

Ohio Association

CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Barnabas Ministry

Supporting Those Called by God

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8) c/o Faith Community Church, 4301 Cleveland Ave. NW, Canton, OH 44709

THOUGHTS FROM AFRICA

I write this from Swaziland after having spent a week in South Africa as Joanne and I visit TEAM missionaries in the region. It is a joy and privilege to extend the ministry of the Ohio Association in this way as we proclaim the Gospel in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and unto the ends of the earth in the power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8).

I am struck not only by the dedication of the long-term missionaries here, but the newer missionaries and missionary families who have arrived more recently. One couple just had their fourth child here - delivered by a midwife and a water birth! - and another couple who arrived this spring and whose four younger children are adjusting not only to leaving their friends and moving to a different culture, but also the British educational system. These are just some of the stories.

We are seeing first-hand the spiritual and cultural realities that we outlined for those who attended our South African dessert parties. What is it like to proclaim the Gospel and disciple Christian leaders in a culture where anger and greed are regarded as more severe sins than sexual immorality because they threaten the well being of the community? What is it like to proclaim the Gospel and disciple Christian leaders in a culture where the dead (ancestors) are afforded greater respect than the living? What is it like to proclaim the Gospel and disciple Christian leaders in a culture that truly believes in the unseen, where people go to witch doctors because of their power, where visual and spiritual encounters with the demonic occur regularly? What does it mean to proclaim the Gospel in a culture where it is normal for a husband to have sex with women besides his wife, where the leader of one country has 14 wives? What is it like to proclaim the Gospel and disciple Christian leaders in a region where the AIDS pandemic continues, and where witch doctors proclaim that healing from AIDS can be found through sex with a virgin, even a child?

Yet to see here the love for Jesus among believers, to sing to Jesus Christ among Africans with resonance and harmony beyond the refrains of the Hallelujah Chorus, to hear how Jesus has revealed Himself, reached out, delivered and saved so many from a spiritual world dominated by fear, where people find true deliverance in Jesus' name over all that is dark and wants to destroy. . . .all this inspired us and declares who Christ truly is to us all.

Joanne and I realized more than ever the importance of this ministry. It was such a privilege to be there simply to listen, to encourage, and to pray. We would like to express appreciation to all of our prayer warriors, financial partners, and especially the missions committee of Faith Community Fellowship for providing the necessary support so we can be of support to those called by God in this region of the world. Being with these missionaries brought us such joy, and we were blessed beyond words.

Much love, in Christ,
Pastor Dave and Joanne

KIMBERLY'S CALENDAR

- Mar. 27 - Congregational meeting, United Church of Huntington**
- Apr. 15 - Preach at United Church of Huntington**
- Apr. 22 - Preach at United Church of Huntington**
- May 6 - Preach at St. James Church of the Crossroads**
- May 8-9 OA Ministry Clinic, Cohort 1, retreat #4 at Skyview Ranch**
- May 16 - June 27 - What in the World are the World's Worldviews?
at Calvary Temple Assembly of God, Canton**
- July 12 - 26 - Vision trip with TEAM missionaries, southern Africa**



PASTOR DAVE & JOANNE

OFFICERS

DR. JOHN HOOD
Moderator

REV. JONATHAN CHEATHAM
Treasurer

REV. MITCH REED
Secretary

REV. DAVID DAKE
Vice Moderator

ADVISORY BOARD

STEVE EDLIN (ret.)
Counseling Office Director TEAM

DR. MATT LEWIS
International Director,
Heart of the Leader

CYNTHIA G. WILSON
Exec. Dir., Malone Management
Studies Malone University School
of Business and Leadership

Praise God! The OA Barnabas Ministry prayer network has grown to over 130 prayer warriors! More are always needed! To support those called by God through the Barnabas Ministry, you can donate online at www.ccccOhio.org, or make a check out to OA Barnabas Ministry and mail to: First Congregational Church, 114 Church St., Lodi, OH 44254. Thank you, and God bless you!

HERE'S THE TEAM!



PLEASE PRAY FOR...

The continuing adjustment of the Rutledge family

The teaching and spiritual warfare ministry of the Flickner's

The Binions and accreditation status of Union Bible Institute

Deb Prentice's teaching ministry helping students to embrace a full Biblical worldview

Lynda Collison's health

The Bartholomey's to pace themselves as a family

The Langley's reaching out to the Zionis movement with the Bible

Quality family time for the Schaeffer family

The success of the Miller's construction project.

ADVISORY BOARD



STEVE EDLIN



MATT LEWIS



CYNTHIA WILSON

Thanks to these Advisory Board members for helping the Barnabas Ministry support others called by God in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, unto the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8)!