



Men's Retreat

We are pleased to announce that Men's Retreat will take place on February 3rd through the 5th of 2017 and will be held at Sugar Grove Lodge at camp Woodland Altars. Men's retreat is an excellent weekend getaway which includes powerful teaching from the scriptures, uplifting fellowship, worship, and fun. This year's speaker is Dan Trego who is the president of Bittersweet Ministries which is a ministry that spreads the love of Christ to the people of Tijuana Mexico. We hope you are able to join us this upcoming February and experience why Men's retreat has become a yearly highlight for men all across the district and beyond! Males 16 years of age and up are invited to attend. A brochure with more information as well as a registration form are available on our website.

District Board Meeting Our next District Board meeting will be held January 14, 2017 at the Potsdam Church of the Brethren 10 AM-4 PM. You can go online to read reports at any time preceding the meeting.

Camping and Retreat Upcoming Events

COOKIE CAMP The 2016 Cookie Camp held at Salem Church of the Brethren was a fantastic time of baking, laughing, talking with new and old friends, and working together to support the camping and retreat ministries of Southern Ohio. Well over 4000 cookies were packed and sold. It was hoped that the Cookie Camp would make around \$600. After expenses and with some very generous donations, the profit was \$1300. What a wonderful show of support people of the District have shown by buying the cookies we made. This money will help pay for the rental of Cricket Holler for Winter Blast, a gathering of campers and friends for a winter adventure later in January. The remainder of the money will go to fund some activities at summer camp. Saying "Thank you" seems small for the dedication shown at Cookie Camp 2016. But a huge "THANK YOU!" is sent to everyone who helped.

WINTER BLAST - January 27 - 28, 2017 Cricket Holler Registration for Winter Blast is now open. Kids and adults will be gathering at 6:00 pm (after dinner), in the evening of January 27, at Cricket Holler, for a winter camping experience. We will be staying in the cabins and using the Schiewetz Center for activities and meals. Lots of swimming, devotions, crafts, games, hikes, snowball throwing, sledding, and exciting times inside and outside are being planned. Registration forms are available from Camp Ambassadors, church offices, in this newsletter or on the website of Southern Ohio District. The cost of \$20 per person covers the cost of food and swimming. The rental of Cricket Holler was provided by the profits from Cookie Camp 2016. Registrations and money need to be turned in no later than JANUARY 20, 2017. Please send registrations to: Karen Dillon, 756 Old Springfield Road, Vandalia, OH 45377.

Camp and Retreat Schedule for 2017

January 27 - 28: WINTER BLAST - Cricket Holler
March 12: Ambassadors' Meeting Salem COB
June 7: Camp Set Up Cricket Holler
June 8 -11: Adult/Child Camp--Cricket Holler
June 12-15: Camp Safari-- Cricket Holler
June 11-15: Possible Youth Service/Work Camp (local projects) Cricket Holler
June 15-18: Family Camp--Cricket Holler
June 18-24: Creative Arts Camp--Cricket Holler
July 5-8: Quilting Camp-- Bergamo
August 12: Golf Outing
September 22-23: Women's Retreat Bergamo
September 25-29: Adult Bible School - Salem COB (other locations and dates to be added in the future)
October 15: Ambassadors' Meeting

Disaster Ministry Updates

2016 Data - In 2016 the S. Ohio District was very supportive of BDM. One hundred thirty-three volunteers went on twelve trips to Colorado, West Virginia, Michigan, and S. Carolina to help rebuild homes for disaster survivors, costing just over \$9,000. For Church World Service 1,700 School Kits and 32 Baby Kits were assembled at a cost of \$9,100. Sewing Bees were held about every six weeks to sew bags for these school kits. A trip was organized to the Brethren Service Center with twenty-three volunteers. Locally twelve workdays were held at Mack Memorial COB to repair the educational wing. Thirty-six workers from eleven churches helped with this project. Also, there were volunteers who served through Children's Disaster Service. Others throughout the district collected and sorted books for Nigeria. Two donors helped make it possible to purchase a 2015 Ford Transit Van. Thank you to all for your support of S. Ohio BDM.

Sewing Bee - There is a great demand in the U.S. and internationally for Church World Service school kits. On Saturday, Jan. 14 there will be a Sewing Bee at Greenville COB, 421 Central Ave. Come at 9:00 to sew bags for school kits. Bring your sewing machine an extension cord, and a sack lunch. For more information, call Barb Brower at 937-336-2442. Click here for a flyer with 2017 Sewing Bee dates. Prior to the Sewing Bee, you're invited to join the women of Greenville COB at the Coffee Pot on Broadway in downtown Greenville. They meet the second Saturday of each month at 8:00 AM for coffee, goodies, and fellowship.

2017 Trip Schedule - It's time to volunteer for 2017 BDM trips. Some trips are to Columbia, SC and others will be to a site scheduled to open in January. Check the District website or ask your church office for the 2017 trip schedule flyer. Please note that the June 11-17 and July 16 - 22 trips are for youth. To sign up for a trip or for more information contact Burt Wolf 937-287-5902 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com.

*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.***

