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9Marks Conference Strengthens Church Leaders

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – The sixth annual 9Marks Pastors Conference will be held at Cedarville University October 23-24. This year's conference, hosted by Cedarville and 9Marks Ministries, will address biblical theology.

According to Jason Lee, dean of Cedarville's school of biblical and theological studies and professor of theological studies, biblical theology is especially relevant for churches today because it is the main course of a healthy church's diet.

More than 300 pastors, elders, deacons and ministry leaders will develop a healthy understanding of what biblical theology is and how it can strengthen the growth of their local churches.

"Cedarville University's 9Marks conference has become a real resource for the pastors in our region," said Lee. "This year's conference focuses on the value of biblical theology for today's church. I am excited to have two days of fellowship and challenge with the pastors who join us."

Key speakers for the conference include Jim Hamilton, professor of biblical theology at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Garrett Kell, lead pastor of Del Ray Baptist Church; Jonathan Leeman, editorial director of 9Marks and elder at Capitol Hill Baptist Church; Shai Linne, recording artist and church planter at Risen Christ Fellowship; and Mike McKinley, senior pastor of Sterling Park Baptist Church. They will be joined by Randy McKinion, Cedarville's assistant academic vice president and associate professor of Old Testament, and Lee.

"My session will draw on the heritage of the Reformation in general and the preaching of Martin Luther specifically," explained Lee. "I intend to let Luther help us understand how to preach Christian theology from Old Testament texts."

9Marks is a ministry based in Washington, D.C., that equips church leaders with a biblical vision and practical resources to display God's glory to the nations through healthy churches. The title "9Marks" refers to nine signs of a healthy church: expositional preaching, biblical theology, the Gospel, conversion, evangelism, church membership, discipline, discipleship and leadership.

The 9Marks conference will coincide with Cedarville's annual seminary fair. A variety of seminaries and churches will be present including The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Dallas Theological Seminary and Harvest Bible Chapel.

Registration for the conference is open until October 16 for individuals, students and groups at www.cedarville.edu/Event/9Marks.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 3,963 undergraduate, graduate and online students in more than 100 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and leading student satisfaction ratings. For more information about the University, visit www.cedarville.edu.