Working Together . . . Empowering Disciples

November, 2021

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN Southern Ohio & Kentucky District

Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Conference

The 2021 Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Conference is now a part of our history. As we gathered via Zoom, during our Friday sessions, we heard stories of how the Spirit of God has been moving among us through the East Dayton Congregation, the Climate Justice Team and the Racial Justice Team. The Friday evening worship continued storytelling through song, testimony and in the worship message from Tim and Audrey Hollenburg Duffey as they skillfully shared using stories about baseball to illustrate our live as followers of Jesus. Saturday brought more stories of discipleship as we heard about various ministries throughout our district and beyond. As we looked back at the past year, it was clear to see that God has "Moved in our Midst" even during a global pandemic.

Our 2022 Conference theme is, "Celebrate God's Abundant Goodness".

Micah 6:8 Community: An Invitation to Participate

Your Resource Development Commission would like to invite you to join a new community within the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District. The Micah 6:8 Community (formerly the Ambassador's Club) believes in the message and mission of the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District of the Church of the Brethren and is willing to support this mission financially. Micah 6:8 reads: *"He has shown you, O Mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God."* If you have supported our mission in the past, we can't thank you enough. It is only through your generous donations that our ministry continues. Or possibly you have not contributed financially in the past, but have given of your time and talent. Thank you for that very precious gift. Would you now consider making a financial contribution? Your gift of any amount is appreciated. If you are feeling a call to be a part of the SOKD Micah 6:8 Community, you can mail your donation to the district mailing address at P O Box 785, Greenville, OH 45331.

Camping and Retreat Ministries Updates

Changes, Updates, and New Ideas

The Camping and Retreat Ministries Committee met to map out the winter activities. However, everyone still has Covid on the mind and the unknown consequences of large gatherings.

Our wonderful **Cookie Camp** will be postponed until near Easter. We will shift from stars and Christmas trees to bunnies, Easter eggs and spring flower cookies as well as some of the other favorites. It is a great fundraiser and so much fun to bake together.

Winter Blasts are also being transformed into Spring Flings. Hoping the weather cooperates, middle school and high school students will gather on April 23, and elementary kids on April 30, to have fun packed days of games, surprises, and inspiration as they reconnect to old and new friends from all over the District.

The *Summer Picnics* were so successful last summer, that the CRM decided to offer them again. It was so good to have time for games, playing, fellowship and chatting with friends in an unstructured afternoon and evening. Not having to cook the supper meal was also an incentive. Mark your calendars for June 26, and July 31, 2022, for the summer picnics.

Southern Ohio/Kentucky Disaster Ministries Updates

BDM Sites/Volunteer Opportunities– The Dayton national BDM site closes Oct. 30. There is still some work that will continue with S. Ohio/ KY volunteers on tornado damaged homes and with houses that are part of the Tornado Survivor Pathways to Home Ownership Program. BDM returns to Bayboro, NC on October 31, continuing recovery from Hurri-cane Florence (Sept. 2018). The site is scheduled to be open through April. Volunteers are needed for all 2022 trips. A list of trip dates is posted on the district website. To volunteer, contact Burt Wolf at SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com or call/text 937-287-5902.

Appreciation Dinner Recognitions – BDM's Appreciation Dinner was held on October 23. Volunteers were recognized for the many ways they support the ministry of S. Ohio/KY BDM. There were 38 first-time rebuild volunteers and one first-time Children's Disaster Services volunteer. Service awards were presented to three who have given outstanding service. Sam Dewey received the Sledgehammer Award for his leadership in the cleanup phase of the tornado recovery. Sammy Deacon and Rex Miller were recognized for outstanding leadership, coordinating and leading the national BDM effort in Dayton.

For more information on what is happening in Southern Ohio as well as more details on these events contact your church office, email the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District (sodcob@brethren.org) or visit our website: <u>www.sodcob.org</u>. 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>.