

January, 2019
Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Newsletter
Printable Version



Winter Blast & Safari Winter Blast

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Registration for Safari Winter Blast, Jan. 18 - 19, and Winter Blast, Jan. 25 - 26, is now open. Click here to download registration forms or contact your church's office or ambassador.

Winter Blast is a weekend event for kids of all ages. Younger children need to be accompanied by an adult, but there will be counselors for the older kids, just like summer camp. We will go swimming at the Vandalia Recreation Center, enjoy snacks and devotions, a movie and relaxing together in the warm cabins for the night. Saturday is an exciting time with all kinds of activities, nature walk, winter games, crafts, and hopefully playing in the snow. No matter what the weather may bring, we will still have winter activities. Late in the afternoon, everyone departs tired, but happy from the time spent at Winter Blast.

Please send registrations and money to: Karen Dillon at 756 Old Springfield Rd., Vandalia, OH 45377.

Men's Retreat

February 1, 2019 . February 3, 2019

This retreat is a spiritual weekend for all men regardless of church affiliation. Men 16 years of age and older are invited to enjoy a weekend of fellowship, scripture teachings, worship and fun. This year's retreat will be on February 1-3, 2019. The retreat offers different registration packages from full to partial attendance. Come and enjoy a getaway from your normal routine. The retreat will be held at Woodland Altars Campground and Outdoor Adventures Center, Peebles, Ohio.

The guest speaker will be Ken Moyer and the topic "Real Manhood". Ken is a former Bengals lineman for 5 years and played offensive lineman for the Eagles until he suffered a career ending injury during training camp. He was the Director of the Cincinnati Pro Ministries for over 16 years and he and his wife have served as the team chaplain for the Bengals where they worked with the players and their wives, the coaches and their wives, and staff to offer them opportunities to grow spiritually. He is currently the Advanced Math teacher and Head Football Coach at Dayton Christian Schools.

A brochure with more information, including how to register, is available online or ask at your church office.

New Counseling Ministry beginning

Karen Chronister, wife of Jim Chronister, is beginning a new counseling ministry to women, children and teens. As a pastor's wife, mother, grandmother and retired teacher, she saw the need for this kind of ministry and in 2015 began working toward a certification in biblical counseling with a national organization called Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC). Founded by Jay Adams, ACBC is a national organization which has been helping Christians find Biblical solutions to their problems for over 40 years. Karen welcomes your referrals and appreciates your prayers as she begins this new ministry. She can be reached at kchronister53@gmail.com.

Southern Ohio Disaster Ministries Update

2018 Data - The S. Ohio/KY District was very supportive of BDM throughout 2018. There were 14 rebuilding trips with 159 volunteers. These trips were to Missouri, N. Carolina, S. Carolina, and Puer-to Rico at a cost of \$9,500. Locally, four volunteers helped Bethany Seminary by painting a bedroom and bathroom in Patterson House after renovations. For Church World Service (CWS), 2,500 School Kits and 4,011 Hygiene Kits were assembled for \$31,600. At six Sewing Bees, bags for school kits were sewn by 49 volunteers. There was also a trip to the Brethren Service Center with 26 volunteers who processed CWS kits. Through Children's Disaster Services, there were seven volunteers who served. Thank you to all for your support. Together we bring hope and share God's love.

2019 Rebuilding Trips – Sign up for a trip in 2019! The current site is in Lumberton, NC, but new sites will be opening later in the year. Volunteers need to be at least fifteen years old, unless they go with a parent or guardian, and then they may be fourteen. The June and July trips are for youth and their leaders. Expenses are covered, and transportation is provided in the BDM vans. A flyer with trip dates is available in your church office or on our website. Sign up for a trip by contacting Burton Wolf at 937-287-5902 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com

Sewing Bee – On Saturday, January 26, a Sewing Bee will be held at 9:00 AM at Greenville COB, 421 Central Avenue. Come sew bags for CWS school kits. Bring your sewing machine, an extension cord, and a sack lunch. The 2019 Sewing Bee flyer is available in your church office or on the district website. .

Southern Oh/Ky District Young Adults Gathering

Come join us for game night!

All young adults are welcome to Happy Corner Church of the Brethren. We will play games and get to know one another better. Please RSVP to Laura Brown via email: mbsae37@hotmail.com or call 937-267-0965 so preparations can be made. You will find a flyer to help us advertise on the district website, or contact your church office.

Sound System Available

The Bear Creek congregation has purchased an updated sound system and has components of their previous system available. For more information please contact Dave Fourman at 937-336-5390.

Upcoming District Board meetings .

The District Board is having a special meeting on January 5 at the Salem Church of the Brethren. Our next regular Board meeting will be January 26. Location is to be determined. As reports become available they will be posted on our website.

New Carlisle Church of the Brethren announces the Music on Main Series dates and performers.

The seventh Music on Main Series will open on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 7:00 pm with Jim McCutcheon performing. Mr. McCutcheon is an outstanding classical guitarist, hosts "The Intimate Guitar" weekly on Dayton Public Radio, and appears as "The Guitar Man" in schools grades pre-K-12, performing assemblies and residencies including demos on the science of music. IN 2017, Jim McCutcheon was awarded the Ohio Governor's Award for the Arts.

The Series continues the Tecumseh High School Women's Chorus on Saturday, March 2, 2019. Saturday, April 6, 2019 will be a Flute and Harp Duo. Then on Saturday, May 4, 2019, the Corndrinkers will perform. This group is a local group from the New Carlisle area who performs Appalachian folk music. The Series concludes with the Ohio Valley British Brass Band on Friday, June 7, 2019.

Come and enjoy these free concerts at the New Carlisle Church of the Brethren. A poster for the Music on Main Series can be found on the District Website.

Prayer Needs

A very important way we can be supportive of each other is to lift each other up in prayer. The 2019 Prayer list for congregations is available online at sodccob.org

--The most current information on the church in Nigeria, including prayer needs, is available online at brethren.org.

--The Constance congregation has vacated their building due to structural concerns as previously reported. Worship is being held in space graciously provided by the nearby Hebron Lutheran Church. The Constance congregation will be selling the current property and seeking a new permanent location. Our prayers for these sisters and brothers during this time of transition are appreciated.

- We express our sympathies to Trent Smith, pastor at Happy Corner, whose father passed away on Wednesday.

- Mary Sue Rosenberger, former chaplain at BRC and spouse of Bruce, former pastor at Greenville and interim director at Woodland Altars, has been diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis along with a slow growing carcinoma in her lungs. Mary Sue and Bruce are currently members of the Living Peace congregation in Columbus. Mary Sue has begun immunotherapy injections which will continue every two weeks for a year to help prevent any additional cancer growth.

- Rob Raker, former pastor, continues to deal with the heart condition that has plagued him for some time now. He is hoping for a new procedure which may alleviate some of the issues he has been facing. Doctors continue to work with Rob as these heart struggles continue. Rob appreciates our prayers.

- May we remember those congregations in pastoral transition - Dewayne Heck has retired from his pastorate at Beech Grove; Painter Creek has arrangements with Phil Reynolds for regular pulpit supply. Good Shepherd has begun an arrangement with Carla Gillespie for pastoral services; Seth Hendricks, on pastoral staff at Happy Corner, has announced he has accepted a position on pastoral staff at the Manchester congregation in South Central Indiana, Seth will be at Happy Corner through the end of the year. Jim Chronister has announced his resignation as pastor at the Brookville congregation; Jim will be serving through the end of the year. I am working with Brookville leadership during this time of pastoral transition. Ron Fleming has resigned as pastor from White Cottage as the congregation has voted not renew the pastoral agreement.

- May we remember the possibility of a new church starts in various locations in our district as well as the urban ministry team for revitalizing some of our urban churches.

- 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 Dave Shetler if you know of prayer situations of which he should be aware. May we lift each other in prayer as we work to continue the work of Jesus, peacefully, simply, together.