

## **"We are God's Servants Working Together"**

On August 23, at 3:30 PM the Southern Ohio District will gather at the Troy Church of the Brethren to assemble school kits for Church World Service then join in a celebration of what God has done as we work together. This event supports our District conference theme taken from 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 "We are God's Servants, Working Together". Monetary donations will be needed so that we will be able to purchase supplies for the kits. If you would like to contribute to this project, you can mail your check to Southern Ohio District, 2293 Gauby Rd., New Madison, OH 45346.

## **2014 Annual Conference**

**July 2-6**

**Columbus, OH**

**"Live as Courageous Disciples"**

### *Conference Transportation*

The Southern Ohio District has chartered a bus to provide transportation to Annual Conference on Thursday, July 3. Anyone who would like to experience conference for one day without the added responsibility of driving to Columbus is welcome to take advantage of this opportunity. Cost is \$55 per person which includes conference registration. You can register and pay online at the District website ([www.sodcob.org](http://www.sodcob.org))

### *Help Still Needed*

As the host District for Annual Conference, we have the unique opportunity to serve our denomination in various ways during conference. Many have already volunteered, but some help is still needed for First Aid, Early Childhood, and Children Grades K-2. Volunteer in one of these areas on the district website [www.sodcob.org](http://www.sodcob.org).

### *Conference Business*

Delegates to Annual Conference in Columbus will consider eight items of business for the Church of the Brethren. Delegates will again be seated together at round tables.

Unfinished business items include revisions to Polity on Ministerial Leadership, and responses to queries on Climate Change and Congregational Ethics, among others. New business includes a revision to the Special Response Process as well as Amendments to the Bylaws of the Church of the Brethren and Brethren Benefit Trust.

Find the full text of business documents, the ballot, and a video briefing for delegates by visiting the annual conference website at [brethren.org](http://brethren.org).

### *Conference Docket*

Moderator-Elect

Dale E. Minnich, Moundridge, Kansas

Andy Murray, Huntingdon, Pennsylvania

Program and Arrangements Committee

Rhonda Pittman Gingrich, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Steven Sauder, Mt. Lake Park, Maryland  
On Earth Peace Board  
Carla Gillespie, Dayton, Ohio  
Barbara Wise Lewczak, Minburn, Iowa  
Church of the Brethren Benefit Trust Board  
Dennis Kingery, Centennial, Colorado  
Alan Patrick Linton, Frederick, Maryland  
Bethany Theological Seminary Board—Colleges  
William Abshire, Mount Sidney, Virginia  
Eric Bishop, Pomona, California  
Pastoral Compensation and Benefits Advisory Committee  
John Ballinger, Ashland, Ohio  
David K. Shumate, Roanoke, Virginia

### *Conference Choir*

For 2014 all the choir music is graciously being provided on loan to the Annual Conference so you will not have to purchase a music packet! "I extend the invitation to sing up lifting songs of praise and worship to singers throughout the whole brotherhood as we join our voices to glorify our Lord and Savior. I look forward to teaching and leading 5 exciting numbers that will flow with the theme of the services being planned. I'll have the music ready for you in a folder and would love to have you share this new experience with me."-- Joy Brubaker, choir director. For more information including how to sign up to sing in the choir at no cost visit the Annual Conference website at [www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org).

### **Camping and Retreat Updates**

Youth Service/Leadership Camp and Performing Arts Camp are both cancelled due to low enrollment. All other camps are going to be held: Junior High Camp, Junior Camp, Adult/Child Camp, and Quilting Camp. There is still time to sign up for Junior High Camp and Quilting Camp.

#### Quilters Camp

July 10-14 at Bergamo Center

Registration ends June 15, so there is still time!

Each camper will make a small quilt and learn how to piece the blocks, add borders, sandwich, quilt, and bind. You will need two colors of fabric of your choice (possibly something you already have), batting and a backing fabric. After you register, you will receive a letter detailing how much fabric you will need as well as a list of other supplies.

Because of the increased cost of camp this year, the needed supplies are fewer and we will not be making an extra project like a bag, tote or purse. No quilt will be made for auction this year. A flyer which you can use as an invitation for your friends can be found on the District Website.

## **Brethren Disaster Ministry**

### *Volunteer Opportunities:*

June 15-21, openings for two volunteers

July 6-12, five volunteers needed

Contact Burt and Helen Wolf at or 937-902-3475.

The Illinois and Wisconsin District is calling for volunteers to help serve in the city of Gifford, IL which is rebuilding in the aftermath of last year's tornado that hit the central part of the state. "Gifford is a small town about 15 miles northeast of Champaign," reports the district disaster coordinator Rick Koch. "Beginning the second week of June they are going to have three homes with foundations poured and they are in need of persons who are skilled in framing up a home. In the weeks ahead there will be a call for plumbers, electricians and others with various construction skills. You are needed whether you can stay one day or one week." Housing is at a local church on cots, or volunteers can seek housing at a hotel in the nearby city of Rantoul. Lunches will be provided. "Please contact me soon, if you have framing experience and if you are available beginning June 9 or thereafter," Koch requests. (815-499-3012).

### *BDM Ice Cream Social Fundraiser*

Saturday, Aug. 2

4:00-7:00

Happy Corner Church of the Brethren

Food, Ice Cream, Music, Silent Auction

### *Church World Service Kits*

With the news of the recent storms both in the US and beyond, Clean Up Buckets are in great demand. Another major bucket assembly will occur later this year, and supplies will be purchased between now and then. Funds for buckets are needed on an ongoing basis, and may be given through the Southern Ohio website.

Checks may be sent to:

District of Southern Ohio Church of the Brethren

2293 Gauby Road

New Madison, OH 45346

On May 8, fifty folks gathered to assemble Clean Up Bucket Kits, including Matthew Stevens from the Church World Service office in Columbus. He expressed his gratitude to the Southern Ohio District for donations of Clean up Buckets and other kits. In addition to 500 Clean Up Bucket kits, we've sent 425 Hygiene kits, 172 school kits, 24 baby kits, and 50 baby blankets making us Church World Service's top supplier in the country! Thanks to all who have donated funds and helped with assembly!