**Southern Ohio District** 

# **Church of the Brethren**

Working Together . . . Empowering Disciples

January 2015

# Annual Conference Hotel Reservations and Non-delegate Registration open on Wednesday, February 25

While delegate registration opened on January 5, registration will open on February 25 for non-delegates at 12:00 noon central time. Hotel reservations for both delegates and non-delegates will also open at noon (central time) on Wednesday, February 25. To register as a non-delegate, go to www.brethren.org/ac and click on "Register Now"

After you have registered as a non-delegate for Annual Conference, you will immediately receive an automatic email that gives you a link to register for the hotel you prefer. If you have any questions please call the Annual Conference Office at 847-429-4365. If you have any questions please call the Annual Conference Office at 847-429-4365.

## Adams County Property Updates

A team has been formed to negotiate the sale of part of our Adam's County property. This team is made up of five members or our District board and five members of the Friends of Woodland Altars. Legal counsel representing each group will also be a part of the team. These twelve people will meet with the Nature Conservancy to firm up details of the sale. These details will be presented for approval at a Special District Conference. The date and location of the Conference has not yet been determined. A blog page has been set up on our District website. If you have any concerns, suggestions, or comments please feel free to Click here join in the discussion.

#### Prayers for Nigerian Church and the Kidnapped Girls

Boko Haram have escalated not only their attacks, but have now gone beyond Nigerian borders to neighboring countries. More kidnappings are reported along with many killings. There are reports of several cities being taken by Boko Haram, some of these reports indicate that the Nigerian military has pushed back. Donations are still being accepted for the Nigeria Crisis Fund which will be matched by an amount set aside by the Mission and Ministry Board of the Church of the Brethren. Click here to donate online, or make out a check to Emergency Disaster Fund, noting Nigeria Crisis Fund in the memo line. Mail the check to: Emergency Disaster Fund Church of the Brethren, 1451 Dundee Avenue, Elgin, IL 60120.

#### **Oakland Dinner Theatre**

The Oakland Church of the Brethren, 8058 Horatio-Harris Creek Road, Bradford(2 and a half miles north of Gettysburg, Ohio) will be presenting When Bullfrogs Sing Opera March 6, 7, 13, and 14 at 6:00 pm.

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.

#### **Disaster Ministry Updates**

*Volunteers Needed: Crew of 26 for March--*Brethren Disaster Ministries continues to work in New Jersey with Superstorm Sandy recovery. It's over two years now since the disaster, and many are still in need of housing. January 11-17 we sent a crew of eight volunteers, and we have a crew of twenty-six ready to go February 15-21. We now need volunteers for March 15-21 and May 24-30. There is much to be done with the Sept. 1 deadline for completion of twelve houses in Toms River. To meet this need, a second house has opened for lodging volunteers, and our crew size is now increased to twenty-six. We need many workers! There is no monetary cost to the volunteers who serve. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Burton Wolf at 937-287-5902 or click here to email. Please consider this opportunity and share it with others.

The **2015 BDM schedule**, which is formatted so it can be used as a bulletin insert is available on the website. Please share this with your congregation.

Sewing Bee and Assembly of School Kits--The next Sewing Bee is scheduled for Saturday, March 7 at 9:00 AM 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 baby gowns. We'll also be assembling School Kits, using the bags that have already been sewn. Come join in a time of fellowship and service. Lunch will be served.

### **Camping and Retreat Commission Updates**

--*The Winter Youth Adventure* that was scheduled in January was canceled due to low enrollment. Jon Keller still wants to have this event next year. We have reserved Camp Willson for the Presidents' Day weekend in 2016, hoping it will be a better time for high school students to take time for some fun in the snow and reflect on their faith journeys with Jon's leadership. The CRC will be addressing the issue of cost for the event. We are looking into some new and creative ways to help fund events that build our community of faith and make it affordable to families.

--Look for a new Save-the-Date card announcing the CRC events for 2015. --2015 Camps have been set. Registration will open February 15. Applications will be on the web site. Hard copies will be sent to all churches for distribution. --There is a great need for volunteers in many areas of the camping program. We need counselors for all the camps. Since we do all our own cooking and baking, we need people to help with preparation and cleanup during the camp sessions. Talented people who like crafts, story telling, Bible study, nature talks, sports, are always great assets to the camping experience. If anyone has some time this summer to volunteer, we need you! Contact Karen Dillon by phone, letter, email or even in person if you are interested.

--*Please keep Charlene Foster in your prayers* as she recovers from heart surgery. She is doing well, but appreciates our support. She loves camp and plans to be a part of the 2015 camping season.

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.