



Southern Baptists taking the Gospel to the Upper Ohio Valley and beyond

**Upper Ohio
Valley Baptist
Association**

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Visit us on the web!

www.uovba.com

REMINDER!

August 15th is not only our
Executive Board Meeting but,
our annual Committee Meetings
starting at 2pm.

Budget Committee: 2:00
Calendar Committee: 4:00
Program Committee: 5:00
Nominating Committee: 6:00
Executive Board 7:00

ACP Reports Due Sept 15th!

DOM CORNER



A Call to Come Together

“For we are God’s fellow workers...” – 1 Corinthians 3:9

In October 1969, the Beatles released a song entitled, “Come Together,” the opening track of their famous *Abbey Road* album. Though the song was initially intended to serve as the theme for Timothy Leary’s gubernatorial run in California, that plan was scrapped when Leary dropped out of the race. Instead, John Lennon drafted lyrics he referred to as “gobbledygook,” and “Come Together” became the Beatles’ 18th number one hit on the Billboard Hot 100 charts, surpassing Elvis Presley’s previous record of 17. Despite the song’s unconventional creation and abstract composition, fans all over the world misinterpreted its chorus (which says, “Come together, right now, over me”) as a call for unity – a perception that continues even today.

Though John Lennon was not trying to bring people together through that song, I most certainly am through this ministry. Reaching our potential as an association of churches is contingent upon our willingness to work cooperatively. Individually, each church in the Upper Ohio Valley Baptist Association (UOVBA) is an important part of God’s Kingdom and, to be sure, will have an impact on eternity. However, our 22 churches can do far more by working *together*. How? Let me share a few opportunities that highlight the potential of cooperative ministry.

Disaster Relief

Disaster relief efforts are currently underway in the southeastern portion of our association. The towns of McMechen, Hundred, and Mannington have all been hit very hard by recent flooding. Cameron Baptist Church and Temple Baptist Church have opened their doors to disaster relief teams representing the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists (WVCSB), while Indian Creek Southern Baptist Church has been busy mobilizing disaster relief volunteers. *Together*, Southern Baptists are providing meals, supplies, cleanup efforts, and Gospel ministry to the victims of this disaster. Many churches are collectively doing what no single church could accomplish on its own! If you can join us in helping our neighbors, contact Bobby Thomas at (304) 238-8169.

For those interested in disaster relief training, mark your calendars for two upcoming dates. Blue Hat training will be on Friday, August 11 from 6-9pm at Fairlawn Baptist Church in Parkersburg. General disaster relief training will be held at Indian Creek Southern Baptist Church on Saturday, October 7 from 9am-2pm. You can register by contacting WVCSB Disaster Relief representative Jim Messenger via email—jim@wvcsb.org.

Looking Up Prayer Concert

On September 7 at 6pm, the UOVBA will be hosting the Looking Up Prayer Concert at Temple

Baptist Church in Moundsville. Though Chuck Morrow will open the event with a single worship song and Dan Biser will provide some short exhortations about prayer, the evening will predominantly consist of committed Christians crying out to the Lord in prayer. We will unite our hearts *in worship* of God for His glorious attributes and redemptive work; *in confession* to God for personal sin and sins of the church; and *in petition* to God for personal, corporate, and national revival. *Together*, we will seek the Lord in humility and passion. No reservations are needed – just show up ready to pray, intercede, and talk with the Lord.

Faith Community Church

Faith Community Church in North Wheeling will be gutting a building on September 8-9. Pastor Pete Carney and deacon Ray Carney have a God-given vision to reach their North Wheeling neighborhood with the Gospel. The building, which is owned by the church, will serve as their future sanctuary, and successfully gutting the building on these days will allow them to begin interior sanctuary construction in 2018. *Together*, we can help this church move closer to the launch of a new location. Will you invest in this Gospel vision for North Wheeling? If you want to join the efforts, contact Pete Carney at (304) 280-6917 or Ray Carney at (304) 281-8353.

Ola Cox State Missions Offering

I also cordially invite you and your church to participate in this year's Ola Cox State Missions Offering (OCSMO). Throughout the month of September, you may designate gifts to the OCSMO through your local church. All proceeds will remain in the state of West Virginia for the purposes of Gospel ministry. *Together*, we will cooperatively fund ministries and missional efforts that no individual church could facilitate singlehandedly!

In chemistry, when some elements come together, they create a reaction that can't be reversed. Imagine what the Lord will do when – in His name, for His purposes, and through His power – we come *together*.

-Ed Goodman

TRAILER SCHEDULE

July 27-August 5 Emmanuel Shower Trailer

August 5 Open Door Block Party Trailer

August 6-11 Riverview Block Party and Shower Trailer

Is a trailer already reserved for a date when you need it? The state convention may have one available for your church. For questions about scheduling, you may contact Kim Koletka at 1 (800) 411-5758.

http://wvcsb.org/ministries/about/block_party_trailer

VBS DATES

AUGUST

Riverview 7-11

Don't forget: you can reserve the UOVBA tent trailer for outdoor VBS activities by contacting associational secretary Megan Koontz.



CHURCH GIVING

Church	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Abundant	48.85	57.55	62.41	68.74	63.97	104.55						
Avondale	20.50		92.45	45.78	39.38	69.68						
Calvary												
Cameron	304.00	688.00	300.00		428.00	390.00	325.00					
Emmanuel	199.05	126.51	199.25	153.72	132.18		172.23					
Evangel	26.50	150.00	44.12	45.36	47.68	47.60	43.48					
Faith		34.80	156.60	48.50	98.70	111.10	111.00					
FBC Ches- ter		290.27	198.00	263.47		121.56	70.28					
FBC Steuben.		231.38	181.79		414.05							
Friendly	320.00	205.00	210.00	410.00	275.00	200.00	270.00					
Grace	73.00		95.00	146.71	195.00		242.00					
Immanuel	620.00	1485.0	665.00	560.00	765.00	32,495.00	615.00					
Indian Creek		1289.0	943.35	2374.2		2094.32						
Lighthouse												
Marland Heights	150.00	100.00			900.00	1430.00	985.00					
Ministry of Salvation												
Open Door	1503.0	1774.0	1641.0	974.41	2093.0	1514.00	1443.0					
Riverview												
NB @ Ryerson	309.35	428.30	403.91	963.93	694.02	541.68	494.38					
Solid Rock	32.91	57.82	38.19	47.49		42.69	37.53					
S Wheeling	4.20	5.32	1.86	16.16	21.68							
Temple	103.67	364.01	431.61	130.33	198.19	129.48						

My heart is full of gratitude for your generous and faithful giving. Thanks to each UOVBA church for the privilege and stewardship of cooperating in associational ministry together with you!

- Ed Goodman

A PLEA FROM ONE OF OUR HEROES

To the churches:

First, I want to thank you for the opportunity you have given me to write this letter to you. Your willingness to do whatever you can to aide is uplifting and encouraging to me in preparation for the next few months of this journey!

I am writing to explain a little bit of the nature of my trip and how the Spirit of the Lord has led me to where I am today. I will be going to a country in December whose borders are not open to missions teams and whose government does not want outside influence, especially Christian influence, to come inside. Therefore, this trip will revolve around volunteering and observing physical therapy work.

This process began almost a year ago in July 2016. I attended a medical missions conference through the IMB and I left there stirred. The Spirit was moving and working in my heart. I saw the need for medical professionals to be leveraged in hard places for the kingdom work of King Jesus and had a desire begin to form inside my heart. I became involved in local mission work, where I currently attend physical therapy school, and God continued to break my heart for the lost. Moving forward to December 2016, I attended Cross Conference in Indianapolis and through the preaching of the Word, the Spirit exploded that initial desire tenfold. Thabiti Anyabwile spoke from Matthew 24:36-51 and summed it up in these words: Hell is real, Time is short, Jesus says go. He gave a statistic that has stuck with me ever since; in the course of 1 minute, only 60 seconds, 105 people die. That stat alone broke my heart for those who, are dying as I am sitting here and don't know Jesus Christ as their all.

So after I came home, I was filled with that desire and zeal like never before, however, I did not want it to be caused from any sense of hyper-emotional response so I have continued to pray; seeking the face of God in this situation. The story about this particular trip is rather funny though, at least to me. At the first of the year I was searching all over the place for a trip. Nothing would work logistically with my time frame availabilities and the ones that did, just didn't seem right. So I quit trying to make things happen as I told God my desire to go but also my frustration with not finding anything. I asked that a trip could just fall in to my lap so to speak, and sure enough, 4 or 5 weeks later I get an email! Praise God for the way he works; completely in his sovereign timing.

Along with the mission aspects of this trip, it will also be a vision trip. I have been praying that through this trip, God will show me part of his heart for the future of my life. I feel the draw to full-time, foreign missions work, using my future degree and medical skills to be able to get behind closed doors and be a light in those dark places. I am excited to see if that is the direction God is indeed moving me!

The financial need is there with this trip. The flight will be the lion's share and the total need is around \$3,000. However, before anything else, I mostly desire your prayers. Not just now, but leading up to the trip and while I am there. I can provide specifics if asked and more details as well. I thank you for reading this and presenting it amongst the church bodies. I draw so much strength from the Word but a few verses that are really on my heart right now are these:

"I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness." Isaiah 42:6-7

"Do not fear for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, surely I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10

Soli Deo Gloria!

-Anonymous

The name of this missionary is being withheld for security reasons. Contributions can be sent directly to the Upper Ohio Valley Baptist Association, which will forward 100% of the proceeds to the missionary.

MINISTRY POSITIONS

Friendly Baptist Church is prayerfully considering prospects for their next pastor. Candidates may submit resumes to Pastor Larry Bayle or contact him directly with any questions.

114 Glenview Dr
New Martinsville WV 26155
(304) 455-2756
(304) 771-9923
jsmrbab@gmail.com

Please provide all ministry and church staff openings to associational secretary Megan Koontz no later than the 20th day of each month.

YOUR MISSION FIELD

-Faith Community Church in North Wheeling is now seeking mission teams to help gut a building on Sept. 8-9. This building will serve as the church's future sanctuary, and every church is encouraged to help with this project! Can you help provide food? Can you swing a hammer? Can you carry debris or contribute some elbow grease? Mission teams would help tremendously by furnishing their own crowbars, claw hammers, screwdrivers, and other necessary tools for the project. Churches and mission teams interested in participating in this wonderful project can contact Pastor Pete Carney at [\(304\) 280-6917](tel:3042806917) or Pastor Ray Carney at [\(304\) 281-8353](tel:3042818353).

-Lighthouse Baptist Church is in need of any help with electrical and plumbing work. Please contact Pastor Dick Ryan at (304) 527-3088 if you can help them complete the addition to their church building.

-Indian Creek Southern Baptist Church will be sharing the Gospel at the Hillbilly 100 at the Tyler County Speedway on Labor Day weekend (Sept. 2-3). This is an opportunity unlike any other in our region, with **over 10,000 people coming to us!** You can donate water, help set up bounce houses, haul a shower trailer, or sign up for a time slot to serve by contacting Bobby Thomas at 304-758-5014



CHURCH SPOTLIGHT

BOBBY AND SHANNON THOMAS

My name is Bobby Thomas and I serve as the senior pastor of Indian Creek Southern Baptist Church. Our family planted ICSBC twenty years ago and have been there ever since. I have been married to my wife Shannon for 27 years. We have 4 children: Lindsey, Emily, Ali, and Christian. We also have a granddaughter, Ellie.

Outside of ministry, my passions are bow hunting and spending time in the outdoors.



INDIAN CREEK SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday
Sunday School
– 10:00 AM

Morning Worship
– 11:00 AM

Evening Worship
– 6:00 PM

Youth
– 6:00 PM

Kindergarten-6th graders
– 6:00 PM

Wednesday
Evening Worship
– 7:00 PM

Royal Ambassadors
– 7:00 PM

Girls In Action
– 7:00 PM

Youth Class
– 7:00 PM

Thursday
Mowing Every Thursday
– 4:00 PM

MINISTRIES

At ICSBC we have many ministries that we use to reach the lost with the gospel. They include our Sunday morning and night services as well as Wednesday services that reach the entire family for all ages. Some of our several ministries at ICSBC are "Redline Racing Ministry" which reaches out to those who attend the local dirt track races. Our outdoor hunting and fishing ministries are "Point The Way Archery" and "Hooked For Life".

KENTUCKY MOTOR SPEEDWAY MINISTRY



KENTUCKY MOTOR SPEEDWAY MINISTRY

What a week we had at our favorite Race Track Kentucky Speedway. I want to personally Thank each of you that participated in any way to make last week a huge success. Not sure on any numbers yet but I personally we did more ministry this weekend that I have ever seen us accomplish, Each site that I visited during the weekend, i saw prayers with fans and staff or volunteers telling me a story of an individual they had just prayed with. So again I want to Thank all of you that prayed, supported, baked cookies, volunteered or provided goods and services that contributed to us having a very successful weekend for the Kingdom.

Wednesday we had our largest Employee Luncheon ever, Assisted Speedway Children Charities with Pulling for kids event, participated with Timothy Cup and American Racing Outreach at Carrollton Race Fest for the 5th year.

Thursday, KRM Cafe and all Campgrounds were up and operational, Kidzone opened, and after a long rain delay we raced Camping World Truck Race until early Friday.

Ben Rhodes had an Autograph Session, there was lots of rain, The Xfinity Race was washed out, Volunteers were taken away in the Paddy Wagon (Jailer gave them rides to there vehicle)

On Saturday, there were four Great Worship Services and the Largest Day for Volunteers. WAY FM Radio Station, Kid Zone, NASCAR Autograph Session with Brad Keslowski, Aric Almirola and Eric Jones. **Xfinity Race Quaker State 400 Chriscakes Pancake Breakfast at Checkered Flag Over the weekend.** We distributed a Thousand Jesus Cookies, Bibles and Drivers Cards. We served hundreds maybe, over a thousand meals to Police, National Guardsman, race Fans and Staff. We encountered, touched and prayed with folks from: Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, North Carolina, Alabama, Texas, Georgia, Missouri, Illinois, Texas, Kansas, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, North Dakota, Idaho, Washington, Tennessee, Maine, Maryland, Puerto Rico, Florida, Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, Louisiana, Honduras, Ontario, Canada, Germany, Philippines, France, England, Mexico, and Venezuela. ** Let us know if you can add to this list.

A very special Thank You to Ray and Karen Thiessen who kept us supplied all weekend with fresh produce and food. I'd also like to thank some very special ministries that joined our team this weekend to help us accomplish Gods work from Missouri, West Virginia, and North Carolina you made it a great weekend! Great Prayers and cookies from our WMU Ladies as well as support and help from our Ministry Partners Timothy Cup, MRO and ARO. And, of Course, KENTUCKY SPEEDWAY, We have a awesome venue to serve

We get to do all of this for a Lord who went and paid too high of a price for us that he loved so much. I know we are all tired and recovering but a pretty small price for us considering the price he paid.

Please continue to pray for the KRM and all of the folks we touched this week, I hope you reached at least 3 people that your praying for now.

Please forward us any pictures, stories to follow ups in the next few days as you recover.

May God Bless each of You, Your Family, Your Churches and Your Ministries

God Bless, JT

CALENDAR



- 4 Labor Day (Office Closed)
- 9 WVCSB Executive Board
- 10-17 Week of Prayer for State Missions and
Ola Cox State Missions Offering
- 16-17 Men and Boys Retreat
- 21 WVCSB Nominating Committee
- 21 WVCSB Committee on Committees
- 30 WMU Officers Council



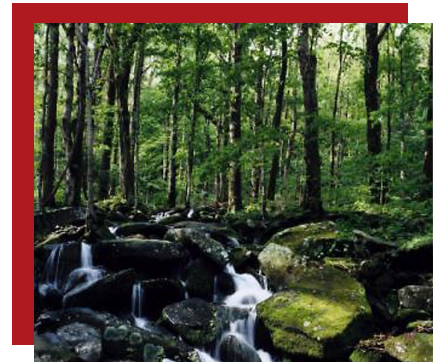
- 1 Sunday School High Attendance Day-
Great Day In The Mountains
- 6 New Ministers' Orientation
- 8 World Hunger Day
- 13 CPN Fall North
- 20 CPN Fall South



On August 15, the UOVBA annual committee meetings start at 2:00 p.m. and the executive board will meet at 7:00 p.m.

Budget Committee	2:00
Calendar Committee	4:00
Program Committee	5:00
Nominating Committee	6:00
Executive Board	7:00

*Refreshments will be served.



LOOKING UP

CONCERT OF PRAYER



THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 7TH AT 6:00PM
TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH MOUNDSVILLE, WV
WORSHIP - PRAYER - INTERCESSIONS FOR REVIVAL
GET MORE INFORMATION @ WWW.UOVBA.COM

SPONSORED BY THE
 Upper Ohio Valley
Baptist Association

PASTORS FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The last Tuesday of each month - Pastors Breakfast at Eat N Park in Weirton at 7:00 a.m.

The last Wednesday of each month - Pastors Breakfast at Quinet's in New Martinsville at 7:00 a.m.

**Pastors breakfasts are optional and meant for general fellowship and conversation.*

Happy
Birthday!

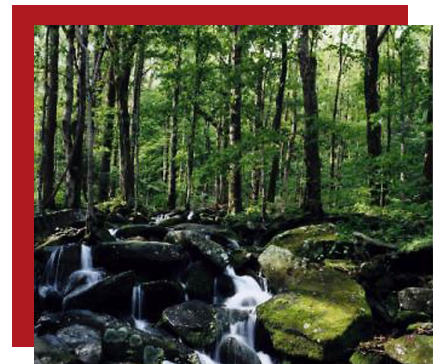
8 Donna Garrison
21 Tom Rentfrow
27 Larry Bayle



Happy
Anniversary

12 Larry and Liz Bayle
17 Bobby and Shannon
Thomas
25 Robert and Helen Colvin
31 Gary and Lorene Grant

*Birthdays, anniversary info, and photos
from celebrations may be submitted to
associational secretary Megan Koontz.*



JUNE DISCIPLESHIP STORY

Our youngest son believes he is being called into the ministry. He is still asking God what He has for him. He has a few ideas (youth pastor or college minister) so we pray that God will continue to help him grow and to be the leader God has called him to be.

This past week, he actually got the youth to go to the mall and to witness to people. The Youth Pastor was not present, but he felt that was what God wanted their group to do that day. The One Mission Conference was held at our church. For our members present, it really helped them dream about what could be possible with evangelism and discipleship in our community. Also, I think it will be helpful for the state. Patrick has been with us since the beginning months of our public launch. He has been preaching for a while with our church, as well as doing pulpit supply for other churches. He, his wife, and our leadership are prayerfully considering an elder candidacy for him. Whether we begin this journey or not, I'm confident he will continue to be a vital part of our church.

We just completed a mission trip to Florida to assist a sister church with canvassing and VBS. Five people from our church answered God's lead to GO, and growth and stepping out in obedience was evident. Also, in my absence, one of our men stepped way out of his comfort zone and led the morning service.

PTL Danny dove head first into our worship ministry. After praying for months about his commitment level, he decided to play electric guitar. Danny played in an 80's cover band for years, but he has never played guitar for Jesus. Last Sunday, Danny got on stage to use his gifts for Jesus. Our bass player took a break a couple months ago, and Danny stepped up and switched to playing bass, even though he loves playing guitar. Not only is he using his talents for Jesus, he is leading his family well. I have seen growth in Danny, his wife, and his entire family. Danny even hosts one of our small groups.

Our staff took a prayer walk around our city this month. We prayed for God to move in an incredible way. Evangelism obviously starts with prayer and focusing our hearts and minds on Jesus. Our team has come up with a plan to have multiple outreaches in the month of July through our small groups. (2) We have seen one man come in who has been away from the church for a very long time. Since coming back, he has gotten plugged in to the worship team, become a faithful giver, volunteered in a number of ways (providing truck and trailer to help a lady move, helping set up on Sunday morning, participating in Scatter to Serve Sundays,) and we are just a couple of weeks from starting a brand new small group out at his house for the folks in his community that do not have a church home.

After years of deliberation, one girl made the decision to be baptized. Dan professed faith in Jesus Christ and asked to be baptized by the guys who diligently worked through the Scripture with him.

One of our couples brought a person who has never attended a church before. It was his birthday, and they brought a cake to share with the group. The man enjoyed himself, had multiple questions, and plans to come back when he can. He lives about 40 minutes away.

** Excerpted from the WVCSB church planting pipeline **

GOSPEL WITNESS STORIES, JUNE 2017

At the House of Hope, we meet not only the immediate needs of the people we serve, but we also try to minister to the spiritual needs as well. We hand out Bibles, we pray with people, we invite them to church. Over the last few months we have seen several, who were ministered to, come to church. One person in particular is Michael, who is homeless. He came on Saturday and was waiting outside for the House of Hope to open. The men were having a men's breakfast that same morning and invited him in to eat with them. Michael, his nephew (who was also living under a bridge) and another guy, Larry, were fed. Then they were brought over to the house where we could provide some clothing and a food box. One of our other members was able to take their clothes to the laundromat and wash them for them. Another drove them with their food boxes and clothes back to the bridge. We also provided them with washcloths and soap so they could bathe in the river. Michael showed up the next day for church. You could tell he felt a little uncomfortable, but our people hugged on him and loved him despite how he looked. Michael heard the gospel that day. We don't know if he made a decision, but at least a seed was planted. Now when we see him around town, we know his name and call out hello to him and continue to show the love of Jesus; to someone who is, for the moment, down in their life. We will continue to minister to him.

We had two older gentlemen come to Christ this month and follow in believer's baptism. Robert, (also known as "Bobcat") is a biker with a rough past. He took membership and was baptized this month and is excited to serve in the church. The other gentleman, Mike, has played music at our church for a little while. Through his time playing in the band, the gospel was shared with him continually. When I personally shared the gospel with him, he shared with me that no one had ever invited him to repent and receive Christ in a personal conversation. He prayed, repented, was baptized, and took membership along with his wife.

At our Gathering on the Lawn Sunday, at the beginning of the month, we had a young man come. Before the Gathering even started, said he wanted to be baptized. I asked him why. He said he wanted to be saved. So our worship leader, Nick, was able to take him off to the side and walk him through what salvation and giving your life to the Lord is all about. He gave his life to Jesus that morning, ran to Walmart to buy new clothes so he could be baptized, and followed in baptism that morning. We have continued to engage him and his girlfriend and look forward to plugging them in to be disciple through a small group.

Those who went on the mission trip were bold to approach people in the neighborhoods, around the church, and at the local Walmart. The gospel was shared with many during this time, and there was one confirmed salvation. I picked up a student this month. He came from the same laboratory as the other two students who got baptized in March. He came to the US the first time and came to church the first time. I really thank God, he, and his two friends, came to both church and Bible study fellowship almost every week. He also demonstrated interest in the Gospel.

One man, who was in his own words "vehemently hostile" toward Christianity, has walked through a six week study called Christianity Explored with two friends. He has asked to begin studying the Bible with two college friends. Several weeks into this study, he professed faith in Jesus Christ and asked to be baptized.

** Excerpted from the WVCSB church planting pipeline **

Publishing Information Disclosure

The *Valley Voice* will typically be published on the last Thursday of each month, although unforeseen circumstances may result in a delay or temporary suspension of the publication. For information to be published, the UOVBA must receive it in writing by the 20th day of each month.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Upper Ohio Valley Baptist Association is to motivate, stimulate, equip, and assist Southern Baptist churches to recognize and fulfill their Christ-given mission.

Vision Statement

The vision of the UOVBA is to equip churches through cooperation, training, planning, and fellowship to become instruments of Christ for the purpose of evangelism and missions.

Visit Us on the Web

www.uovba.com

www.facebook.com/groups/UOVBA/

UOVBA

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