

December, 2018
Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Newsletter
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Cookie Camp Is Coming

The orders are flying in with happy anticipation. The flour and sugar are standing ready. Eggs are yet to be gathered, but everything is being assembled for the GREAT COOKIE CAMP days at Salem Church of the Brethren on December 7, 6-9 pm, and December 8, 9 am-1 pm.

Cookie Camp is two days of making and decorating holiday cookies to be enjoyed all over the District of Southern Ohio/Kentucky. Last year's 5,000 + cookies are long gone, but the memory of the fun and satisfaction of being together at the camp is still fresh in our minds. We need lots of people to come help bake the cookies and package them for delivery and pick-up. There are many tasks to be accomplished with mixing, rolling out dough, cutting shapes, dipping cookies in chocolate, icing and decorating cookies, counting and boxing the cookies, and of course tasting our products to maintain the high quality. It is a lot of fun as we work to support the two Winter Blast Camps for all the children and teens of our churches. Please come and bring your mixer and cookie scoops to join us in this special event.

Winter Blast & Safari Winter Blast

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Registration for Safari Winter Blast, Jan. 18 - 19, and Winter Blast, Jan. 25 - 26, is now open. Click here to download registration forms or contact your church's office or ambassador.

Winter Blast is a weekend event for kids of all ages. Younger children need to be accompanied by an adult, but there will be counselors for the older kids, just like summer camp. We will go swimming at the Vandalia Recreation Center, enjoy snacks and devotions, a movie and relaxing together in the warm cabins for the night. Saturday is an exciting time with all kinds of activities, nature walk, winter games, crafts, and hopefully playing in the snow. No matter what the weather may bring, we will still have winter activities. Late in the afternoon, everyone departs tired, but happy from the time spent at Winter Blast.

Please send registrations and money to: Karen Dillon at 756 Old Springfield Rd., Vandalia, OH 45377.

Men's Retreat

February 1, 2019 . February 3, 2019

This retreat is a spiritual weekend for all men regardless of church affiliation. Men 16 years of age and older are invited to enjoy a weekend of fellowship, scripture teachings, worship and fun. This year's retreat will be on February 1-3, 2019. The retreat offers different registration packages from full to partial attendance. Come and enjoy a getaway from your normal routine. The retreat will be held at Woodland Altars Campground and Outdoor Adventures Center, Peebles, Ohio.

The guest speaker will be Ken Moyer and the topic "Real Manhood". Ken is a former Bengals lineman for 5 years and played offensive lineman for the Eagles until he suffered a career ending injury during training camp. He was the Director of the Cincinnati Pro Ministries for over 16 years and he and his wife have served as the team chaplain for the Bengals where they worked with the players and their wives, the coaches and their wives, and staff to offer them opportunities to grow spiritually. He is currently the Advanced Math teacher and Head Football Coach at Dayton Christian Schools.

A brochure with more information, including how to register, is available online or ask at your church

office.

Southern Ohio Disaster Ministries Update

Volunteers Serving in Puerto Rico – S. Ohio/ KY BDM has two volunteers serving in Castaner, Puerto Rico from Nov. 25 – Dec. 15. Sam Dewey and Brian Huffaker from Pleasant Hill Church of the Brethren are part of a 5-7 person crew who are rebuilding hurricane damaged homes for COB members. Three volunteers are already scheduled to go in 2019, and there are more openings. Volunteers need to be able to work in a hot humid climate. It is hoped that most volunteers will stay at least two weeks (10 working days). Assistance is available for airfare. For more information and to volunteer, contact Burt Wolf at 937-287-5902 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com.

2019 Trip Schedules – Nine rebuilding trips are scheduled for S. Ohio/ KY crews in 2019, with room for fifteen volunteers on most trips. The current site is in Lumberton, NC, but new sites will be opening later in the year. Volunteers need to be at least fifteen years old, unless they go with a parent or guardian, and then they may be fourteen. The June and July trips are for youth and their leaders. Expenses are covered, and transportation is provided in the BDM vans. [Click Here](#) for a flyer with trip dates.

Sign up for a trip by contacting Burton Wolf at 937-287-5902 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com

Church World Service (CWS) Response/Donations – This fall S. Ohio/ KY BDM sent 2,000 hygiene kits and 2,500 school kits to the Brethren Service Center. With Hurricanes Florence and Michael, there has been a great need for these kits and cleanup buckets. We'll be assembling more kits and buckets in 2019. Donations enable us to purchase supplies in bulk, which is cost effective. To help with this project, make checks payable to S. Ohio/KY District COB. On the memo line, write BDM/CWS kits. Mail checks to S. Ohio/KY COB, PO Box 785, Greenville, OH 45331. Donations are welcomed and appreciated.

2019 Sewing Bee Schedule – Each school kit sent to CWS needs a cloth bag to hold all the school items. These bags are sewn at Sewing Bees that are scheduled about every six weeks throughout the year. [Click Here](#) for the 2019 Sewing Bee flyer. Usually the sewing bees are held at Greenville COB, 421 Central Avenue. Please note that the March 2 sewing bee is at Eaton COB, 813 Camden Road.

Southern Oh/Ky District Young Adults Gathering

December 8, 2018

All young adults are invited to join in a visit to Carillon Historical Park, for their Christmas festival and to enjoy the lights. We will meet at the park at 6:30 PM. If you want to carpool or caravan, meet at Happy Corner Church of the Brethren at 5:45 PM. (7037 N Union Rd. Clayton, OH 45315) RSVP to

Sound System Available

The Bear Creek congregation has purchased an updated sound system and has components of their previous system available. For more information please contact Dave Fourman at 937-336-5390.

Our next District Board meeting will be January 26.

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Prayer Needs

A very important way we can be supportive of each other is to lift each other up in prayer. The 2018 and 2019 Prayer list for congregations is available online at sodccob.org

--The most current information on the church in Nigeria, including prayer needs, is available online at brethren.org.

-- Paradise Church of the Brethren congregation, located north of Sacramento -- total loss of church building and parsonage in California Camp Fire.

-- Constance Congregation -- vacated their building due to structural concerns. Worship is being held in space provided by the nearby Hebron Lutheran Church. Selling current property and seeking a new permanent location.

-- Mary Sue Rosenberger, pulmonary fibrosis along with a slow growing carcinoma in her lungs. Dealing with after effects of chemotherapy and radiation

-- Sara Bowman, recovering from hip replacement surgery

-- Rob Raker, heart condition. Hoping for a new procedure which may alleviate some of the issues with which he has been dealing.

-- Congregations in pastoral transition -- Dewayne Heck has retired from Beech Grove; Painter Creek has arrangements with Phil Reynolds for regular pulpit supply; Good Shepherd has begun an arrangement with Carla Gillespie for pastoral services; Seth Hendricks, on pastoral staff at Happy Corner, accepted a position on the pastoral staff at Manchester Congregation in South Central Indiana; Jim Chronister announced resignation as pastor at Brookville Congregation; Ron Fleming resigned at White Cottage

-- May we remember the possibility of new church starts in various locations in our district as well as the urban ministry team for revitalizing some of our urban churches.

--There are many issues and situations continuing to face us as we minister in our respective locations, including those who are serving in interim situations and others who are in discernment regarding placement or are considering a move. There are others facing health issues, please keep these situations in prayer.

Please contact Dave if you know of prayer situations of which he should be aware. May we lift each other in prayer as we work to continue the work of Jesus, peacefully, simply, together.