



Southern Ohio District Conference will be held October 6-7, 2017 at Pleasant Hill Church of the Brethren. **Registration is now open on the district website.** Guest speakers this year are Debbie Eisenbise and Gimbiya Kettering. The pre-conference sessions are open to all. *Non-delegate attendees also need to register.*

Salem Church of the Brethren Celebrates 200 years!!

Salem Church of the Brethren extends an invitation to everyone to join in our celebration of 200 years of ministry in our community. Many people have been impacted and have also provided support to the ministry of Salem, and it is a good and fitting time to invite all to gather and fellowship in this two-day celebration. Festivities begin on Saturday, September 30th and end on Sunday, October 1st.

Included in this celebration is the opportunity to join others in a celebration choir, which will sing on Sunday, October 1, 2017. The service begins at 10:30 am. There will be one rehearsal on Sunday, September 24 at 2:00 pm. Please call Salem or email the office at salemcob@gmail.com if you are interested and able to participate in this celebration choir! The more the merrier! Join us!

Agenda for events:

Saturday 4:00-8:00 pm- Reunion style picnic includes time for games, music, campfire, and a display of the history of the Salem Church

Sunday--9:00-10:30 am-Communion Breakfast in the fellowship hall

10:30 am-12:00 pm-- Worship

12:00-2:00pm--Fellowship Luncheon with history display

Disaster Ministry Updates

School Kit Assembly – Fifty people from ten churches gathered on August 17 at Bullen Ultrasonics in Eaton to assemble 1,402 school kits. These are ready for the Church World Service (CWS) truck that comes to S. Ohio in September. It will transport them to the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, MD. Together we have met our goal of sending 2,000 school kits in 2017! We appreciate all those who attended this event as well as those who sent donations. It costs about \$5.00 per kit, and donations are still welcome. Please make checks payable to S. Ohio District COB, with a footnote "CWS Kits". These may be sent to S. Ohio District COB, PO Box 785, Greenville, OH 45331.

Sewing Bee – Come sew school bags on Saturday, September 30 at 9:00 AM at Greenville COB, 421 Central Avenue. Bring your sewing machine, an extension cord, and a sack lunch. Both in the U.S. and internationally, CWS school kits are needed for disaster survivors, refugees, and the economically disadvantaged. For more information contact Barb Brower at 937-336-2442.

Pork Festival Parking - BDM will be parking cars at the Eaton Pork Festival on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 16 -17. Many volunteers are need for this fundraising project. To volunteer for a shift, please call Jim Shank at 937-533-3800.

Camping and Retreat Updates

Name Changes

Recently the Shared Ministries Commission voted to change the name of the Camping and Retreat Committee to the Camping and Retreat Ministries to reflect the truer nature of the established group. Therefore the CRC has become the CRM. The emphasis of the group is the ministry supporting camping and retreats for the District.

CRM GETTING READY FOR FALL EVENTS

Adult Bible Schools--Troy and Salem Churches of the Brethren have each developed a week of exciting Bible schools just like the ones many churches have for children. Both Bible schools will take place beginning on Monday and continuing each day through Friday. 9:00 am will be the gathering time with 1:00 pm the closing after sharing a light lunch. Some of the activities include Bible study, singing, crafts, interest groups, recreation, helpful information about community resources, games, and lots of time to share stories with new and old friends.

Troy COB Bible School September 18 - 22

Salem COB Bible School September 25 - 29.

Plans are being formulated for a possible Bible school to be held at the Brethren Retirement Center later in October. Watch for more information.

Women's Retreat This year's Women's Retreat at Bergamo Retreat Center has the theme of "Be Still Before the Lord and Wait Patiently on Him" Psalm 37:7. Our speakers will be challenging and informing us on ways to listen, reflect, meditate, and step back from our demanding lives to focus on spending time with God. Registrations are available at your church and on the District website.

Save these Dates:

October 15, Ambassador's Gathering Salem COB, 2 - 4 pm.

December 8 & 9, Cookie Camp

January 19 - 20, 2018, Safari Winter Blast Cricket Holler (Special Needs Campers)

January 26 - 27, 2018 Winter Blast Cricket Holler

Day of Peace Celebration

To celebrate the Day of Peace, On Earth Peace will have a Feast for Peace hosted by the Lower Miami congregation on September 16, from 5-7pm. Please bring a dish to share in community as we get to know our neighbors throughout the area. Donations will also be accepted for the work of Racial Justice Now. For more information, contact Pastor Nan Erbaugh at nadaerbaugh@gmail.com.

NOAC Streaming Live

"Inspiration 2017", beginning September 4, 2017 will be live-streamed on the Internet. All keynote addresses, worship services, afternoon programs, and daily Bible studies will be viewable live online. A full schedule can be found at www.brethren.org/noac/.

*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.***

