

May, 2019
Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Newsletter
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2019 Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Conference

Announcing:
2019 Southern Ohio/Kentucky
District Conference
Theme "God provides"
October 11&12, 2019
Happy Corner Church of the Brethren
Watch for more information

Suitcase donations needed

SOKD Brethren Volunteer Service (BVS) volunteer, Pat Krabacher (937-765-0483) works for Haiti and Nigeria. She works with others to raise funds to send micronutrients (defined as “a chemical element or substance (such as iron, iodine, and vitamins) that are essential in minute amounts for the growth and health of living organisms, e.g. children and young women.” Vitamin A, iodine, and iron deficiencies are prevalent worldwide and can have grave consequences for children, pregnant women and women of childbearing age. Malnourished kids can’t learn.

Over the past 3 years, Pat has partnered with persons traveling to Burundi, Rwanda, Haiti and Nigeria to deliver Grow Right micronutrients in a medium sized suitcase (approximately 24” x 15” x10”) to missionaries serving the malnourished. Each suit case contains 6 – 10 gallon zip lock bags of 50 Grow Right packets with mixing and serving information. The international traveler delivers the micronutrient suitcase to the school or missionary and the suitcase provides an easy & convenient method of transport and storage. Medium sized suitcases with a pull-out handle and roller wheels are desired for ease of transport (see pictured). Please call Pat at 937-765-0483 if you have a suitcase that might have a purpose delivering micronutrients to children around the world.

Young Adult Gathering

June 9, 1 PM

Come join us at Young's Dairy for putt-putt golf, and ice cream.

All young adults ages high school graduates -39 yrs old are welcome. Single or married!

A flyer with more information is available on the district website, or call Laura Brown at 937-267-0965 with any questions or to RSVP.

Southern Ohio Disaster Ministries Update

Sewing Bee – A Sewing Bee will be held on Saturday, June 1 at Greenville COB, 421 Central Avenue. Bags will be sewn for Church World Service school kits. Bring your sewing machine, an extension cord, and a sack lunch. The next Sewing Bee will be on July 27. [Click Here](#) for a flyer with all the 2019 Sewing Bee dates. For more information contact Barb Brower at 937-336-2442.

Donations Needed! – S. Ohio/KY BDM is purchasing supplies for the upcoming assembly of 500 Cleanup Buckets and 2,500 School Kits for Church World Service (CWS). With the hurricanes last fall and the many recent storms, there has been a great need for cleanup buckets and kits. The estimated cost for this project is \$33,000. Donations enable us to purchase supplies in bulk, which is cost effective. 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!

Mark your Calendar:

July 25 - Cleanup Bucket Assembly

August 22 – School Kit Assembly

Both events are at 7:00 PM at Bullen Ultrasonics, 1301 Miller Williams Rd., Eaton.

13th Annual Ice Cream Social – On Saturday, August 3, plan to attend the annual BDM Ice Cream Social. It will be from 4:00 – 7:00 PM at Happy Corner COB. Come for supper, ice cream, and fellowship. This is the major fundraiser for S. Ohio/KY BDM, raising funds for rebuilding trips and Church World Service kits.

Golf Scramble – On Saturday, August 10 at 8:00 AM, a golf scramble will be held at Turtle Creek Golf Course located in Greenville. Now is the time to register or to become a hole sponsor. [Click here](#) for a registration/sponsorship form. All proceeds benefit S. Ohio/KY BDM and Camping & Retreat Ministries.

Celebrating 75 Years of Heifer International: Southern Ohio was an early player in Heifer's history

This summer marks the 75th anniversary of Heifer International, the award-winning development organization based in Little Rock, Arkansas, whose mission is “to work with communities to increase income, improve nutrition, care for the Earth and end world hunger and poverty.”

The Heifer Project, as it was originally known, was the brain child of Church of the Brethren leader, Dan West, born and raised in southern Ohio. In 1937, while serving as Peace Representative for the denomination, the Society of Friends invited the Church of the Brethren and the Mennonites to assist them in a relief project in Spain during the Spanish Civil War. The Brethren sent West as their salaried representative. While watching limited supplies of reconstituted powdered milk being distributed to infants, with those not gaining weight being taken off the list to die, West thought, “Why not send cows to Spain so they’d have all the milk they need?”

Living in Indiana the time, Dan West’s plan for “Cattle for Europe” was adopted by the Northern Indiana Men’s Work of the Church of the Brethren in April 1942. In January 1943 it was adopted by the denomination’s Brethren Service Committee which named it “The Heifer Project.” Other denominations were invited to participate and soon it became an ecumenical organization.

Local committees were formed including the Southern Ohio Heifer Project Committee. Heifers were raised and donated, but World War II was raging and the animals couldn’t be shipped across the Atlantic. The first shipment of 17 heifers was sent to Puerto Rico in July 1944, to help struggling farmers around the island.

When World War II ended in Europe, in 1945, the Brethren Service Committee teamed up with the newly formed United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA). The two organizations agreed that

UNRRA would ship Heifer Project animals, free of charge, and the Brethren Service Committee would recruit all the cattle tenders needed for UNRRA's 360 livestock shipments. Around 580 of the "seagoing cowboys" came from Ohio.

The Heifer project continued, developing into today's Heifer International. Through the years, Heifer International has lifted families in more than 125 countries out of poverty through the gift of all types of livestock and environmentally sound agricultural training.

On May 10, in the Brick Room of the Brethren Retirement Community, a program was held in celebration of 75 years of love shared by Heifer International. Author and historian, Peggy Reiff Miller, spoke and showed slides about the beginnings of Heifer International and the role people from southern Ohio played in its development. The program also featured stories from local "seagoing cowboy," Ivan Patterson and a time sharing stories by BRC residents. Heifer International Community Engagement Coordinator, Eric Smith shared what is currently happening in the organization and presented BRC with a certificate, recognizing their contribution toward ending hunger and poverty worldwide. After the program, Peggy Reiff Miller had a book signing, of her children's book, *The Seagoing Cowboy*, published in 2016, by Brethren Press.

More information and ways you can make a contribution to end hunger and poverty, through Heifer International, can be found on their website, www.heifer.org.

Prayer needs

A very important way we can be supportive of each other is to lift each other up in prayer. [Click here to download the 2019 Prayer List for Congregations.](#)

-- Ron and Bert McAdams. . . moved to BRC, Ron fell and broke hip.

-- Constance congregation continues to worship in space provided by Hebron Lutheran Church.

-- Bruce and Mary Sue Rosenberger . . . various health issues

--Rob Raker . . . heart condition

Congregations in pastoral transition . . . Beech Grove completed their profile and is beginning a pastoral search; Painter Creek has called Phil Reynolds; Good Shepherd has called Carla Gillespie; Fred Bernhard is serving as interim pastor at Brookville; Tara Hornbacker is serving as interim at New Carlisle.

- May we remember the possibility of a 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.