

Southern Ohio District Conference will be held October 6-7, 2017 at Pleasant Hill Church of the Brethren. The theme will be "Created to love" based on the words of Jesus in Matthew 22:37-40, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself." All the Law and the prophets hang on these tow commandments. Our moderator is John Kinsel. We look forward to what God will teach us through this theme in the months ahead.

District Board Meeting Our next District Board meeting will be held May 20, 2017 at the Circleville Church of the Brethren 10 AM-4 PM. You can go online to read reports at any time preceding the meeting.

Camping and Retreat Upcoming Events

The full 2017 Camping and Retreat Schedule as well as registration forms are available on the website. Donations are needed for the camper scholarship fund since it was depleted during the 2016 camping season. Donations can be mailed to the District Office mailing address: P O Box 785 Greenville, OH 45331.

Disaster Ministry Updates

Sewing Bee – On Saturday, April 8 there will be a sewing bee for making school bags for Church World Service (CWS) school kits. Come join others for a time of sewing and fellowship. Meet at the Greenville COB, 421 Central Ave. at 9:00 AM. Bring your sewing machine, extension cord, and a sack lunch. For more information contact Barb Brower at 937-336-2442. (Note that this is one week later than originally scheduled.)

Assembly of CWS Buckets/School Kits – On April 20 at 7:00 PM there will be an assembly of Clean-up Buckets and School Kits for Church World Service (CWS). It will be at Bullen Ultrasonics, 1301 Miller Williams Rd., Eaton. This is the warehouse location for BDM's storage. A BDM sign will be posted by the designated entry door.

S. Ohio BDM has set a goal of *providing 200 Cleanup Buckets and 200 School Kits*. Donations are helpful and appreciated! Please make checks payable to S. Ohio District COB, with a footnote "CWS Buckets/Kits". These may be sent to S. Ohio District COB, PO Box 785, Greenville, OH 45331.

Volunteers Needed – S. Ohio's upcoming trips of April 23 – 29 and May 28 – June 3 are in need of volunteers. We are going to Columbia, SC to rebuild homes following storms that hit South Carolina in October 2015, causing historic rainfall and much flood-ing and storm damage. To sign up for a trip or for more information, contact Burt Wolf 937-287-5902 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com. Transportation is provided in the BDM vans, and expenses are covered by BDM.

Upcoming Holy Week Services

Seder Celebration, April 11, 2017 6:30-8:30 PM at New Carlisle Church of the Brethren--Brothers and sisters across the Southern Ohio District are invited to celebrate the Seder that Jesus loved! The Seder is the telling of our faith heritage story and is the precursor to our own Love Feast/Foot washing. A love offering will be taken for the Nigeria Crisis Response and the SoDCoB as we do not charge for the traditional meal that is prepared. Menu consists of roast chicken; glazed carrot-apricot Tzimmes; potato kugel, fruit salad, desserts and of course, MATZO BALL SOUP (everyone's favorite)! *Reservations are requested by 4 April 2017 and childcare's available if requested in advance.* We are inviting District congregations who have never experienced a Messianic Seder to see why Jesus said, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer." We will be willing to share recipes and other "How To" tips after our event, if other congregations would like to host their own Seder next year.

Jewish Missionary to share "Christ in the Passover" in Greenville

Jewish missionary Douglas Carmel of the Rock of Israel Ministries will be sharing at the Greenville Church of the Brethren, 421 Central Avenue, on Thursday, April 13th, 6:30 pm during a special evening worship service. This will be an interactive event where sample Passover foods will be enjoyed by attendees. The Exodus Meal and the Last Supper will be compared. Hebrew Songs will be sung and even the children will be incorporated in the service. An optional feet washing service will be offered. Please RSVP before April 4, as space is limited. This is a free event; however, there will be an offering taken to bless Rock of Israel Ministries. Children are invited. Child care is available for children 5 and under but you must request this when making your reservation. To reserve, please call 937-548-3583.

Tennebrae Service

This year you are invited to join us for a Good Friday Service hosted by Trotwood, Happy Corner, Salem, Lower Miami, and Bear Creek Churches of the Brethren to be held at Trotwood Church of the Brethren's building April 14th at 7:00PM. Together we will mark Christ's last moments in scripture, story, and song followed by a time for fellowship over hot crossed buns. May God guide you gently through this season.

Church musician needed for the New Carlisle Church of the Brethren starting June 18, 2017. Responsibilities are to play for the Sunday morning 10:30 service and to accompany the adult choir rehearsal, Wednesday evenings, 7:30-8:30, during the choir season. The pay for this position is \$50 per Sunday and \$50 per choir rehearsal. Please send resume to New Carlisle

Church of the Brethren, 219 N. Main St., New Carlisle, OH 45344 or send via email to ncbrethren01@aol.com.

For more information on what is happening in Southern Ohio as well as more details on these events contact your church office, the Southern Ohio District (sodcob@brethren.org) visit our website: www.sodcob.org. In addition to this publication, we also email a monthly newsletter. To request a newsletter simply email your request to the same email address. If you would like to add your event to either the website, this publication, or the monthly newsletter please email your information to sodcob@brethren.org <u>before the 15th of the month</u>.