



## 2018 Annual Conference will be held in Cincinnati, OH in Duke Energy Center July 4-8.

The Southern Ohio District will be hosting the conference with the theme of "Living Parables." Our district has the opportunity to be a "living parable" by assisting and serving in some capacity at the conference. Volunteers are needed to assist with Early Childhood Care; Grades K-2, Grades 3-5, Junior High, Senior High, Young Adults, Single Adults, Conference Registration, Ticket Sales, Ushering, Unloading(7/3/18) and Loading(7/8/18) of equipment. Check our website or contact your church office to obtain a form, check your interests, provide your contact information then send it to Glenn and Linda Timmons, On Site Co-Coordinators by February 1, 2018. (4481 Valleybrook Drive, Englewood, OH 45322) If you have questions, call the Timmons at 937-832-2630 (H) or 937-623-5609.

## Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Men's Retreat

The District Men's Retreat will be held February 2-4, 2018 beginning at 7:00 PM on Friday at Woodland Altars Heritage Lodge. This year's guest speaker will be Trent Smith, pastor of Happy Corner Church of the Brethren. The theme for the weekend is "An Exploration of Celtic Christianity". Watch for more information including online registration and cost of event.

## On Earth Peace sponsors Film, Discussion AND Dinner

Where: Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren (Brethren Hall)

When: January 20th at 4 PM

What: We will be watching a film, "The Bail Trap" followed by discussion. A potluck dinner will begin at approximately 5PM. Bring a dish to share.

## "Together" Magazine

The Connections Commission and the District Board are working on a new publication for the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District. This magazine will feature inspirational and informational articles and other items from members of our district. The magazine will be sent twice a year as an insert in Messenger magazine, the official magazine of the Church of the Brethren. These special editions will be sent to all the addresses we have in our data base including those who do not currently subscribe to Messenger. Anyone who would like to receive this mailing should submit their mailing address to the district office at P O Box 785 Greenville, OH 45331.

## Passport Adventure

The Connections Commission is also sponsoring a fun experience we are calling the Great Southern Ohio/Kentucky Passport Adventure. The purpose of this experience is to get acquainted with sisters and brothers in our district who attend church attend other congregations. The Passport Commission has assembled a book of our churches, their location, and their worship times. Here's how the adventure begins: Go to our website and download the book. Then choose a church to visit and go for it. You can make yourself known once you are there, or visit incognito as just another guest at their

service. Enjoy yourself then share your experience on Facebook in the group that has been created for this purpose. Search on Facebook for "SOKD Passport Adventure" and join the group.

## Camping and Retreat Updates

**Cookie Camp** Baking begins on Friday evening, Dec. 8, at 6:00 pm, at Salem Church of the Brethren. Saturday, Dec. 9 at 9:00 am, Cookie Camp will be in full swing. We will be baking and packing cookies from 9:00 - 1:00. Lunch will be provided along with lots of milk, tea, and coffee to go with the cookies. If you have a heavy duty mixer, please bring it along when you come to bake. Cookies are pre-ordered and the orders will be filled and ready for pickup on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 2:00 - 4:00 pm at Salem. Some ambassadors will be delivering cookie orders to their churches. The funds collected from Cookie Camp will be used to help pay for the two Winter Blasts being planned for campers in January, thus keeping the costs as low as possible. If anyone would like to come to both days of baking, overnight accommodations can be made by contacting Karen Dillon.

**Safari Winter Blast** Fri., Jan. 19, 6:00 pm - Sat, Jan. 20, 4:00 pm.

**Winter Blast II** Friday, Jan.26, 6:00 pm - Sat, Jan. 27, 4:00 pm.

Registration is now open. Get your form from camp ambassadors, church offices, and on the website. Camp Ambassadors and all churches will be receiving the information, registrations in the mail. All details and flyers about Camping and Retreat Ministries can be found on the District website.

## Disaster Ministry Updates

**Children's Disaster Services (CDS) Training** – Since 1980 Children's Disaster Services (CDS) has been meeting the needs of children by setting up child care centers in shelters and disaster assistance centers. Specially trained to respond to traumatized children, volunteers provide a calm, safe and reassuring presence in the midst of the chaos created by natural or human caused disasters. On April 20 & 21, 2018 there will be a training for those who want to become CDS volunteers and for recertification of current volunteers. It will be held at Trotwood Church of the Brethren. To reserve a spot, email Kathy Fry Miller by December 10, 2017 at [kfry-miller@brethren.org](mailto:kfry-miller@brethren.org). After Dec.10 the workshop will be opened to those beyond S. Ohio.

**Hurricane Response** -Following the hurricanes in Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico, our district responded to the tremendous need by assembling 504 Cleanup Buckets for Church World Service. About \$33,000 has been received to fund this project, which cost about \$14,200. Since donations exceeded the cost of the Cleanup Bucket project, our next projects will be purchasing supplies for 1,000 hygiene kits, and sending a \$10,000 donation to the Emergency Disaster Fund, designated for relief in Puerto Rico. Thank you to everyone for their compassion and generosity.

**2018 Trip Schedule** is available on our website. Sign up for a trip by contacting Burton Wolf at 937-287-5902 or [SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:sodcob@brethren.org)) visit our website: [www.sodcob.org](http://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](mailto:sodcob@brethren.org) **before the 15th of the month.***

