

**September, 2019**  
**Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Newsletter**  
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## **2019 Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Conference**

October 11&12, 2019  
Happy Corner Church of the Brethren

“And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Jesus Christ”. Philippians 4:19

Registration is now open!

This year the SOKD Program and Arrangements and the SOKD Resource Development Commission are teaming up to offer several excellent workshops for the educational portion of our conference which support our theme, "God Provides". These workshops will benefit everyone: Church Treasurers, Board Chairs, Board Members, Stewardship Teams, Pastors, anyone who has a family budget, anyone who doesn't have a family budget, if you preach about stewardship, wish you could preach about stewardship, if you spend money, save money, earn money . . . yes, we will be talking about money!

Descriptions of the workshops and registration for delegates, display space, lodging requests and child care requests as well as a brochure with more information can be found on the district website.

## **Gifts Discernment-- 2019 District Slate**

The Gifts Discernment Commission will soon be meeting to begin work on the 2019 District slate to present to District Conference. You are encouraged to offer suggestions for the various district offices that come open this year. A list of positions and a form to offer suggestions are available on the district website.

## **Young Adult Gathering**

On September 21st at 5 PM we will visit a corn maze at the Idle Hour Ranch in Troy, OH. A flyer with more information can be found on the District website.

Planning ahead:

October 26@ 6 PM at the Brethren Heritage Center

November 9@1PM at the Dayton Peace Museum

December 21@ 7 PM at Carillon Park

**\*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\*\*\*\***

## **SEPT DISTRICT-WIDE YOUTH EVENT**

The afternoon of Sunday, September 22, 2:30-4:30 is the next District-wide youth event for those in grades 6-12. It will be held at the East Dayton Church of the Brethren, 3520 E. 3rd St, Dayton.

We will have a time for a devotion, playing shuffleboard, playing Wii Bowling, and offer coloring activities. A flyer with more information can be found on the district website or ask in your church office.

If you have questions contact Susan Liller at 937-202-2240 or via email at [susan.liller@gmail.com](mailto:susan.liller@gmail.com).

## West Alexandria CoB Holds Homecoming Service

The West Alexandria Church of the Brethren would like to invite all former WACOB members and/or attendees to a Homecoming Service on Sunday September 8th at the West Alexandria church of the Brethren. The service will begin at 10:30 AM. A free, catered lunch will follow the service. We hope all who have walked through our doors will join us again as we come together to celebrate the life of our church together. Our address is 22 E Oak St. West Alexandria, OH . If you have questions about this event please email Pastor Brody Rike at pbrodyrike@gmail.com

## Southern Ohio Disaster Ministries Update

**13th Annual Ice Cream Social** – Thank you to all for your support of the BDM Ice Cream Social held August 3rd. There were about 440 in attendance. The final figures are not yet in for this event. We still have hand-packed vanilla ice cream to sell. It's \$5 for a quart, \$12 for a gallon, or \$22 for three gallons. Contact Burt Wolf (937-287-5902), Helen Wolf (937-902-3475), or SouthernOhioBDM @gmail.com.

**Sewing Bee** – There will be a Sewing Bee on Saturday, September 14 at 9:00 AM at Greenville Church of the Brethren, 421 Central Avenue. Bags will be sewn for Church world Service school kits. Bring your sewing machine, an extension cord, and a sack lunch. For more information contact Barb Brower at 937-336-2442.

**Pork Festival Parking** – Many volunteers are needed for this fundraiser! On Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 21 and 22, BDM will park cars at the Pork Festival held at the Preble County Fairgrounds. To volunteer for a shift, please call Burt Wolf at 937-287-5902. Please share this opportunity with others.

**Local Tornado Response** - Work continues in September on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays with tree and brush removal. The need is for volunteers who can operate chain saws. Soon we're wanting to start small home repairs. Please call or text Burt Wolf (937-287-5902) or Sam Dewey (937-684-0510), if you're able to help.

**Church World Service** –Thank you to the many people who helped with the cleanup bucket assembly in July and the school kit assembly in August. 523 cleanup buckets and 2,500 school kits have been completed and are being sent to the Brethren Service Center. We appreciate the donations from individuals and churches that help pay for the supplies that Ohio/KY BDM has purchased in bulk. Donations may be made on-line at SOD-COB.org. When sending a check, make it 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.

## 13th Annual Charity Auction

The BRC 13th Annual Charity Auction and Dinner will be held on September 13, 2019 at Romer's. The theme this year is "The Greatest Gala of All Time" which is a circus theme. As in past years, we are seeking donations for the live and silent auctions and would like to ask congregations to consider a donation. It can be a challenge to think of an appropriate donation, so we are offering a few ideas:

Tickets for Concerts, Movies or Sporting Events

Gift Card Tree

Date Night Package

Alexa Device

Wood Fire Pizza Oven

Indianapolis Children's Museum Tickets

Zoo Package

Charter Pontoon Ride at Indian Lake

Cincinnati Dinner Train Tickets

Escape Room Tickets

Or you may have a great idea of your own. Please give your commitment to Todd Reish at Todd.Reish@BHRC.org on or before August 19th.

## 2019 Empowering Grants Given

By action of the 2015 Southern Ohio District Conference a percentage of the interest on monies received from The Nature Conservancy for their portion of the sale of the Camp Woodland Altars property has been set aside each year for use as grants to Empower Congregations and to Empower Leadership within the District.

We are happy to share that the following congregations have applied for and received grant money this year:

Prince of Peace Church of the Brethren	\$2800.00
Constance Church of the Brethren	\$1500.00
Cincinnati Church of the Brethren	\$1100.00
Trotwood Church of the Brethren	\$ 550.00
Artistry Leads (Church Vitality Survey)	\$2000.00
Ecumenical Stewardship	\$225.00
Happy Corner Church of the Brethren	\$3000.00
Prince of Peace Church of the Brethren	\$3000.00
West Charleston	\$2000.00

An Empowering Leadership Grant	
Andrew Wright	\$295.00

More about how this money has been used will be shared at our upcoming District Conference.

Purpose of the grants is to:

1. Provide financial support to any congregation within the District which seeks it for the development of new or expansion of existing missional efforts; or
2. Provide financial support for any member of a District congregation who is in a leadership position and wishes to obtain further training to enhance their leadership role or any member of a District congregation who wishes to seek training to prepare them for future church leadership.

More information about how to apply for a grant can be found on the district website.

## Prayer needs

A very important way we can be supportive of each other is to lift each other up in prayer. The 2019 Prayer List for Congregations and the most current information on the church in Nigeria including prayer needs are available on the District Website.

- Additional gun violence has continued even after the recent shooting tragedies and even within our district border in Dayton. It is more important than ever that we pray for peace. Gun violence has reached, really passed, a stage where it is simply unacceptable for a people who live in this land and in this world. Other countries have responded to such violence with stricter laws and better mental health initiatives, but thus far we have not. As followers of the Prince of Peace who gives us the profound example of love, may we no longer sit idly by, but take love inspired action to end this violence.

- We continue to lift up all those affected by the tornados and those who are helping with clean up and recovery. This work will likely continue for some time.

- Angela Asamoah, gall bladder surgery Friday

- Roger Crusier, pastor of the Circleville congregation, fell and broke a bone near the hip recently.

- The Constance congregation continues to worship in space graciously provided by the nearby Hebron Lutheran Church. Our prayers for these sisters and brothers during this time of transition are appreciated.

- May we continue to lift Bruce and Mary Sue Rosenberger, as they both deal with various health issues.

- Rob Raker, former pastor, continues to deal with the heart condition that has plagued him for some time now.

- May we remember those congregations in pastoral transition - Beech Grove has completed their profile and is in pastoral search, Larry Tyner will be serving as interim beginning in September; Fred Bernhard is serving as interim pastor at Brookville during this time of transition. White Cottage has called Ricci Arthur, a retired United Methodist pastor, to serve as interim. Tara Hornbacker is serving as interim at New Carlisle. Mel Smith, pastor at Charleston, has announced that he will be retiring this year. Angela Asamoah has announced her resignation as pastor at Bear Creek effective the end of September. Bear Creek is looking at next steps in their journey.

--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 considering a move.

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