



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.

Disaster Ministry Updates

May 2017--Church World Service (CWS) Assembly - On April 20 about forty volunteers gathered at Bullens warehouse in Eaton to assemble cleanup buckets and school kits for CWS. Two hundred school kits and 228 buckets were readied for shipment to the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, MD. The cleanup buckets are given to flood survivors within the United States. The school kits are distributed within the US and sent abroad for refugees, the economically disadvantaged, the homeless, and for disaster survivors.

Thank you for the donations that have been received for this project. Additional contributions are welcomed. 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.

Camping and Retreat Updates

Scholarship Money Needed for Camps

Last year the generosity of the donors in the district helped many campers. Children, special needs kids, and families were able to attend camp, because funds were available to supplement the costs. Without the support, many campers would not be able to experience the exciting, faith building life in the Christian community we of Southern Ohio District Church of the Brethren offer.

We are looking at another year with similar needs. The funds from last year have been completely depleted. The camping program is growing, as is the need for scholarship money. Please consider making a donation now to this important ministry. You can be a big part of helping lives change through camp! [Click here to donate now.](#)

Intergenerational Service Camp

Have you ever wanted to be a part of a camp that focusses on faith and service? The new Intergenerational Service Camp for Summer 2017 with the theme "Branching Out," is just around the corner. It will begin on Sunday, June 11, at Cricket Holler and continue until Thursday, June 15. The leadership will be provided by Jen Keeney Scarr, the pastor at Trotwood COB, and her husband Jonathan.

This camp is quite unique. Participants will be based at Cricket Holler and then travel during the day to volunteer at some community organizations and churches that offer assistance to people in need of help. Some of the work will be preparing and serving

food, helping at a homeless shelter, working in a community garden, and helping a family with home repairs and yard work. Campers will be getting their hands dirty in this camp as they become the hands and feet for Christ in the Dayton area. Evenings will be shared together in Bible study, campfires, singing, relaxing activities, and some special times building the fellowship across generations. All teens who have completed at least their freshman year of high school or more are invited to join adults of any age in this camp. The low cost, only \$70, will cover all expenses. Here is the opportunity for people of all ages to make a difference by putting faith into action. Come, be a part of this important ministry and service to our local community.

All Summer Camps Still Need Campers!

Registrations for Branching Out, this year's theme, are being taken as the summer camping season quickly approaches. There is a camp for everyone in the Southern Ohio District. Whether you are a toddler, elementary school student, teen, mother, father, friend, grandparent, cousin, quilter, hiker, singer, writer, swimmer, adventurer, more mature adult, or less mature adult, you are invited to come to camp for the time of your life! We have all kinds of camps that just need campers!!

Check out the different camps and information on brochures from your Camp Ambassador, church office, and online at the Southern Ohio District website. We are waiting to welcome you to camp this summer!

Mother's Day Gratitude Project

Honor a woman you know and love by celebrating and supporting mothers around the world! Global Women's Project announces our annual Mother's Day Gratitude Project! Rather than buying more material gifts for your loved one, express your gratitude with a gift that helps other women around the world. Your donation allows us to fund projects focused on women's health, education, and employment. In return, your chosen recipient(s) will receive a lovely, hand-written card indicating that a gift has been made in her honor, with a brief description of GWP.

To participate, send a donation to: Global Women's Project c/o Emily Matteson 6456 Adobe Circle Road South Irvine, CA 92617 (write checks to GWP) Remember to include your name(s) and recipient's name and address. You may also make memorial donations, which will be honored on our website: www.globalwomensproject.wordpress.com. Gratitude cards will be mailed in time for Mother's Day if you send your request to Emily by May 8, 2017. After the 8th, she will mail them as soon as she receives your request.

This Mother's Day, share a gift in honor of a woman you know and in honor of women in Haiti, India, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, and the United States, who are improving the lives of women in their communities. Global Women's Project seeks to raise awareness of the poverty, oppression and injustice suffered by women around the world; to recognize how our over-consumption and misuse of resources contributes to that suffering; to change our way of living; and to support self-help community projects that are led by, empower, and benefit women. Additional information can be found at www.globalwomensproject.wordpress.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.***

