

July, 2024  
Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Newsletter  
Printable Version



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.

## SOK District Pre-Conference Event: Being Mindful of Spirit

Are you planning to go to the district picnic at Salem this year?

*When is it?*

**July 14, Sunday – Salem CoB, 6037 Phillipsburg Union Rd, Englewood, OH 45322**

*Great! That's just around the corner. Tell me more.*

The district is gathering for the annual picnic at Salem CoB, which is always a good time, but this year we are adding an intentional time to talk about how the Spirit is moving in our District.

*Why?*

Since our District Conference theme this year is *Breathing in the Beloved*, it is important to actually be among beloveds so we can breathe and sing and talk together. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> of 3 district gatherings before conference.

*What exactly are we going to do there together?*

At 2:45 we are going to start with some music. You can even join in the jam session if you'd like.

At 3:00pm, we will have a bible study on Romans 8:6 *...the mind ruled by the Spirit brings life and peace*, and follow that with Critical Christian Conversations prompts #5 where we will share in small and large groups about how we can stand with people of color of people or any who are different?

Then at 4pm is that great food we are all looking forward to.

*So, it is a bonus time together. I don't want to miss that.*

See you there.

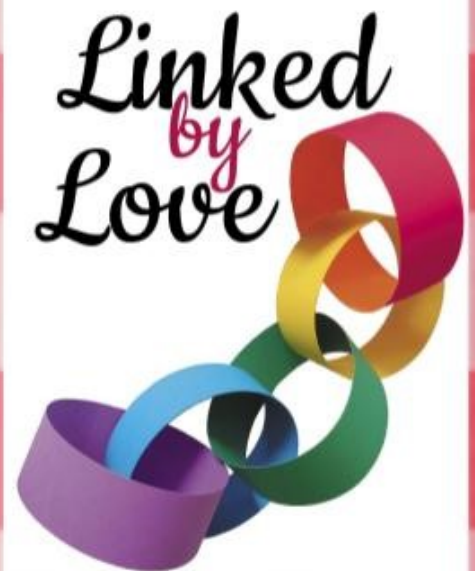


# Everyone's Invited! Sunday Afternoon District Picnic

*July 14, 4pm*

Salem Church of the Brethren  
6037 Phillipsburg-Union Rd.  
Englewood, OH

Fun  
Fellowship  
Food



RSVP by July 10 to Carrie Drees at  
[cdrees23@gmail.com](mailto:cdrees23@gmail.com) or 937-564-7346

Camping and Retreat Ministries Southern Ohio/Kentucky CoB

## **Disaster Ministries Updates**

**New BDM Site** - In September BDM will open a new rebuilding site in Letcher County, KY. Housing will be in Fleming-Neon as we serve families and individuals who were impacted by the deadly summer 2022 flooding. There we will work on new builds on higher ground properties, as well as repairs to other homes. Our work and volunteer housing partner will be HOMES Inc, a well-established non-profit that has been working on affordable housing in the area since the 1980s, when it was founded by Mennonite Central Committee.

**Rebuilding Volunteers Needed** – Three volunteers are needed Sept. 8-14 to go to Letcher County, KY. Transportation, housing, food, and tools will be provided. To join the crew call/text Helen Wolf at 937-902-3475 or [SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com](mailto:SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com). A flyer with the 2024 trip dates can be found on the district website.

**Sewing Bee/CWS Prep** – More sewers are needed for sewing school bags! Come to the Sewing Bee/CWS Prep at Eaton Community Church on Saturday, July 27 at 9:00 AM. The bags are already cut out, so sewers just need to bring their sewing machine. Non-sewers will prep items for school kits, hygiene kits, and cleanup buckets for Church World Service (CWS). All are invited to bring a sack lunch. A flyer with the 2024 schedule can be found on the district website.

**Share-A-Meal Hosts** – Help BDM by hosting a Share-A-Meal! Hosts choose the date, number of guests, and the menu for a meal at their home. At the upcoming Ice Cream Social, tickets will be sold for \$20 each. All enjoy fellowship and a delicious meal while supporting S. Ohio/KY BDM. A Share-A-Meal host form can be found on the district website or contact Paula Connerley at 937-266-7171 or [paula.connerley@icloud.com](mailto:paula.connerley@icloud.com). Registration forms are due July 1, 2024. For more information about Share-a-Meal [click here](#) and then scroll down to "BDM Share-A-Meal."

**Ice Cream Social** – On Saturday, August 3, 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** – On Saturday, August 17 the annual Golf Scramble will be held at Beechwood Golf Course. An informational brochure with a registration form and hole sponsorship information can be found on the district website. This event is sponsored by the S. Ohio/KY District Camping and Retreat Ministries and BDM. For more information contact Kevin Dull at 937-604-328), [mont-pres57@gmail.com](mailto:mont-pres57@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).

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## 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.
- 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.
- 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**--
- ◆ **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.