



159th District Conference Highlights: The 159th Southern Ohio District conference is now a part of our history. We would like to thank the Trotwood Church for their warm hospitality as the district gathered for a full, but exciting weekend. Darin Short from Insights Ministry helped pastors and church leaders who gathered for the pre-conference gathering to look at their openness to those who have been marginalized in our culture.

Several business items were handled on **Friday evening** including:

- Affirmation of the slate;
- Granting the Poplar Grove Church's request to close;
- Answering a concern from the Eaton Church concerning recent decisions and/or actions by various denominational agencies, departments, committees and educational institutions of the Church of the Brethren that are in conflict with the 1983 Annual Conference paper on Human Sexuality. A specific example cited was booth space provided at Annual Conference to the Brethren Mennonite Council for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Interests. (Answer can be found on the website www.sodcob.org)

We then moved to an inspiring worship with a great message from moderator Julie Hostetetter where we were encouraged to remember our baptism.

Saturday brought us:

- Reports from various commissions
- Consideration of a proposal from the Brookville Church to make a change to the District Code of Regulations. This proposal was not accepted.
- Approval of the 2014 budget.

It is exciting to see us "Working Together . . . Empowering Disciples. We look forward to witnessing what God will do through us in Southern Ohio in the upcoming year. Details on the above decisions can be found on our website (www.sodcob.org).

2014 Annual Conference held in Columbus, OH and the Southern Ohio District will be the host district. We have begun seeking individual volunteers to serve in various volunteer ministry positions. We will need everyone to make this conference a success. A sign-up sheet has been sent to each congregation. If you wish to volunteer, please contact your pastor or office staff. Or you can volunteer online at www.sodcob.org.

The 2014 Summer Camp Schedule is now available. You can find it on our website or by asking about it at your church office.

Southern Ohio District Brethren Disaster Ministry Updates

The 2014 Southern Ohio Disaster Ministry Trip schedule has also been released. Again . . . You can find it on our website, or ask about it at your church office.

Peace, Pie, and Prophets

November 23, 2013, Happy Corner Church of the Brethren

"God blesses those who work for peace, for they shall be called the children of God." Matthew 5:9 (NLT)

How do you work for peace when our world is so full of violence? The news is filled with stories of domestic violence, shootings in our streets, and unrest around the world. This event, sponsored by Southern Ohio District's Shared Ministries Commission, benefits Christian Peacemaking Teams, an organization that partners with nonviolent movements around the world. They believe they can transform war and occupation, our own lives, and the wider Christian world through the nonviolent power of God's truth.

You can participate in the event by:

- Attending the event which promises to be a fun, entertaining (provided by Ted & Company) evening of fun, fellowship and food! Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by calling the Happy Corner Church office at 937-836-1204.
- Purchasing a special pie at the auction. These aren't just ordinary pies, but pies baked by our best Brethren bakers that have a unique reputation in the lives of our congregations or District!
- Make a donation of cookies, cupcakes or brownies to be served at the event. We estimate that we will need approximately 50 dozen. Please notify Judy Boles (937-307-8286) or email (jboles@uvmc.com) if you can donate some baked goods.

Powerhouse: Regional Youth Conference

November 16 & 17, Camp Mack-- Milford, Indiana

Theme: "On earth as it is in Heaven."

Registration is now open for this year's regional youth conference. This year's conference will be held at Camp Alexander Mack in Milford, Indiana. The keynote speakers will be Audrey and Tim Hollenberg-Duffey. The early registration deadline is November 8. Registration forms and a variety of information needed for participation can be found at www.manchester.edu/powerhouse/

Other upcoming events (Visit www.sodcob.org for more information)

- **Worship Workshop** November 9, 2013 9-3 PM, Cedar Grove Church of the Brethren, Please register before November 5.
- ◆ **Pioneering Webinars**--This series on church planting is presented in collaboration with the Anabaptist Network in the United Kingdom.
- ◆ **District Board Retreat**--November 8-9 at the BRC in Greenville, OH
- ◆ **The Kingdom of God Workshops** -- This is a series of Bible Studies hosted by various congregations in Southern Ohio.
- ◆ **Bittersweet Gospel Band Tour**

