



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

the Steel Valley Baptist Association COMMUNICATOR

February, 2020

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

Sandra Parks
Secretary, Treasurer
sandra@ohiosvba.org

Prayer Summit, Ohio

An excellent renewal is coming near to our area. Pastors, lay leaders, and prayer teams will benefit greatly from this event. March 6, 2020 from 9 AM to 3 PM at Cuyahoga Valley Church, 5055 E. Wallings Road, Broadview Heights, OH 44147. The leader for this day will be Daniel Henderson, a Southern Baptist whom God has used mightily in different churches in America. He receives endorsements from Richard Blackaby, John MacArthur, Jim Cymbala, and many more. This event is sponsored by the 6:4 Fellowship, influencing pastors to be committed to Prayer and the ministry of the word. He has also authored *Old Paths New Power*.



The editor of this newsletter attended this workshop last year and found it to be very spiritual and very encouraging.

To register or to get more information go to scbo.org. To watch a promotional video you can also go to <https://vimeo.com/386000559>

Dayton Destruction



ENGAGE NOW

Every winter the state convention puts together a quality Mission Conference with outstanding speakers and workshops. This year is no different.

Feb 21-22 at Jersey Church in New Albany, OH. More details at scbo.org.

Guest speakers include Governor Mike DeWine, Lawrence Funderburke (author, motivational speaker, one of the few to dunk a basketball over Shaq), Michelle Reynolds, Robert Caldwell, missionaries, and many more.

Breakout sessions include over 40 topics like Legal Council for Churches, Faith Based and Community Initiatives, How to understand and address political matters, adoption, poverty, mission trips, human trafficking, Creative Community Outreach, and more. A video promo is also available at this link: <https://vimeo.com/390045053>

Mission Trip

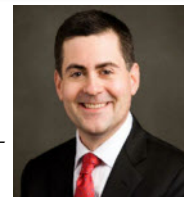
Dayton needs your help.

Plans are in the making for many of us in Steel Valley to go on a Mission Trip July 27-31. Last year tornadoes did severe damage to Dayton and to the surrounding areas. All the churches in Steel Valley are invited to join in this mission effort. Cindy Burdick is the contact person.



Abortion & the Gospel

Russell Moore,
President of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention



Since the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision, most Christians recognize, and rightly so, the loss of millions of unborn human lives. What we often forget, though, is the second casualty of an abortion culture: the consciences of countless men and women.

see Moore, next page

70 People Coming to Help

No joke. About seventy people are planning to come to our area to do whatever is needed the week of July 5-10. Parkland Baptist Church in Louisville, KY does major mission trips every year. Here is one of their groups:



Each church in SVBA needs to pray about utilizing them and if so, How? Scouts will be coming here March or April to survey the requests. So begin now. They are looking for at least 8 churches to participate. They do VBS, construction, surveying, you name it. Melissa Lackey is the contact person.

Moore, from previous page

Too often, pastors and church leaders assume that, when talking about abortion, their invisible debating partner is the “pro-choice” television commentator or politician. Not so. Many of the people endangered by the abortion culture aren’t even pro-choice.

In your congregation on Sundays, and in the neighborhoods around you right now, there are women vulnerable to abortionist propaganda, not because they reject the church but because they’re afraid they’ll lose the church. Pregnant young women are scared they will scandalize church people when they start to show, so they keep it secret. Parents are fearful their pregnant daughter, or their son’s pregnant girlfriend, will prompt the rest of the congregation to see them as bad families.

As they keep all of this secret from the Body of Christ, many of them fall prey to the false gospel of the abortion clinic. “We can take care of this for you,” these people say. “And it will all go away.”

Moreover, there are thousands of men and women in our churches who have aborted their children, or urged the abortion of their grandchildren. Bearing the shame of this, they keep it secret. And in the concealment, the satanic powers accuse them: “We know who you are; you’re a murderer, like us.”

Every time pastors and church leaders speak, they are speaking, at least potentially, to these men and women, the aborting and the abortionists. Many of these people don’t argue that the “fetus” is a “person.” Their consciences testify to that, and they’re either tortured by this or violently trying to sear over that persistent internal message.

The answer, for the church, is to preach the gospel to the conscience. For many evangelicals, to “preach the gospel” seems to be obvious and ineffective because they think this means to, by rote, prompt people to accept Jesus and go to heaven. But the gospel speaks right where the abortion culture is in slavery, to the conscience.

For one thing, those guilty of this silent atrocity often don’t think we’re talking to them. For some, the demonic structures have helped them to conceal this secret, and to convince them the safest thing to do is to try to forget it

altogether. Others are so burdened down by guilt, they really don’t believe they are included in the “whosoever will” of our gospel invitations.

Speak directly to these people. To the woman who has had the abortion. To the man who has paid for an abortion. To the health care worker who has profited off of tearing apart the bodies of the young and the consciences of their parents.

Speak clearly of the horror of judgment to come. Confirm what every accusing conscience already knows: clinic privacy laws cannot keep all this from being exposed at the tribunal of Christ. When the Light shines, there’s not enough darkness in which to hide and cringe.

But don’t stop there. Proclaim just as openly that judgment has fallen on the quivering body of a crucified Jesus—accused by Satan, indicted by the Law, enveloped by the curse.

An abortion culture knows that hell exists, and they know judgment waits (Rom 2:14-16). Agree with them, but point them to the truth that God is not simply willing to forgive them. Show them how in Christ God is both just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus (Rom 3:26).

The woman who has had the abortion needs to know that, if she is hidden in Christ, God does not see her as “that woman who had the abortion.” He hasn’t been subverted from sending her to hell because she found a gospel “loophole.” In Christ, she’s already been to hell. And, in the resurrected Christ, God has already told her what he thinks of her: “You are my beloved child and in you I am well-pleased.”

The consciences around us don’t believe what they’re telling themselves. They’re scared and accused. Shine the light in the eyes of their consciences. Prophetically. All for justice, legally and culturally, for the unborn. But don’t stop there. After all, the spirit of murder doesn’t start or end in the abortion clinic (Matt. 5:21, 15:19; Jn. 8:44; Acts 9:1; Rom. 1:29; Jn. 3:15). And the blood of Christ has cleansed the consciences of rebels like all of us.

Warn of hell, but offer mercy. Offer that mercy not only at the Judgment Seat of Christ, but in the small groups and hallways of your church.

SVBA Library

Pastors, did you know the association has many valuable resources in the library. One of our own pastors went through the library recently and was shocked to see many quality books on the shelves. There are atlases, concordances, parallel Bibles, Bibles in a variety of translations, way more commentaries than you could possibly use, and much more. This is a great collection!

March for Jesus

Coordinators for local churches will have a meeting, Saturday, Feb 1, 11:30 am, at Metro Assembly, 2530 South Ave, Youngstown, 44502.



For more information about the one in greater Youngstown you can call Chuck Swanson at 330-333-3777 or go to themarchforjesusmv.com. For the Warren / Trumbull County area you can contact Debby and Terry Nicopolis at debbynichopolis@aol.com. For the national information you can go to the website themarchforjesus.org or 330-707-4622. The national office is here in Youngstown with Gary Frost as the national coordinator.

Dayton Destruction

