

March, 2026
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.

District Clerk needed!

As of December 31, 2025 the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Clerk will be an open position. The role of the clerk as stated in the District bylaws is: *"The clerk shall keep the minutes of District Conference and of Board Meetings, see that all notices are given according to these regulations or as required by law; have custody of the corporate records; keep a register of the post-office addresses of each member; in general perform all the duties incident to the office of secretary; and perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by District Conference."*

This position can be filled by either a man or woman. Would you, or someone you know, be able and willing to fill this vital position within District Leadership? Please contact Interim DE, Nick Beam (nbeam@brethren.org) or the Trent Smith, District Board Chair (pastortrent@happycornerchurch.org) for more information.

2026 National Youth Conference Information

Held every four years, NYC provides young people in high school and the first year of college (or age equivalent) and their advisors to gather for a week of fellowship, worship, workshops, recreation and more. And 2026 is the year! NYC will be held July 18-23 at Estes Park in Colorado. Registration is now open. Earlybird registration ends Feb. 28. Southern Ohio/Kentucky District is offering a \$1000.00 grant for each young person and each advisor to help offset expenses. More information and a grant application can be found on the district website.

Camp Sugarwood Updates

Camp Ambassador Meeting

Camp Ambassadors' Meeting will be March 1, 3:00-4:30 at Salem Church of the Brethren. Ambassadors and anyone who would like to know what is planned for this summer is invited to this event. Come experience a tiny piece of camp as we have devotions, singing, snacks, games, and lots of fellowship.

Women's Mini Retreat

Learning and Sharing in Community —“Awareness of God's Blessings”

April 18, 2026 8:30am-12pm

Study, Fellowship, Worship at Trotwood Church of the Brethren, 208 E. Main St., Trotwood, OH
Flyer and registration form can be found on the district website.



Amazon WishList

New items have been added to the Camp Sugarwood Amazon wishlist. https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/17UUZ989BSJ4D?ref=wl_share

Summer is Coming! Plan to join the fun at Camp Sugarwood!

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!!! You can find flyers for all camps and registration forms online or ask your Camp Ambassador or Church office.

April 18 Women's Mini-Retreat @ Trotwood CoB

June 3 Camp Setup Cricket Holler

June 5-6 Buddy Camp (preschool-2nd grade with adult buddy)

June 7 District Picnic

June 8-11 Sewing and Crafting Day Camp (6th grade through Adult)

June 12-14 Level Up and Join the Party! Game Camp (7th-12th grades)

June 14-16 Exploration Crew Camp (2nd through 4th grade)

June 14-20 Pathfinders Camp (3rd through 6th grade)

June 14-20 Trailblazers Camp (7th through 12th grade)

June 22-24 Adult Vacation Bible School

July 5-11 Intergenerational BDM Trip (14yr old with parent, 15 yr old and up)

July 18-23 National Youth Conference Estes Park, CO (9th-12 grade)

August 4-7 Pieceful Quilt Camp

October 2-3 Women's Retreat

November 6-8 Fall Family Gathering

A New Way to Support Camping and Retreat Ministries

Buy Gift Cards through Raise Right. Turn your everyday expenses into support.

Simply buy gift cards and shop online through CRM's RaiseRight Program and brands will automatically give up to 20% back to help pay for Camping and Retreat Ministries programs like Winter Blast. Use gift cards to pay for everyday things like groceries, gas, clothing, coffee, or dining out. Whether you're at home or on the go RaiseRight gives you the flexibility with eGift cards, reloadable cards, and a mobile app. Help CRM any time, anywhere.

Download the app or use your computer. Enter this enrollment code: MG2V7Y2G92N at www.raiseright.com. For questions or help, contact Carrie, cdrees23@gmail.com

National Youth Conference Support

NYC is July 18-23 at YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, CO. It is for youth who have completed 9th grade through 1 year of college. It is a week of worship, workshops, service projects, and recreation nestled in the Rocky Mountains. Early Bird Registration ends February 28. To help with costs, the District has up to \$1000 grants available for all who attend. The application is available on sod-cob.org.

Brethren Disaster Ministry Updates

Rebuilding Trips – Volunteers are needed May 10-16 and possibly April 12-18. BDM is talking with partners and hopes to move the BDM site the end of March from Letcher County, KY. The next site will likely be Hurricane Helene recovery in NC, but plans are not finalized. [Click here](#) for a flyer with all the 2026 trip dates. Call/text Helen Wolf at 937-902-3475 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com to join a crew.



Intergenerational BDM Trip – July 5-11 is a BDM trip for adults and youth. It's an opportunity for grandparents/youth (15 yrs. +), parents/youth (14 yrs.+) to work together rebuilding homes for disaster survivors. [Click here](#) for the two-page flyer with additional information. Call/text Helen Wolf at 937-902-3475 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com to register.

Opportunity in Louisiana – A team of volunteers is being organized to serve in Pointe-au-Chien, LA from April 7-28 to rebuild a home destroyed by Hurricane Ida (2021). BDM will finish a house that will already be framed and closed in. This is in an Indigenous fishing/shrimping community on the Gulf with an enclosed waterway for the shrimp boats, surrounded by a 16-foot dike, with houses on 12-foot pilings. Those who are interested or who may have questions, contact **Cliff Kindy** – kindy@cpt.org or home phone: 260-982-2971. Also, please let Helen Wolf know of your interest, so transportation can be coordinated with others from our district.

Sewing Bee/CWS Prep – On March 28 there will be a Sewing Bee at 9:00 AM at Eaton Community Church, 813 Camden Road. Volunteers will sew school bags for Church World Service (CWS) kids kits, formerly called school kits. Please bring your sewing machine and an extension cord. Non-sewers will prep items for kids kits and cleanup buckets. Everyone is invited to bring a sack lunch. [Click here](#) for a flyer with the 2026 schedule.

Trotwood CoB Offers Scholarships for College Students

The Trotwood Church of the Brethren has five scholarships for college students. For more details and to ask for an application form, please email the church at office@trotwoodcob.com or call 937-837-6604 to leave a message. The amount of each scholarship will be determined by the number of applications, the resources available and the guidelines of each contributor. Application deadline is April 1, 2026.

Lower Miami is raising urgently needed legal aid funds for an immigrant church family whose asylum hearing is scheduled for April. Join us Saturday, March 21st between 4-7 pm for an evening of soup supper, music, and games for the whole family.

This event will be held at Happy Corner CoB which is graciously giving use of their kitchen and gym space. \$10 at the door with further donations appreciated. Dinner will be served between 4:30-6:30 pm, with multiple soups and sides available to accommodate a variety of dietary needs.

If you would like to donate, but cannot attend, **please send a check** to Lower Miami CoB, 5353 Germantown Rd, Dayton, OH 45417 Attn: "Legal Aid Fund".

Prayer Needs . . .

A very important way we can be supportive of each other is to lift each other up in prayer. 2026 Prayer List for Congregations can be found on the district website.

- Pray for the District Staff and Pleasant Hill, Covington, Happy Corner Congregation and for Brethren churches around the world.
- Larry Lutz--dealing with a lot of pain. Having trouble getting around
- Beaver Creek congregation is looking to begin a youth program. We are looking for any assistance and /or participation to "jump start this program. If you are interested in starting a youth program and wish to help us, please send your interest to Pastor Sandra Jenkins email: jmozart40@aol.com.
- For Dave and Bettina Balmer as Dave's dad Vernon Balmer is in a Lebanon, PA hospital for congestive heart failure. His heart, liver, and kidneys are not working well at all.
- For the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine
- May we remember those congregations in pastoral transition -
- New Carlisle**--Tara Hornbacker, Interim.
- Prince of Peace**--John Sgro, Interim.
- Harris Creek**--Pastor Phil Dell retired
- Eversole**--Brent Driver, Interim
- Circleville**--Open position
- Good Shepherd**--Dennis Delk, Interim

- 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.