



2016 Southern Ohio District Conference

Registration for this year's District Conference is now open. It will be held September 30-October 1, 2016, at our Oakland Church of the Brethren. Jeff Carter, President of Bethany Seminary, will be our guest speaker. The focus for this year's conference training will be developing a vision for ways we can "Work together". The Program and Arrangements Committee has been meeting regularly and is excited about another inspiring time together as we explore our future as a district. Registration is available online at www.sodcob.org.

District Conference Outreach: Wide Arms Security Blankets

Your Program and Arrangements Committee has chosen the Wide Arms Security Blankets as a ministry we can support together at this year's District Conference. They would like to ask congregations and individuals to bring blankets to donate to this new ministry in our district.

Wide Arms Security Blankets is a vision of Brandi Motsinger from the Stony Creek Church of the Brethren. Click here to read more about the ministry and Brandi.

Reconciliation Process Next Steps

The Congregational Listening Sessions portion of the Reconciliation process is over. All congregations in the District were sent a copy of the Reconciliation Team's summary. If you have not seen it, ask your Pastor or Board Chair for a copy!

The next step in the process is for members of the Reconciliation Teams to meet with interested persons from the Southern Ohio District in a series of face-to-face sessions to ask follow-up questions and get feedback on ideas Team has for future activities. Three regional meetings (East, South and West) are in the process of being scheduled. If your congregational would like to offer to host such a session, please contact John Kinsel, Reconciliation Team Liaison, at john.kinsel@gmail.com or 937-371-4906.

The Reconciliation Team will also have a presence at this Fall's District Conference on Saturday, October 1. Thanks to all who participated in the Listening Sessions. Please consider being an active part of the next steps in Reconciliation by attending one of these meetings!

District Board Meeting Our next District Board meeting will be held August 6, 2016 at the BRC beginning at 10 AM. You can go online to read reports at any time preceding the meeting.

Camping and Retreat Upcoming Events

Be sure to save these dates for exciting events sponsored by the Camping and Retreat Committee:

- Aug. 13 Golf Outing
- Sept. 9 - 10 Women's Retreat
- Sept. 26 - 30 Adult Bible School at Salem COB
- Oct. 10 - 14 Adult Bible School at Troy COB

Registrations, brochures, and more information about these events can be found online or by contacting your congregation's church office.

Our 2016 Summer Camping Season was a huge success. Pictures and wrap up information can be found on our website.

Disaster Ministry Updates

Ice Cream Social Fundraiser – Saturday, August 6 at Happy Corner COB from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM. This annual event is a time for coming together as the S. Ohio District to enjoy fellowship, supper, and ice cream. Come buy a ticket for "Share-a-Meal." Bring the coins you've been saving, or pick up a coin collection jar for the upcoming year. All proceeds benefit S. Ohio BDM, as we serve disaster survivors. It covers the cost of sending volunteers for rebuilding homes, and for supplies for Church World Service kits. Invite a friend, and plan to attend!

Sewing Bee - On Saturday, August 13 at 9:00 AM, sewers are invited to come to **Greenville COB**, 421 Central Avenue. Come to sew school bags for Church World Service. Bring your sewing machine, an extension cord, and a sack lunch.

School Kit Assembly – School Kit Assembly - On Wednesday, August 17 at 7:00 PM, there will be an assembly of school kits for Church World Service. It will be at **Mill Ridge Village Community Center**, 1000 Mill Ridge Circle, Union, OH. Our goal is to assemble 1,000 school kits! It costs about \$5 per kit, which covers the school items and shipping to the point of need. You are invited to purchase supplies for these kits by sending a monetary gift to S. Ohio District COB, PO Box 785, Greenville, OH 45331. Please footnote checks "BDM - CWS Kits." The District support, both past and present, for BDM projects is greatly appreciated.

Trip to Brethren Service Center – Now is the time to register for the October 24 – 28 trip to the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, MD. Transportation will be provided in the BDM vans, or you may travel on your own. Three days will be spent working with Church World Service kits and for SERRV. Lodging and meals will be in Zigler Hall. Please click here for a registration form. Registration deadline is August 15.

Volunteers Needed - Join a BDM crew Sept. 4-10 to W. Columbia, SC for flood recovery work. This is a new BDM project opening in September. Transportation is provided, and costs are covered by BDM. Contact Burt Wolf at 937-287-5902 for more information, or to join the crew.

Parking Cars at Pork Festival

BDM has the opportunity to partner with the Preble County Pork Festival Committee, assisting with parking vehicles, and to receive \$1500. About 200,000 people attend the two-day event on September 17 and 18. There are 55 positions to fill, with most shifts being for 4 - 4 1/2 hours. Volunteers, age 16 and older, may work one shift or multiple shifts. Shifts will overlap so there is continuity. The same schedule will be used each day, with the exception that the ending time is 8:00 pm on Saturday, and 4:00 pm on Sunday.

To volunteer, contact Jim Shank at jim3shank@hotmail.com OR (937) 533-3800. Please share a phone # and an email address, so we can communicate details of the event with you. There will also be a sign-up poster at the Ice Cream Social. This is a great opportunity for BDM. We hope you will join us! Together we fund this important ministry.

*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) 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.***

