

160th Southern Ohio District Conference Wrap-up

The 160th District Conference of Southern Ohio is now a part of our history. It was held at the Happy Corner Church of the Brethren on October 10-11, 2014.

Conference delegates accepted the following framework of a plan presented by the Program and Arrangements Committee:

***Whereas, the Troy congregation has presented a proposal to sell Woodland Altars property. Click hereto read.**

***Whereas, a conservation organization has presented a letter of intent to purchase the undeveloped areas of the Woodland Altars Property. Click here to read.**

***Whereas, the Friends of Woodland Altars have expressed interest in purchasing the developed areas of the Woodland Altars property.**

The Program and Arrangements Committee is presenting the following recommendation for delegate's consideration.

- 1. Accept the proposal from the Troy Congregation with the Program and Arrangements Committee coordinating efforts of the interested parties to arrive at an acceptable plan.**
- 2. A special District Conference be called with a target date within the first quart of 2015 to present a plan for approval by the delegates regarding the Woodland Altars property and related issues.**

Other business can be found on our website.

Emergency Financial Aid for Nigerian Church

At their fall meeting, the Church of the Brethren Mission and Ministry Board approved up to \$1.5 million to begin funding an emergency response fund to the church in Nigeria. An allocation of \$500,000 from the Emergency Disaster Fund was approved. The board also decided to commit \$500,000.00 from reserves and up to another amount of \$500,000 from reserves as a matching challenge to donors. The Southern Ohio District Board will consider our response to this challenge at their meeting November 7-8. More information will be forthcoming. More information about EYN(the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria), including how this money will be used can be found at the denominational website (brethren.org).

Disaster Ministry Updates

The 2015 S. Ohio BDM Schedule is now available. We are signing up volunteers for trips. Currently all trips are to New Jersey for Superstorm Sandy recovery. There is the possibility that another site could open during 2015. Click [here](#) for the 2015 schedule, which is formatted so it can be used as a bulletin insert. Please share this with your congregation. To sign up for a trip, contact Burt and Helen Wolf 937-287-5902 or at SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com.

A Sewing Bee, sponsored by Brethren Disaster Ministries, was held on Saturday, October 18. Seventy-eight bags were sewn for Church World Service School Kits. Numerous gowns for Baby Kits were cut out. The next Sewing Bee is scheduled for Saturday, January 24 at 9:00 AM. It will be held at the Eaton Church of the Brethren 1407 N. Barron Street. Sewers need to bring their sewing machine. Others are invited to bring scissors for cutting out bags or gowns. Lunch will be served.

With *School Kits* being the current item of greatest need for CWS, a decision was made at the Oct. 2 BDM meeting to move our next Clean Up Bucket assembly from November to March. This will allow us to continue to focus on School Kits, and gives more time for purchasing Clean Up Bucket supplies. Funds for buckets and CWS kits are needed on an ongoing basis, and may be given through the Southern Ohio [sodcob.org] website. Checks may be sent to:
District of Southern Ohio Church of the Brethren
2293 Gauby Road
New Madison, OH 45346

Orange Leaf Yogurt BDM Fundraiser

Orange Leaf Yogurt in Town and Country Shopping Center is partnering with Southern Ohio Brethren Disaster Ministries. Each month they are donating 15% of their sales on the second Monday from 6:00 - 9:00PM. We appreciate their generosity, and invite you to visit their store.

Small Groups Discipleship Training

The New Church Development commission of the Southern Ohio District is offering a Small Groups Discipleship Workshop on November 22, 2014 at the Eaton Church, Barron Street location. We invite you to come explore how a Small Group Ministry can benefit your congregation. Whether you want to improve your small group leadership skills or want to learn how to start a small group ministry from scratch, this training event offers information about the theory and practice as well as the theological basis of small group ministry as well as the theological basis for small group ministry. A fee of \$15 per person includes lunch. More information including cost and how to register is available on our website.

Mark Yaconelli presents

The Way of Radical Compassion

November 15, 2014

New Carlisle Church of the Brethren

Ask your church office for a flyer with more information, including how to register.

Youth Winter Adventure

January 17-19, 2015

Camp Wilson in Bellefontaine Ohio

Sponsored by Camping and Retreat Commission Southern Ohio District

This would make a great Christmas gift for a youth on your shopping list!

Led by Jon Keller and Seth Hendricks, the daily schedule will include meals, worship, tubing, tobogganing, skiing, hiking, devotions, games, etc. Unsure about skiing? There will be lessons for beginner through advanced skiers. Still unsure? Spend your time hiking, tubing, or tobogganing instead of skiing.

Ask your church office for a brochure with more information including cost and how to register.

NOAC (National Older Adults Conference)

Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center

Asheville, NC

September 7-11, 2015

Registration begins March 1, 2015

Registration brochures will be mailed to attendees of previous NOACs, congregations, districts, and retirement communities in late February 2015.

Powerhouse 2014

November 15-16, 2014

The Powerhouse regional youth conference has reached its fifth anniversary! Powerhouse will return to Camp Mack again this year, Nov. 15-16, providing a weekend of worship, workshops, music, recreation, and more for senior high youth in the Midwest and their advisors. We hope you can join us for this action-packed and faith-filled weekend as we follow up on National Youth Conference. Opportunities will also be available to visit and tour the Manchester campus (about 45-50 minutes from Camp Mack) before or after the conference, and perhaps as a workshop option on Saturday.

Our theme this year is “Almost Christian: Seeking an Authentic Faith,” drawing on the “Almost Christian” by Kenda Creasy Dean and other study that has been done in this area. We welcome Jonathan Shively, executive director of Congregational Life Ministries for the Church of the Brethren in Elgin, Ill., as our keynote speaker for our three worship times. Seth Hendricks, pastor of Happy Corner Church of the Brethren in Dayton, Ohio, and a member of the band Mutual Kumquat, returns as our music leader.

Cost this year will be \$75 for youth, \$65 for advisors (for extenuating circumstances, please contact us). Everyone will have a bed to sleep in (participants should bring their own bedding and towels), and the camp will be preparing our meals. Click here for all the forms needed to and a host of other information. Go to www.manchester.edu/powerhouse for more information.

If your group is coming from a distance and needs a place to stay in the area Friday night, please contact us and we can help you make arrangements at Manchester University or with congregations in the area. Please be in prayer for this event and encourage your youth and advisors to attend.