

Woodland Altars Memorabilia

Since the October District Conference, Charlene and Ted Foster, and Tom and Karen Dillon have spent many hours going through all the buildings at Woodland Altars. They have met with the new owners to make the necessary transfers. Vonda Jones was a big help in making the transition a smooth process. She has been hired by the owners to continue her work managing and caring for the property. The District owes Vonda a great deal of appreciation for her contributions in keeping Woodland Altars operating so well during the past few difficult years.

Ted, Charlene, Tom and Karen have searched through all the spaces at Woodland Altars to find any pieces of memorabilia that might be important or of sentimental value to Southern Ohio District. Some of the items were books, plaques, artwork, pictures, slides, histories, stories, maps, and documents. All of these items have been placed in the hands of the Brethren Heritage Center where they are protected, stored, and available to anyone wishing to see them. We also brought back items that will be used in our camping and retreat programs: dishes, cooking utensils, craft materials and supplies, etc.

Fearless Faith Summer Camp, 2016

What does it mean to be a part of a Christian community? Campers will explore how they themselves are a part of the church and what that means about how we relate to one another and the world.

The entire summer camp schedule is posted on our website. Mark your calendar and save the date.

Youth Winter Retreat--has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

Men's Retreat has been cancelled due to lack of interest

Contact Rick Dobberstein (rdobberstein@gmail.com) for more information.

Shane Claiborne Comes to Southern Ohio

The New Carlisle congregation is hosting Shane Claiborne of March 12 for a Red Letter Christians/Radical Christians conference. Shane is a founder and board member of The Simple Way, a faith community in inner city Philadelphia. A flyer with more information, including a registration form is available on our website. Registration deadline is February 29.

Disaster Ministry Updates

Urgent Need for Volunteers - Volunteers are needed **January 3-9** in Spotswood, NJ. We already have two volunteers planning to go, and are hopeful for more! Volunteers will also be there from the W. PA district. If you are able to volunteer or for more information, please contact Burt Wolf at 937-287-5902. BDM has just three weeks in January to finish its Superstorm Sandy recovery.

New BDM Project Opening in Harts, WV – West Virginia was hit repeatedly with major flooding in March, April and July of 2015. With many of the counties unable to recover on their own due to high unemployment rates and poverty levels, Brethren Disaster Ministries will open a long-term recovery project in February, 2016. BDM will assist with the rebuilding of both homes and washed out bridges. **S. Ohio's first trip will be February 14-20, 2016. Volunteers are needed, including heavy equipment operators.** Contact Burt Wolf at 937-287-5902 to join the crew.

Jan. 9 Sewing Bee – Mark your calendar for Saturday, Jan. 9 at 9:00 AM for our next Sewing Bee for Church World Service. 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. **If you want to sew, but don't have a portable machine, we do have two sewing machines that can be used. Please call Barb Brower at 937-336-2442 to reserve a machine.** Lunch will be served.

Oakland Church presents "The Cemetery Club" Dinner Theatre

The Oakland Church of the Brethren, 8058 Horatio-Harris Creek Road, Bradford (2 and a half miles north of Gettysburg, Ohio) will be presenting "The Cemetery Club" by Ivan Menchell as their 2016 Dinner Theater production. The play centers around three Jewish widows who meet once a month for tea before going to visit their husband's graves. Sam, the butcher becomes a romantic interest to one of the widows causing some conflicts to arise. The dates will be March 4, 5, 11, & 12 at 6:00pm, cost of the dinner buffet and play will be \$22.00. On Sunday, March 6, dessert only will be served at 2:00pm with the play to follow at 3:00pm, cost of \$12.00. Cost for children 10 and under will be half price. Reservations may be made from 4-8pm with Brenda Coblentz at 937-548-1895.

2016 Annual Conference Update 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.

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.

