference at Cedarville University on **January 28–29, 2022**. Co-sponsored by the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio and Cedarville University Department of Music and Worship. The conference is designed to equip and encourage worship leaders, musicians, bands, praise teams, and tech crews to be effective leaders. It will include a worship concert on Friday evening, general sessions and breakouts on both Friday and Saturday.

Cost

Early Bird registration

November 1 – December 19 \$50 per person (\$20/student)

Regular registration

December 20 – January 19 \$59.95 per person (\$30/student)

Registration

Online: worship424.com | **Phone:** 937-766-4444

To pay offline for multiple registrants with a single check, please select the gray button "Add Registrant," then add each individual's information. Please make out checks to Cedarville University and send your check and registrants' names to:

Event Services

Cedarville University
251 N Main St
Cedarville, OH 45314

Registration fees are due by and are nonrefundable after the deadline on January 19, 2022.

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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.

We want to hear your story!

Send church news and stories to Amanda Mishne at amishne@scbo.org

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9000 Antares Ave
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