

*Working Together . . .  
Empowering Disciples*



*September, 2023*

## **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. We are grateful to our sisters and brothers at West Charleston for providing this space where we can gather. This year, we are reaching out to all of you for your help as this is a District event. Would you be willing to serve as an usher, set up or take down, serve meals, etc.

—CEU Opportunities. Jonathan Shively will help us take a look at the opportunities for growth presented in a post-pandemic church.

—Loyce Borgman from Eder Financial will be available during the conference for one on one appointments to envision retirement, whether for yourself or a family member. You can schedule your appointment on the district website.

—Nate Polzin will be our guest speaker for the worship service Friday evening. Moderator, Ty Pyles will lead a bible study around the conference theme.

—Reports, business items, a complete schedule and more can be found on the district website.

Both delegates and non-delegates must register using the form which is also found on the district website.

## **SOK District Conference Service Projects**

Your Program and Arrangements Committee is asking you to join in supporting the following two local ministries at this year's conference.

East Dayton Fellowship Ministry to homeless and others in need in Dayton, OH. We will be accepting donations of these items.

- Clothing-- all types of clothing. Right now they are in special need of kids clothes for ages 4-10 years old as well as teenagers.
- In the winter, they also need men's gloves (think big hands)
- Food--canned goods and non-perishables
- Other--household cleaners, blankets

We also invite you to support a ministry to the students of Antioch College supported by the West Charleston Church of the Brethren. Antioch College offers year round housing to students for whom returning home is impossible or unsafe. Although they do not yet know how many will remain on campus over winter break, there are typically around 15 students who remain on campus. This ministry provides care packages to these students. Items needed are: food (things like ramen, microwavable mac and cheese, fruit snacks,

crackers, chips, candy, etc) and gift cards (amazon, uber eats, grub hub, etc). Also, cute dorm room things (journals, pens, water bottles, etc). If there are items to be made, hats or scarves could be quilted, rice bags sewn, or art made. (Antioch is very much an art school!).

## **Disaster Ministry Updates**

**With Appreciation** – August was fundraising month for S. Ohio/KY BDM. Thank you to all who had a part in this! There were 310 people in attendance at the Ice Cream Social. The Golf Scramble that was held with Camping & Retreat Ministries had 22 ½ teams and 19 hole sponsors. The Darke County Fair parking at Orthopedic Associates had 29 workers. We are still finalizing the income from these events. Proceeds will support BDM's work with disaster survivors. We appreciate the support of the S. Ohio/KY District!

**CDS in Maui** - Children's Disaster Services (CDS) is responding to the wildfires in Hawaii. The team that left on Monday, August 14 includes one worker from the S. Ohio/KY District. This team has been called for a three-week deployment. Many of the survivors are now staying in motels. Therefore, the CDS team has set up a childcare center outside a motel in Lahaina. Please say a prayer for all the families impacted by these wildfires. Also pray for all the responders providing care, including the CDS volunteers.

**Rebuilding Opportunities** – Join a crew Sept. 10-16 and/or Oct. 8-14 going to Dawson Springs, KY for tornado recovery! Do you have time and a desire to serve? Construction leaders will teach needed skills. Tools, transportation, lodging, and meals are provided. To volunteer, call/text Burt Wolf at 937-287-5902.

**Sewing Bee/CWS Prep** – On Saturday, Sept. 23 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 CWS kits. Bring a sack lunch and come for a time of service and fellowship. For more information contact Barb Brower at 937-336-2442.

**Save the Dates:**

**Cleanup Bucket Assembly** – Thurs., Oct. 19, 6:30 PM, Bullen Ultrasonics, Eaton

**Appreciation Dinner** - Sat., Nov. 11, 6:00 PM, Brookville COB

*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](mailto:sodcob@brethren.org)) or visit our website: [www.sodcob.org](http://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](mailto:sodcob@brethren.org) **before the 15th of the month.***