

June, 2022
Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Newsletter
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Mark your Calendars:

The 2022 Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Conference will be held on October 7 & 8, 2022. The theme will be "Celebrate God's Abundant Goodness". We look forward to an in-person conference and to celebrating all the ways God has been abundantly good to us in Southern Ohio/Kentucky District. Location is undetermined at this time. More information will be shared in upcoming weeks and months.

Micah 6:8 Community: An Invitation to Participate

Your Resource Development Commission would like to invite you to join a new community within the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District. The Micah 6:8 Community (formerly the Ambassador's Club) believes in the message and mission of the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District of the Church of the Brethren and is willing to support this mission financially.

If you have supported our mission in the past, we can't thank you enough. It is only through your generous donations that our ministry continues. Or possibly you have not contributed financially in the past, but have given of your time and talent. Thank you for that very precious gift. Would you now consider making a financial contribution? Your gift of any amount will undergird and enhance the ministry we do together, unleash the power and creativity of God's Holy Spirit in district and congregational ministries, and empower us to respond to God's call to radical discipleship informed by our Brethren heritage.

If you are feeling a call to be a part of the SOKD Micah 6:8 Community, you can mail your donation to the district mailing address at P O Box 785, Greenville, OH 45331. Or you can make a donation online using your credit card.

Camp Sugarwood 2022 Sunday Picnics

Sunday Picnics were popular and well attended last summer. There will be two more Sunday afternoon picnics in June and July. We have the opportunity to just be together to enjoy games, activities, and time of friendly conversations at Salem Church of the Brethren's park-like setting with its ballfield, playground, and picnic shelter. A free, light supper will be provided. Our evening will end after a vesper service and an ice cream bar. The posters give a lot more details, so please place them where people can read all about the picnics. A poster which can be used to advertise or invite can be downloaded on the district website, or inquire at your church office.

Gifts Discernment Commission needs your help

Each year your Gifts Discernment Commission seeks to fill leadership positions within our District. This requires a lot of prayer and discernment as well as a knowledge of folks within the district. They are aware that all of you may know someone who God may be calling to use their gifts for our benefit. If you would like to help the Gifts Discernment Commission with this task, please go to the district website and download the nomination form you will find there. Complete the form and return it to the district office. Your help will be very much appreciated.



Prince of Peace VBS

Vacation Bible School at Prince of Peace Church of the Brethren is so big this year it's "**Monumental**" join us on:

Date: June 20—June 23

Time: 5:45pm to 8:35pm

Children ages Pre-K to Grade 5 are welcome.

Register your child up at www.popcob.org

Is there anything better than exploring God's greatness?

Go off-road for a Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the southwest. By exploring God's awesomeness, kids form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead.

Free Dinner/Snack for all kids and adults that participate

Participants and parents are encouraged to use door #5 at Prince of Peace Church of the Brethren, 800 East David Road, Kettering, OH 45429.

Southern Ohio/Kentucky Disaster Ministries Updates

Children's Disaster Services – Two S. Ohio/KY Children's Disaster Services (CDS) volunteers are part of the six-member team working in Uvalde, Texas, where they have set up a childcare center in the Family Assistance Center. They will provide specialized assistance to children and families impacted by the shooting. These volunteers are experienced and specially trained for critical responses that involve the loss of lives.

BDM Rebuild Sites/ Volunteers – Brethren Disaster Ministries (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. The recovery is from flash flooding that occurred in August 2021. Along with rebuilding, there is still cleanup that needs to be done.

Join a BDM crew! Volunteers are needed for July 17-23, and Sept. 4-10 in Waverly, TN. Transportation, housing, food, and tools are provided. To volunteer, contact Burt Wolf at SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com or call/text 937-287-5902. All the 2022 trip dates are posted on the district website.

Sewing Bee/Prep CWS Items – A Sewing Bee/CWS Prep will be held on Sat., June 25 at 9:00 AM. Come to Eaton Community Church, 813 Camden Road. Sewers need to bring a sewing machine for making bags for CWS school kits. Non-sewers will prepare items for school kits. All are invited to bring a sack lunch. Contact Barb Brower (937-336-2442) for more information. The 2022 schedule is available on the district website.

Garage Sale – Oakland Church of the Brethren is having a garage sale to benefit S. Ohio/KY BDM. It will start on Wednesday, June 29, 5:00 - 8:00 PM. Hours on Thursday, June 30 are 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM. The sale concludes on Friday, July 1, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Mark your calendar!

Ice Cream Social – The BDM Ice Cream Social will be held on Saturday, August 6, 4:00 – 7:00 PM at Happy Corner Church of the Brethren. Plan to come to this annual fundraiser for supper, pie, ice cream, and fellowship! All proceeds support S. Ohio/KY BDM as we help disaster survivors through rebuilding homes and with Church World Service kits.

Prayer Needs

A very important way we can be supportive of each other is to lift each other up in prayer. The 2021 Prayer List for Congregations can be found on the District website.

-For the people in Ukraine living in fear, for the families who have lost loved ones, and for ~~those who have~~ →

been displaced because of the invasion.

- Gene Kraus from the Covington congregation passed away in a home accident.
- Families in Uvalde, TX and others around the world who are mourning loss of lives due to gun violence
- Pastor Lee Saylor, Thomas and Isaac and the Salem congregation in prayer for the death of Ashley Saylor.
- Ken Oren and family as Ken has begun treatment for leukemia.
- Scott Fitzgerald (district treasurer), death of mother
- Carrie Smith—death of father just 2 months after death of mother
- Melissa Johnson-rejection of organ transplants
- Graham and Carla, homeowners in NC that BDM recently helped. Carla fell and broke her neck--in trauma unit.
- Mark Ashworth family and the Beech Grove Congregation—death of Mark.
- We are thankful that COVID cases are coming down and pray that it will continue. Please be aware of the changing mask requirements in different settings. Brethren Retirement Community continues to experience nearly daily changes. If you plan on visiting at BRC, please make sure that you will be able to do so. In addition, many businesses including healthcare are experiencing worker shortages; we need to lift up the employment situation in our world.
- May we remember those congregations in pastoral transition:
 - **Oakland**--Andrew Wright, interim
 - **Brookville**--Mike Trott begins serving
 - **White Cottage** continues their agreement with a neighboring congregation to supply pastoral services during a time of transition and discernment.
 - **New Carlisle**--Tara Hornbacker, interim
 - **Prince of Peace**-- John Sgro, interim
 - **Trotwood** -- Rusty Curling, interim
 - **Lower Miami**--Tracy Knechel Sturgis, interim
 - **Beavercreek** -- Sandy Jenkins, interim pastor
 - **Donnels Creek** -- Jim Chronister providing pulpit fill
 - **Pleasant Hill** -- Fred Bernhard, interim

- There are many issues and situations continuing to face us as we minister in our respective locations, including those who are serving in interim situations and others who are in discernment regarding placement or are considering a move. There are others facing health issues, please keep these situations in prayer.

Please contact Nick if you know of prayer situations of which we should be aware. May we lift each other in prayer as we work to continue the work of Jesus, peacefully, simply, together.