



Southern Ohio District Conference will be held October 6-7, 2017 at Pleasant Hill Church of the Brethren. The theme will be "Created to love" based on the words of Jesus in Matthew 22:37-40, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself." All the Law and the prophets hang on these two commandments. Our moderator is John Kinsel. We look forward to what God will teach us through this theme in the months ahead.

District Board Meeting Our next District Board meeting will be held March 18, 2017 at the Cincinnati 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

The full 2017 Camping and Retreat Schedule as well as registration forms for some of the upcoming camps is available on our website. Watch for more registration forms soon.

Disaster Ministry Updates

Appreciation Dinner – "Sowing Seeds of Kindness" is the theme for our annual BDM Appreciation Dinner. It will be on Saturday, March 11 at 6:00 PM at Salem COB. There will be a recognition of first time volunteers and a celebration of the ministry of S. Ohio BDM. Congregational Advocates, supporters, trip volunteers, sewers, and those who want to learn more about this ministry are all invited. Please RSVP by Feb. 28 to Burt Wolf at southernohiodbm@gmail.com or 937-287-5902.

Help Fund CWS Buckets/School Kits – S. Ohio BDM received a call from Church World Service (CWS) representative, Matt Stevens, of the Columbus office. He notified us of the immediate need for Cleanup Buckets and School Kits. There are only 900 buckets left in the warehouse from a stock of 14,000. Many buckets were sent to West Virginia, Louisiana, and areas affected by Hurricane Matthew. CWS has received a request for 25,000 School Kits, and they only have 13,000 in stock. S. Ohio BDM has set a goal of providing 200 Cleanup Buckets and 200 School Kits, with a tentative assembly date of April 20. Supplies need to be purchased, so donations are being sought to help cover the expense. The CWS website states a cleanup bucket costs about \$75 and a school kit is about \$15. All donations are helpful and appreciated! Please make checks payable to S. Ohio District COB, with a footnote "CWS Buckets/Kits". These may be sent to S. Ohio District COB, PO Box 785, Greenville, OH 45331.

Volunteers Needed – S. Ohio's upcoming trips of April 23 – 29 and May 28 – June 3 are in need of volunteers. We are going to Columbia, SC to rebuild homes following storms that hit South Carolina in October 2015, causing historic rainfall and much flooding and storm damage. To sign up for a trip or for more information, contact Burt Wolf 937-287-5902 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com. Transportation is provided in the

BDM vans, and expenses are covered by BDM.

New Project Site – A new BDM site is opening in late February in Clay, WV. This is in response to last summer's tremendous rainfall that produced destructive flash floods. In 12 hours, between 8 and 10 inches of rain fell, qualifying it as a one in a thousand-year event. The flash floods killed at least 23 people, making the event the third deadliest flood in West Virginia history. In Clay County, officials estimate more than 500 homes were damaged or destroyed. This is the site where our March crew will be working.

Are you a Dr, Nurse Practitioner, RN, LPN, or EMT?

The First Aid Office at Annual Conference in Grand Rapids is looking for DRs, RNs, LPNs and EMTs who would be willing to volunteer a few hours during Annual Conference this summer. Dr. Rosalie McBride of Northern Indiana District is coordinating the First Aid Office this summer in Grand Rapids and would be glad to hear from willing volunteers. Click here to contact her.

Nigerian Crisis Tractor Project Fundraiser

You are invited to a Dessert Auction at the Salem Church of the Brethren on March 25 from 5:30-7:30 PM. Soup and Salad will be served followed by a presentation of the project and the auction. Funds raised will benefit the Nigerian Crisis Tractor project. Donations of desserts are needed. Visit the Southern Ohio District website to learn more information about this project and how you can be involved.

Presidential Forum and Young Adult Event

Cosponsored by Seminary Stewardship Alliance
God's Green Earth
A Call to Care and Witness
March 16-19 at Bethany Seminary

Living not in the Garden but in the city and country, how can we consume, protect, farm, and care for creation as followers of Jesus? Talks and workshops will include a range of views on topics such as ethical farming and consuming, protecting biodiversity, responding to climate change, and simple living for today. Join us as we share many views on one big concern. **STUDENTS ATTEND FOR \$25.** Call 765-983-1823 with questions.

*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.***

