

July, 2023
Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Newsletter
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2023 SOK District Conference

The 2023 Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Conference will be held October 6 & 7, 2023 at the West Charleston Church of the Brethren, 4817 St Rt 202, Tipp City, OH 45371. The theme will be :*"Grow with a growth that is of God."* Colossians 2:19. Nate Polzin will be our guest speaker for the worship service Friday evening. Jonathan Shively will present workshops for CEU opportunities. Your Program and Arrangements Commission continues making plans and will share them as soon as things are finalized.

Attn: SOKD Young Adults

The next district young adult event will be July 22nd and we will be visiting Kings Island. It will be an all day event. For additional details, please contact - Laura Sellers, 937-267-0965

Salem Church of the Brethren is seeking to employ a treasurer. Interested parties may contact the church office at 937-836-6145.

Brethren Disaster Ministries Updates

CDS Volunteers Serving – A Children's Disaster Services (CDS) team has been deployed to Guam. Two S. Ohio/KY workers are part of the six-member team. Guam was hit by a typhoon on May 24, the strongest storm to affect the island in 20 years. There was flooding and sustained winds of 140 miles per hour which destroyed and caused damage to homes and buildings. The team has set up a childcare center in a school that is serving as a shelter. This team is serving for three weeks, concluding on July 4. Another team of CDS workers are scheduled to continue the work. Please pray for the CDS workers and disaster survivors.

Volunteer Opportunities – As recovery continues in Dawson Springs, KY, there are openings for July 9-15, Sept. 10-16, and Oct. 8-14. BDM is working with Habitat for Humanity, building new houses to replace ones destroyed by the tornadoes of Dec. 2021.



Our Nov. 5-11 crew will be going to eastern KY. This is a second BDM site that will be open for ten weeks in the fall. The work will be recovery from the flooding of July 2022. The housing site will be in Campton with volunteers repairing damaged homes in Jackson. Volunteers are needed. Transportation, housing, meals, and tools are provided. Plan ahead and join a crew! Call/text Burt Wolf at 937-287-5902 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com. [Click Here](#) for a flyer with the 2023 trip schedule.

Sewing Bee/CWS Prep – On Saturday, July 22 at 9:00 AM, a Sewing Bee/Church World Service (CWS) Prep will be held at Eaton Community Church, 813 Camden Road. Sewers need to bring a sewing machine to make school bags for CWS. Non-sewers will prep items for school kits and hygiene kits. Bring a sack lunch and come for a time of service and fellowship. For more information contact Barb Brower at 937-336-2442. [Click Here](#) for a flyer with the 2023 schedule.

Ice Cream Social – On Saturday, August 5, 4:00 – 7:00 PM at Happy Corner COB will be the annual BDM Ice Cream Social Fundraiser. Come for supper, pie, and ice cream! In the sanctuary there will be musical entertainment. Share-A-Meal tickets will be on sale, and you can turn in and/or get a coin collection jar. All proceeds benefit the work of S. Ohio/KY BDM. Plan to attend and invite your friends!

Golf Scramble – It's time to register or to become a sponsor! On Saturday, August 19 the annual Golf Scramble will be held at Beechwood Golf Course. [Click Here](#) for an informational brochure with a registration form. [Click Here](#) for hole sponsorship information. This event is sponsored by the S. Ohio/KY District Camping and Retreat Ministries and BDM. Send all registration and sponsorship forms and money to Kevin Dull 554 Westbrook Rd., Brookville, OH 45309. For more information contact Kevin at (937-604-3285), montpres57@gmail.com.

Prayer Needs

A very important way we can be supportive of each other is to lift each other up in prayer. The 2023 Prayer List for Congregations can be found on the District website.

--Susan Liller, co-pastor at East Dayton Fellowship is recovering from surgery.

—Cathy Lutz, wife of Larry Lutz, pastor of Piqua Cob—broken shoulder

— Robert Jackson and fiancé, Christina— lost everything in house fire.

-For the victims and their families recovering from the never-ending cycle of gun violence.

-The Standing With People of Color Annual Conference study/action committee as they continue their important work.

-Andrew Wright is recovering well from his back surgery. The healing process is a slow one so continued prayers are appreciated.

-For Cleve Bowling who is on the pastoral team at Flat Creek/Mud Lick who has cancer in his throat and voice box and his health is continuing to decline.

-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.

- May we remember those congregations in pastoral transition - White Cottage contin-

ues their agreement with a neighboring congregation to supply pastoral services during a time of transition and discernment. Tara Hornbacker is serving as interim at New Carlisle. John Sgro is serving as interim pastor for the Prince of Peace congregation. Rusty Curling is serving as interim pastor at Trotwood. Tracy Knechel Sturgis is serving as interim pastor at Lower Miami. Sandy Jenkins is serving as interim pastor at Beavercreek. Jim Chronister is serving as interim pastor at Donnels Creek. Fred Bernhard is serving as interim pastor at Pleasant Hill. John Edwards is serving as the interim pastor at Trinity COB. Mark Bowman has retired from Eversole as of April 30. -Congratulations to Staci Peterson from the Cincinnati COB who has accepted a call to be the Pastor of the Cedar Lake COB in the Northern Indiana district beginning on June 1.

-Andrew Wright has transitioned from Interim Pastor to Coordinating Pastor for the Oakland congregation.

-Brent Driver will begin serving as interim pastor for the Eversole congregation on June 1.

- 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.