



545 Commerce Ave NW
Warren, OH 44485
330-775-3401
www.ohiosvba.org

the Steel Valley Baptist Association COMMUNICATOR

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Sandra Parks
Secretary, Treasurer
sandra@ohiosvba.org

Gary Frost, 917-817-6287
Associational Missionary
gary@ohiosvba.org

Semiannual Meeting

Wow! Who would have dreamed years ago (or even one year ago) that we would have a semiannual meeting over the Internet, but we did.

Other than the election of officers there were no motions presented. Our guest preacher was unable to make it to the meeting, but we had a good impromptu video message from Tony Evans on Spiritual warfare.

O.N.E. School

The Fall semester begins the week of August 24. That is not far away.

The Ohio NorthEast School of Theology serves as a Local Center for Gateway Seminary, one of our six SBC seminaries. They continue to expand ministry training opportunities which will be explained later. Through God's providence at O.N.E. School one of the classes we plan to present this Fall is "How to Interpret the Bible" (Biblical Hermeneutics). The course teaches the ways to understand passages accurately. This class is a must for teachers. Gateway will present a class on Saturday, Aug 22, to explain the class for any potential students. Ask for a brochure for more details.

All SVBA Pastors invited to Zoom Mtg

All pastors are encouraged to participate in a Zoom Meeting for fellowship and prayer, Thursday, July 23 at 7 PM. May God use this gathering to help transform our area of northeast Ohio. Contact Sandra for the connection codes. There will not be a breakfast since it is at 7 PM.

What are we to do?

These are difficult days. We have never experienced these before. What are we to do?

In Proverbs 3:5-6 (ESV) God says,

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Perhaps you have heard a variation of this put to music.

Verse 1

When we walk with the Lord
in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will,
he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

see Trust, next page

Book Review

*Proving God:
Financial Experiences of
the China Inland Mission*



by Phyllis Thompson.
Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1956, 128 pp. hardback

Bill Mazey



This may seem like a strange book to suggest that pastors and ministry leaders read at this time. The book was written to help the reader learn how God helped the missionaries of the China Inland Mission (CIM) in China before, during, and after World War II. It is a collection of stories showing God's intervention and provision through His ways and timing to help His servants

see Book Review, next page

Local Missions

During the Summer different churches have delivered Bibles, boxes of food, and other necessities to our neighbors. New Hope Baptist has led the way and has provided opportunities for others to do the same.



A similar experience was a mission trip to Windham on June 18. Over 80 boxes of meats and dozens of Bibles and other literature were handed out.



Two more mission trips are in the planning stage, perhaps one on Aug. 1, and both in Ashtabula county. We need volunteers to serve. To donate supplies or to volunteer on the trip then please contact Cindy Burdick, at 330-482-9991 or at cindyburdick5@gmail.com.



Book Review, from previous page

during moments of great need. This crisis did not just affect China and the missionaries there; it was a world-wide crisis. Maybe their experiences will give us something to learn and be encouraged by.

The forward was written by J. Oswald Sanders and here is a quote from him. "GOD IS ABSOLUTELY TRUSTWORTHY. His children can have intimate, personal transactions with Him. There is no conceivable situation in which it is not safe to trust Him utterly. This is the thesis of this book" (p. 5). Good words to remember for any situation!

The forward is followed by an introduction which gives some history of the organization which was founded by J. Hudson Taylor in 1865. Information is given for the reader to understand how God led, provided and taught His servants to depend on Him. CIM was founded through prayer, trusting God's answers and obedience to God's Word.

Then follow eleven chapters with multiple stories of how God provided for His servants. Names of people are given for the reader to know these stories of God's provision involved real people and real events. Some of the people were married, some had children, and some were single adults. These people repre-

sented various countries around the world. They came from different backgrounds and cultures to serve God in China. They prayed and served as a team. God led, covered and provided!

The stories are told with gratitude and submission. Some people waited a long time for answers to prayer. Some answers came quickly. At times the people who prayed were caught by surprise by how the answers came to them. There were accounts of how some servants died and went home to be with their Lord. All of these stories make this an encouraging and challenging book to read.

Pick this book up and read it if you need some encouragement during the current crisis we find ourselves in. Share the stories with your leaders and congregation. It will encourage your faith and inspire you to pray about all of your needs and the needs of your church to the ONE Who can answer those prayers in His time and His way.

History is filled with one crisis after another. People and circumstances change but Almighty God remains the same and can do what no one else can do in answer to prayer. I think this book will encourage your walk with the Lord and challenge your thinking about prayer. All while encouraging you to keep on praying and obeying!

Trust, from previous page

Refrain:

Trust and obey,
for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus,
but to trust and obey.

Verse 2

Not a burden we bear,
not a sorrow we share,
but our toil he doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss,
not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey.

[Refrain]

Verse 3

But we never can prove
the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows,
for the joy he bestows,
are for them who will trust and obey.

[Refrain]

Verse 4

Then in fellowship sweet
we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do,
where he sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey.

[Refrain]

Words by John H. Sammis, 1887

SVBA's New Address

Please mail all correspondence and checks to 545 Commerce Ave. NW, Warren, OH 44485. The Tod Avenue address is no longer the mailing address for Steel Valley. Thanks very much!

... Who has announced this from of old? Who has long since declared it? Is it not I, the Lord? And there is no other God besides Me, A righteous God and a Savior; There is none except Me. Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; For I am God, and there is no other. (Isaiah 45:21-22, NASU)

Executive Board Mtg

The Executive Board Meeting which usually meets in July has been postponed until Sept. 14. If all goes well we will meet at the Cornersburg Baptist Church building.

Churches and Missions in Northeast Ohio

Austintown Baptist Church
Beacon of Hope Baptist Church
Carnation City 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, 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
Struthers Bible Baptist Church
Unity Baptist Church
Upper Room Ministries
Youngstown Metro Church

* seeking a pastor