

Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Board
July 18, 2020 @ 9:00AM
via Zoom Platform**

Welcome, Announcements, Tech Orientation

***How to Mute and Unmute**

***How to use the Chat Box**

***How to raise a hand and use reaction buttons.**

Becky Maurer reminded the board to be considering who this district will be offering as a nominee for the brotherhood open positions. She will be sharing the letter regarding this with the board.

Opening Devotion - Jennifer K. Scarr

Devotion was a liturgy for a purposeful gathering. "THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE"

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Agenda approved as presented

Minutes approved as presented

Brethren Retirement Community - John Warner

Carl: as of today, there are no confirmed cases of Covid-19 virus. On Monday Rosewood, the assisted living area, will have outdoor visitation. Ohio Department of Health, says that all nursing home residents must have Covid-19 testing again so this will be a nasal swab.

Staff Reports

District Executive - Dave Shetler

Dave has been on vacation and this is the first time he has not done a written report. Thanks again to the district for BBT. They were impressed with how we can assist in providing PPE. Helen and Burton Wolfe were able to provide this information to them.

There are 3 congregations which have some issues that Dave has been supporting and he asks the board to hold congregations in prayer. Dave reminded us that many of our congregations are in areas of Ohio which have been listed as "red and orange" with the ranking system for the virus.

Brookville is working with a pastoral candidate, but the pastor is hesitant to leave their current congregation. Eversole is beginning to put together a profile. New Carlisle has decided to put their search on hold during the pandemic.

Two districts have cancelled their district conference all together. Two other districts are holding virtual conferences. These will be prior to our conference in October.

Much work continues during this time even though face to face meetings are not happening. One pastor in the Shenandoah district contracted the Covid-19 virus and passed away. We will need to keep everyone in our prayers.

Communications - Mary Boone

Mary's written report is online. Major items that are keeping Mary busy include a virtual district conference registration process. The ordination review process is time consuming since only about half have sent in their documentation. The fall edition of Together is only in need of a few pictures so Mary is working on the spring edition. Mary has found the transition of the mailing list to the new computer program is more time consuming than she first anticipated.

Camping and Retreat - Karen Dillon

Online and virtual camping has been a steep learning opportunity for Karen. Karen has learned how savvy some kids are when they are online. There have been 30 sessions so far. She has been fascinated with how creative the presentation of the Bible study presentations has been. Karen found the gathering of materials and packing them into bags for distributions has taken more time than first anticipated. Then Karen had a team of individuals who drove bags to the participants. Some of the participants are from other states since it is a virtual camp, so those packets were mailed. The participants have seen each other enough now that they are talking among themselves.

Outcomes that were not anticipated have included friends from previous years who have now reconnected. Youth who are struggling with the isolation from friends but needed to have a platform to ask tough questions and to have conversation with peers have now had a way to connect again.

Karen marvels at the creativity of the team of volunteers that have made this virtual camping experience possible.

Karen is concerned that the faith education for younger children has not been as intentional as it was with face to face traditional Sunday School.

Camp Sugar Wood will be the name for the Southern Ohio Kentucky Church of the Brethren District. This will help in marketing of the camp!

District Mission Ambassador - Andrew and Debi Wright

Andrew and Debi physically took a thank you note to every pastor in the district and was able to spend time with them. They were struck with how positive pastors are during this pandemic and how they have had to shift the focus of their ministry. Next, they plan to visit with each of the retired ministers in the district. There are 17 retired pastors.

They are working on 7 videos about the ministry of the district that will be through YouTube. The goal is to increase the awareness of what the board does between district conferences.

Treasurer - Scott Fitzgerald

- The report is online. Current balance is a deficit of \$11,841.00.
- As of this report, income is \$230063.00 from congregations.
- Giving from individuals is up to about \$6000.00

-\$210095.00 for PPE allocation will all be spent.

-We have already transferred the funds from the interest gained from the investment accounts.

Morning Break - 10:30AM

Property Updates - Dave Shetler Bear Creek Property Update

Survey has been arranged and are in the progress get the title transferred into the name of the district
Mac Memorial Property Update

Property Updates Dave Shetler

Bear Creek Property: a survey has been arranged and Gary Crimm is in the process of getting the title transferred into the name of the district.

Mack Memorial Property: Dave indicated that the closing worship was Sunday, 07-13-2020. The congregation has agreed to continue to do the routine maintenance of the property at this point. Dave had contacted the Omega church which uses the parking lot but not yet responded.

Congregation Updates - Dave Shetler

Stoney Creek: no new information since pandemic began.

Tara Hornbacker continues at New Carlisle.

Nan Eurbaugh's husband passed away. We need to keep the family in our prayers.

Program and Arrangements - Sandy Jenkins

District conference will be totally online. Andrew Wright is heading the tech project. They are looking for a Zoom expert to assist. The Friday worship will be online also and will be prerecorded. During the day things will be online. Two sessions will offer CEUs on Friday and things will be online/Zoom on Saturday. Reports from commissions will be prerecorded ahead of time and the tech team will play them during the conference. The recordings must take place by the end of August.

Each delegate must register early, have their own email, and own device for voting purposes.

Commission Reports

Connections - Ron Mack, Board Contact (John Kinsel - Convener)

The commission has not met.

Resource and Development - Sarah Frederick, Board Contact (Glenn Timmons, Convener)

In the monthly meeting the commission hears the financial report, BDM report, and camping reports. The pandemic has impacted all aspects of the church. Many churches are using online giving. The commission is making available many of the stewardship resources for pastors. Projects for the commission include continuing the Stewardship education. An additional report sheet that helps non-financial people to better understand the financial situation. And they are working on a proposed budget. These items should be available in a recommendation for approval at the next board meeting. Since the shutdown, Glen has done a great deal of outside work. It is a reminder of the work that we all need to do in the district as well.

Shared Ministries - Ann Stackhouse, Chair

The commission has met a few times by Zoom. The young adult group has met once and are hoping to meet again soon. Childhood trauma workshop is being planned with John Kinsel involved. Local volunteers are being used for BDM project with no overnight requirements to date. BDM will meet to assemble Clean up Buckets 7/30/2020 in Eaton. Aug 8 they will be assembling school kits. Sewers have been busy doing masks and gowns for BRC. BDM fundraising is impacted greatly this year. They are then asking folks to donate funds

equivalent to what would have been donated at their traditional fund-raising projects.

Ministry - Tom Bowser, Chair

They have not met but they will be working on the approval for those licensed and approved. They need people to complete the forms and get them mailed soon. The office of ministry is organizing additional online trainings for ethics. We have been asked about hosting a session at the end of August.

Missional Renewal - Phil Dell, Chair

Meet via Zoom and are working toward a town hall on race relations. This is at the beginning stages at this point.

Task Team Updates

Refugee Resettlement

Climate Justice

Looking for an online meeting this fall and more information will be forthcoming.

“What the Church Might Look Like” Task Team

The group has not met but “church” looks quite different now than it did when the group was arranged.

Gifts Discernment - Carl Eubank

The callings are in process and will be ready by the end of August for the fall conference.

Discipleship and Reconciliation Team/Shalom Team Update - Jennifer K. Scarr

*no info since pandemic began

Guidelines and Recommendations for Resuming In-Person Church Gatherings

The recommendation is to reaffirm the last recommendation to the congregations by sending another communication and include information about the next town hall regarding the pandemic. (08132020)

New Business

A special meeting to review the budget proposals will be August 22

Next Meeting Date: September 19

Closing and Benediction

****We will take a 10 minute break at 10:30AM.**

****If needed, we will take a lunch break at 12:00PM and return at 1:30PM. **The meeting will conclude at 3:00PM, if not before.**

Thanks for the flexibility and understanding as we figure out how to continue our work as a board using this online platform!