



the Steel Valley Baptist Association COMMUNICATOR

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4225 Tod Ave NW,
Warren, OH 44485
www.ohiosvba.org

Randy Langham, 330-398-2455
Interim Administrator
rlangham@ohiosvba.org

Exec Board Meeting

The Executive Board meeting held at Howland Glen had a great spirit. Pastor Rodd began with a Scripture reading and a challenging word. Positive and encouraging words came from the Church Strengthening and Missions and Ministry Teams. Many aspects of their reports appear throughout this Communicator.

Your voice counts. As we continue our search for the next associational missionary the search team needed to hear from you. At the January meeting a couple more perspectives were added to the profile for the next leader: that he be a soul-winner and that he be filled with the Spirit.

Some names have been submitted for the AM position. The Team is now praying for the Lord to confirm His direction. We the Team are amazed at the many ways God is leading in our association. Many of those ways appear throughout this newsletter.

Ministry Opportunity

Do you have skills doing e-mails? texting? organizing? basic computer communicating? If so, then the Ministry and Missions Team has an opportunity for you. Please contact Rafael Cruz.

Learn Basic Counseling

Dr. Jeremy Pierre, professor and counselor at Southern Seminary will be at FBC/Garrettsville, March 10-11. The Saturday morning session is ideal for pastors. In a day when emotional hurts are rampant this training will be an excellent opportunity to be better trained to minister to our communities.

Block Party Training

One of the most effective ways to reach out to a community is with a block party. This activity is a fun way to open up the hearts of people who would normally be resistant or hesitant.

The Missions and Ministry Team is offering an excellent training for churches to get maximum benefits out of a block party while utilizing the trailer we own and rent out. In the next two months some of the contents will be upgraded and other resources will be added.

Here is the training. On Saturday, April 21, starting at 10 am we will have a 2-hour training followed by a lunch. After the light lunch all participants in the training will lead an actual block party that will have already been advertised to the community in advance.

Another benefit. Participants in the training will (probably) receive a packed

CD (or some other storage device) with over a thousand files compiled by Bobby Gilstrap, the Executive Director of the Baptist State Convention of Michigan. These documents, powerpoint slides, handouts, etc. can be adapted for your settings.

Another benefit. This training will take place in the vicinity of New Hope Baptist Church in Windham.

Another benefit. It will be held on the site of the Renaissance Family Center in Windham. This is the site of the new health clinic offering free services.

Another benefit. How many other training sessions will you ever attend that is followed with fun and games?

What you need to do. Contact Rafael Cruz or one of the other Missions and Ministry leaders to reserve your spot in the training.. See you there!

Rafael, mm@ohiosvba.org

OnMission Celebration

How would you like to have some of our SBC missionaries visit your church? It's easy. Just sign up!

From September 16-19, Sunday to Wednesday, sponsoring churches (hopefully all 34 in our association) will hear five different missionaries whom we support through the Cooperative Program and through our state missions offering. Very possibly each church will hear from two serving with the International Mission Board, two from the North American Mission Board, and one from within our own state. Each sponsoring church will host (provide food and lodging for) one of the missionaries and provide transportation for that host missionary to four other

churches Sunday to Wednesday nights.

The association will pay for the transportation for all the missionaries from their field or place of furlough to Steel Valley. We can begin praying that the missionaries from outer Mongolia are home on furlough!

The planning for this major event needs to begin now. We need to contact and reserve dates for the missionaries now. Therefore we need every church in our association to begin praying about participating in this celebration. Options are available for smaller churches.

When God speaks to you and says yes, then contact Randy or Rafael as soon as possible.



The Big Invite

Church leaders, have you checked out the outreach opportunity for this Easter that has been coordinated through the state convention? It is called "The Big Invite." The basic info is at <http://biginviteohio.org/easter/>.



Many of our SVBA churches are participating in this outreach. Because of the excitement this announcement has been added to the Communicator.

Semiannual Meeting

Our next meeting, the semiannual meeting is two months away and many exciting things are on the drawing board for that gathering. For one the AM Search Team hopes to present a name to recommend for our next leader. In addition more details will be given for at least four major events sponsored by the association to strengthen churches and to prepare our churches for greater effectiveness in missions. At least three of those four are mentioned in this Communicator. Yet another exciting moment might be the addition of another church into our association.

The Steel Valley Churches and Missions

Austintown Baptist Church
 Beacon of Hope BC
 Carnation City BC
 Central BC*
 Christian Community BC
 Community BC
 Cornersburg BC
 East Conneaut BC
 Faith BC
 First BC, Andover
 First BC, Garrettsville
 First BC, Newton Falls
 First Spanish BC
 Grace BC
 Grace Korean BC
 Grace Place Ministries
 Hope BC
 Howland Glen BC



Living Testimony Ministries
 *Living Water BC
 Margaret Wynn Memorial BC
 Mercy Community Church
 New Birth-Kimmelbrook BC
 New Covenant BC
 New Hope BC
 Northside BC
 Rising Star BC
 Shenango Valley BC
 Solid Rock Community Church
 Southington BC
 Struthers Bible Baptist Church
 Unity BC
 Upper Room Ministries
 Youngstown Metro Church

* seeking a pastor

Learn the major NT events in 5 hours

It is coming again. May 19 at the Rising Star Baptist Church from 9 am to 4 pm. This seminar is an absolute must. It is fun, hilarious, and most of all the world's easiest way to learn the New Testament. In five hours you will learn all the major events of the New Testament in chronological order and a key word or phrase for each of those 27 books in the New Testament so that you will be able to remember the big idea in each of those books.

Over 10 million people have done this at seminars endorsed by Chuck Swindoll, John MacArthur, Max Lucado, Charles Stanley, Tony Evans, and most every pastor who's attended.



Faithful Servants Care Center

A new Christian-based health care organization has opened in Windham. They provide free urgent health care for people who meet eligibility requirements. The clinic is in the Renaissance Family Center just a few hundred yards from New Hope Baptist Church. For more information call 330-633-3680 or visit www.faithfultservantscarecenter.org.

A flyer for this ministry is being sent to all on the e-mail mailout and to all who are receiving hard copies of this Communicator.

Midwest Advance

Four of us from Steel Valley went to Illinois for great training sponsored by NAMB, the WMU, Guidestone, LifeWay, and the ten Baptist state conventions in the midwest region. Most of the workshops were recorded and will be available for you to see through the Internet at www.MWAdvance.org. More about this will be presented in the future as more information becomes available. Until then you might want to go to the mwadvance website, click "Video" and see some of the workshops from the previous training.



Meetings / Other

Feb 8, Missions and Ministry, 7 pm.
 Feb 26, Admin. Team Meeting, 6 pm.
 TBD, Pastor prayer time,
 Mar 10 Basic Counseling course for pastors at FBC/Garrettsville
 Apr 9, 6 & 7 pm Semiannual Meeting at Grace Baptist Church, Preacher Ron Thompson.
 Apr 13-20 Mississippi Revival linkage in Clarke County Mississippi

New Lighting

The next time you go to the office building at night be sure to put on a pair of sunglasses. The new exterior lighting is so bright we might hold some Bible studies outdoors during the night!