

Annual Conference 2014 will celebrate courageous discipleship

General registration for the 2014 Annual Conference of the Church of the Brethren in Columbus, Ohio, on July 2-6 is now open. The theme, "Live as Courageous Disciples," is from the New Testament letter to the Philippians. Events take place at the Greater Columbus Convention Center and the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Conference planners have focused on family friendly activities, in particular events on Saturday evening--the last night of the Conference--that are for all ages. A concert will bring to the Conference stage three groups who will be enjoyed by adults and children: Blue Bird Revival Band, Community of Song, and Mutual Kumquat. In addition, intergenerational activities are being planned with help from the Outdoor Ministries Association.

"We are hoping that families within driving distance who can't come for the whole Conference will at least join us for the weekend," said Conference director Chris Douglas.

Saturday evening's intergenerational activities include "Get Real: Living as Courageous Disciples!" an event featuring biblical and modern-day stories of courageous disciples, as a way to explore the Annual Conference theme with camp-type activities.

More information including registration, a full conference schedule, and hotel and lodging information can be found at:

<http://www.brethren.org/news/2014/annual-conference-2014-preview.html>

As the host district, we could still use volunteers to serve in many different ways. Volunteer form can be found on our website www.sodcob.org.

Future locations for annual conference:

2015-Tampa, Florida

2016-Greensboro, NC

2017-Grand Rapids, MI

2018- Cincinnati, OH

2019-San Diego, CA

Attention Caregivers! Are you the primary caregiver of a loved one who has demanding health issues? Southern Ohio District Camping and Retreat Ministry is interested in serving *you*. We have made arrangements with the Brethren Retirement Community Shuff Adult Day Care Center in Greenville, OH to offer *you* a day set aside for *you* while your loved one is cared for by professionals who are trained to deal with a wide variety of adult health issues. This Caregiver's Day will be August 2, from 9 AM-6 PM. The event will offer educational opportunities and free time for the caregiver. We hope you will take this opportunity as a caregiver to find renewal, relaxation, and network with others who share the same responsibilities, rewards, concerns, and joys that you do. Cost for the day is \$50 for both participants and includes a light breakfast and dinner which the loved one and caregiver will share together. You will be on your own for lunch. Registration for the event will open in May.

Ethics Training--The Southern Ohio District will hold a mandatory Ministerial Ethics refresher class for all licensed and ordained ministers on April 26, 2014 from 10 AM-6PM at the Brethren Retirement Community in Greenville, OH. Please pre-register on our website (www.sodcob.org) Cost for the training is \$20.00 which includes a required book and lunch.

Failure to attend this mandatory training may place credentials in jeopardy.

Ordination Recertification takes place every five years for Ordained Ministers, actively engaged in a ministry function. During 2015, two sets of forms will be sent regarding this recertification. One form to all ordained ministers, and different form to the ordained minister's congregation where their primary membership is held. Ordained ministers, actively engaged in a ministry function, will also need to make sure their Continuing Education (CEU) Report Form is up-to-date. Watch for more information.

Shared Ministries Commission Updates

Several exciting opportunities to join with sisters and brother across the district are coming your way from the Shared Ministries Commission:

--We are eager to begin a ministry to Jr. High Age Youth. If you or someone you know enjoy working with this age group, please click here to contact Karen Dillon.

--An Adult Bible School will be held for the District September 29-October 3 at the Salem Church of the Brethren. The Salem Church held a similar event last fall. They enjoyed it so much, they now want to extend it to include the entire District. Watch for more information.

Brethren Disaster Ministry Updates

Sewing Bee-- Saturday, April 12 at the Eaton Church of the Brethren, 1407 Barron St. location beginning at 9 AM. Bring your own sewing machine. Lunch will be served. We will be sewing School Kit bags. We have 400 cut out and ready to be assembled. For those who don't sew but would still like to help out, we will also be assembling dust masks to include in clean up bucket kits.

Clean Up Bucket Kit Assembly May 8th at 7 PM at the Eaton Church of the Brethren, 1407 Barron Street location. Our goal is to assemble 400 buckets so many hands will be needed. At this point, we need \$5000.00 to purchase supplies for these 400 buckets. If you would like to contribute financially to this ministry click here.

Brethren Disaster Ministry Volunteer Appreciation Dinner April 5 at 6:00PM at the Eaton Church of the Brethren, 1407 Barron St. While this event is designed to recognize and thank folks who have volunteered time during the past year, anyone is welcome. It would be an excellent time to learn more about BDM and how you or your church can be more involved. If you wish to attend, we ask that you click here to RSVP so that we can be sure to have enough food.

Brethren Helping Hands has completed work at Mullen House at Bethany Seminary. The Mullen House was purchased by the seminary to provide affordable housing for seminary students. 17 different volunteers from Southern Ohio worked a total of 62 days or 378 hours. Thank you to everyone who gave time and energy to assist Bethany to provide housing for our future leaders.

Brethren Helping Hands is now looking for our next project. Visit our website for more information about the type of project they can work on as well as how to suggest a project for their consideration.

Oakland Dinner Theatre --The Oakland Church of the Brethren, 8058 Horatio-Harris Creek Road, Bradford(2and half miles north of Gettysburg, Ohio) will be presenting "Harmony Romances" as their 2014 Dinner Theater production. The hilarious church ladies who make up Harmony Church's funeral committee are back in this laughter filled sequel to last year's production, "The Ladies of Harmony." This time, the church ladies are in charge of planning a wedding instead of a funeral. As before, their planning will take various twists and turns as they deal with some very unusual situations leading up to the wedding. The dates will be March 7, 8, 14, and 15 at 6:00 pm, cost of the dinner buffet and play will be \$22.00. On Sunday, March 9 and 16, dessert only will be served at 2:00pm with the play to follow at 3:00pm, cost of \$12.00. Cost for children 10 and under will be half price. Reservations may be made from 4-8 pm with Brenda Coblentz at 937-548-1895. Proceeds from the dinner theater production will help support Oakland's outreach projects.

New Carlisle Music on Main Street -- Dreading sitting at home Saturday evenings through the winter season with nothing to do? Worry no more! We've got the perfect solution. Free concerts! The New Carlisle Church of the Brethren presents the Music on Main Street Concert Series. The six concert series will include a variety of local groups who enjoy performing. Refreshments will be available to enjoy during the concerts with the proceeds going to a ministry of the congregation. The concerts are free, however an offering will be taken to give to the performers. Mark your calendars! Don't miss a one of the concerts in the second year of the Music on Main Street Concert Series. A poster with all concert dates is available on the district website.

National Youth Conference, or "NYC," is a Brethren tradition that dates back to 1954. Every four years, youth from across the United States (and sometimes beyond) travel to Colorado State University in Ft. Collins, Colorado for an incredible week-long youth conference! Typical attendance is around 3,000. Youth who have completed 9th grade through one year of college are eligible to attend.

The week includes worship twice a day, small groups, workshops, service projects, recreation, hiking in the Rocky Mountains, and more! It is a full week with lots of exciting activities, but there is a good balance of time for reflection and down-time as well. For more information including how to register go to <http://www.brethren.org/yya/nyc/>

The Church of the Brethren Young Adult Conference (YAC) will be held May 23-25 at Camp Brethren Woods near Keezletown, Va. With the words from Jeremiah 29:11 as a focus, participants will address the theme "Coming Home: For I Know the Plans I Have for You

We are one—One Great Hour of Sharing

"I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I in them and you in me— so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me" (John 17:22-24).

We are one in the body of Christ with brothers and sisters around the world. As the hands and feet of Jesus, we can uphold each other in ministry and help those in need. One Great Hour of Sharing is a special opportunity to support ministries of the Church of the Brethren. The

suggested offering date for One Great Hour of Sharing is March 16. Learn more at www.brethren.org/oghs .

The New Inglenook Cookbook website has all-new content:

www.InglenookCookbook.org. Share your favorite Inglenook recipe or story on our new blog, Kitchen Scrapbook. Visit the online store to see all our cookbooks and merchandise, including mugs and aprons. And don't forget to check the home page for a link to an updated list of cookbook corrections. (If you don't have access to the Internet, call Brethren Press Customer Service at 800-441-3712 to receive the list of corrections by mail). Stay connected, spread the word, and keep cooking!