

Working Together . . .  
Empowering Disciples



March, 2022

### National Youth Conference Grants Available

Every 4 years, Church of the Brethren youth from all over the world gather at Ft. Collins, Colorado for National Youth Conference. 2022 is the year!! Many of you are already busy holding fundraisers and making plans attend. The Resource Development Commission and the District Board want to assist you. They have made a \$500 grant available for any youth or adult advisor from this district who is attending.

More information, including how to apply can be found on the District Website. More information about NYC including how to register can be found at [www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org). Early registration ends April 1, 2022. After that date, registrations will have an extra \$50 late fee.

Updates can also be found on the NYC Facebook page.

### Upcoming Book Study: *Me and White Supremacy* by Layla F. Saad

The Southern Ohio and Kentucky District Racial Justice Team is inviting congregations and/or individuals to a **six-week** book study using the book *Me and White Supremacy* by Layla F. Saad.

This book invites participants to explore in depth their own racial conditioning through reading and responding to reflective journaling prompts. In addition to the journal reflections, facilitators across the district will be hosting weekly discussion groups where participants can reflect and discuss the week's reading. The study promises to be challenging as participants take a hard look at the ways in which white privilege, that is embedded in our institutions, affects each of us. Layla's invitation is for us to "Create the change the world needs by creating change within yourself."

#### Online Zoom Group

Group Facilitator: Bruce Rosenberger

Start Date: Thursday, March 10th

Meeting Time: Thursday mornings 10:00 am

#### In-Person Group

Group Facilitator: Jon Keller

Starting Date: Tuesday, March 8th

Meeting Time: Tuesday evenings 6:45 -7:45 PM

Meeting Location: Troy Church of the Brethren

If you would like to join a group, we encourage you to purchase a copy of the book: *Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor* by Layla Saad. To sign up to join one of the groups above, please email Jon Keller at: [jon.keller82@gmail.com](mailto:jon.keller82@gmail.com).

The District Racial Justice Team also has facilitators who are willing to come to your church to lead a group to study and process this book. If you would like to invite a facilitator to come to your church please email Jon Keller at: [jon.keller82@gmail.com](mailto:jon.keller82@gmail.com).

## Southern Ohio/Kentucky Disaster Ministries Updates

**BDM Rebuilding Opportunities** – BDM is working in Bayboro, NC through April with recovery from Hurricane Florence (Sept. 2018). A new site will open in May, and volunteers are needed for May 15-21 and July 17-23. The location hasn't been announced, but will likely be in Tennessee. To volunteer, contact Burt Wolf at SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com or call/text 937-287-5902. A flyer containing all the 2022 trip dates can be found on the district website.

**Volunteer in Dayton, OH** – Work will continue in Dayton on "Tornado Survivors Pathways to Home Ownership" houses. The work is with a partner of Brethren Disaster Ministries, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Their disaster response group is called "Week of Compassion." Due to Covid, the starting date has been delayed repeatedly. It is currently scheduled to begin on March 6. More information, including how to register, can be found on the district website.

**CWS Goals** – Based on the needs of Church World Service (CWS), S. Ohio/KY BDM has set goals for our 2022 response. We plan to assemble 528 Emergency Cleanup Buckets, 1,000 Hygiene Kits, and 2,500 School Kits.

**Sewing Bee/Prep CWS Items** – A Sewing Bee/CWS Prep will be held on Sat., March 26 at 9:00 AM. Come to Greenville COB, 421 Central Avenue. Sewers need to bring a sewing machine for making bags for CWS school kits. Non-sewers will prepare items for school kits and clean-up buckets. All are invited to bring a sack lunch. Contact Barb Brower (937-336-2442) for more information. The 2022 sewing bee schedule can be found on the district website.

*For more information on what is happening in Southern Ohio as well as more details on these events contact your church office, email the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District ([sodcob@brethren.org](mailto:sodcob@brethren.org)) or visit our website: [www.sodcob.org](http://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](mailto:sodcob@brethren.org) **before the 15th of the month.***