

June, 2024  
Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Newsletter  
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*More information on Disaster Ministry and Camp Sugarwood including complete schedules, registration forms, etc can be found on the district website: [www.sodcob.org](http://www.sodcob.org).*

## **SOK District Seeking Vision**

Several years ago Southern Ohio/Kentucky District said farewell to our District Executive Dave Shetler. Dave's tenure was filled with many new ministries and he moved the District in a positive direction. As the District moved on from Dave and called Nick Beam, as interim DE, it was decided by the District Board that it was time for the District to begin a new visioning process. A visioning team was chosen and has been diligent in meeting and discussing the future of our District.

As part of the Visioning Committee's work it is extremely important to hear the voices of members across the District in hopes that a new vision will be birthed. Please find time to attend a session and have your voice heard.

A complete list of dates, times and locations when these sessions will be held can be found on the district website.

## **Second SOK District Pre-Conference Event: Breath from Jesus**

**June 15, 2024**

Start your Saturday by breathing in some fresh air among your district sisters and brothers at **Cricket Holler**, beginning with **8:30am Morning Watch**.

Nourish your soul with the sounds of nature and wind instruments, Lectio Divina, and breathing in the breath Jesus has for us.

Then come inside for breakfast sweets and beverages as our breathing blends into delicious harmonies.

**9-10am Recap from first event:** Breath from the Creator followed by a **bible study of John 20:19-22**.

**10-11am Explore the question:** *What message does Jesus want us to see and hear?* as we continue our sharing with questions 3 and 4 of the 7 Prompts for Crucial Christian Conversations.

Be sent knowing you are an instrument of God's peace.

**Join us July 14<sup>th</sup> for our third pre-conference event: Breath from the Sustainer**



## Camp Sugarwood Updates

### **Camp Sign Ups**

There is still plenty of time to sign up for Pieceful Quilt Camp. Registrations are due by July 1. Pieceful Quilt Camp is held at Bergamo Retreat Center August 6-9. Scholarships are available. If you have questions, please contact Carrie Drees at [cdrees23@gmail.com](mailto:cdrees23@gmail.com) or 937-564-7346.

### **District Picnic**

There will be a district picnic held at Salem Church of the Brethren on July 14 beginning at 4:00pm. There will be outdoor games available to play, woodfired pizza and homemade ice cream to eat, and a vespers service offered. Everyone is welcome to come fellowship. Please bring your own chair.

## Southern Ohio/Kentucky Disaster Ministries Updates

**Volunteer!** – July 7-13 volunteers are needed for rebuilding in Dawson Springs, KY. We have a driver, and they would like others to join them! This is an opportunity to fill open slots for BDM. With this site closing in mid-August, we need to get the work completed. Volunteers are also needed Sept. 8-14, going to a new site. It will likely be flood recovery in southeastern Kentucky. [Click here](#) for a flyer with the 2024 trip dates. Call/text Helen Wolf at 937-902-3475 or [SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com](mailto:SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com) to join a crew.

**Oakland Garage Sale Benefits BDM** – Donations are being accepted for the garage sale that supports S. Ohio/KY BDM. Do you have some items to donate? Small items may be brought Monday – Thursday from 9:00 – 1:30. Large items may be brought starting Monday, June 24. The garage sale will be on Wednesday, June 26, 5-8PM, Thursday, June 27, 9AM-6PM, and Friday, June 28, 9AM-4PM. Oakland COB is located at 8058 Horatio Harris Creek Rd., Bradford. Thank you for your support!

**Sewing Bee/CWS Prep** – On Saturday, June 22 there will be a Sewing Bee/CWS Prep at 9:00 AM. Come to Greenville COB, 421 Central Avenue. Sewers need to bring a sewing machine to make school bags for Church World Service (CWS). Non-sewers will prep items for school kits, hygiene kits, and cleanup buckets. All are invited to bring a sack lunch. [Click Here](#) for a flyer with the 2024 schedule.

**Ice Cream Social** – On Sat., August 3, the annual Ice Cream Social will be held at Happy Corner COB from 4:00-7:00 PM. Plan to come for supper, ice cream and pie, music, and to buy Share-A-Meal tickets. All proceeds will support the ministry of S. Ohio/KY BDM.

**Golf Scramble** – On Saturday, August 17 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), [mont-pres57@gmail.com](mailto:mont-pres57@gmail.com).

**Brethren Service Center Trip** – Join the Oct. 21-25 crew going to New Windsor, MD to work at the Brethren Service Center! Monday is travel in the BDM bus/van or on your own. Tuesday through Thursday is processing school and hygiene kits for Church World Service. Return is on Friday. Initially we're planning for a group of ten with others on the waiting list. The group size will be determined later based on the number of kits that need to be processed. Volunteers pay for their lodging, meals during travel, and suppers while at New Windsor. Lodging is at Best Western in West-



minster, MD. The trip leader is Tony Price, pastor of Cedar Grove COB. To sign up or for more information, contact Helen Wolf at 937-902-3475 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com.

### **Brethren Heritage Center Event**

The Brethren Heritage Center, in Brookville, OH is sponsoring *My Journey Among the Brethren: A Walk with Robert Matthews* on July 13, 2024. Robert Matthews is an Elder with the Old German Baptist Brethren serving in the Little Swatara District in Pennsylvania. The day will consist of three sessions for Robert to share personal reflections on Brethren History and his life story. A fourth session will provide a question and answer time. Doors will open at 8:30 am, the event will be from 9:00 am-4:00 pm. A simple lunch is included.

This event will be held at the Ahava Tree Activity Center located at 6185 N Diamond Mill Rd, Brookville, OH. The facility is handicap accessible with ample parking. The event is free and open to the public. If planning to come, please make contact so that we will know how many to prepare for. You may call 937-833-5222 on Monday, Wednesday, or Saturday between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm or you may call or text Karen Garrett at 937-533-6166. You may also email the heritage center at [mail@brethrenhc.org](mailto:mail@brethrenhc.org).

### **Prayer Needs**

A very important way we can be supportive of each other is to lift each other up in prayer. The 2024 Prayer List for Congregations is available on the district website.

- Gloria Landis - unexpected passing of her son Mike last Friday.
- Terrilyn Griffith and family--passing of her mother on Saturday, May 18.
- Cathy Lutz, the wife of Piqua Pastor Larry Lutz, still struggling with health issues.
- Joice Bernhard and family on Fred's passing on Tuesday, March 12.
- Amy Hager and husband Chris Combs -- back home -- Chris is improving and in a rehab facility in Dayton
- For the people who have lost homes and barns due to recent tornadoes.
- For the violence and war in the Middle East. May the God of peace prevail and lead those on both sides to ending the conflict.
- 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.
- For the people in Ukraine living in fear and 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** 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
- ◆ **Donnels Creek**-- Jim Chronister, Interim

- ◆ **Pleasant Hill**— Tom and Paula Bowser, Interim
- ◆ **Trinity**-- John Edwards, Interim
- ◆ **Eversole**-- Mark Bowman retired, April 30, 2023
- ◆ **Circleville**--Roger Crusier retired Dec. 31, 2023

- 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.