

PRAYER AND EVANGELISM REPORT

Dr. John Rogers, Jr., Team Leader

Prayer **Charlotte Jones, SCBI Prayer Coordinator**

It was my honor to represent Indiana at the annual gathering of state prayer coordinators at PrayerLink again, this time in Nashville. Out of that meeting is coming a website with resources from all state prayer coordinators so we can have easy access to one another's prayer material.

The prayer room at the SCBI Annual Meetings was extended to a prayer journey this last year. Over 130 participants traveled through several rooms praying over different prayer stations in each one. Out of that prayer effort came:

1. A monthly traveling prayer group praying for revival in SCBI churches around the state
2. A request to put together a prayer room for Water's Edge Church's women's retreat
3. The Reach the Nations Prayer Team and the opportunity for me to go to Brazil and prayer-walk the villages of the "M" people.

The prayer room at Transformed women's retreat in February had over 170 women pray through the prayer stations which were based around John 15. Women are always deeply encouraged as God meets with them through this ministry of prayer.

Prayer is encouraged through the "Prayer Points" in your Indiana Baptist Magazine (replacing "Prayer Corner"), as well as at the Basic Trainings for church planters, praying for and encouraging them as they start "houses of prayer" around Indiana.

We continue to encourage churches to pray Luke 10:2 & "Choose 2." We now have over 425 in our database who have committed to pray for at least two lost people by name, twice a day, every day. We are already receiving emails sharing that people who are on someone's prayer list are being saved.

God is blowing a fresh breeze of prayer across Indiana. May this be the beginning of revival for our state!

It was my privilege to join several SCBI pastors and staff at the Midwest Prayer Summit in Wisconsin last April. This was a deep spiritual time of prayer and growing intimacy with God. One of the pastors admitted that he thought he really knew his brother until they spent three days praying together. We returned from that event

with a vision to do something similar for our Indiana pastors. We have been preparing all summer for just an Indiana Pastors' Prayer Summit for November 6-8. Those who attended the Summit in Wisconsin - Rick Hillard, Todd Benkert, Greg Byman, Dale Eakes, John Rogers and I - are serving as the coordinating Prayer Team. Claude King (LifeWay) and Rick Shepherd (Florida Baptist Convention) will be our facilitators. We are praying and believing that at least 60 Indiana pastors will attend and that brokenness and repentance will be the result with revival impacting Indiana.

Dr. Seagle and Dr. Rogers went to each association across our state May through July to meet with pastors and consider how to reach the lost in the increasingly post-Christian culture of our state. Prayer support for all but one of these meetings was provided on-site in a separate room by men and women from each association. We believe those meetings were more open and more effective because there were people intentionally asking for God's presence and direction.

One of the best parts of what God lets me do is attend church planter trainings. To pray over and encourage church planters to remember they are planting houses of prayer is a great joy. It is a privilege to meet with these called-out ones and help them see how to make prayer and communication with God the foundation and priority of His church.

Attendance at the International Mission Board's School of Prayer for All Nations (SPAN) in Richmond, Virginia, was also a high point. I hope to be able to incorporate what I learned to encourage our churches to create prayer rooms and to have greater effectiveness as they pray for our missionaries and the nations where they serve.

During these months there has also been opportunity to lead guided prayer at White River Association, provide ideas for an outdoor prayer room for a summer camp and to write "prayer points" for the Indiana Baptist Magazine.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve these past five years as your state prayer coordinator. May God's Kingdom come here in Indiana!

Evangelism

Dr. John Rogers, Jr., Team Leader

The God's Plan for Sharing (GPS) focus for 2014-15 is Servant Evangelism. The churches can choose to do "A Day of Service" or "A

Season of Service.” Partners in the Harvest (PNH) launched in September 2013 at Highland Lakes Baptist Camp with 105 attending. PNH and GPS will assist pastors with resources and/or training to mobilize Indiana Baptists as God’s people to engage lost-ness where they live and ultimately to the nations. Dr. Seagle and I did 11 Pastor Gatherings to discuss how to engage lostness with the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a post-Christian Indiana and how SCBI should better serve the churches with available resources. There were 112 churches represented with 153 participants.

Global Hunger Relief (GHR)

The North American Mission Board has allocated \$46,000 for the 20 ministries across Indiana at the end of 2013. We have added four new ministries in 2014. These funds come solely from the GHR offerings taken by Southern Baptist churches. It is vital that our churches see the importance of this offering. In 2013 the GHR offering was down by 55% from the previous year which can impact our allocation from NAMB.

Collegiate Ministries

Dr. John Rogers, Jr.

The Collegiate Ministry continues to have a presence on these campuses:

- Notre Dame and IU South Bend (Ben Marshall) They are planting a campus-friendly church strategically between Notre Dame and IU South Bend.
- Indiana Tech; Ivy Tech of Fort Wayne (Greg Byman)
- Ball State
- Purdue (Ben Beck; Dennis Runner - international students)
- Indiana State and Ivy Tech, Terre Haute, Rose Hulman, St. Mary of the Woods (Roger and Rose Bear)
- IU Southeast (Josh Boswell)
- IU Bloomington and Ivy Tech, Bloomington (Mat Shockney and Trevor Kirtman)
- Hanover College (Elyse Taylor)
- University of Southern Indiana (Matthew Castro)
- Ivy Tech, Evansville (Jason Woolsey)

Disaster Relief

Dr. John Rogers, Jr.

The Shower Unit was taken to Staten Island, New York. College students went there instead of taking Christmas and Easter breaks. The Shower Unit was returned to Indiana so three churches could

use it as teams came here to do impact evangelism (World Changers, Power Plant) in their areas.

We had four chain saw teams in Kokomo after the November 17, 2013, tornado. They helped 39 victims and had five chaplains on the ground. We praise God for the churches who gave money to help with this.

A Disaster Relief (DR) team of 12 went to Boulder, Colorado, the week of October 19-26, 2013.

Two chainsaw teams worked in Boonville, Indiana, May 13-16 and June 2-4. There were 29 homes affected by straight-line winds. Our teams were able to help 22 homeowners with multiple trees down. The other seven homes had large trees either on their homes or power lines. John Horn was our chaplain. The Gospel was shared and Bibles distributed. Tom Luttrell was our Blue Hat.

On June 24 a chainsaw team assisted in Plainfield when a tornado hit on June 21. Four victims were helped with 23 downed trees in one day. I functioned as chaplain and prayed with three of the victims, all of whom were believers. John Guernsey was our Blue Hat.

One chainsaw team assisted northeast Indianapolis on July 19 with two huge trees that were down. One victim was the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) Secretary. John Rogers was our White Hat.

Six confirmed EF-1 tornadoes and 85 to 95 mph straight-line winds ripped through northern Indiana on June 30. On July 1 we were contacted for a chainsaw team and we responded within one hour.

On July 2 IDHS Larry Cassagne contacted us for the need of a chainsaw team at Kingsford Heights in LaPorte County. As a result of 95 mph straight-line winds, there was a path 200 yards wide and 4.8 miles long with trees uprooted and snapped trees fallen on houses and cars. There were about 125 trees down with 20 homes damaged. Region 5 was put on standby. Due to the holiday, we mobilized on July 7, 2014. We were in Kingsford Heights for four days, Hamlet for three days, Lapaz for three days and Bremen for one day. The Gospel was presented ten times; there were 27 chainsaw projects; we had 19 volunteers with 10 volunteer days. Denny Smith was our Blue Hat for these events.

We appreciate Southeastern Association giving us a tremendous

gift toward a second Shower Unit.

We had seven Introduction to DR and Safety training events.

Disaster Relief Chaplaincy **John Horn, Chaplaincy Coordinator**
Chaplaincy Operational Stress First Aid (OSFA) Overview was taught at the Introduction to DR in Fort Wayne, Kokomo, and West Lafayette. Working with our Blue Hats, I attended meetings, recruited DR Chaplains and responded to call outs in Colorado and Kokomo. I served with them in the Southwestern Indiana Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD).

An overview of OSFA was provided at the Intro to DR event on March 1 in Madison. There are now five people trained to help do the OSFA Overview. The Indiana DR Blue Hats met and had Command Center Training at HLBC on March 28-29. We responded to Mud Out call out and helped a family in Evansville whose basement flooded from April's heavy rains. In addition to cleaning their home, I had the opportunity to witness to the unchurched homeowner.

As a member of the Warrick County Community Emergency Response Team, I worked with Dr. John Rogers to call out DR chain saw units from the Southwestern and Southeastern Regions to respond to the Boonville Macroburst Storm Disaster on May 9. Winds of 120 mph damaged hundreds of trees, homes, and businesses. Arrangements were made for local logistics during May 11-16 to assess damage, collect work orders, maintain daily communications with the Emergency Operations Center (EMA) and provide administrative support to the DR units. We served alongside the units in doing chainsaw work and ministering to homeowners. Stories about our units were featured on the local television stations and many good relationships were established between the community and local Southern Baptists.

In June, I helped two chaplains begin the process of getting their NAMB endorsement and coached by phone one DR chaplain who was called to debrief the first responders at the recent Paoli mass shooting. We began publicizing our Chaplaincy Training at Highland Lakes Baptist Camp in August which will feature DR Chaplaincy Level 1 (Basic) Training on August 7-8 and Level 2 (OSFA Advanced) Training on August 8-9. For updated DR training information, visit www.scbi.org/drtraining.

Partnership

Steve Blanchard, Missionary Strategist

Indiana Baptists are blessed with partnerships both throughout North America as well as internationally. We have had partnership relationships with state conventions of Florida and Mississippi which continue, but somewhat less formally. We also have significant partnerships from churches outside our state with our church plants across Indiana, but especially in relationship to Send Indianapolis. The lead church for this partnership is Second Baptist Church, Springfield, Missouri. We have had some additional churches that have also given significant help to our church plants. One of these may come on in a similar role to Second Baptist, Springfield.

Prayer remains a key resource for the mission ministries in countries where we have had partnerships in the past. Some examples are Guatemala and Eastern Ukraine which are much in the news today as war-torn hotbeds. Some churches have individual partnerships in these and other countries and have even sent mission teams to assist SBC International Mission Board missionaries. Due to the influence of Dave Wilson, who formerly was team leader at Highland Lakes Baptist Camp but is now serving in Ecuador, several churches from Indiana have taken part in mission trips to that South American country.

We still have churches that relate to Indiana natives, Rich and Jody Fleming and Jeff and Deliegha Swanson in Mexico. Rich and Jody Fleming brought a Mexican church planting couple they have trained to Indiana to inspire and train Hispanic church planters in Indiana.

Our official international partnership is in western Brazil in the state of Amazonas. Earlier this year we sent a team to dig a well in a village inhabited by an unreached people group. That team also assisted in ministry in another tribal village. We had planned to take an additional team or teams later this year, but we have had to put those plans on hold due to an unanticipated quick return to the U.S. by the IMB missionary couple. We may be able to continue with further teams next year in the same area or possibly in an even more remote area in the very northwest corner of Amazonas.

Through their gifts to the Cooperative Program and to state, North American and international special offerings, Indiana Baptists are able to work together to impact the whole world for Christ!

Men's Ministry Bob Cox, State Men's Ministry Coordinator

Greetings in the name that is above all names, the name of Jesus! Allow me to say thank you for the opportunity to serve as your men's ministry director for the State Convention. Thank you for your continued prayer support for me and your men's ministry team which includes Roger Kinion, Larry Snyder, Jim Shields, Dave Waite, Don Morris, Tim Donna and John Rogers.

The 2013 state men's retreat was held on September 6-7 at Highland Lakes Baptist Camp. This retreat encouraged men and boys ages 12 and over to study the Word of God through breakout conferences and activities. There were 103 participants who attended the full conference (90 preregistered) and a total of 130 including those who came in at various points during the conference. The theme for the retreat was Kingdom Man based on Exodus 19:6. Dr. Chuck Kelley, President of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, presented our challenge during each worship service. Tim Sadler led a conference on Prayer; Garry Jones led Missions and Evangelism; Steve McNeil led Discipleship; and John Rogers led Kingdom Family. There was a panel discussion. The panel included pastors and laymen. Our worship was led by Pastor Paul George and his family. There were 19 public commitments: five were rededications, five surrendered to God for a specific calling in their lives and nine made various other commitments for God's glory. According to evaluations, the men's retreat was helpful to those who attended. There is much room for improvement. If you are reading this report, maybe God will impress upon you, as a godly man, to do three things: 1) pray; 2) get involved; and 3) attend men's ministry events. Indiana congregations gain strength when their men are spiritually strong.

Your Indiana Men's Ministry (IMM) team continues to work on Christ-centered events that will have dynamic impact on the lives of Indiana men and boys. The team organizes Man Camp which in 2014 drew 281 men and boys. Through play, worship and private devotional times between boys and their dads, grandpas or mentors, lives were built up in Christ. Working with Sarah Bohrer and the children's ministry team, this annual event proved a spiritual home run for all. The team is already planning for Man Camp 2015.

The IMM team also continues to work on the 2014 men's retreat entitled "Conquering Giants." Pastor Larry Snyder is taking the lead in securing speakers and making sure the conference goes smoothly. Dr. Cecil Seagle will lead the main conferences with breakout sessions being led by SCBI staff, as well as Jack Helton, Evangelism

Director for the Ohio Convention. Music will be led by Paul George and New Creation.

The IMM team will also lead a men's retreat at First Baptist Church in Charlestown on August 9, 2014, in conjunction with Southeastern Baptist Association. To receive information on how your church or association can host a men's conference or how to start a men's ministry group, call the state office extension 261 or email bcox@scbi.org. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Church Renewal

Bob Cox, Missionary Strategist

Church Renewal (formerly Lay Renewal) has ignited in Indiana. Jerry and Sue Barton now serve as state coordinators. They had an exhibit at the state convention meeting in October 2013, where they spoke with many pastors, did brief overviews and received some with positive responses. They are working on several leads from that meeting and will be available at the 2014 convention exhibit in Greenwood.

In March and April of 2013, Jerry and Sue worked with the following churches to facilitate church renewal events: First Baptist, Elizabeth; Barrington Ridge, Hobart; and First Baptist, Rising Sun. Bob Foy led a renewal overview at North Park Baptist Church in Evansville July 23, 2014. This overview served as a training for myself and Jerry and Sue Barton. Other churches are in the process of planning for renewal weekends or have already had one. These renewals are led by godly lay people who believe God has called them into the ministry of renewal. Our goal is to have higher visibility in the churches for Church Renewal in 2015. If your church would prayerfully consider participating in a weekend renewal or needs further information, please contact Jerry Barton at 812-457-6006, 800-444-5424 ext. 261 or email jerrybarton@tds.net.