

# C|C Ohio Association

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# C|C 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*

## AFTER EASTER? ALL IN!

One of the amazing realities about the disciples after Jesus' crucifixion is that, with the exception of Judas, all of them went from no way to all in. Proclaiming Jesus' resurrection was their joy, their conviction, and their highest priority (Acts 4:20, Acts 5:29) - even to the point of death (Acts 7:59-60).

**I can't imagine that.**

I mean, we all know what it is like to have hope - hope that a relationship would happen, hope for a promotion, hope that a tumor would heal, hope to start a family, hope to make the team - only to have our hope dashed to pieces.....they're not interested in us, someone else got the job, the pathology results were not good, something's wrong and we can't conceive, we didn't make the cut.

For the difficulty of such moments, imagine what Black Saturday was for the disciples.

Three years. They'd seen Him heal. They'd seen him multiply fish and loaves. They'd seen him speak hope to thousands. They'd seen Him rebuke hypocrisy. They'd seen Him walk on water. They'd seen a multitude greet His coming into Jerusalem. To them He had become the hope of Israel (Luke 24:21).

But then they saw Him arrested. They saw the crowd turn on Him and call for a violent revolutionary's freedom instead. They saw Him fall as He carried a cross. And then they watched Him die.

**I can't image that.** I can't image the despair, the glimmer of hope overwhelmed by the soul's darkest of dark.

But later, they're all in proclaiming His resurrection. For the remainder of their days. Until they died.

**I can't imagine that.**

**Unless.....it happened.....by the One** "...who as to his human nature was a descendent of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord." (Rom. 1:4-5).

He created you. He loves you. He wants you to be with Him. Forever.

"If you confess with your mouth 'Jesus is Lord' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9).

**May you rejoice with believers around the world this Easter as we all proclaim that Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!**

## God Bless & Happy Easter!

Much love, in Christ,  
*Pastor Dave & Joanne*



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*Praise God! The OA Barnabas Ministry prayer network has grown to over 258 prayer warriors! More are always needed! To support those called by God through the Barnabas Ministry, you can donate online at [www.cccohio.org](http://www.cccohio.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!*

# ANOTHER OHIO ASSOCIATION COVENANT COHORT!



Here's the "Boston" cohort having lunch at the end of their first covenant cohort retreat! From L-R: Paul McPheeters, 4C's NE Regional Pastor (cohort mentor), Pastor Jason McGee (guest), Damian Brennan (coachee), Maj. Chad Debos (leadership consultant), Pastor David Johnson (guest), Alex Manos (coachee), Josh Thibodeau (coachee), Pastor Craig Everett (coach mentee), Terry Shanahan (guest, Oasis Facilitator, GCTS Thriving in Ministry). Not shown: Pastor David Bodanza, J.D. (coachee and Mission of Grace lead pastor), Pastor Dave (well, sort of....note the sliver of a forehead with glasses on the left edge of the photo).



Dave Bodanza (with beard) and Jason McGee (without beard) during supper Friday night.



Josh Thibodeau, Chad Debos, Damian Brennan, and Craig Everett at breakfast Saturday morning.



...prayer together after breakfast.

## MISSION OF GRACE

# COVENANT SELF AWARENESS COHORT

These are pictures from the first of four covenant cohort retreats sponsored by Mission of Grace Church, Westborough, Massachusetts held Feb. 27-28. The church's pastor, Rev. David Bodanza, wanted a covenant cohort themed on self-awareness for himself and three men he is discipling into ministry.

Committing themselves not only to spiritual disciplines but also to each other for a year, the men journaled moments when they could have been more self-aware serving other people as a further step towards being "...transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory." II Corinthians 3:18. Alternating between 1-1 coaching between retreats and group coaching during, the men will continue to build in-depth relationship and trust as they support each other towards growing in Christlike ministry.

APRIL 2026

God bless you for your faith, involvement, and service in the Lord's name.

In Christ's love, *Pastor Dave*

