



**April, 2017**  
**Southern Ohio District Newsletter**  
**Printable Version**

**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 two commandments.*

Our moderator is John Kinsel. We look forward to what God will teach us through this theme in the months ahead.

## Camping and Retreat News and Notes

### **Scholarship Money Needed for Camps**

Last year the generosity of the donors in the district helped many campers. Children, special needs kids, and families were able to attend camp, because funds were available to supplement the costs. Without the support, many campers would not be able to experience the exciting, faith building life in the Christian community we of Southern Ohio District Church of the Brethren offer.

We are looking at another year with similar needs. The funds from last year have been completely depleted. The camping program is growing, as is the need for scholarship money. Please consider making a donation now to this important ministry. You can be a big part of helping lives change through camp! [Click here to donate now.](#)

### **Intergenerational Service Camp**

Have you ever wanted to be a part of a camp that focusses on faith and service? The new Intergenerational Service Camp for Summer 2017 with the theme "Branching Out," is just around the corner. It will begin on Sunday, June 11, at Cricket Holler and continue until Thursday, June 15. The leadership will be provided by Jen Keeney Scarr, the pastor at Trotwood COB, and her husband Jonathan. This camp is quite unique. Participants will be based at Cricket Holler and then travel during the day to volunteer at some community organizations and churches that offer assistance to people in need of help. Some of the work will be preparing and serving food, helping at a homeless shelter, working in a community garden, and helping a family with home repairs and yard work. Campers will be getting their hands dirty in this camp as they become the hands and feet for Christ in the Dayton area. Evenings will be shared together in Bible study, campfires, singing, relaxing activities, and some special times building the fellowship across generations.

All teens who have completed at least their freshman year of high school or more are invited to join adults of any age in this camp. The low cost, only \$70, will cover all expenses. Here is the opportunity for people of all ages to make a difference by putting faith into action. Come, be a part of this important ministry and service to our local community.

### **All Summer Camps Still Need Campers!**

Registrations for Branching Out, this year's theme, are being taken as the summer camping season

quickly approaches. There is a camp for everyone in the Southern Ohio District. Whether you are a toddler, elementary school student, teen, mother, father, friend, grandparent, cousin, quilter, hiker, singer, writer, swimmer, adventurer, more mature adult, or less mature adult, you are invited to come to camp for the time of your life! We have all kinds of camps that just need campers!! Check out the different camps and information on brochures from your Camp Ambassador, church office, and online at the Southern Ohio District website. We are waiting to welcome you to camp this summer!

## **Disaster Ministry Updates**

May 2017--Church World Service (CWS) Assembly - On April 20 about forty volunteers gathered at Bullens warehouse in Eaton to assemble cleanup buckets and school kits for CWS. Two hundred school kits and 228 buckets were readied for shipment to the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, MD. The cleanup buckets are given to flood survivors within the United States. The school kits are distributed within the US and sent abroad for refugees, the economically disadvantaged, the homeless, and for disaster survivors.

Thank you for the donations that have been received for this project. Additional contributions are welcomed. 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.

## **Annual Conference Family Member Registration**

Many wonderful opportunities are available for family members at Annual Conference in Grand Rapids! As well as many Annual Conference opportunities, families can enjoy museums and sightseeing in the area. Annual Conference registration for Current High School and younger are free, but must be registered and receive a name tag. Online Delegate and Non-delegate registration ends June 5, 2017. Delegate and Non-delegate fees are higher for those waiting to register onsite in Grand Rapids.

Even if you are already registered as a Delegate or Non-delegate, you can return to the website to register family members, purchase an extra booklet, order meal event tickets, register children for activities and much more.

### ***Register for Children's and Youth Activities***

Children and youth activity coordinators at Annual Conference are offering a myriad of opportunities for adventure and learning. From Bible stories of Jesus, arts and crafts, and free-play centers for toddlers to a trip to Michigan's Adventure for the Sr. High youth. All ages will hear about Church of the Brethren organizations and opportunities. A picnic lunch, outdoor games, trips to the zoo, the Children's Museum, the Planetarium and much more are planned for the children and youth. For detailed information about all Age Group Activities click here.

Note: Children's and Youth Activity registration and fees are in addition and separate from their Annual Conference registration.

Registering for activities in advance helps the coordinators plan for the number of participants. Click here before June 5 for the lower advance registration fee. All activity fees increase for those who register children or youth onsite in Grand Rapids.

Parents can register their children or youth for Age Group Activities even if the family is already registered for Annual Conference: go directly to Age Group Activities.

After registering for activities, DON'T FORGET to fill out the Medical Record and Permission Form. Only filling out this form does not automatically register your child for activities.

Please forward this to anyone you know bringing their children to conference.

Go to [www.brethren.org/ac](http://www.brethren.org/ac) for more information about Annual Conference 2017!

## **Mother's Day Gratitude Project**

Honor a woman you know and love by celebrating and supporting mothers around the world! Global Women's Project announces our annual Mother's Day Gratitude Project! Rather than buying more material gifts for your loved one, express your gratitude with a gift that helps other women around the world. Your donation allows us to fund projects focused on women's health, education, and employment. In return, your chosen recipient(s) will receive a lovely, hand-written card indicating that a gift has been made in her honor, with a brief description of GWP.

To participate, send a donation to: Global Women's Project c/o Emily Matteson 6456 Adobe Circle Road South Irvine, CA 92617 (write checks to GWP) Remember to include your name(s) and recipient's name and address. You may also make memorial donations, which will be honored on our website: [www.globalwomensproject.wordpress.com](http://www.globalwomensproject.wordpress.com). Gratitude cards will be mailed in time for Mother's Day if you send your request to Emily by May 8, 2017. After the 8th, she will mail them as soon as she receives your request.

This Mother's Day, share a gift in honor of a woman you know and in honor of women in Haiti, India, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, and the United States, who are improving the lives of women in their communities. Global Women's Project seeks to raise awareness of the poverty, oppression and injustice suffered by women around the world; to recognize how our over-consumption and misuse of resources contributes to that suffering; to change our way of living; and to support self-help community projects that are led by, empower, and benefit women. Additional information can be found at [www.globalwomensproject.wordpress.com](http://www.globalwomensproject.wordpress.com).

### ***Trinity Church of the Brethren Seeks Accompanist***

Trinity Church of the Brethren in Sidney, Ohio is looking for a full time or part time person or persons to play music for worship or as needed at other times such as Christmas Eve / Christmas Day and Love Feast. For more information, please contact either Linda Miller at 1-937-726-5258 or Shirley Stone at 1-937-492-3670.

### ***New Carlisle Church seeks Musician***

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 choir sings the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month and each Sunday of Advent and Lent.

The service music duties include a Focus which is a short piece played soon after the service starts. It should be about a minute in length or slightly longer. There is also an Offertory and Postlude. The sanctuary has a keyboard, Hammond organ, and a piano.

The position also involves accompanying the congregational singing on the keyboard. The songs are a blend of contemporary and traditional hymns. There is a small group of instrumentalists that plays with the congregational singing and the keyboard. The

instruments include two trumpets, a horn, 2 acoustic guitars, flute, clarinet, violin, small percussion, and a soprano who leads the singing. The group is directed by the associate pastor who also arranges some of the music. The musicians are accomplished with several holding music degrees.

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](mailto:ncbrethren01@aol.com).

## Prayer Needs

A very important way we can be supportive of each other is to lift each other up in prayer. The 2017 Prayer List for Congregations is available on our website.

-- Don Stackhouse--kidney transplant, donor being his son, Ryan. Don is married to Ann who serves on the District Board.

--Dorothy Langdon of the Trinity congregation and District Board member--recovering from stroke.

-- The Stony Creek Congregation has called Ryan Claybaugh to serve as their new pastor.

Rob Raker, former pastor, is still dealing with his heart condition and is continuing to undergo tests to determine the best way forward; depending on how his health condition goes over the next several months, there may be some procedures to help his condition in April. Rob appreciates our prayers as decisions are made for continuing treatment.

- May we remember the possibility of a new church starts in various locations in our district.

- There are many issues and situations continuing to face us as we minister in our respective locations, including those who are serving in interim situations and others who are in discernment regarding placement or are considering a move. There are others facing health issues, please keep these situations in prayer.

Please contact me if you know of prayer situations of which I should be aware. May we lift each other in prayer as we work to continue the work of Jesus, peacefully, simply, together.

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