

Working Together . . .
Empowering Disciples



May, 2022

Mark Your Calendars:

The Southern Ohio/Kentucky District conference will be held on October 7 & 8, 2022. We look forward to an *in person* conference. The location is yet to be determined. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

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.

Lower Miami Refugee Asylum Update

The Lower Miami Congregation is assisting two refugee families. Luciano and Karen have arrived in the states and are assimilating into the Lower Miami church family. Luciano is ready and willing to make flan and offer an 8x8 pan for a suggested donation of \$20. All proceeds go to support the asylum project, helping to pay the family's legal expenses and some daily needs.

Jose and Karen, and their sons, (the second family) have been in survival mode in Tijuana since last November regularly express their thanks for the bit of help we have been able to give so they can have secure housing. Lower Miami awaits the family's decision about their next steps. In the meantime, they remain committed to accompanying them as best we can from this distance.

Please consider helping to support these two families who cannot safely return to their home countries. You can most easily contribute financially through the MVIC at <https://www.mvicdayton.org>. Click on the Donate button and designate your contribution to asylum/sanctuary. If you have questions, contact Gale Stephenson at scrapper042002@yahoo.com. If you or your congregation would like to know more about Lower Miami's asylum project or how you might accompany asylum seekers, contact Jan Futrell at peacepathsteps@gmail.com or 859-358-8152.

Trotwood CoB Offers Scholarships to College Students

The Trotwood Church has five scholarships for college students. You can learn more details and ask for an application form by calling the church office, Tuesday thru Friday, from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. The amount of each scholarship will be determined by the number of applications, the resources available and the guidelines of each contributor. Office number- 937-837-6604.

Annual Conference Quilt Block

If your congregation has created a quilt block for the 2022 Annual Conference Quilts, you are invited to please share a photo and a brief story about its creation. Send the information to Sharon Bledsoe at sbb212@hotmail.com.

Camp Sugarwood 2022 Spring and Summer Events

SOK District Camping and Retreat Ministries have planned some exciting events and summer camps that will engage people of all ages. More information about these opportunities can be found on the district website, or by contacting your Camp Ambassador or the church office. **Volunteers are a vital part of the ministry.** Information about signing up to volunteer in an area of interest can also be found on the district website. **Scholarships are available for all camps.** For more information about how to receive a scholarship, contact Karen Dillon.

Southern Ohio/Kentucky Disaster Ministries Updates

Hygiene Kit Assembly – Volunteers are needed on Thursday, May 12 at 6:30 PM to assemble 1,000 hygiene kits for Church World Service (CWS). Come to Mill Ridge Village Community Center, 1000 Mill Ridge Circle, Union. There will be a variety of work – from jobs that are done while seated to carrying and loading boxes of kits.

Sewing Bee/Prep CWS Items – A Sewing Bee/CWS Prep will be held on Sat., May 28 at 9:00 AM at Greenville Church of the Brethren, 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 cleanup buckets. All are invited to bring a sack lunch. Contact Barb Brower (937-336-2442) for more information.

BDM Rebuild Sites/ Volunteers – BDM has completed work in Bayboro, NC with repairs on forty-nine homes that were damaged by Hurricane Florence in 2018. Waverly, TN is the location of the new BDM site. Volunteers are needed for May 15-21, July 17-23, and Sept. 4-10. Waverly, TN. Transportation, housing, food, and tools are provided. To volunteer, contact Burt Wolf at SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com or call/text 937-287-5902.

Volunteer in Dayton, OH – Work continues in Dayton on "Tornado Survivors Pathways to Home Ownership" houses. Volunteers are needed throughout May. The preference is for volunteers to work Monday - Friday, but working partial weeks is possible too. 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." Visit our website to learn more and for registration information.

*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) or 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.***