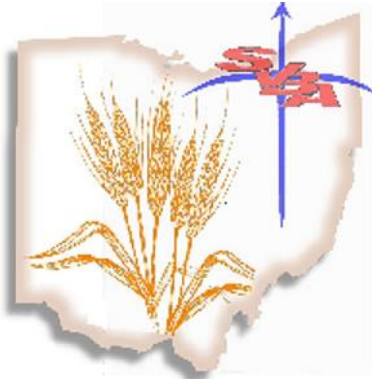


# The Communicator



**December 2015/January 2016**

## Steel Valley Baptist Association

4225 Tod Ave NW  
Warren, OH 44485  
330-898-4644  
[www.ohiosvba.org](http://www.ohiosvba.org)

Dr. George Bannister  
Associational Missionary/  
Church Planter Catalyst  
[pastorbannister@live.com](mailto:pastorbannister@live.com)  
Cell #: 330-398-8048  
Admin. Assistant: 330-219-2092

### Upcoming Events

#### **Administrative Team Meetings**

December 9 – 10am – Assoc. Office

January 6 – 10am- Assoc. Office

#### **Missions and Ministry Team Meeting**

January 5 – 6pm – Hazel Mullen's Home

#### **Church Strengthening Team**

**Associational Christmas Party – Friday, Dec 4<sup>th</sup>** – 6pm – New Covenant Baptist Church (Details, page 2)

**Next Executive Board Meeting** - January 11<sup>th</sup> – Place To Be Announced

**Mississippi Revival Partnership** – April 24-27<sup>th</sup> – Contact Brother George if you would like to go with the revival team and preach a revival in Mississippi.

**Strategic Evangelism Conference** – March 12, 2016 – Duane Floro, Ministry Evangelism

#### **Ready to Grow!!**

Associational Seminar for Everyone wanting to see his/her church grow!

From the Parking Lot to the Pew – what do visitors experience when they attend my church?

Join Us!! No Fees    Saturday, December 5, 9am – 3pm    Lunch Provided

## **READY TO GROW Seminar!!**

Is your church **READY TO GROW**? Many of us want badly to reach our communities, but we're noticing that guests may visit but aren't necessarily staying. Now, certainly there will be people who will arrive at our church but will choose not to stay through no fault of ours. After all, many people chose to stop following Jesus after they realized that there were actual requirements for being His disciple. However, it is certainly our responsibility to make sure that there are no unnecessary obstacles between those who come to visit and the gospel message they so desperately need to receive. It possible that our church may need a fresh evaluation and tune-up in order to be the warm and welcoming environment in which they can connect, receive the gospel, and grow to maturity.

If we're going to reach out as we should, we need to make sure that our church is equipped to welcome and receive those we are reaching and bring them into the family. However, for many of us it has been so long since we were a visitor to our church that while we feel at home each week, those who visit may be feeling completely disconnected and out of place due to oversights or missed opportunities that we're just not seeing. In this seminar, we will evaluate crucial touch points within our churches from the parking lot to the pulpit and explore important principles for developing a Christ-centered, gospel-focused, visitor-friendly, disciple-making environment in which visitors that enter find their hope in Christ, their place in the Body, and their role in the ministry God created them for.

Whether you're a pastor, deacon, ministry leader, Sunday School teacher, or any church member, this seminar is **FOR YOU!** You are a part of your church, and **YOU** are part of many touch points that interact with individuals who attend your church. Come and learn with us at **READY TO GROW** on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 9am – 3pm! Lunch will be provided by the association.



## **Steel Valley 2015 Associational Christmas Party!!**

**Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 6pm!!**

**Place:** New Covenant Baptist Church 1606 Salt Springs Road SW Lordstown, OH 44481

**Dinner** at 6pm. Bring the dish of your choice. For more information phone Lisa at 330-219-2092.

**Special Guests:** Minnie Pearl The Aw Naw's Santa Claus **Games and Fun!**

Worship led by Mrs. Lori Cain and Reverend Dan Bannister.

On Site Childcare Provided.



## Missionary Musings

What a joy it is to be able to echo the announcement given by the angels of God on that first Christmas day, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:10-11 NKJV). During this Christmas season, we can point the lost world to the pivotal point of all human history. God sent his son into the world to provide salvation for human beings, providing the way for lives, communities, and the world to be transformed by His power. Now that IS good news! Let’s share that good news every chance we get, with any and every person who will listen.

As many of you know, the North American Mission Board is making some changes that affect local Baptist associations like ours. Instead of being a jointly funded missionary, I will become fully funded by NAMB as a Church Planting Catalyst as of January 1, 2016. In our January Executive Board meeting, we will be discussing how this may impact our work as an association of churches. I hope that you will be present at that meeting for this important information.

### Upcoming events I hope to see you at:

- 1) SVBA Christmas Party- Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm at New Covenant Baptist Church in Lordstown.
- 2) Ready To Grow Workshop – Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 9am-3pm at New Covenant Baptist Church in Lordstown.

## Week of Prayer for International Missions, Lottie Moon Offering

November 30, 2014 (All day) - December 7, 2014 (All day)



**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®**

In 2013 Southern Baptists celebrated 125 years of annual giving to support international missionaries. More than 3.5 billion has been given to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, whose namesake inspired the first collection of gifts in 1888 so the world might know Christ. Then, as now, every penny you give to Lottie Moon supports missionaries as they share the Gospel overseas. Visit [imb.org](http://imb.org) for resources and information.

metroTALKS:

# REBELLION

JANUARY 23  
9AM - 1PM

YOUNGSTOWN METRO CHURCH  
801 WICK AVENUE  
YOUNGSTOWN, OH



TICKETS \$25  
[WWW.METROTALKS.YAPSODY.COM](http://WWW.METROTALKS.YAPSODY.COM)

Group Rates &  
Childcare Available

## SPEAKERS

ANDREW CHAMBERLIN

JESSE FELLOWS

NANCY BARE

KATE ESKER

TONY CICCONE

NAOMI HALE

RICHARD BLAIR

Reach People! – Make Disciples! Go into all the world and make Disciples! (Matthew 28:19)