

*Together,  
we work to unify,  
develop, and multiply  
churches and leaders.*



**OHIO MINISTRIES**

of the Church of God

News from the Church of God in the State of Ohio

July 2014



## Randy's Sabbatical Thoughts

I will always remember the day I got a call from our state board chair Bob Moss stating that he and the board wanted me to take some sabbatical time for the purpose of rest and recovery. In my 40 plus years in ministry, never have I had a board that was proactive in looking out for my well-being and that took the initiative for sabbatical rather than my having to do so. I can't express enough my sentiments of gratitude to the good board that governs the work of Ohio Ministries; Bob Moss (central), Jim Roma (Northeast), Faye Goode (Northeast), Steve Rauch (Southeast), Erik Spohr (Southwest), C.J. Plogger (Central) and David Grogg (Northwest). Together the board, I believe, saved me from an emotional collapse.

Pam and I were in California for a family funeral when we got the frantic call from our daughter informing us that our house was on fire. Now not only had we suffered a series of losses but also now we didn't even have a home to go back to. I was still mourning the death of my mother and dealing with the feelings of being orphaned due to the loss of my only parent since I was ten. Add to that the reality that we were now, in a matter of speaking, homeless as well. In addition to the emotional trauma we had experienced, I was tired, really tired, after eight years in state ministry and eventually ended up in the hospital on two different occasions.

I'm happy to say that I'm healthy once again, rested and ready to reengage. A part of what I want to do is to help other pastors and churches think and work through this whole matter of sabbatical. I know there are pastors in our state who are just weary from the work of ministry that is unceasing and unrelenting. If I/we as the staff of Ohio Ministries can assist you, please let us know. We are here to serve.

## News from Ohio Ministries



### PRAYERS & BEST WISHES FOR KARINA

Karina Caldwell will be leaving Ohio Ministries at the end of this month. Karina has been the friendly voice you have heard when you call Ohio Ministries as well as the coordinator of events and manager of the office.

We are saddened at Karina's leaving but send her with our prayers and best wishes.



### NEW ACTING CHAIR OF GOV. BOARD

CJ Plogger has stepped in as acting Chair for our Governing Board and General Assembly. CJ is the Senior Pastor at First Church of God, Bellefontaine. Former Chair, Rev. Robert Moss, resigned in order to accept the call to a new ministry as Chief Advancement Officer at Church of God Ministries. We are grateful for CJ's experience and willingness to serve during this time.



### SUMMER CAMP WAS AWESOME!

We would like to celebrate the successful completion of nine Summer Camps at Camp Marengo! An abundance of fun was had by hundreds of campers as well as a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

Check out some fun pics from camp on our website, [www.ohchog.org](http://www.ohchog.org).

# News from Around Ohio

## A TESTIMONY FROM CEDARVILLE

We received a stirring testimony from Pastor Elton Moose of the Cedarville Church of God detailing his witnessed experience using prayer cloths among his congregation. Read a snippet of his testimony below:

“The Cedarville church is very small, but the Lord has given us the gift of prayer. For some who request prayer, we have used prayer cloths. In one case, a person who has a blood disease is improving. Her daughter, who has had a number of serious illnesses, keeps the prayer cloth with her all the time... The church has many requests for praying coming in every week... We believe God is enlarging our sphere of influence through this method.”



## SOUTH EAST CAMP MEETING RECAP

Warsaw Camp Meeting is a great week for the many friends and families that gather annually from the 29 churches in the South East district.

With only a few days into the camp meeting, reports of great singing, powerful preaching from Pastor Brock Barnhouse, moving altar services, answered prayers and lives changed were being shared.

## MORE CAMP MEETINGS COMING UP

With three Ohio Camp Meetings coming up very soon, we would like to remind you of the deep, soul-nourishing benefits of these family-focused gatherings. Camp Meetings offer a rare chance to spend dedicated time deepening your faith through annual fellowship, communal worship, and comprehensive preaching.

The Camp Meetings of North East, North West and Central Ohio are on the horizon. Don't miss this chance to experience a Spirit-filled week with your Church of God brothers and sisters. If you cannot attend for the whole week, certainly take a day or an evening to experience district voices raised in harmonious worship.

## Event Calendar

Camp Meeting SEO	July 11-20
Camp Meeting NEO	July 19-27
Camp Meeting NWO	July 26-Aug 1
Camp Meeting Central Ohio	Aug 1-10
National Assoc. of the Church of God Annual Camp Meeting	Aug 3-10
Cultivating Congregations 2.0	Aug 19
Men's Ox Roast	Sept 5-6
Senior Adults Fall Feast Walnut Creek	Oct 2
Senior Adults Fall Feast Plain City	Oct 16
Fall General Assembly	Oct 23
Super Cluster Meetings	Oct 24

## Featured Upcoming Events



### Cultivating Congregations 2.0

Crossroads COG  
Lima, Ohio  
Tuesday, August 19th



### Ohio General Assembly & Ordination Services

Meadow Park COG  
Thursday, October 23rd



**OHIO MINISTRIES**  
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**Ohio Ministries**  
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Ohio Ministries is the centralized coordinating ministry serving Church of God congregations throughout Ohio. Together with local pastors and laypersons, we provide services and expertise to help our churches thrive.