



545 Commerce Ave NW  
Warren, OH 44485  
330-775-3401  
[www.ohiosvba.org](http://www.ohiosvba.org)

# the Steel Valley Baptist Association COMMUNICATOR

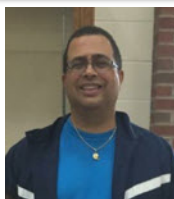
June, 2023

Sandra Parks  
Secretary, Treasurer  
[sandra@ohiosvba.org](mailto:sandra@ohiosvba.org)

Gary Frost, 917-817-6287  
Associational Missionary  
[gary@ohiosvba.org](mailto:gary@ohiosvba.org)

## Theme for 2023: Equipping Leaders for the Next Generation

### Missions & Ministry



Rafael Cruz Jr

Acts 2:4 *All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*

Have you noticed that everything God has done for us from the very beginning had, in its very purpose, His desire for us to know Him personally and intimately? As we recently celebrated Pentecost, the purpose for the mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit was to bring the lost to Jesus. That's why the disciples were suddenly able to speak in the foreign languages of those who had just arrived to celebrate Pentecost. The visitors ended up getting a lot more than they had expected. The disciples shared the gospel in their own languages and Peter proclaimed the first post-Jesus sermon. That day about 3000 were added to the new Church.

That's why we exist. The Holy Spirit is just as mighty today as He was 2000 years ago. The Church is His chosen vessel by which the gospel is shared, and the power of God is manifested to a lost world.

*see M&M, see page 2*

### Block Party Training

June 17, 10 am - 12 noon. For more information contact Rafael.

### Pray for SBC

The Southern Baptist Convention is gathering June 13-14 in New Orleans. Pray for God's presence and His wisdom to be prevalent. Pray for all votes to go according to God's will and for the greatest positive impact to take place in the world.

### Cleanup Day

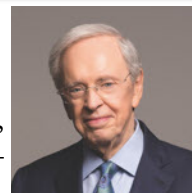
To prepare for the missionaries from Parkland Church in Louisville we will hold a cleanup day at the Commerce Ave. building, June 24, 10 AM to 12 noon. Let us show kindness to these people who are planning to invest heavily in our association. The work will consist of vacuuming, cleaning, rearranging tables and chairs, and other things like mopping floors.

### Election of Officers

The Bylaws state that the four officers need to be elected at the semiannual meeting. That did not take place, so the Administrative Team will present at the July Executive Board meeting the following plan of action. The Team is recommending we hold a special session at the October annual meeting to elect officers: moderator, vice-moderator, clerk, and treasurer. These positions will be voted on individually and names will be nominated from the floor.

### Seasons of Life

Deuteronomy 7:7-9



Dr. Charles Stanley

Spring, summer, fall, and winter—these are the seasons of the year.

Life also has its seasons. Some are filled with joy, while others are characterized by difficulty. Take comfort because there is a principle from the Bible that can encourage and sustain you through every season: Our God is faithful.

We learn about this attribute of the Lord from passages like 1 Corinthians 1:9, where Paul says, "God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." To say that God is faithful means He always does exactly what He says He will do.

How reassuring it is to know that He will keep His promises to His children and never leave their side, whatever "season" of life they are in. No matter how deep, how

*see Seasons, next page*

### Pastors' Zoom Mtg

The next pastor Zoom Meeting for fellowship and prayer is June 22 at 7 PM. The Zoom meeting can be accessed here:

**Zoom Mtg**

### ***M&M, from page 1***

We, as the Church, are their only hope. Let's rise up and be about the Father's business. Let's be a faithful Church.

The Jericho Project Street Ministry had our very first outreach event of the year on May 9<sup>th</sup> at Wick Park in Youngstown. It was in preparation for the March for Jesus. We were able to minister to numerous people and we saw some either turn to Jesus or return to Jesus. God surely blesses the faithfulness of His saints. We left there rejoicing in what the Lord had done.

We have two big events planned already: 1) National Night Out on August 1st at 6:00 p.m. at Homestead Park and 2) Stone Soup: Hope for the City on August 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. in which we are planning on giving out backpacks and school supplies to children in need. We are trusting God to supply all their needs. You, of course are welcome to be a part of that blessing.

The Steel Valley Baptist Association has a block party trailer available

for your church to use in fulfilling the Lord's calling on your ministry. You are located where you are because that's where the Lord has chosen to use you for His glory. There is even training available to help you prepare in planning and implementing an outreach event. If you need additional people to assist you, just ask and we'll do our best in getting you all the help you need.

So, make plans to do an outreach event at your church. Make yourself known to your community. The calendar for the use of the block party trailer is still wide open. Let's get it filled. It's \$75 to use the trailer plus a \$25 deposit. This helps to replenish supplies. I thank God we did have a church reserve a date for the block party trailer since our last report.

Let's make 2023 a year of faithfulness to the gospel and victory in sharing Jesus with those who desperately need Him!

God bless you,  
Rafael Cruz Jr.  
Missions and Ministry Team Leader  
(330) 507-0117

### ***Seasons, from page 1***

dark, how depressing, how hopeless, or how good things may seem, the child of God can count on the Father's abiding presence.

So regardless of your present trials or triumphs, embrace these three truths:

1. God will be faithful to you because it is His very nature (Ps. 36:5).
2. God knows all about your situation; you are never alone in any season of life (Ps. 139:7-12).
3. God is omnipotent, so He has the power to meet every single need, and He knows how to move you through the various seasons of your life (Rom. 8:28).

Hold onto this fact: You will change and seasons will change, but our wonderful God is always the same. That means He won't fail you, He won't waver on you, and He won't vary—you can fully rely on Him. And He will never forget about you; He is with you always. Great is His faithfulness!

## **Upcoming Meetings**

**Executive Board Mtg:** Monday, July 17, at Unity Baptist Church, 531 Neoka Dr, Campbell, 44405

**Annual Mtg:** Saturday, October 21, at Pilgrim Baptist Church, 67 McClure St, Struthers, OH 44471.

## **Finances**

As of April 30, Steel Valley Baptist Association has the following financial totals regarding the calendar year 2023:

Year-to-date Budget: \$ 27,889.58  
 Year-to-date Spent: \$ 28,960.43  
 Year-to-date Income: \$ 17,523.80

## **From the Editor**

Six years ago this month I began work as the editor of the Communicator. It has been encouraging to see how people have been benefited, and for the most part it has been fun. For time reasons, this issue will be the last I serve as the editor. I will continue serving as the ONE School Director as the Lord leads. May God continue to bless SVBA.

## **Churches and Missions in Steel Valley Baptist Association**

Austintown Baptist Church  
 Beacon of Hope Baptist Church  
 Central Baptist Church  
 Christian Community Baptist Church  
 Cornersburg Baptist Church  
 Cortland Trinity Baptist Church  
 East Conneaut Baptist Church  
 Faith Baptist Church  
 First Baptist Church, Andover  
 First Baptist Church, Garrettsville  
 First Baptist Church, Jefferson  
 First Baptist Church, Newton Falls



First Spanish Baptist Church  
 Grace Baptist Church  
 Grace Korean Baptist Church\*  
 Grace Place Ministries  
 Hope Baptist Church  
 Howland Glen Baptist Church  
 Living Testimony Ministries  
 Living Water Baptist Church  
 Memorial Baptist Church  
 Mercy Community Church  
 New Birth-Kimmelbrook Baptist Church  
 New Covenant Baptist Church



New Hope Baptist Church, Windham  
 New Hope Baptist Church, Youngstown  
 Northside Baptist Church  
 Rising Star Baptist Church  
 Shenango Valley Baptist Church  
 Solid Rock Community Church  
 Southington Baptist Church  
 Steel Valley Church  
 Unity Baptist Church  
 Upper Room Ministries