

## **CHURCH & LEADER DEVELOPMENT**

**John Horn, Interim Team Leader**

As SCBI's Church Development Strategist in 2020-2021, my primary role was to assist churches with revitalization. In doing so, I partnered with Bob Weeks in developing an SCBI Process for Revitalization, in designing the structure for our future State-wide Revitalization Network, and in planning and co-leading the High Impact Leader Lab for Church Revitalization on May 3-5, 2021 at Highland Lakes Camp (23 pastors participated). I also personally consulted with 13 SCBI churches through phases of our Revitalization Process, served two churches as an Interim Pastor, worked to complete my Church Answers Certified Revitalization Consultant Certification and participated in the NAMB Replant Summit.

In Leader Development, I partnered with Bob Weeks in meeting with associational Leadership Labs across our State, in promoting NAMB's Multiply Pipeline Training as a church leadership development tool (led the Pipeline cohort at Falam Christian Church in Indianapolis), and in offering on-site Pastor Search Committee trainings, Deacon Trainings, Evangelistic Outreach leader trainings, Missions Committee trainings, Secret Guest consultations and a variety of online Zoom training meetings. I also assisted Allison Kinion in meeting online with our Student Ministry Leaders, and in leading the Student Fusion Camps at Highland Lakes this summer. In addition, I served on the Crossroads Baptist Association Equip Team to provide training opportunities for churches in the Indianapolis area, and assisted our associational leaders across the State.

In June 2021, Bob Weeks retired, and I was given the Interim Team Leader position. In this addition to my role, I have coordinated our summer events with the SCBI Staff Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and Church and Leader Development Staff, while also working with the SCBI Executive Board Church and Leader Development Committee. As part of the SCBI ELT, I have supported the work of Bobby Pell, our Interim State Executive, in designing plans to implement the SCBI Denominee process through recruiting a State-wide Networkers Team and training them to partner with our churches to discover and fulfill their next step.

Our Staff has also worked to provide opportunities for Pastors and Pastors' wives to be encouraged and refreshed. We have offered enrichment events for children, students and women, and you will find more information about this in the Team's individual reports.

This has been a challenging year of serving our churches as they have emerged from the Covid-19 crisis, and as our SCBI Staff has undergone numerous transitions. Nevertheless, God has used our Team to do some significant ministry this year, and in prayerfully approaching our 2021-2022 plans we are very excited about what God has in store for Indiana Baptists!

### Children's Ministry

Sarah Bohrer

After a year of many cancellations and living with so much uncertainty, it was wonderful to be able to get back to children's ministry in 2021. Although many churches ended 2020 and began 2021 without children's ministry, most churches have opened their children's ministry back up and some are even nearing pre-Covid-19 numbers.

Summer camp was back in session this summer! Mission Adventure Camp (MAC) featured a missionary from South Asia who taught the kids to share the gospel with stories. He gave them each cubes to help them share the Bible stories with their friends. Mark Ayers from Tell City was our camp pastor for both MAC and Jesus, Arts, Music (JAM) camp. There were nine kids at MAC who chose to follow Jesus and six kids at JAM. At JAM, kids and students were challenged to use their gifts for Jesus. They had the opportunity to take classes in art, music, dance and theatre. It was awesome to see all that the kids had learned at the end of week celebration.

After a year in which churches either did not have a Vacation Bible School (VBS) or had a very modified VBS, in 2021 many churches took advantage of VBS and had wonderful success in reaching out to their communities. Fifteen churches from around Indiana took advantage of the State VBS training where they not only received great teaching and coaching provided by a team from Indiana, they also received free curriculum and decorations.

On the worship front, mark your calendar for the Cedarville Worship 4:24 conference January 28-29, 2022. Last year was a virtual conference, but this year it will be an in person event with Matt Papa headlining. This is one of the best worship conferences in our area and does a great job training worship teams.

### Women's Ministry

Allison Kinion

The beginning of 2021 looked vastly different than the ending! On November 21, 2020, the Missions Lifeline conference, which was originally slated to be held in person at Calvary Baptist Church, Greenfield on August 15, was held virtually online through a secure YouTube channel. This enabled churches to participate in the event at whatever level of social distancing they felt was appropriate. There were incredible online breakout conferences offered on subjects such as: how to initiate and maintain missions partnerships with International Mission Board (IMB) workers, how to make impact locally in your community, what are the ins and outs of church planting, how to build relationships that lead to gospel conversations and many more. There was a special selection of videos created just for kids to replace the in person mini missions camp that typically occurs during the Missions Lifeline event. The 2021 Missions Lifeline event was held in person on Saturday, August 21st at Calvary Baptist Church in Greenfield. It was great to be back together again!

The Transformed Women's Retreat was held at Graceland Baptist Church, New Albany on March 13 and at Northside Baptist Church, Indianapolis on April 10. In an effort to continue to make wise choices in light of the Covid-19 virus, the leadership team determined that a Saturday-only event would be held with a rotation of five to six main stage speakers. They were Dana James, Sharon Barrett, Vanessa Fletcher, Dr. Linda Clark, Cindy Townsend, Page Hughes and two IMB missionaries serving in high security countries. Worship was led by Graceland's worship team and the Hope Community Church worship team. These events were live-streamed so individuals and small church groups could participate in the retreat from their home or church setting. With the normal multitude of breakout conferences not meeting in person, the leadership team enlisted teachers to film their

break-out sessions, so that women and church groups could access them online through a Transformed Retreat YouTube channel. Plans are underway to return to a more normal Transformed retreat structure for 2022. The retreats will be held on March 11-12, 2022 and April 8-9, 2022. More details will become available online soon.