

District Board Retreat--The District Board met in retreat Friday and Saturday, November 13 & 14 for reorganization and to work on plans for the coming year. Teaching sessions on reconciliation and communication were led by Todd Reish, chaplain at the Brethren Retirement Community. Ty Pyles was called to continue as Board Chair for the coming year along with Carl Eubank as vice-chair. The meetings were hosted wonderfully by the BRC with deep appreciation from the Board. Updates were shared on the sale of Woodland Altars property, approval to sell the Poplar Grove property was decided, and a process was put in place for the listening/visioning/reconciliation meetings to be held across the District.

2016 District Conference Theme --The Program and Arrangements Committee met for evaluation of our recent District conference and to begin plans for next year. "In Christ Alone" was chosen for next year's conference. May we keep our congregations and teams in prayer as they continue their ministry.

2016 Annual Conference Updater 2016 Annual Conference will be held in Greensboro, North Carolina. Early delegate registration remains the same at \$285. In terms of housing costs, in Greensboro, we will only have one hotel (the convention center and the hotel are all in one building). Our hotel rate is \$109 + 12.75% tax which makes it a total of \$121.75 inclusive. The Sheraton is also giving us free parking and free wi-fi, so there is no additional charge for those. Registration for both delegates and non-delegates will open in February.

Remember BVS Volunteers this Christmas

BVS volunteers love receiving cards and greetings from Brethren congregations. Mailing labels, the latest BVS newsletter and the BVS blog can be found online at www.brethren.org/bvs/.

BVS is currently accepting applications for the winter orientation unit which will be held in Gotha, Florida at Camp Ithiel from January 24-February 12, 2016. If you or someone you know is interested in applying, please get in touch with the BVS office at bvs@brethren.org, or access the application online. The deadline for applications is December 11, so apply now.

Bruce Dillon Documentary Shown at Trotwood Church

A documentary DVD of Bruce Dillon has been developed and produced by his son, Joe Dillon. Bruce, a graduate of Cincinnati Music Conservatory in voice and was the Director of Music and Youth Ministry at the Trotwood CoB in the mid-80s to early 90s. During that time, Bruce helped to produce six dinner-theater musicals. *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, *The St Judas Passion*, and *Godspell* to name a few. The documentary was developed by Joe Dillon the son of Bruce and Sandy, in memory of his father.

The documentary will be shown at the Trotwood CoB on Sunday, December 27 at 6:00 PM The public and sister congregations who would have known Bruce and attended one of the dinner theater productions are invited. A fellowship time will follow the documentary.

Cookie Camp

Do you love to bake cookies for the holiday season? Would it be more fun to bake while fellowshiping with others? Join us from 9-12 Saturday, December 5 at the Salem Church to bake cookies. All ingredients will be provided. A flyer with more information is available online.

Disaster Ministry Updates

Spotswood, NJ Project Move

BDM's work with Superstorm Sandy recovery is in its final weeks. The project will be moving from Spotswood, NJ the end of January. The Monmouth County Long Term Recovery Group stated that BDM worked on 54 of their 74 cases. Thank you to all the weekly volunteers who went to NJ, and to those whose provided financial support.

2016 BDM Trip Schedule - Sign up for a 2016 BDM trip! S. Ohio will have crews serving February 14 - 20, April 24 - 30, and November 27 - December 3 at a site to be opened in either Wise County, VA or Harts, WV. May 28 - June 5, June 18 - 26, and July 9 - 17 crews will go to Loveland, CO. The September 3 - 11 and October 8 - 16 trips will go to another newly opened site. Please share these dates with your congregation. To sign up for a trip, call Burt Wolf at 937-287-5902 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com. S. Ohio BDM looks forward to sharing God's love by helping disaster survivors in 2016. Come join in the ministry!

Sewing Bee for Church World Service - Mark your calendar for Saturday, Jan. 9 at 9:00 AM for our next Sewing Bee. It will be at Eaton Church of the Brethren, 1407 N. Barron Street. Sewers need to bring their sewing machine for sewing school bags for CWS kits. Lunch will be served.

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) or you can always 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 before the 15th of the month.

