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the Steel Valley Baptist Association COMMUNICATOR

May, 2019

Experiencing God ... Again

2019

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Sunday School Leadership Training

Exhorting and Motivating People to action

On Saturday June 1 Cornersburg will host an association-wide training for Sunday School leaders and members.



Carlton Berry, the Minister of Discipleship at Dauphin Way Baptist Church in Mobile, Alabama and his wife Shay, will lead breakout sessions.

Also leading in the breakout sessions will be Mark Jones. He serves as the Pastor of First Baptist of Vermilion, Ohio and as the Director of Missions for North Coast Baptist Association.



Topics for breakout sessions include: How to engage your culture, Teaching Each Other How to Live like Jesus, Teaching Children that becomes Learning, Crafts and visual aids that help Children Learn, Outreach VBS and Backyard Bible Clubs, and much more.

9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
includes lunch

continental breakfast at 8:30 AM.

Cost is Free, but please register by calling Randy Langham at 330-398-2455. The first 5 churches to have a member register will receive a free copy of *Sunday School That Really Works*, an \$18 value.



A Time to Pray and Plan

Associational Missionary
Gary L. Frost



There's a valuable proverb that has aided me immensely as I have attempted to become a responsible leader. Proverbs 24:6 says, "*For by wise counsel you will make your war and in a multitude of counselors there is safety.*" (The New International Version of the Bible says it this way, "*For waging war you need guidance, and for victory many advisers.*")

When it comes to taking counsel from others I believe there are two extremes; first of all, there is the "Advice Addict" and then secondly, there is the "Advice Avoider". The Addict is the person who finds it very difficult, if not impossible, to make decisions on their own. They always seek the opinion of others in order to determine their next move. It's almost as if they need to take a poll before they can chart their course. The Addict lacks personal conviction and depends on the convictions and passion of others.

On the other end of the spectrum is the "Advice Avoider". This is the person who arrogantly feels that they need no input from others and therefore they recklessly proceed through perilous circumstances armed with their own limited perspective and self-centered focus. The Avoider not only discounts counsel, he or she may actually despise the perspectives of others.

The Avoider asks no questions and the Addict asks too many; one will

see Pray and Plan next page

Missions & Ministry

Luke 10:21 *At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do."*

What brought Jesus such joy? Verse 17 says, *The seventy-two returned with joy and said, 'Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.'* The 72 followers of Jesus had just responded to Him in obediently making the presence of Jesus known in various towns and villages. As they obeyed Jesus, they personally experienced the presence of God moving powerfully through them. Even demons were incapable of stand-

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Revivals

May 26-29

Three revival speakers from Clarke County Mississippi will be leading the revivals at Community BC in Geneva; Solid Rock Community Church in Salem; Shenango Valley BC in Hermitage, PA; and Struthers Bible BC in Struthers.

May 29 - June 1 at 7 PM

Christian Community in Warren and Southington BC in Southington will join their services. Wednesday and Thursday evening services will be at Southington, led by Rocky Tilson. The Friday and Saturday evening services will be at Christian Community, led by Larry Dutton. Special music each night. Saturday night will have a baptism for at least three people. Praise the Lord!

Pray and Plan, from page 1

fall into the left gutter while the other will fall on the right, but neither will successfully negotiate the path of success.

But then, there's a third option; we might call this person the Wise Warrior. Solomon writes, "For by wise counsel you will make your war". The Warrior accepts that the war he is waging is his responsibility but at the same time he is open to the counsel of those who have fought before him. The Warrior seeks advice and then prayerfully pursues his or her mission.

On Friday and Saturday, August 23 and 24, 2019, pastors and leaders from Steel Valley Baptist Association churches will gather with state leaders from the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio at Seneca Lake Baptist Assembly. This convening of leaders will be a Prayer and Planning Retreat. This will be an opportunity for Steel Valley to fellowship with the State Convention to speak with God and with one another concerning our co-laboring in the fulfillment of the Great Commission. We will gather to seek God for a path forward in developing Kingdom Cohort Churches in our region; churches that will not only survive, but thrive in reproducing ministry in Ohio, America and the World.

In light of the cost for attending this event (food, travel and lodging), the administration team has made available the resources of the Arvel Hendrix Leadership Scholarship to any Steel Valley Church that would seek the scholarship for that purpose. If you would like to know more please contact Sandra Parks at 330-442-9797 or email her at sandra@ohiosvba.org.

Finally, neither Addicts nor Avoiders are welcome at this gathering we are challenging the Warrior Leaders of our association to join in this season of prayer and planning as we endeavor to fulfill God's purpose through His Son, Jesus Christ.

CALLING ALL WARRIORS !!!

Let's Pray and Plan together on August 23rd and 24th at Seneca Lake Baptist Assembly. Start time is 3 pm Friday, and the latest ending time will be 3 pm Saturday.

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ing up against the power of God that was at work through them!

They returned rejoicing over what they had experienced as they represented Jesus, and Jesus rejoiced over the way God moved through them as they boldly made Him known to the region around them.

That is what awaits us as we boldly make Christ known to those around us. There is a presence of God that we can only feel when we are being used of God in outreach ministry, and a power of God that will work through us in a way that will leave a lasting impact on, not only our lives, but in the lives of those around us as well.

Wouldn't it be nice to rejoice together with Jesus?

As the temperatures rise, so do the opportunities to do outreach events in your community. We even have a training day planned for you on which you will be able to participate in an actual outreach event. On Saturday, June 8th starting at 10 a.m. we will have two hours of block party trailer training. At

noon we will break for lunch, and from 1 - 3 p.m. we will have the outreach event. All this will be done at the Renaissance Family Center 9005 Wilverne Dr., Windham, Ohio. I hope you plan on attending, and pray about bringing members of your church along for the experience.

There are two other outreach ministry opportunities available for you:

1. "Saturate" - The Jesus Film Project reintroduced with multi-language DVDs, door hangers, gospel tracts and maps for the adopted area. Just adopt a zip code and they will provide all you need for free! Go to saturateusa.org
2. "Who's Your One?" - Resources found on whosyourone.com. Many free resources to download. One kit is free for each church. A sermon series, 30-day prayer guide, and more are available to lead your church in this ministry work.

Our next Missions and Ministry Team meeting will be Monday, June 3rd, at 11 a.m. at the associational office. We encourage you to join us.

Pray for the Lord's direction and let's get into the battle.

Rafael Cruz Jr.

2019 Annual Mtg

Our guest speaker for the 2019 annual meeting at Steel Valley October 19 will be Dr. Richard Blackaby, the oldest son of Henry Blackaby. Richard Blackaby received his MDiv and PhD from Southwestern Seminary and has served as a pastor in Winnipeg, Manitoba and as the president of the Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary. He now serves as the president of Blackaby Ministries.



October Workshops

If you could get quality advice about any area of church life what would you choose? Of 16 surveys submitted so far, here are the top topics: how to revitalize an existing church (12), how to have a dynamic prayer gathering (8), continuing education for pastors (8), resolving conflict (8), and having an effective deacon ministry. Also high in percentage was fellowship for pastors' wives.

You are welcome to continue to submit your requests which will be addressed in the breakout sessions, Friday, Oct. 18.

Mercy's Open House

Mercy Community Church will host an open house June 9 at 4 PM. Light refreshments will be served. The address of their new location east of YSU is 1321 Lansdowne Blvd, Youngstown, Ohio 44505.



Annual Picnic

Mark your calendars for the Park - July 14. Call Mark Parks for more information about this event at Perkins Park in Warren.



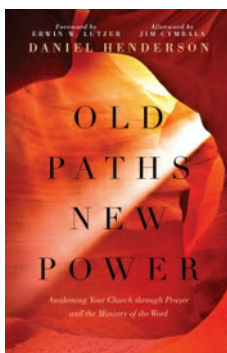
Excellent Resource

Pastors, this is a great opportunity for you to obtain a fantastic resource for only \$1.99. No joke this is for a limited time. The book is *Old Paths, New Power: Awakening Your Church through Prayer and the Ministry of the Word*, by Daniel Henderson, with a foreword by Erwin Lutzer, and an afterward by Jim Cymbala, with contributions from Alistar Begg, John MacArthur, John Piper, Francis Chan and many more.

Of the book Richard Blackaby says, "Daniel Henderson is one of the finest teachers I know. When he teaches on prayer he is unparalleled. In this masterful new volume, he invests all of the prayer treasure he has collected over a lifetime. When you finish reading this book, you will eagerly get on your knees and vow to never pray carelessly, casually, or complacently again." Crawford Loritts, Jr. says, "A timely warning to order our lives and ministries around that which produces eternal results."

To get your kindle copy go to amazon and search for "old paths new power kindle." Or, if you are reading a PDF version of this newsletter you can click on [Old Paths New Power](#).

Henderson, a Southern Baptist, and his wife Rosemary live near Denver, Colorado. His leadership has revived two mega churches - in California and in Minnesota. Prayer was the major key.



Free Seminar for Pastors

Have you ever found yourself in a spiritually unhealthy situation and felt completely unprepared for all the problems and issues you were facing? Have you wondered how you could initiate a change process toward spiritual health? Or how long would it take for spiritual health to become a reality?

Most pastors face these and similar questions. How do we address "spiritual health" in the life of a church? Especially a church that may have a history of decline.

On Saturday July 20 from 9 am to 3 pm Pastor Bill Mazey will be teaching a free workshop on "How to have an Effective Ministry in a Spiritually Unhealthy Church." There are three things pastors can learn and apply to help them and their churches make changes that will lead to spiritual health.

These three things affect all of us but we are not always aware of their power in our lives personally and corporately. They are culture, context, and cross-cultural communication. Understanding these important truths are not just for missionaries, but for pastors also. A good understanding and application of these truths will help pastors initiate and lead healthy change.

This workshop for pastors and denominational leaders is free and lunch will be served. If you want to be a part of this learning experience email gracebaptistchampion@gmail.com or call Grace Baptist Church at 330-847-7577 to register.

Upcoming Calendar

May 2 - National Day of Prayer
May 6, 6:00 PM - Admin Team Meeting
May 11, 10:00 am - 2:00 PM - Open House for Eagle's Nest
Jun 1, 9 AM - 2 PM - Sunday School Leadership Training
June 3, 11 AM - M&M Team Meeting
June 8, Block Party Training, Windham
July 8, 7 PM - Executive Board Meeting
July 14 - Picnic at Perkins Park
Aug 16-17, 3 PM to 3 PM - Kingdom Cohort Prayer Retreat at Seneca Lake
Sept 15-18 - OnMission Celebration
Oct 19, 9 AM - Annual Meeting at the Rising Star Baptist Church

Warriors, Inc.

June 1

10 AM- Unity in the Community Parade
11 AM- Celebration
9:30 PM- Fireworks display on Market Street Bridge.

June 15

4:30 PM - Daddy Daughter Dance

Pastors' Wives

Hey Ladies: Would any of the other pastors' wives be interested in getting together for lunch/dinner one day? Just feeling the need the connect to others. Nothing fancy or complicated - just a meal out to hang out and also to encourage one another. Send an email at melissa.ann.lackey@gmail.com or call at 606-434-3305.

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
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