

**July, 2022**  
**Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Newsletter**  
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## **In Person District Conference will “Celebrate God’s Abundant Goodness”**

Your Program and Arrangements Commission has been actively planning the 2022 Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Conference. They are planning an in-person conference at the Happy Corner Church of the Brethren on October 7 & 8, 2022. The theme will be "Celebrate God's Abundant Goodness". The Trotwood, Good Shepherd, New Carlisle, and Lower Miami Congregations will assist Happy Corner by providing volunteer support.

This year's conference will be unique in many ways, one of which is that there will be a time on Friday afternoon when all will participate in a service project. Some of these projects will be onsite, and others will be at a different location. Once this list is finalized, you will be able to view it on the website, and choose which project you want to be involved in when you register for conference.

A second way we plan to unite to serve our communities is by a special offering of items needed for outreach projects within the various communities of the congregations who are helping with conference this year. A list of items we are asking for will be posted on the district website once it is finalized.

The Program and Arrangements Commission is looking at various other ways to celebrate God's Abundant Goodness such as an ice cream social after worship on Friday evening and sharing of many, many stories of God's Goodness. This conference promises to be fun and meaningful for everyone, not just for church leaders.

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. Registration will be open the end of July.

## **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 Family Picnics**

There will be one more Sunday afternoon picnic on July 31 beginning at 4 PM. 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.

## **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.

## **Southern Ohio/Kentucky Disaster Ministries Updates**

**Join a BDM crew!** – Volunteers are needed for July 17-23, and Sept. 4-10 in Waverly, TN. The recovery is from flash flooding in August 2021. In addition to rebuilding, there may be opportunities for cleanup. Transportation, housing, food, and tools are provided. To volunteer, contact Burt Wolf at SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com or call/text 937-287-5902.

**Sewing Bee/Prep CWS Items** – A Sewing Bee/CWS Prep will be held on Sat., July 23 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. All are invited to bring a sack lunch. Contact Barb Brower (937-336-2442) for more information.

**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, fellowship, and music! Donations of homemade pies are needed. If you are willing to make a pie, please call Paula Connerley (937-266-7171). All proceeds support S. Ohio/KY BDM as we help disaster survivors through rebuilding homes and with Church World Service kits.

**Golf Scramble** – The annual Golf Scramble will take place on Saturday, Aug. 20, at 8:00 AM at Beechwood Golf Course. Registration and hole sponsorships are due on Aug 14. A registration and/or sponsorship form are available on the district website, or ask in your church office. Contact Kevin Dull at montpres57@gmail.com or call/text 937-604-3285 with questions. Proceeds support S. Ohio/KY BDM and the Camping and Retreat Ministries of our district.

### **Upcoming Events:**

School Kit Assembly, Aug. 18, 6:30 PM, at Bullen Ultrasonics

Parking Fundraiser at Darke County Fair, Aug. 19 – Aug. 27, at Orthopedic Associates

(Volunteer to park cars, contact Burt Wolf, call/text 937-287-5902)

Cleanup Bucket Assembly, Sept. 22, 6:30 PM, at Bullen Ultrasonics

## ***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. —————→

- 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.

- May we remember those congregations in pastoral transition:

- **Greenville**— Pastor Ron Sherck resignation as of June 19
- **West Alexandria**—Pastor Brody Rike resignation as of May 15
- **Oakland**--Andrew Wright, interim
- **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.