

The Ohio Independent Baptist

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The OIB

The Ohio Independent Baptist

The Newsletter of the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches

Vol. 64 No. 3

April 1991

Ministering in the Small Church



Pastors representing rural, small town, suburban and big city areas met together at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church of Smithville March 11-12. What brought these men, more than 40 of them, together, was the opportunity to learn more about the exciting task of pastoring the smaller church.

Pleasant Hill, a country church in a distinctly rural setting, hosted the OARBC seminar, "Ministering in the Small Church." State Representative Larry Fetzer led the group in thinking about the special place of the small church in the work of God. Speaking out

of their own experience, workshop leaders Steve Olsen (Pleasant Hill), Dennis Henderson (Shawnee Hills) and Cal Searles (Camden), shared such topics as "Turning Your Burdens Into Blessings," "Teaching the Small Church to Evangelize," and "Using Hospitality to Reach People for Christ."

"There are a number of excellent church growth seminars around," noted State Representative Fetzer, "but sometimes pastors of small churches need something more tailored to their unique situations. Since at least one-half of our OARBC churches fit into the small

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church category, we decided to give them specialized, practical help and encouragement. The workshop leaders were all men who have been ministering faithfully in small churches and have seen God bless and produce significant growth."

Said one pastor who attended the conference, "It gave me many things to prayerfully consider," and another, "It stressed the importance of the small church and renewed some of the lost pride in being a pastor in a small church."

This was the first in a series of seminars on topics of special interest to OARBC pastors.



Hats off to Pastor Greg Hogan and the people of **Calvary Baptist, Broadview Heights**. On Friend Day, February 24, the church reached an attendance of 137, an increase of 62 over the previous average!

FREE

300 used hymnals in good condition. Contact Pastor Don Parvin, Calvary Baptist Church, Byesville.

Having an Impact on Ohio



**Larry Fetzer
State
Representative**

Many of you from all across Ohio, and even some from outside Ohio, have called or written to express appreciation for the "new look" OIB. It has been encouraging to know that you have read and enjoyed our paper. The OIB belongs to the people of our churches. Our prayer is that it will draw us closer together as a fellowship, and help us to "build one another up in the faith."

Be sure to let us know about the great things happening in your church. Your "happening" could contribute to another church's ministry somewhere else in the state. To share with one another is a scriptural concept—the biblical word is "partakers." Through the ideas and inspiration we share with one another in the OIB, we "might be partakers thereof with you."

Send your articles/ideas to
The Ohio Independent Baptist
P.O. Box 293058
Kettering, OH 45429

Again we are printing the new purpose statement for the OIB as drawn up by the Council of Twelve. This is the guide we follow each month to ensure that our paper will be helpful to our readers.

All Ohio Regular Baptists note that the annual GARBC conference will be in Indianapolis June 24-28.

Please remember to contact me if I can be of help to you.

Larry Fetzer

Larry Fetzer • 4221 Wallington Dr.
Dayton, OH 45440 • 513-299-3128

The Man Who Rebinds Bibles



John H. Green started the Ohio youth camp program in 1935, he was instrumental in the purchase of Lake Ann Camp in Michigan, and he instituted the pastors' insurance program in

New York state. But he is best known in southern Ohio as "the man who rebinds Bibles." John, who celebrated his 90th birthday on January 31, was honored during chapel at Cedarville College on that day for his years of service to the Lord.

From 1927 to 1970, John pastored churches in New Jersey, Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, and New York. Retired in 1970 from full time ministry, he then held interim pastorates at Immanuel Baptist in Arcanum, Faith Baptist in Van Wert, and two churches in Georgia. Until a 1983 heart attack required his move back to Cedarville to be near his son Harold, John was chaplain and on the advisory board of Source of Light Mission in Madison, Georgia.

Since living in Cedarville, John has conducted three Bible studies per week, as well as rebinding approximately 75 Bibles a year. He is still an ardent reader and a student of the Scriptures. His most recent effort has been a study of "The Will of God and the Senior Citizen," which is being printed by Source of Light Mission.

Church Planting in Ohio

Laying the Foundation

Washington Court House:

Grace Community Baptist will soon be one year old. Born on Easter Sunday 1990, the church was chartered with 37 members on November 18. Dr. Robert Gromacki, pastor, notes that the average attendance for morning worship has increased to 70.

One endeavor which has brought the church recognition in the Washington Court House area is the eight page evangelistic/discipleship newspaper which the congregation mails to 10,000 families each month.

Grace Community Baptist meets for Sunday services in the Washington Senior High School, and in three area homes mid-week.

Sidney:

Pastor Earl Shaffer reports several encouraging signs of growth at Good Shepherd Baptist. Recently four or five people made professions of faith in Christ; 29 teens participated in a "jalopy raid," and a family who are members of a cult visited the church. Pastor Shaffer and Dave Ryan, part-time youth pastor, are visiting in the homes of community members who are on the church mailing list. Pastor Shaffer requests prayer for several members in positions of church leadership, including the treasurer, who are facing possible job transfers.

Purpose Statement

The OIB has been established as the official organ of the OARBC. Its purpose shall be to communicate information regularly to our constituency concerning the programs and activities of the fellowship and its churches.

- It will promote the ministries and programs of the association.
- It will report on the news of significant happenings in the churches of general interest throughout the fellowship.
- It will give information concerning the state camping program.
- It will be a means of mutual encouragement among the pastors and people of the OARBC.
- It will be a vehicle for the sharing of useful ideas among the churches.
- It will seek to support the vision statement of the OARBC.



Greenville Faith Baptist's Dave & Kathy King are recipients of the AWANA Servant's Heart Award. AWANA missionary Mike Maguson notes that "as a couple, the Kings exemplify what we look for in Awana leaders. The award recognizes not just years of service, but evidence of a true servant's heart." Besides being active in AWANA at Greenville, the Kings contribute countless hours each year to area conferences and AWANA Olympics.

PLEASE

help us update our O.I.B. mailing list. Return the coupon on page 8 today!

Cedarville College News



During the Middle East conflict, the College family prayed regularly for friends and relatives involved in the war. The Wall of Prayer attracted the attention of newspapers from as far away as Los Angeles and Dallas.

Spring! A delightful time to visit Cedarville College! Can you join us for one or more of these events? Call us at 513-766-2211.

April 19-20—**China Awareness Seminar** featuring Dr. Hudson Taylor III and two associates. For more information, contact Myron Youngman at ext. 240.

May 3,4 —**Parents' Weekend**
Friday, May 3
Honors Day Chapel, 10 a.m.
The Cathedrals, Southern Gospel Quartet, 8 p.m., Chapel. For ticket information, contact Campus Activities Office, ext. 505.
Spring Drama Production: "A Man for All Seasons" 8 p.m., Alford Auditorium. For ticket information, contact Communication Arts Office, ext. 327.

Saturday, May 4—**Cedar Day**
Jerry and Mary White Seminar 9 a.m., Chapel. Exploring parent-teen, parent-late teen, and parent-adult child relationships. Jerry is general director of the Navigators, and they co-authored *When Kids Aren't Kids Any More*.
Spring Drama Production: "A Man for All Seasons" 2 p.m., Alford Auditorium.
"POPS" Concert 8 p.m. Athletic Center. Featuring college family musicians. For ticket information, contact Campus Activities, ext. 507.

Working Together: Church & Home

Part 2

by
Jean Fisher
Associate Professor of
Church Education
Cedarville College

The church is people—people who belong to families. We who are involved in Christian education face a great opportunity to supplement the teaching efforts of the home. The stronger the home, the greater the ministry of the church. The question is: how can we best utilize that opportunity?

We can teach biblical principles of parenting. Enlist qualified older couples to teach these courses. Enrich the courses with Christian films and videos, and add parenting books to the church library. Give special attention to parents of teens, and make teen counselling readily available.

We can teach God's Word in the context of warm, interpersonal relationships (Deut. 6:1-9). Strive for informal interactive teaching and learning which duplicates home atmosphere and relates truth to life. Provide husband-wife teaching teams to expose children and teens to men and women role models.

We can keep the teacher-pupil ratio low in children's classes. We want our teachers to maintain personal contact, send cards on birthdays, phone when a child is absent, and visit their students' homes. Encourage teachers to invite students and their families to their homes, and to pray for each child's parents. Don't let children get lost in a crowd.

We can plan to involve parents. Invite parents to observe in their child's department; consider asking them to assist occasionally. Plan an open house so parents can talk with teachers, see their children's work, and enjoy their children sharing what they have learned. Explain how parents can reinforce church teaching. Enlist parents of teens to open

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their homes for activities, and plan time for teens and parents to learn and serve together.

We can show respect for the home. Communicate in writing about planned activities. Consider parents' standards in planning activities, and don't over-schedule teens. They need time for family and school involvements.

God established both home and church. He will be glorified when both work together to further His kingdom.

OIB news deadline
for May-June issue:
May 8



Turn your quarters into dollars for the Ohio Women's Missionary Union project. Your quarters mean improvements like carpet and a washer and dryer for the Mid-Missions MK home in Elkhart, Indiana.

Across the State



Assistant Pastor Mark Ashley, Debbie and Jonathan

Northfield

On March 3, Mark Ashley began his ministry as assistant pastor of **Northfield Baptist**. Presently enrolled in the master of divinity program at Baptist Bible Seminary, Mark is a 1984 graduate of Baptist Bible College. His wife, Debbie, is also a graduate of Baptist Bible College. The Ashleys previously served in Vestal, New York, where Mark was associate pastor of youth and Christian education. They have a two year old, Jonathan.

Byesville

Following examination by an ordination council comprised of 13 Ohio pastors, Assistant Pastor Gary Jacobs of **Calvary Baptist** was ordained to the gospel ministry on September 20. Pastor Jacobs received commendation from the council for his faithful service to the work at Calvary Baptist and for his deportment during the examination process. A graduate of Cedarville College and Grace Theological Seminary, Gary and his wife, Cindy, have served at Byesville in the areas of youth and Christian education for three years. The Jacobs have two children, Amy and Gary Steven.

Tiffin

On February 9, **Calvary Baptist** held its annual Sweetheart Banquet. Guest speaker was Elaine Baldwin of Clementine Ministries. The queen, Lennis Neisler, and her court were chosen to reign throughout the day on Sunday, February 10. The theme for this year was "Motherhood," in conjunction with Right To Life Sunday.

Kenton

Dr. Paul Tassell, national representative of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, was the speaker at **Faith Baptist Church** for the church's 20th Anniversary Bible Conference March 3-6. The theme of Dr. Tassell's messages was "Handling Change in a Changing World." The four-day conference was well attended, with several area churches represented at the week-night sessions.

Faith began meeting as a Bible study group in the fall of 1970. A building expansion program is being planned to accommodate current and projected growth at the two acre site just north of the Kenton city limits. Dennis Burns pastors the Kenton church.



Associate Pastor Rick Wilson, Deb, Micah and Nathan

Springboro

Clearcreek Chapel announces the addition to their staff of Associate Pastor Rick Wilson, who assumes the responsibilities of Christian education, counseling, and youth. Rick, a graduate of Cedarville College and Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary, served as an assistant pastor at North Park Baptist in Grand Rapids while completing his seminary studies. He has "a great deal of optimism and excitement" about his ministry at Clearcreek. Rick and his wife, Deb, have two sons, Micah and Nathan.

Toledo

Emmanuel Baptist will host the 1991 OARBC Conference October 21-23. GARBC National Representative Paul Tassell will be the main speaker.

Dayton

Trip number 16 for the **Washington Heights Baptist** missionary work team ministry proved to be another memorable experience. Fourteen men and four women spent two weeks of January in Curitiba, Brazil, helping BMM missionaries at the Parena Baptist Bible Institute complete apartment housing for married students and administrative staff. Institute Director George Wells commended the group for their diligent labor, which saved thousands of missionary dollars and many months of construction time.

The group, which included 12 veterans and 6 rookies, was directed by Assistant Pastor Jim Neely. One team member, a civil engineer, came from as far away as Juneau, Alaska.



Assistant Pastor of Youth Brian Farr and Donna

Troy

Grace Baptist recently welcomed Brian Farr and his wife, Donna, to a new ministry as assistant pastor of youth. Brian, whose home church is First Baptist of Johnson City, New York, is an '89 graduate of Baptist Bible College.

Springfield

After 12 1/2 years at **Southgate Baptist**, God has led John Greening to the pastorate of the First Baptist Church of Richland, Washington. The Greenings' last Sunday at Southgate was March 17. The years of John's pastorate at Southgate were those of growth for the church, and in addition he was active in various leadership capacities within the OARBC. Greening is also secretary for the Council of Eighteen of the GARBC.

Scioto Hills Presents

The Spring Thing
for senior high teens & sponsors

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 - Film •Fun extravaganza •Saturday brunch
- May 10-11 Cost: \$20 Register by April 26



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Greenville

Faith Baptist held a home missions conference February 24-27. Speakers at the conference were Tom and Karin Benefiel, BMM appointees to Campus Bible

Fellowship at the University of Toledo; Marty Dittmar, EBM missionary to students at Purdue University; Earl Shaffer, church planter in Ohio; Ken Van Loon, BMM church planter in Alaska; Mike Magnuson, Southern Ohio Awana missionary; and Ken Dady, Word of Life missionary.

The theme for the conference was chosen from a contest in which forty-nine entries were submitted. The Wayne Lavy family turned in the winning theme, "Heartbeat of Home Missions...Our U.S.A."

McDonald

On November 1 Michael Setser became the pastor of **First Baptist**. Michael, a graduate of Hyles-Anderson College, has a church planting background, having

started a mission church in Florida, as well as having taught for several years in a Christian school. Pastor Setser and his wife, Shawn, have four children.



Minister of Youth
Brian Hanson

Smithville

"We're thrilled to be here under Pastor [Steven] Olsen and are looking forward to the great things God is going to do," says Brian Hanson, new minister of youth at **Pleasant Hill Baptist**.

Brian is an '89 graduate of Baptist Bible College. In 1987 he served a church apprenticeship with Pastor Tim Ahlgrim, Berean Baptist Church of Springfield, Illinois. Brian's wife, Mandi, is an '88 graduate of Baptist Bible College.



Pastor William Abernathy and Peggy

Columbus

Immanuel Baptist Church is pleased to announce that William E. Abernathy, Jr. accepted a call to become pastor of the church on February 26.

Pastor Bill is a graduate of Cedarville College and Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary. He served Immanuel as assistant pastor for six and one-half years and as interim pastor for the last seven months.

Pastor Bill is also chairman of Baptists for Life, Central Ohio Chapter, and has served as a member of the OARBC State Youth Committee. He and his wife, Peggy, also a Cedarville graduate, have three children, Kristie, Joshua, and Caleb. Pastor Bill spent his teenage years at Immanuel, and the people are thrilled to have him as their pastor.



Pastor George Y. Pease and Carol

Brunswick

After 10 months without a pastor, the Lord has sent to **First Baptist Church**

George Pease and his wife, Carol. Pastor Pease is a graduate of Central Baptist Theological Seminary and has pastored in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Ohio. George and Carol are parents of five daughters and nine grandchildren.

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Womens' Page

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mouse.

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Miss Sallie McElwain
Coordinator, Women's Department
Baptist Mid-Missions
P.O. Box 308011, Cleveland, OH 44130
or call 216-826-3930

1991 State Spring Rally

For Love of the MKs

Date: April 16

Place: Maranatha Baptist Church
4663 Trabue Road
Columbus, Ohio 43228

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Morning Session

"My Kids Are MKs Now."

Kari Zentz, ABWE missionary appointee to Japan

"Making Our 1990-91 Theme Ongoing and Unending."

Merle Brock, Special Representative of Baptist Mid-Missions
Women's Department

Special Music by Suzie Furl

Afternoon Session

Introduction of new theme and project

Speakers: Kari Zentz

Barb Eash, MK Ministries, Elkhart, Indiana

Special Music by Sharon Floyd

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MK Home improvements

Goal: \$6,000

To date: \$2,500 (approximate)

Project money may be sent to
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McDonald, OH 44437

OARBC Women's Fall Retreat

September 5-7, 1991

Scioto Hills

Theme

**Declaring God's Mighty Acts...
from Generation to Generation**

Psalm 145:4

Speakers

**Mrs. Marea Smith
and her daughter, Mrs. Cynthia Millard**

Hosted by Memorial Baptist, Columbus

Keeping Up With Our Camps

Scioto Hills

Register early and save! If you register before May 1, summer camp cost is only \$90!

Camp Schedule

June 10	Jr Hi	Fred Hand
June 17	Junior	Alvis Pollard
June 24	Junior	Jim Sperry
July 1	Sr Hi	Ken Rudolph
July 8	Jr Hi	Ken Gentzler
July 15	Junior	Byron Shearer
July 22	Junior	
July 29	Family	Don Rickard (full)

The Petting/Animal Barn will be replenishing its animals for the summer. If you have baby goats, lambs, calves, rabbits, ducklings, chicks or other domestic farm animals (no cats or dogs) to loan for the summer, please call us at 614-778-2273. They will be returned to you in August.

We can use your help to build a new A-frame and a new log cabin, as well as for spring clean-up.

We also need volunteer nurses for 4 weeks this summer. If you can fill this special need, please call us!

Skyview

Our winter retreats were a huge success, with over 510 attending the five Ranch-sponsored weekends for singles, juniors, and teens. The ranch continues to grow in its programs year-round, offering the local church something for all ages.

The next sponsored Ranch retreat will be the Men's Retreat and work day. Our annual work day begins at 9 a.m. Thursday, May 2. Projects small and large are planned to include such things as rebuilding the Ranch superslide, building new porch roofs, spring clean-up, and woodcutting. You can contact our office for other projects to meet your skills.

The program begins Thursday at 6:30 with supper. (Don't miss a meal, the Ranch is famous for its good cookin') and ends with lunch on Saturday. Featured are four sessions with Evangelist Carl Holwerda. Included in the program are competitions in trap shooting, riflery, golf, horseshoes, and ping-pong. There will also be woodland hikes, full use of the ball courts and fantastic fellowship between men and their pastors.

Cost: \$34; registration deposit of \$10 due by April 27.

Camp Schedule

June 17	Junior	Steve Worth
June 24	Jr Hi	Phil Betz
July 1	Family	Tom Wright
July 8	Sr Hi	Ken Rudolph
July 15	Junior	Tim Pasma
July 22	Jr Hi	Mike Patterson C.O.M.E.
July 29	Junior	Kevin Boggs
Aug 5	Family	John Street

To register, send registration form and a \$50 deposit. The cost for a week of camp is \$110 (\$95 for each additional child from the same household).

Family camps are full, but we do have room for RVs and tent camping. The cost is \$95 per adult and \$75 for each child (under 3 years is free). A \$100 deposit is required with your registration.

Mogadore Christian Academy is now accepting applications for the position of Teacher/Supervisor. The applicant should have the ability to teach high school math and science, to oversee the functioning of a small school, and be willing to use the A.C.E. curriculum.

Please send resume to:
Mogadore Christian Academy
P.O. Box 126
Mogadore, OH 44260

Patmos

Get your registrations for Camp Patmos to the registrar soon! The cost is \$80 per camper. The registrar is
Pastor Eric Struble
P.O. Box 308
Amherst, OH 44001
216-988-8255

1991 Summer Schedule

June 17	Jr Hi	Doug Lindow
June 24	Junior	Virgil Freyermuth
July 1	Jr Hi	Bob Perry
July 8	Sr Hi	Proclamation/Grand Rapids Baptist College
July 15	Junior	Dave Chapman
July 22	Jr/Sr Hi	Ken Rudolph
July 29	Family	Joe Bower
Aug 5	Family	Don Worch
Aug 12	Family	Tom Townsends
Aug 19	Family	Tony Beckett

We will host a fishing derby June 7-8. Call Pastor Jim McClain, 419-668-3206.

The camp will have work weekends each Friday and Saturday of May. We encourage workers to come to the island on Friday evening and work until Saturday afternoon. Call Pastor Rob Seymour at 216-626-2030 if you are interested.

Together We GROW!

Church Planting Church Growth and Church Leadership Conference

April 29 - May 1, 1991
Cedarville College
Cedarville, Ohio

Planting Track

- Church Planting Cycle
- Mother-Daughter Concept
- Ethnic Church Planting
- Site Development & Demographics
- Tools & Resources for use in Church Planting

Growth Track

- Options for Evangelism
- Assimilating New Members
- Structuring a Church for Growth
- Church Growth Analysis
- Church Image in the Community
- Church Planting Cycle
- Tools & Resources for use in Church Growth

Leadership Track

- Selecting & Developing Leaders
- Meeting the Challenge of Change
- Building a Facility for Balanced Ministry
- Leadership That Produces Followers
- Problem Solving in the Local Church

General sessions, symposiums and films round out this three-day event.

Registration begins Monday, April 29, at 5:30 p.m. The conference concludes at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 2.

Cost: \$50 per person
\$20 for spouse or alumnus of a previous growth conference.
No charge for faculty or students
Meals and housing additional

Send registrations to
Together We GROW!

Blue Ribbon Committee
Cedarville College
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Cedarville, OH 45314

Make checks payable to the GARBC

Try This in Your Church

Ideas That Work!

"It did all we wanted it to," says Dayton Emmanuel Baptist's Drew Baker, speaking of **Emmanuel Athletic Alternative**. The November - February basketball outreach to boys and girls in grades 4-6 was designed to let neighborhood parents know Emmanuel cares about their kids. An average of 17 participated in the 6 weeks of training and 6 of playing on Saturday mornings. The kids earned playing time minutes by attending Sunday school, learning verses, and showing good behavior. Opportunities to meet Cedarville Coach Don Callan and players kept interest high, and kids who memorized all the assigned verses were treated to a Cedarville College basketball game. By using the nearby Boys' Club each Saturday, Drew was also able to get acquainted with families in the neighborhood. Emmanuel plans to repeat the activity next year.

Drawing from an idea in *The Baptist Bulletin*, Pastor Henry Halblaub initiated **Encouragement Sunday** at North Madison Bible Baptist. At a morning service, each adult and teen was given a card on which was printed the name of another adult or teen who was to be the focus of a loving deed during the next week. Thank-you notes on the bulletin board kept the deeds anonymous. "The results were fantastic," says Pastor Halblaub. "I preached from Hebrews 10:22-25, then we had specific opportunity to do what the Word says. Some encouraged with cards, some cooked meals, some even had pizza delivered." The following Sunday people who participated had the opportunity to share

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the impact that doing good had on their own lives. "This is what we should be doing all the time," said Halblaub. "We just need an occasional reminder."

Ohio Association Mailing List Update

Contributions to the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches pay for the production of this newsletter. The OIB is sent without additional charge to fellowshipping churches. You can help us be good stewards of our resources by telling us how many copies you can use. Mail this update to **Ohio Independent Baptist**, P.O. Box 293058, Kettering, OH 45429.

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