

# **Southern Ohio District**

## **Church of the Brethren**

Working Together . . . Empowering Disciples

April 2014

## Summer Camp Registration is now open

Having just experienced the third snowiest winter on record leaves us all longing for signs of spring and warmer weather. Southern Ohio District's Camping and Retreat Commission is excited to announce that registration for summer camp is now open. Visit our website for more information, including our theme, complete descriptions of available camps, a schedule and registration forms. We are thrilled that we have been able to reduce our fees for week long camps and hope more children will be able to take advantage of this unique experience.

**Open House--**Many of our camps will be held at the Cricket Holler Boy Scout Camp, 6675 Brantford Rd., Dayton, OH. Since we have not held camp at this location in the past, you are invited to an open house on May 4 from 2-4 PM. Please take this opportunity to visit the facility and familiarize yourself with all that this venue has to offer.

**Volunteers** for counselors, cooks, and more will be needed for our camp season to be successful. A volunteer form is available on the website. Please consider spending one week this summer helping Southern Ohio provide our children rich opportunities for discovery, learning, fun, adventure, spiritual growth, friendship and prayer.

## **Updates on Chalet Rentals at Woodland Altars**

Mother Nature has challenged all of us this winter. The same weather patterns hit Woodland Altars just like the entire Miami Valley. During the coldest days at the camp, many pipes in the chalets were frozen and burst. Winterizing them had not happened because people were using them into January.

Luckily, Woodland Altars has good insurance. Much of the damage was covered by our policy. However, not all the replacement and work needed to be done was insured. The CRC has made some decisions about the renovations to be made in the chalets where pipes were burst. Not using the money from the insurance company would be foolish. Since the insurance would only cover about half of the costs, the extra renovation costs would come from the district and donations people send.

The Camping and Retreat Commission has made a commitment to keep the chalets open from now until after the hunting season next fall. This means people can rent the chalets for weeks, weekends, family reunions, special getaways, and time away from the demands of daily life. We are encouraging interested groups or individuals to contact the camp to set up reservations. Visit our website for more information, including rental fees and how to make reservations as well as more detailed information concerning water damage and repairs to the chalets.

#### **District Conference**

Conference theme: "We are God's servants working together" Happy Corner Church of the Brethren October 10 & 11

The theme for our upcoming conference is "We are God's Servants working together." Conference will be held on October 10 & 11 at Happy Corner Church of the Brethren. Mark your calendars and plan to attend then be watching for more details in upcoming months.

## Southern Ohio BDM Upcoming Trips to Tom's Run, NJ

April 13-15 -- 6 volunteers still needed May 25-31 -- 4 volunteers still needed

#### Annual Conference 2014 celebrates courageous discipleship

Annual Conference 2014 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. "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. Click here for more information including how to register your family, a full conference schedule, and hotel and motel lodging information. 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

**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.

**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. 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.

For more information on what is happening in Southern Ohio as well as more details on these events contact your church office, the Southern Ohio District (sodcob@brethren.org) or you can always visit our website: www.sodcob.org. In addition to this publication, we also email a monthly newsletter. To request a newsletter simply email your request to the same email address. If you would like to add your event to either the website, this publication, or the monthly newsletter please email your information to sodcob@brethren.org before the 15th of the month.