



2016 Southern Ohio District Conference-- Register Delegates Now!

Registration for this year's District Conference is September 30-October 1, 2016, at our Oakland Church of the Brethren. If you have not yet registered delegates, please do so right away. 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 Delegate 2017 Budget Information Sessions

The District Board will host two meetings to allow District Delegates more time to better understand the proposed 2017 District budget, to ask more in depth questions and to allow additional time for prayerful consideration. The meetings will be held on Saturday, September 17 at 10:00 AM at West Charleston and Sunday, September 18 at 2:30 PM at Happy Corner. Your District Board encourages District Delegates and Pastors to attend one of these sessions.

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 the Team has for future activities. Three regional meetings (East, South and West). Click here for dates and locations.

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!

Camping and Retreat Upcoming Events

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

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.

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

Disaster Ministry Updates

Ice Cream Social Fundraiser – Thank you to the churches of S. Ohio for another successful Ice Cream Social. On August 6 at Happy Corner COB many worked to set up, serve food, dip ice cream, and clean up afterwards. Others baked pies, brought their coin jars, and bought Share-A-Meal tickets. The event was attended by about 400 people, and preliminary figures show about \$7,500 was raised. All proceeds from this annual event benefit S. Ohio BDM, as we serve disaster survivors. It covers the cost of sending volunteers for rebuilding homes, for supplies for Church World Service kits, and grows our van replacement fund.

School Kits Ready for Shipment – On Wednesday, August 17, thirty-five volunteers gathered at Mill Ridge Village Community Center, and assembled 1,281 school kits for Church World Service (CWS). When the CWS truck comes to S. Ohio in September, we have a total of 1,701 school kits to send to New Windsor, MD. From there they are shipped both within our country and internationally. They are distributed to disaster survivors, the economically disadvantaged, and to the homeless. Thank you to all who have sewn school bags, assembled kits, and donated funds to support this project.

It costs about \$5 per kit, which covers the school items and shipping to the point of need. Donations may be sent to S. Ohio District COB, PO Box 785, Greenville, OH 45331. Please footnote checks "BDM - CWS Kits." The next sewing bee will be on Oct. 8 at 9:00 AM at Greenville COB, 421 Central Avenue.

Bob Evans Community Fundraiser - Dine at select Bob Evans locations Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, September 5, 6, and 7. Download the flyer from the Southern Ohio District Website, then present it at the following participating locations. 15% of the sale will be donated to S. Ohio BDM. Please copy the flyer, and share it with others!

Participating Locations: 7715 Hoke Rd., Clayton, OH; 1700 N. Barron St., Eaton, OH; 1366 Wagner Ave., Greenville, OH; 22 Weller Dr., Tipp City, OH

Trip to Brethren Service Center – Three rooms left! We've passed the August 15 registration deadline, but we want the rooms filled. Register now 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.

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. To volunteer, click here, or 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. 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.***

