

THE NORTHERN OHIO DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



Conference Agenda

2022 District Conference

The 58th Conference of the Northern Ohio District
Poplar Ridge Church of the Brethren – Defiance, Ohio

August 12-13, 2022

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Northern Ohio District Conference Schedule

2022 Northern Ohio District Conference Schedule

Friday Schedule

11:00 a.m.	Exhibit & Peace Auction Set-up Begins
12:00 p.m.	Registration Begins
1:00 – 4:30 p.m.	Pre-Conference Workshop, “Jesus’ Call for Unity - We the Church” Presented by David Sollenberger (Fellowship Hall)
5:00 p.m.	Dinner (in Fellowship Hall)
6:30 p.m.	Opening Worship (in Sanctuary), Speaker: Brian Layman, Moderator
8:00 p.m.	Ice Cream Social (in Fellowship Hall)

Saturday Schedule

8:00 a.m.	Worship Service (in Fellowship Hall)
8:30 – 11:45 a.m.	Business Session (in Fellowship Hall)
12:00 p.m.	Lunch (in Fellowship Hall)
1:15 – 2:15 p.m.	Insight Sessions (1) Dave Sollenberger, "Annual Conference: Where Do We Go from Here?" (2) Basic Financial Procedures for Churches, Stewardship & Finance Commission (3) Inspiration Hills Camp, “What’s Happening at Camp”
2:30 – 3:45 p.m.	Business Session (in Fellowship Hall)
4:00 -5:00 p.m.	Insight Sessions (1) Dave Sollenberger, "Annual Conference: Where Do We Go from Here?" (2) Websites and Social Networking for Churches, Connections Commission (3) Calling the Called, Ministerial Commission
5:15 p.m.	Worship Service (in Sanctuary), Guest Speaker: Dave Sollenberger Installation of Moderator
6:30 p.m.	Dinner (in Fellowship Hall)
6:30 p.m.	Reorganization of the Board (For newly-elected and continuing board members)

Childcare (toddlers and preschoolers) is available during the Pre-Conference Workshop, Worship Services, Business Sessions and Insight Sessions, located in the Childcare area. Childcare coordinated by Poplar Ridge Church of the Brethren.

Children’s Activities (K-5th grade) are provided by Poplar Ridge CoB during Insight and Business Sessions.

Jr. & Sr. High Activities are provided by Cody Etter, Dupont CoB. Youth registration begins at 4:00 p.m. Friday and activities continue overnight through Saturday evening.

Conference Activities Room Assignments

Business Sessions (Saturday) Fellowship Hall

Worship Services (Friday at 6:30 p.m. / Saturday at 5:30 p.m.) Sanctuary

Worship Service (Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m.) Fellowship Hall

Meals Fellowship Hall

Age Group Activities

Nursery Care during Business & Worship Nursery

Child Care: Preschoolers during Business, Pre-Conference, & Worship Childcare Space

Children's Activities Grades K-5 (Saturday) Preschool

Jr. & Sr. High Activities See Jr. & Sr. High Schedule

District Board Reorganization (Saturday) Youth Room

Exhibits (Friday – Saturday) Narthex

Ice Cream Social (Friday) Fellowship Hall

Insight Sessions

Saturday Early Afternoon 1:15-2:15

Annual Conference: Where Do We Go from Here Fellowship Hall

David Sollenberger (this session will be repeated at 4:00)

Inspiration Hills: What's Next?" Youth Room

Basic Financial Procedures for Churches Sanctuary

Stewardship & Finance Commission

Saturday Afternoon 4:00-5:00

Annual Conference: Where Do We Go from Here Fellowship Hall
(this is a repeat of the 1:15 session)

Websites and Social Networking for Churches Sanctuary
Connections Commission

Calling the Called – Ministerial Commission Youth Room

Peace Auction (Friday & Saturday) Fellowship Hall

Pre-Conference Workshop (Friday): Jesus' Call for Unity – We the Church Fellowship Hall
David Sollenberger

Registration/Information Desk Narthex

Worship Services Sanctuary

Poplar Ridge Phone Number 419-497-3311




Message from the Moderator



Brian Layman, Pastor Ashland First Church
of the Brethren

Hebrews 10:24 offers a challenge to the church: "Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works." It's a challenge that we the Church are meant to meet mutually - together. The word Allelon (Al-lay-lone) is the Greek word that is translated as "one another". Literally, it is another plural word for "YOU", but adds direction and action to its meaning. It says, "All of you are supposed to [this] mutually towards each other". The New Testament is full of Allelon instructions. There are a hundred of them spread throughout the New Testament telling us what it takes to be the Church to one another, mutually, together. This upcoming conference will embrace these themes. We will look at times that we have successfully worked mutually and stirred up one another to love and good works and how we can rise up to that challenge in this time when not just our churches, but the world has gone through a time of upheaval.

Special Offerings and Service Project

		
<p>Inspired by Jesus, Brethren Disaster Ministries focuses on rebuilding homes, caring for children, and providing international relief by engaging our volunteers, supporters, and partners to serve communities recovering from disaster. Your offering will go to help current needs in Ukraine, Haiti, Nigeria, as well as disaster sites in the United States.</p>	<p>Church World Service Hygiene kits help people all over the world in times of disasters. Your offerings will help with the shipping costs of the kits (\$2/kit) brought to conference, and if more is raised than needed for shipping it will be used to purchase more kits to send.</p>	<p>District Conference expenses The District Conference Central Committee works to be frugal while providing a meaningful time of worship, business, and fellowship. The registration cost is low so there will be no financial barrier to those that want to attend – but that means this this offering is needed to supplement registration to help cover the costs of printing, speaker travel/honorariums, etc...</p>

During our 2021 District Conference at Springfield Church last summer, we had many positive comments about using offering boxes instead of collecting money during the worship service. So we decided to repeat that this year. There will be a box for each of our special offerings this year listed above outside of the sanctuary.

Worship Times, Moderator & Guest Speaker

Friday Evening Worship – 6:30 p.m.

**Speaker: Pastor Brian Layman,
District Conference Moderator**



Brian Layman is the Pastor of the Ashland First Church of the Brethren in the city. Serving part time as Pastor, he has run his own Website Consultation

business since 2009. Brian attended the Buckeye Brethren Institute and has been active in local and District Church of the Brethren boards for many years. He and his wife Denise have been married for 29 years. They have four kids, Jaxom, Azia, Julian and Caleb. Each attend a different local college or university, essentially making their home a college dorm.

Saturday Evening Worship – 5:30 pm

**Guest Speaker: David Sollenberger,
2022 Annual Conference Moderator**



David Sollenberger has been a speaker at National Young Adult Conference and National Youth Conference and looks forward to more opportunities to share his thoughts as

Moderator. He is eager to advocate for the many ministries which he's interpreted – both service-oriented ones (e.g., Office of Peacebuilding and Policy, BVS, Brethren Disaster Ministries) and more evangelical ones (e.g., Passing on the Promise, New Life Ministries, Church Planting and Revitalization) and has rarely met a Brethren-related cause which he doesn't appreciate. Ministry interpretation has allowed him to visit Brethren in places such as Nigeria, South Sudan, Brazil, Dominican Republic, India, and Mexico.

David maintains membership at the small, informal Mt. Wilson congregation in Pennsylvania, but has taught the Jr. High Sunday School class since 2009 at the Manchester congregation in North Manchester, Indiana, where he and Mary live part time, so Mary can work as a CNA at the Timbercrest Retirement Community, where her mother resides.

David and Mary thoroughly enjoy hanging out with first grandchild Finnegan, child of son Joshua and his wife, Shannon; visiting their daughter, Christina, and her husband, Davis' son, George; and look forward to the arrival of son Micah and his wife, Samantha's child in December.

Ice Cream Social

Friday, 8:00 p.m. Come join the fun and fellowship Friday evening at 8:00 p.m. for an ice cream social at District Conference. Special thanks to East Chippewa Church for sponsoring this event!



Pre-Conference Workshop

Friday, August 12 From 1 pm – 4 pm

Open to all 0.3 CEUs for Clergy

Jesus' Call for Unity

David Sollenberger, 2022 Annual Conference Moderator

We will explore the Biblical mandate to be unified as much as possible in order to be the church. However, unity is a difficult thing to accomplish in 2022 America. We will also consider the impediments to unity and the struggles the church experiences in response to those.



David Sollenberger, 2022
Annual Conference Moderator

Insight Sessions

Saturday Early Afternoon 1:15 p.m.—2:15 p.m.

Annual Conference: Where Do We Go From Here?

David Sollenberger, 2022 Annual Conference Moderator

This session will explore the developments, decisions, and activities at the recently concluded Annual Conference in Omaha and the impact those may have on the Church of the Brethren, through the eyes of the Immediate Past Moderator. We will review some of the highs and lows of the Big Meeting.

Inspiration Hills: What's Next?

Shannon Kahler, Staff, and Camp Administration Committee Members

Camping ministry is a challenge anytime, but even more so through a pandemic. Find out how Inspiration Hills has come through the last 2.5 years and the plan for moving forward.

Basic Financial Procedures for Churches

Lisa Snyder (District Treasurer) and the Stewardship & Finance Commission

This session will focus on financial policies and procedures that all churches should have in place. Information from this session will be applicable to churches of all sizes and can help protect those individuals who handle your church's finances.

Saturday Afternoon 4:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Annual Conference: Where Do We Go From Here?

David Sollenberger, 2022 Annual Conference Moderator

This session will explore the developments, decisions, and activities at the recently concluded Annual Conference in Omaha and the impact those may have on the Church of the Brethren, through the eyes of the Immediate Past Moderator. We will review some of the highs and lows of the Big Meeting.

This Insight Session is being offered at both the 1:15 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. times.

Websites and Social Networking for Churches—Connections Commission

Sharing ideas and resources of how and why churches can use technology for members and visitors.

Calling the Called—Ministerial Commission

Do you know someone that is gifted for pastoral ministry? Have you felt a tug toward pastoral ministry yourself – or has someone told you that they see those spiritual gifts within you? Come hear stories of how pastors and clergy were called into ministry.

Item Start Time	Time Allowed	Agenda Item	Person Presenting
8:00 a.m.	30 min.	Worship	Brian Layman
8:30 a.m.	40 min.	Business Session Opens, Opening Prayer Greeting from Poplar Ridge Church of the Brethren Roll Call of Delegates Accept Business Agenda Consecration of Delegates Review Conference Rules Introduction of Conference Officers Introduction of Guests	Brian Layman Ben Polzin Ashley Harris Brian Layman James Washington James Washington Brian Layman James Washington
9:10 a.m.	10 min.	Table time connection	
9:20 a.m.	10 min.	New Business Item #1: Ballot	James Washington
9:30 a.m.	5 min.	Stretch Break	
9:35 a.m.	10 min.	District Staff Reports District Executive Peace & Conciliation Advocate Youth Coordinator	Kris Hawk (also written) Linda Fry (also written)
9:45 a.m.	5 min.	District Board Report	Patrick Bailey
9:50 a.m.	10 min.	Congregational Commission	Mark Pollock
10:00 a.m.	10 min.	Connections Commission	Billi Janet Burkey
10:10 a.m.	10 min.	Ministerial Commission / Buckeye Brethren Institute	Steve Simmons / Paul Bozman
10:20 a.m.	10 min.	Break	
10:30 a.m.	5 min.	Gathering Song	Brian Layman
10:35 a.m.	15 min.	Stewardship & Finance Commission/District Financial Reports Treasurer's Reports / District Financial Secretary's Report	David Bassett Lisa Snyder / Cindy McNaul
10:50 a.m.	15 min.	New Business Item #2: 2023 Budget /5 min Table Time	David Bassett / Lisa Snyder
11:05 a.m.	15 min.	Church of the Brethren Mission and Ministry Board	David Steele
11:20 a.m.	15 min.	Church of the Brethren Agency Reports Eder Financial (Brethren Benefit Trust) Bethany Seminary On Earth Peace	Dan Radcliffe / Loyce Borgmann (written only) (written only)
11:35 a.m.	10 min.	Election Results	James Washington
12:00 p.m.	75 min.	Lunch	
1:15 p.m.	60 min.	Insight Sessions	
2:25 p.m.	5 min.	Gathering Song	Brian Layman
2:30 p.m.	15 min.	ORDER OF THE DAY: Recognition of Ordained Ministers	Ministerial Commission
2:45 p.m.	15 min.	Camp Reports Camp Executive Director Camp Administration Committee / Camp Financial Reports	Shannon Kahler Linda Smith, Lisa Snyder
3:00 p.m.	25 min.	New Business Item #3: 2023 Inspiration Hills Budget (includes 5 minutes of Table Time)	Linda Smith, Lisa Snyder
3:25 p.m.	5 min.	Standing Committee Delegate	Ben Polzin
3:30 p.m.	5 min.	Brethren Homes: Good Shepherd Home West View Health Living	Chris Widman (written only)
3:35 p.m.	5 min.	Ohio Council of Churches	Dr. Jack Sullivan, Jr.
3:40 p.m.	10 min.	Acceptance of Reports, Close of Business	Brian Layman
4:00 p.m.	60 min.	Insight Sessions	
5:15 p.m.		Worship Service and installation of Moderator (in sanctuary)	

Service of Consecration for District Conference Delegates

August 13, 2022 - Prayer of Commitment

O God, we thank You for each of these disciples who have answered Your call to serve in Your ministry through the Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren. Each of these people come with gifts for specific tasks under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Today we join in a service of consecration, commissioning these people to do Your work.

We are grateful for our brothers and sisters who express their faith and witness through specific ministries in the Northern Ohio District.

Grant us grace that we may all present our gifts and talents to be used for Your glory and our neighbor's good, because our faith is in the following. Amen.

Leader: Brothers and sisters in Christ, God has called you to this service. We thank God for each of you and for your willing response to this call. Now I invite you to make your commitment by responding to the questions of consecration as a delegate.

Do you willingly accept the responsibility to which you have been called, and do you promise to be faithful in fulfilling that responsibility?

Delegates: We do.

Leader: Will you seek to respond in a manner worthy of this trust, exemplifying Christian faith and spirit in all that you do and consider?

Delegates: We will.

Leader: Will you be cooperative as you work together in common tasks and decisions?

Delegates: We will.

Leader: May we as brothers and sisters in Christ, affirm one another as leaders called to serve the Church of the Brethren of Northern Ohio. Above all, may we seek to do God's will relying on His wisdom, strength, and love.

Delegates: By His grace and with the leading of His Spirit we will!

Unison Prayer:

O God, we thank you for our fellow delegates who have been entrusted with the responsibility of doing business for Your church. Be with us as we administer what You have entrusted to our hands. Help us to study, pray, and reflect before we make decisions. Make us alert to the needs of all Your people, in the Northern Ohio District and beyond, so that we can carry out ministries in Your name. May this conference reflect the light of Your truth. We pray in the precious name of Your Son, Christ Jesus. Amen.

Rules of District Conference

All matters of business shall be clearly presented to Conference, after which the Moderator shall declare the same to be the business of Conference.

No one shall speak more than twice on the same question. The first speech shall be limited to five minutes and the second, to three minutes.

The Moderator shall decide when a question shall be put on its passage, but anyone from the voting body may “move the previous question” which is a motion to close debate.

A two-thirds majority shall be necessary to pass answers to queries, matters of polity, and other items as determined by the Officers of the District Conference. A majority vote shall be the rule for all other motions.

A plurality vote shall be required for the election of all officers.

All appeals from the rulings of the Moderator shall be decided by the voting body.

These rules may be amended at any regular session of the conference.

Persons nominating from the floor may only name the nominee; the biographical information must be submitted in writing to the officers of the Conference who will later submit the information to the Conference Delegates.

Written or oral consent must be obtained from all nominees.

Robert’s Rules of Order Revised shall be the standard for any point not covered by these rules.

District Conference Central Committee Personnel and Appointments

Brian Layman, Moderator (Ashland First)

James Washington, Moderator-elect (Elm Street / Pleasant View)

Brad Kelley, Past-Moderator (East Chippewa)

Ashley Harris, Clerk (Freeburg)

Fern Dews, Member (East Nimishillen)

Chrissy Harkless, Member (Elm Street)

Jane Matz, Member (Ashland Dickey)

Linda Fry, Conference Manager (Mansfield First)

Cindy Peel, Conference Registrar (Akron Springfield)

District Conference Personnel & Appointments

Worship Coordinators: Brian Layman (Ashland First), Ben Polzin (Poplar Ridge)

Music: Dupont Praise Team

Junior High / Youth Activities Coordinator: Cody Etter

Children’s Program Coordinators: Pam Schroeder and Michelle Steffes (Poplar Ridge)

Display Coordinator: Kathy Ballinger (Mohican)

Hospitality Coordinator: Katie Polzin (Mohican)

Sound & Media Technician: John Hahn (Poplar Ridge)

Counting Supervisor: David Bassett (Pleasant View)

Tellers: Nominating Committee Members

Poplar Ridge Church On-Site Coordinator: Ben Polzin (Poplar Ridge)

Meal Coordinators: Todd and Judy Clemens

Business Item #1, Ballot
2022 District Conference Ballot – Biographical Information
*Indicates Incumbent

Moderator Elect – 3 year term (vote for one)



Tina Hunt
(Ashland First)

Current: Instructor for the Buckeye Brethren Institute (BBI), our district's ministerial training program. Ordained minister.

Former: Pastor, District Board, Congregational Commission, Ministerial Commission.

Personal: Married to Nelson for 43+ years. Two adult daughters, 3 grandchildren. Writer, speaker.



Bill Jay
(Brook Park)

Current: Church Board Vice-Chairperson

Former: Various church board positions, deacon, youth group leader, Sunday School teacher,

Choir, Praise Band. District Mission/Social Action Commission.

Personal: Married 43 years to Margi, daughters Sarah and Rebekah, 3 grandkids. Retired RN. Volunteer with Audrey's Outreach Ministries and food pantry.

District Board Western Area – 3 year term (vote for two)



Terry Baldwin*
(Lick Creek)

Current: Worship leader. Vice Chair District Ministerial Commission. Ordained minister.

Former: Pastor at Silver Creek for 34 years, 8 months. District Board chair, District Conference Moderator, District Outdoor Ministry Commission.

Personal: Married to Dawn for 43 years. Two married, adult children; 4 grandchildren. Currently retired.



Robert (Bob) Simonsick
(Jonah's People)

Current: Pastor at Jonah's People Fellowship, chaplain for Good Shepherd Home, technology coordinator,

Steering Committee.

Former: Pastor, chaplain, sound and lights operator, technology coordinator, Steering Committee. Southeastern District Stewardship and Ministerial Commissions. Delegate to District Conference. Annual Conference delegate.

Personal: Married to Patti for 35 years. Three grown children – Rebecca married to Ryan (son Joseph), Anne married to Cody, (both daughters are nurses), Bobby (farmer and trucking company owner).

District Board Central Area – 3 year term (vote for two)



Patrick Bailey*
(North Bend)

Current: District Board Chair, Ordained Minister, Pastor North Bend Church of the Brethren.

Former: District Conference Moderator, District Board Vice-Chair, District Board Ministerial Commission, Congregational Commission.

Personal: Married to Joanna for 25 years, 5 sons and 2 daughters, football & wrestling coach for over 20 years at Clear Fork High School, Royal Family Kids Camp.



Charlene Kuhn*
(Richland)

Current: District Stewardship and Finance Commission, Church Treasurer, Deacon, Worship Leader.

Former: District Stewardship and Finance Commission, Church Treasurer, Deacon, Worship Leader.

Personal: Married to Alan, married son and married daughter, 6 grandchildren.

District Board Eastern Area – 3 year term (vote for two)



David Hobbs
(New Philadelphia)

Current: Pastor of the New Philadelphia First CoB, Ordained Minister.

Former: At New Philadelphia, as a

Licensed Minister, I started as pulpit supply, moved to Interim Pastor 3/1/2020, and was installed as Pastor and ordained 4/25/21. Previously, I was involved in areas of leadership at the Eden CoB for 20 years before being Licensed 1/3/2016.

Personal: Married to Sheila; children Jennifer and Scott, grandchildren Rick, Jacob, and Samuel. Served as a bi-vocational pastor until retired in March of this year from my secular job.

(More information will be available in the Delegate Packet for this position on the ballot)

District Conference Central Committee – 3 year term (vote for one)



Pam Hoffman
(Mansfield First)

Current: Church Leadership Team member, Search Committee Chairperson,

Former: Church clerk, Deacon.

Personal: Retired. Mother of Joshua Hoffman, Christina Baker and Jonathan Hoffman. Prepares meals once a month for “People Helping People” ministry.



Anitra Kraus
(Brook Park)

Current: Licensed minister, Church Clerk, archivist, Children’s Story alternate, Annual Conference Delegate. District Historical Committee. Bethany

Student

Former: Rep, tools Workshop Coordinator, Outreach Ministry (Water Street), District Conference Praise Band, District Conference Insight session, Sunday School teacher, Pulpit supply, PowerPoint technician, Church Board, choir, praise band, District Conference delegate, Associate Hospital Chaplain, Habitat for Humanity Board Secretary, and a wide variety of other denominational and ecumenical volunteer work.

Personal: Spouse: Alan, 1 stepson, 1 granddaughter (10 months), service cat (Sherlock), former Pandemic Unemployment agent (now retired). Hobbies: music (vocal, handbells, dulcimer, djembe), crafts, graphic arts, history.

Nominating Committee, Eastern Area – 3 year term (vote for one)



Rebecca Ebie
(Akron Eastwood)

Current: Licensed Minister, Director of Christian Education; preaching every other month,

Former: Congregational Commission, Delegate to District and Annual

Conferences; Attended NOAC, started community garden, taught a grief recovery group; Attend monthly area clergy gatherings and number pastoral workshops.

Personal: Part-time Secretary at Akron Springfield CoB; Working on a Doctor of Ministry degree.

Nominating Committee, Western Area – 3 year term (vote for one)



Katie Polzin
(Poplar Ridge)

Current: Ordained Minister, church Music and Worship Commission Chair.

Former: Southern Ohio CoB District Board member (2012-

2013), Southern Ohio CoB Ministry Commission (2012-2013), church Preschool Board member, VBS leader, 2016 Annual Conference Delegate. Served as the Annual Conference Child Care Coordinator (Grand Rapids, MI)

Personal: My husband is Ben Polzin, who has been the pastor at Poplar Ridge for the past 8 ½ years. We have been married for 10 ½ years and have a two-year old son, Grayson. I worked as chaplain for several years, and as of January 2022, I was

asked to take on a new ministry position. I am currently the Assistant Director at an Ecumenical Christian non-profit organization in Defiance called Ravens Care Inc. I will become the Director in December of this year.

Annual Conference Standing Committee Delegate – 2 year term (vote for one)



Dawn Baldwin
(Lick Creek)

Current: District Shalom Team, District Ethics Committee.

Former: Adult Sunday School teacher, children's Sunday School teacher. VBS leader,

Christian Education Committee, Women's Fellowship officer, worship leader, pulpit supply, District and Annual Conference delegate.

Personal: Married to Terry for 43 years; 2 married, adult children, 4 grandchildren. Retired from Williams County 911 Communications/ Emergency Management after 33 years, currently a substitute teacher (Pre-K—HS). Hobbies include reading, camping, water activities and time with family.



Cindy Peel
(Akron Springfield)

Current: Interim Pastor for Akron Eastwood, Ordained Minister, District Conference Registrar.

Former: Standing Committee, District Board member, Christian Education Commission Nominating Committee, Camp Counselor, Sunday School teacher, Deacon, Church Board member, Pastor, Nursery Worker, Junior Worship Leader.

Personal: Respiratory Therapist for Seeley Medical. Volunteer for Open M free clinic, Salvation Army.

West View Healthy Living Liaison – 3 year term (vote for one)

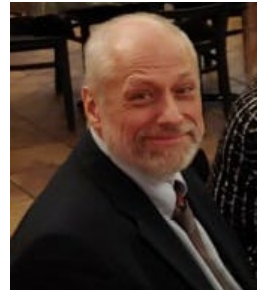


Bill Eley
(Chippewa)

Current: Pastor at Chippewa, Commissioned minister in the CoB, District Shalom Team

Former: Has served as pastor for many years in Florida and Virginia. Substitute teacher in Virginia and Ohio. Mission trips to Cuba, and Jamaica, Bible conferences in Costa Rico. Two years as Area Pastor Coordinator for Southern Virginia for the Southeast Region of Vineyard USA.

Personal: Married to Joy, two grown children, Joshua and Ashley, 4 granddaughter and one grandson. Still certified to substitute teach.



Terry Vaught
(Paradise)

Current: Pastor at Paradise CoB. Ordained Minister, Coordinator for Central Area monthly pastor's meeting, BBI instructor, annual volunteer as Chaplain at

Camp Inspiration Hills.

Former: Deacon, Pastor of Visitation (Maple Grove); When it was going, I was a Chaplain for Koinonia Inspiration, a *Cursillo* inspired renewal movement for lay people and pastors.

Personal: Married to Sherry Reese Vaught, one son, Reese Vaught. I am a bi-vocational pastor who was a Respiratory Therapist for many years. I'm now retired from my 2nd vocation.

Good Shepherd Home Board of Trustees – 3 year term (vote for one)



Rhonda Schulte*
(Dupont)

Current: Good Shepherd Home Board member

Former: Ladies Fellowship Officer at Dupont, Sunday School teacher, Bible School.

Personal: Married to Wayne (39 years), 2 adult daughters, married with 4 grandchildren. RN for 27 years, retired but not retired on as needed basis, Breast Cancer survivor, love to garden, travel and spend time with family; mission trip to Honduras with church, medical mission trip to Haiti.

Camp Administration Committee – 3 year term (vote for three)



Erin Beebe
(Maple Grove)

Current: Deacon, Member of Bell Choir and Notes of Praise band, Shoebox Ministries Chairperson, Camp Representative for Maple Grove, in the Worship Leader

rotation.

Former: Various committees within the church, District Youth Cabinet member.

Personal: Widow, son Nikolas age 23, daughter Mega age 21, daughter Kate age 16. Work through Mapleton Schools. I help deliver food for Matthew 25 program.



Lisa Bertch*
(Paradise)

Current: Camp Administration Committee, Church Clerk, pianist, Deacon.

Former: District Stewardship and Finance Commission,

SiSterns (Women's) Committee. Church Family Life Committee, Sunday School Teacher.

Personal: Married to Pat; retired school teacher; active at church and home; enjoy cooking and gardening, spending time with and helping family.



Linda Smith*
(East Chippewa)

Current: Camp Board Chair, SiSter's Committee. Church Personnel & Nominating Committee Chair, Jr. Church leader, Junior. High Advisor,

Awesome Acting Children leader, Kitchen Coordinator

Former: Pre-school Sunday School teacher.

Personal: Married to David Smith. Children: Amanda (Aaron) Ewoldt; Jennifer Smith, Tim Smith. Two grandchildren.

District Executive Report 2022

As I write this report, I have just completed 6 ½ years as District Executive for the Northern Ohio District (including my 15 months as Interim DE). It is an honor and joy to be called to this position of service in our District.

This is a time of challenge on many different fronts as well as a time of gratitude in the midst of the challenges.

Personal. This past May, my mom was hospitalized several times before she died on May 15th. I am grateful to have had so many years with Mom and thankful that she died gently surrounded by family. And I am so appreciative for the outpouring of support from so many of you in the district – through prayers, cards, calls, texts, and visitation. The support of the District Board was such a blessing throughout this time of transition for our family.

Staff. Our Administrative District Secretary, Julie Watson, resigned for health concern as of June 17th. Julie served the district for 8 ½ years and she served well. As I write this, Tina Hunt is temporarily helping in the office 3 days/week, and I am very grateful. My prayer is that by the time I share this report at District Conference, I can also announce that we have hired the person to serve in this vital ministry to the district.

We have also been without a District Youth Coordinator since last September. Please continue to lift this in prayer. I am grateful to Cody Etter for coordinating events for junior high and youth at District Conference this year – our first district-wide youth event since last fall.

I am so appreciative of Lisa Snyder (Treasurer) and Cindy McNaull (Financial Secretary) for the hours they dedicate to making sure the finances of our district are meticulously handled; and for Linda Fry for her ministry as Peace and Conciliation Advocate. I am also grateful for Cindy Peel who has taken on additional work as District Conference registrar in the absence of an Administrative Secretary.

Congregational - I am glad to work with the Congregational Commission as they seek to strengthen existing churches, and to serve with the Urban Ministries Committee as they look for place God may be calling us to start new ministries. I helped organize the “Restoring Congregational Vitality Workshop” with presenter Galen Hackman on March 4-5th. Thank you to Maple Grove for hosting. A number of churches that attended are actively working for revitalization both within the congregation and in their witness to the community.

While many good things are happening in the district, we can’t ignore the deep struggle of some of our congregations. We have a number of churches at risk of closing within the next 5 years and the pandemic has heightened that struggle. Providing resources and information is essential, but alone it is not enough. We need to be seeking revival, committing ourselves to prayer, seeking ways to share our hope in Christ, reaching out to serve those in our communities, and walking alongside our sister churches.

Congregations withdrawing. These are challenging times in our denomination as churches in several districts continue to leave the Church of the Brethren. Mt. Pleasant and Zion Hill in Northern Ohio have officially requested to begin the Withdrawal Process that we have set up for Northern Ohio. The congregations will have their first vote to leave in the next few months. If the vote is “yes”, then we work through the process for 3 more months before a final vote of the members. The final vote must be 90% for it to be considered a “yes” for withdrawal. There is a financial formula in place for the withdrawing congregation to keep the building and assets if criteria are met. If these two congregations make the final decision to leave, it will come to District Conference in 2023 as an item of business. One other church has had an internal vote to leave but has not yet asked to begin the formal process of withdrawing. I am grateful that the District Board is committed to working through these times of struggle with grace, transparency, and integrity – and the churches have made the same commitment.

Ministerial Leadership/Pastoral Placement. I am currently working with 3 churches in various stages of the search process. An updated pastoral placement report is in the Pastor’s Memo each month. The pastoral search process has grown more difficult. There are very few pastoral profiles posted in the Church of the Brethren. This crisis is not unique to the Church of the Brethren, but it is causing need for more creativity in providing for pastoral leadership. Thankfully, our God is a creative and faithful God! I am working with the Ministerial Commission as we seek ways to call out

those in our churches with the gifts for pastoral ministry and encourage them to consider BBI as a way to test that calling. The need is great.

I attended the Clergy-Spouse retreat in February. I am grateful to the Ministerial Commission for their commitment to this event that provides rest and renewal for our clergy. I have the joy of Licensing, Ordaining, Commissioning new pastoral leadership within our district of installing new pastors. I organized the Pastor's Workshop on March 31 with Jeff Bach. Thank you to the Ashland Dickey congregation for hosting. It is wonderful to have our Buckeye Brethren Institute for ministerial training in our district. I continue to be impressed by the quality of the education – and the connections it provides for students from across our district. Thank you to Paul Bozman, Ministerial Education Director for his leadership and to all those that have taught classes.

Relationships. This is my area of deepest joy. I continue to see increased connection throughout the district as we fellowship, learn, and support one another. I see more joy, more laughter, and deeper cooperation as we work together. I am appreciative of the good work the board continues to do - and I see God moving through these things. I continue to visit in a different church each Sunday and have had opportunity to preach several times. Connecting through times other than worship is also important. I attend council and board meetings; revival services; funeral/memorial services; socials and community outreach events for individual churches when possible. I appreciate your sharing those dates with me. We are continuing bi-monthly Zoom meetings for our clergy. We have anywhere from 6 – 18 join in on these calls. I so appreciate our pastors as they continue to work with creativity and commitment to their churches.

Administration. In all things listed above, I am working closely with the appropriate Commission members and Executive Committee. The District Level Meetings in my statistical report include District Board, Executive Committee, Central Committee, Nominating Committee, Camp Administration Committee meetings, CAC Executive Committee meetings, Constitution Committee meetings, Peace Task Team meetings, and Shalom Team training events. I also work with the Withdrawal Policy Working Group. We are blessed with so many that volunteer their time and energy for the work of the Kingdom in the Northern Ohio District.

Denominational and beyond – Our Council of District Executives (CODE) January meetings were by Zoom. We met with denominational leadership in Elgin in April and will have our summer meetings on-site in Omaha, Nebraska before Annual Conference begins.

Repeated Call to Prayer – which I repeat here again!

These past two+ years have been a very difficult time for our congregations and pastors. It is a joy to see the way people have found creative ways to care for their brothers and sisters in this time of struggle. But these polarizing times have found their way even into the church and healing and renewal are needed. I pray that we will all hold on to the commandment shared in Ephesians 4:32, “Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.” As we have been forgiven and blessed, may we also forgive and be a blessing to each other.

May we commit ourselves to prayer for our pastors and churches – for a revival of the Holy Spirit as we keep Jesus as the center of our lives and our life together as the body of Christ. May God make us faithful in carrying out the work to which we are called!

Kris Hawk, District Executive Minister

Statistics 2021										
	Miles	Hours	Search Committee	Call Vote	Installations	Church Boards	Sunday am Worship	Other Worship Services	Fellowship Events	District Level Meetings
2020 Totals	13,407	2581	19	7	5	34	48	64	88	89
Statistics 2022 YTD through June										
	Miles	Hours								
YTD Totals	7473	1305	10	1	1	14	28	21	39	46

Peace & Conciliation Advocate

District Year-End Report for 2022

Greetings in Christ Jesus:

I have been the District Peace and Conciliation Advocate since 2006.

- I regularly meet with the **District Board** and commissions.
- I work with the **Peace Task Team**.
 - The Team has had several ZOOM meetings since March of 2020. No in-person activities have been held due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Funding for peace education is a continuing need. Due to COVID, we have not had an in-person Peace Auction for two years. Last year, we did have an on-line auction. 38 items were donated and \$843.00 was raised (We have taken in from \$1,000 to \$3,000 a year from the in-person auction. The lowest year was 2016 when we took in \$711.50. All other years have been over \$1,000. The highest year was 2000 with \$3,249.60). Since the Central Committee is planning for a full District Conference this year, the Peace Task Team is planning for an in-person auction at conference.
- I work with the **Shalom Team**. The Team has not met or been called upon during the last two years, but continues to be available to serve the District as requested when conflicts arise.
- I Publish the **Peace Advocate News** quarterly (51 issues are in print)
- I publish the Weekly "Take a Moment to Pray for Peace" which appears online and is available for printing as a bulletin insert. (See nohcob.org/peace and then click on the "Take a Moment to Pray For Peace" logo). 207 issues should be in print by this year's District Conference.
- I do research and reading for the newsletter and attend appropriate webinars and other training sessions to provide resources for the District. District peace resources can be found at: nohcob.org/ministries (select the Peace Comes From God logo) or (go to the District website nohcob.org, select "Ministries", then select "Peace and Reconciliation")
 - I attended a webinar on teaching peace to children in February. Some of the presenters were high school students doing very good and creative work with elementary and middle school students in Findley, Ohio. It was encouraging to hear about young people making a difference for good in their community. They are using art, reading, and creative interaction as tools for peace.
 - I attended a webinar on women's justice issues in March. It looked at teaching children to treat each other with respect as people. In a time when abuse of women is frequently in the news, teaching children how to treat each other respectfully when they are young is an important starting point.
 - A webinar in May looked at how to help children understand and deal with the violence in the world around them. It also addressed teaching children about being peacemakers so they will be empowered to seek ways to actively make positive changes for peace in the world.



There are many **ongoing peacemaking issues** in the world and more issues come up every day. I try to share information and resources on these through the District website and *Peace Advocate News*.

We have been witnesses to **the invasion of Ukraine by Russia**. At this writing in early June, more than 12 million Ukrainians have been displaced. 5 million of them have fled their country and are living as refugees in foreign lands. The toll in dead and injured, is not fully known but is likely much higher than we can currently document. Mass graves are frequently being found in areas Russian forces have left. It is clear that civilians of all ages have been targeted by the invading Russian forces. Cities and towns – including residential areas, have been shelled into oblivion in many cases. In Russia, the blackout of independent news sources combined with an aggressive pro-war propaganda campaign by the Russian government, has stoked pro-war sentiment. Not supporting the war is considered criminal and protestors are being treated as criminals. However, these efforts have not stopped many Russians from speaking out against the war. At least 15,000 Russian war protestors have already been arrested so far. Their fate is unclear.

We need to pray for all parties in this war. There is great need to seek and work for peaceful solutions to the issues involved. Help for civilians in harm's way, including humanitarian relief for the displaced is desperately needed. Support for those trying to respond to the situation nonviolently is also needed. There is also the growing risk in Ukraine of epidemic disease because of poor sanitary conditions and the lack of adequate health care services due to the destruction caused by the war.

Another desperate need is to address **the epidemic of gun violence** in this country. This year is 158 days old at this writing (June 7). There have already been 247 mass shootings in that time. 14 of them in one weekend alone (the weekend of June 3-5, 2022) in which 73 people were injured and 17 people died. There have been 18,823 gun deaths this year. 10,428 of them were suicides. 716 of them have been children, including the 19 who died in the Uvalde, Texas school. There have also been 1,787 children injured by guns this year. There are 393 million civilian owned guns in the U.S. – 120 guns for every 100 people. In 2020, firearms became the leading cause of death for children & adolescents in this country, surpassing motor vehicle crashes (*The New England Journal of Medicine*). Pray for the victims. . . – but if we value life, we must also find a way to change our gun culture and stop this carnage.

Making peace cannot happen without seeking justice and justice must be tempered by mercy. Fostering or threatening violence, seeking vengeance, revenge, retribution, or only 'political capital' does not bring either peace or justice especially when innocent people are involved. "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8.

District Board Commission & Appointment Reports

District Board District Conference 2022

It has been a privilege to work with the board this year. This is a great group of devoted, hardworking, caring individuals who have invested time and energy working for the betterment of the district. Since we started back in the fall a lot of progress made. Much of which you will hear and can read about in the different commission reports.

Some of the things we worked on as a board and Executive Committee included filling positions when there was a vacancy, working with the Stewardship and Finance Commission as we seek to be good stewards of God's money in the district, navigating through the times we are in.

We also updated the Northern Ohio District Withdrawal Policy. As much as we care about all the churches in the district and would like to stay united, that's not where we are currently. So out of necessity we worked at how we can walk through the withdrawal process in a loving manner and handling each situation carefully with the goal of having the best possible outcome for all involved.

This is certainly not an all-inclusive report but gives you some idea of the things that have been before us that we are trying to work on for the betterment of the district.

God is awesome. He is worthy of praise.

Board Chair

Pastor Patrick Bailey

Congregational Commission Report for 2021-2022

The Congregational Commission seeks ways to advance the fulfillment of the Great Commission within the District. Through personal and congregational evangelism, the Congregational Commission takes on the responsibilities of encouraging and assisting in new church plants; encouraging and assisting church vitality and revitalization, offering guidance in mergers; assisting with disorganization of churches when necessary; and overseeing financial resources to assist church revitalization and church plants. In addition to these responsibilities, the Commission helps with the District church prayer calendar, overseeing the Church Extension Fund, organizing training seminars and overseeing and recommending Hottle Memorial Fund grants for congregational projects.

Due to the hardships experienced by our local congregations associated with the Covid 19 virus, the Congregational Commission continued to open up the use of the Hottle Memorial Fund grant moneys to fund church need-based operating expenses through the end of June 2022. Churches were only allowed to request one grant, regular or operating expenses, per year. The Congregational Commission will continue to approve operating grants up to \$5000. Regular Hottle grants between \$3000 and \$5000 will continue to require full board approval.

The Commission has approved the following Hottle Memorial Fund grants:

1. Operating Fund Grants during the Pandemic – 7 churches at \$5000 each

Total \$ 35,000.00
 2. Regular Hottle Grants that required District Board approval
 - a. Sugar Creek West COB, dated: Nov 10, 2021; Approved: March 12, 2022
Technology for Jesus \$ 5,000.00
 - b. Elm Street COB, dated: Jan. 17, 2022; Approved: March 12, 2022 \$ 3806.23
Welcome Kits and Outreach Project, Noah's Ark Encounter, Inspiration Hills Retreat
 - c. Pleasant View COB, dated: February 1, 2022; Approved: March 12, 2022 \$ 5,000.00
Outreach program and Promo Items
 - d. Richland COB, dated: April 14, 2022; Approved: May 14, 2022 \$ 4,000.00
Replacement of Piano and sound equipment used for worship
 - e. East Nimishillen COB, dated May 3, 2022, Approved: May 14, 2022 \$ 5,000.00
New Carillon

Total \$ 22,806.23
- Additional regular Hottle Grants will be funded through the end of the year by use of money from the Church Extension Fund.

3. Completed Grants and final reports submitted:
 - a. Center COB – final report on Pavilion in Herald, Fall 2021
 - b. Dupont COB – Fresh Encounter Woods, final report Herald, Fall 2021
 - c. Painesville COB – final report in Herald, Fall 2021
 - e. Ashland First COB – Final report in Herald, February 2022

The Congregational Commission sponsored a Church Revitalization Workshop on March 4 and 5 at the Maple Grove Church of the Brethren. Galen Hackman led the workshop. On Friday evening Chris Dines from the Brook Park COB opened with music and Congregational Commission member Agnes Hayhurst read Matthew 13:1-23, The Parable of the Sower, as our scripture. Michael Huffaker led the Devotions. Galen led the workshop on Friday evening and Saturday stressing that all revitalization must be Spirit led. We had 102 people in attendance for the workshop. Several churches have taken the information gained at the workshop and are working within their local church on revitalization activities.

The Congregational Commission Urban Ministry Committee regrouped and met to discuss their vision and focus in reference to helping other churches, new church plantings, urban and rural communities, revitalization of churches, and where God is sending us spiritually. Additional meetings are planned as their work progresses.

We appreciate all the ways that churches have worked to continue their worship services through these trying times. We look forward to a time when we can return to a more normal operating environment and encourage churches to continue to be steadfast in worshiping our God whatever the circumstances.

In Christ's Love,
Mark Pollock, Congregational Commission Chair; Beverly Wengerd, Vice-Chair;
Agnes Hayhurst, Secretary; and Mike Huffaker, Member.

Jonah's People Fellowship, Fostoria

The Jonah's People Fellowship is located in the chapel of Good Shepherd Home and continues to struggle through the pandemic. Restrictions from the Ohio Health Department do not allow us to invite the public in the nursing home or Brethren Court Assisted Living for our services. Fortunately, we have been able to restart some of the ministries of the Fellowship.

In May this year, we began our Monday night Bible Studies using Max Lucado's "Unshakable Hope" video Bible Study for 12 weeks. Pastor Bob Simonsick and the residents watch the video with Max teaching on men and women in the Bible that followed God's Promises. Like them we learn how we can also build our lives in this unsteady world to follow God's Promises and trust him to keep them.

Gospel Music Tuesday Night was restarted the same week. Chaplain Jerry Copeland has been inviting different groups in from churches and Christian musical groups each week. Volunteers help bring residents to the Chapel for the program. Pastor Bob leads Sunday morning worship each week with the residents from all parts of the home and with family members sometimes. We use Christian songs from the internet for music and follow the guidelines for residents in the chapel.

We continue to do testing of residents, staff, and volunteers weekly to monitor possible outbreaks but have been blessed with only a few positives each month. At this time these restrictions will continue to be in place which prevent us from inviting in our neighbors. We look forward to the day to fellowship meals together and inviting our neighbors to worship, and Bible Study. The members of Jonah's People are very grateful for the support of the District, Good Shepherd Home, Agnes Hayhurst from the Congregational Commission, and Kris Hawk contributing her leadership and support to this ministry.

In Christ,
Pastor Bob Simonsick

Connections Report 2022

The Connections Commission worked this year on trying to get to know the people of the congregations a little better. We worked on two surveys one for church boards and one for individuals. Using results from this information we focused on two areas: (1) workshop session for this district conference on Social Networking; and (2) starting a newsletter to share resources among congregations.

Resource Gems. Is a small newsletter with shared resources, ideas, and encouragement for ministry (Sunday School, On-Line Resources, Worship Leaders, Book Reviews etc.). We encourage you to read and maybe even keep them stored for future references. We would also like to encourage you to share items that have been helpful to you in your church's ministry. If you would like to contribute, please email billijanetburkey@yahoo.com. You should have seen 3 copies in the past year, if not, please let us know.

District Youth Work: Kris Hawk has been searching to hire a new District Youth Worker, but as of the typing of this report, has not been able to finalize one. Please keep Kris and this job position in your prayers asking God to lead this search. The Commission has also been seeking volunteers for Adult Advisors for the District Youth (Junior and Senior High) and is currently working at organizing that group. It is hard to know who is interested/skilled in this area. If we have not contacted you, please feel free to contact the Commission or Kris.

The Connections Commission,
Billi Janet Burkey, Chair; Dean Foster, Vice-Chair, Ellen Speicher, Secretary; Bruce Morckel

Sisters Report 2022

The SISTERS (Women's Ministry) team was excited to be able to hold two events this year as restrictions lifted.

In October of 2021, Debbie Eisenbise and her friends shared some awesome stories with us. The group meeting at Inspiration Hills was small, but we had some quality time together, and with the Lord.

In April of 2022, Laura Kell (Center Church) shared her faith walk with us. The attendance was awesome (about 55) and the Mansfield Church did a wonderful job of hosting. The women brought lots of socks to share with the local missions "People Helping People" in Mansfield.

October 21 & 22, 2022, we are working on returning to Inspiration Hills for the fall (overnight) retreat. Plans are still in progress, please mark your calendars and come out to share in the beauty of nature with the Lord.

Ministerial Commission 2022

Greetings to All (Especially to those that will read this!),

“And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men,” Colossians 3:23

The Ministerial Commission had a good year, we only had a few interviews this past year, but we did other work (so we really were not just sitting around).

We changed the guidelines for receiving scholarships for ministers getting or furthering their education. We increased the monetary amount and frequency that can be requested. (see information below)

We planned and held a Clergy/Spouse Retreat. We are Looking forward to next year’s retreat. We have the location and the speakers booked. The retreat is still in the process of being planned but we look forward to another excellent clergy/spouse retreat.

We called the Pastors of the District to see how they are and had some very good conversations and prayer requests shared with us. This is something the Commission needs to do more often. We need to keep our pastors of the district in prayer.

We really are looking forward to the next year to see what God is going to do in and through us as we serve him and the Clergy of our district.

To Gods Glory,
Steve Simmons- Chair
Terry Baldwin- Vice Chair
Bill Holsopple- Secretary
Paul Bartholomew

The Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren Scholarship program was created to provide financial assistance to

1. Licensed clergy that are seeking to fulfill their educational requirements to move forward with ordination or commissioning in the Church of the Brethren or
2. Ordained or commissioned ministers pursuing an MDiv degree.

The Ministerial Commission will review each application and grant scholarships according to the following guidelines:

1. Those students pursuing an M.Div. that are classified as a full-time student by the institution will be able to receive a scholarship for tuition up to \$2500.00 per semester
2. Those students pursuing an M.Div. that are classified as a part-time student by the institution will be able to receive a scholarship for tuition up to \$1500.00 per semester
3. Certificate program courses that lead to qualifying for admission to seminary to begin an MDiv – 50% of the cost for each course up to \$1200 per year.
4. For those students enrolled in TRIM, 50% of the cost for each TRIM course, up to a total of \$1200 per year.

Please contact a member of the Ministerial Commission or the District Office for more information.

Buckeye Brethren Institute - Annual Report

The Buckeye Brethren Institute (BBI) has had another successful year in preparing students for service within our churches even though our enrollment has dropped. In the past year, we have had 2 new students join the program and another 2 students complete the cycle of classes. As a result, BBI is proud to recognize Todd Clemens and Wayne Kissel for this accomplishment.

Because of concerns over COVID-19, most of our classes were offered in a hybrid format this year where students had the option to attend class in person or online via Zoom. During this time, the following 4 BBI courses were offered along with the statistics of each class:

- 1) Worship - Taught by Terry Vaught - 3 BBI students.
- 2) Introduction to the Old Testament - Taught by Tina Hunt - 2 BBI students.
- 3) Evangelism - Taught by Brad Kelley - 3 BBI students.
- 4) Introduction to Christian Theology - Taught by Paul Bozman - 2 BBI students.

In addition, some of the classes had individuals participate for CEU. Also, on March 26, BBI held a practice of ministry day on the topic of writing in ministry, which was led by Chibuzo Petty. There were 10 participants. We are looking to expand the offerings of the practice of ministry days as it is a way to offer CEUs those who are already ordained since one of goals is to address practical steps to enhance one's ministry.

Currently, BBI is in the process of being recertified by the Brethren Academy. Once completed, this will be a five-year certification. Additionally, plans are being made to offer the following courses in the year ahead:

Introduction to the New Testament – taught by Tina Hunt – Aug. 27, Sep. 10, & Oct. 1.

Preaching – taught by Paul Bozman – Oct. 15, Oct. 29, & Nov. 19.

History of Christianity – taught by Brad Kelley – dates TBD in Jan – Mar, 2023.

Leadership and Administration – taught by Paul Bozman – Apr. 15, Apr. 29, & May 20, 2023.

We are also looking into scheduling a practice of ministry day of using technology in ministry and likely another topic sometime during the year as well.

Finally, if you or someone you know is interested in exploring a call to ministry, the BBI is a great way to explore that call. I encourage you or that candidate to contact me or the district office about how BBI can provide help in answering God call upon a person's life.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul Bozman

Pastor, Reading Church of the Brethren

Ministry Education Director, Northern Ohio District

Stewardship & Finance Commission

2022 has been a year marked by inflation and volatility in the financial markets, but years of consistent and prudent financial policies have placed the District in a sound financial position and even allowed the District to continue helping out local churches with emergency operating grants through the first half of the year. We are thankful to all our churches that support the District's budget through self-allocations. This is the main source of funds for our general fund budget, and the work and ministry of the District would not be possible without your support.

During this past year, the Stewardship and Finance Commission initiated the establishment of two new funds with a two-fold purpose:

1. To provide a source to fund some items traditionally funded by the general fund budget, thereby easing pressure on the budget while allowing District ministries to continue or expand.
2. To fund District programs to encourage, promote and revitalize the churches and pastors within the District that fell outside existing funding sources.

The first of the two funds is the Excellence in Ministry Fund which will support existing pastors through scholarships for continuing education and by providing funds for recognition programs, events and retreats for pastors. The second fund is the Congregational Growth and Revitalization Fund which can provide funds for special programs, events and retreats sponsored by District Board Commissions. The Restoring Congregational Vitality conference in March was the first event to be supported by this new Fund.

In January, an article was written for the Herald outlining the benefits of charitable giving through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). If you are over 70 ½ years old and have an IRA, you should be utilizing the tax advantages of a QCD. Your IRA administrator can help you set up a schedule for your charitable giving to meet your individual needs. See the January 2022 issue of the Herald on the District's website for details.

The Stewardship and Finance Commission has oversight of the District's financials. To safeguard the District's funds, the District has established policies and procedures in place and the accounting firm of Whitcomb and Hess reviews the District's financials quarterly. We are fortunate to have Lisa Snyder as our District Treasurer, Cindy McNaull as our District Financial Secretary and the entire District Office staff working as our "financial team". They are doing excellent work on your behalf.

Church leaders and treasurers are encouraged to attend the insight session at this year's District Conference which will focus on financial policies and procedures that all churches should have in place. Information from this session will be applicable to churches of all sizes and can help protect those individuals who handle your church's finances.

We look forward to what God has in store for us in the 2022-2023 year!

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Bassett, Commission Chair; Bruce Jacobsen, Vice Chair;
Charlene Kuhn, Secretary; Ed Chase, Member

2022 District Treasurer's Report

2021-2022 has seen little changes in the job of the District Treasurer. I have served in this capacity since the fall of 2013 and with the help of Kris Hawk, Julie Watson, and Cindy McNaull, the job has become a well-oiled machine.

The District finances are recorded in a QuickBooks desktop program. This provides accurate and timely reports at the touch of a button when requested. Board members are presented with current Balance Sheets, Profit and Loss Statements, and Budget vs Actual Statements at each Executive and Board meeting. Included in the financial reports is also a self-allocation report submitted by Financial Secretary, Cindy McNaull. She tracks all self-allocations and enters all deposits coming into the District Office. Each quarter, a copy of the QuickBooks program, along with bank statements and investment statements are sent to Whitcomb and Hess, an accounting firm in Ashland for their inspection. Any questions/comments that they may have, are forwarded to Kris Hawk, myself, and the Chair of the Stewardship Commission.

One of this year's highlights:

Gift to Grace Tea- a Ukrainian Ministry. This gift was from funds that had been given to fund the Ukrainian mission trip that was postponed due to Covid. Donors were contacted when the trip was eventually cancelled and given the option of having funds returned or designated elsewhere. Close to \$10,000 was left in this fund that was neither returned or designated and the Board voted to send the remainder to the Grace Tea ministry. This was a ministry highly recommended by Esther Harsh, who had spent time in Ukraine. I had the great honor to personally talk to them to tell them of our gift.

One change this year yet to come, is the name change of Brethren Benefit Trust to Eder Financial. After this conference, I will make any needed changes in our software so that future reports reflect the name change.

Other changes will certainly include a new administrative assistant, and training along with that addition. This role includes opening the mail, and entering the bills into QuickBooks, as well as reviewing the hard copy bank statements that the District office receives.

A new role....

March 2022 also found me taking on the duties of the Camp Treasurer. I knew of the difficulties this position has presented in the past and the need for some consistency at the treasurer position and felt God leading me to help the camp ministry in this manner. I have been able to perform these duties from the District Office which does make things easier. We have as of June 1, implemented a new QuickBooks Online program, which will provide us data and reports to more easily inform CAC, the District Board, and congregations about the camp finances. This has been a big project, and the accounting firm of Whitcomb and Hess was hired to help set up the program. Shannon, members of CAC, Julie and I have been working hard to get it up and running. I hope to have valuable reports at District Conference this year. At this conference, we are also presenting a budget. The budget making process will hopefully be easier in years to come with the new software.

As always, please feel free to reach out by phone or email (both contacts are below) if you have any questions or concerns about the District or Camp finances. I am usually in the office on Tuesdays and some Wednesdays.

Lisa Snyder
567-203-9739
lisa@nohcob.org

Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren

Balance Sheet

07/04/22

Accrual Basis

As of December 31, 2021

	Dec 31, 21	Dec 31, 20
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
1001 · Farmers - Checking Account	135,515.50	93,176.37
1002 · Farmers - District Conference	10,047.95	10,160.40
1003 · Farmers - Youth Sch Fund	17,021.51	17,019.84
1005 · BF- Church Extension Fund	327,607.64	334,118.71
1006 · BF- Hottle Memorial Fund	1,626,656.56	1,561,932.65
1007 · BF- Peace Endowment	43,519.23	42,900.29
1008 · BF- Student Ministers Fund	38,670.65	35,210.67
1009 · BF- District Disaster Ministry	54,539.29	46,614.57
1010 · BF-Sampson Endowment	163,494.42	142,835.17
1011 · Womens Fellowship Savings	1,400.39	1,400.27
1012 · BF-Church Improvement Loan Fund	304,646.90	288,473.96
1013 · Edward Jones CD	1,000.00	1,000.00
1014 · BF-Congregational Growth	53,389.08	0.00
1015 · BF-Excellence in Ministry	25,170.56	0.00
Total Checking/Savings	2,802,679.68	2,574,842.90
Accounts Receivable		
1500 · Accounts Receivable	65.00	4,152.00
Total Accounts Receivable	65.00	4,152.00
Other Current Assets		
1600 · A/R Inspiration Hills Hlth Ins	0.00	119.77
1605 · A/R IH Liability Ins.	4,531.75	0.00
1615 · Undeposited Funds	0.00	2,550.00
Total Other Current Assets	4,531.75	2,669.77
Total Current Assets	2,807,276.43	2,581,664.67
Other Assets		
1612.02 · Sugar Creek West CILF Loan19-002	20,620.75	27,690.79
1612.03 · Painesville CILF 20-001	15,000.00	19,000.00
1612.04 · Center CoB CILF 20-002	6,907.28	10,811.00
1612.05 · Chippewa CILF 20-003	35,460.53	41,568.17
Total Other Assets	77,988.56	99,069.96
TOTAL ASSETS	2,885,264.99	2,680,734.63
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
2000 · Accounts Payable	468.35	2,274.44
Total Accounts Payable	468.35	2,274.44
Other Current Liabilities		
2117 · Ukraine Mission Trip	11,570.34	12,930.34
Total Other Current Liabilities	11,570.34	12,930.34
Total Current Liabilities	12,038.69	15,204.78
Total Liabilities	12,038.69	15,204.78
Equity		
2501 · Unrestricted Net Assets	2,665,529.85	2,590,551.35
Net Income	207,696.45	74,978.50
Total Equity	2,873,226.30	2,665,529.85
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	2,885,264.99	2,680,734.63

Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren

01/13/22

Profit & Loss

Accrual Basis

January through December 2021

	Jan - Dec 21	Jan - Dec 20
Income/Expense		
Income		
3000 · Self Allocations		
3010 · Church of the Brethren M&M	2,496.00	700.00
3013 · District Disaster Self Allocation	120.00	200.00
3015 · District Self Allocation	132,434.00	131,405.00
3020 · Good Shepherd Self Allocation	165.00	165.00
3025 · Inspiration Hills Self Allocation	1,545.00	2,360.00
3040 · Westview Healthy Living Alloc	200.00	200.00
Total 3000 · Self Allocations	136,960.00	135,030.00
3100 · Church Property Funds		
3115 · Church Extension self allocation	215.00	215.00
Total 3100 · Church Property Funds	215.00	215.00
3200 · Other Income		
3205 · District Conference Income	3,799.99	0.00
3215 · Nondesignated donations	2,780.80	0.00
3230 · District peace work income	2,051.83	1,000.00
3240 · Student Minister's Fund Income	1,186.21	1,762.48
Total 3200 · Other Income	9,818.83	2,762.48
Total Income	146,993.83	138,007.48
Gross Profit	146,993.83	138,007.48
Expense		
5100 · Stewardship/Finance Commission		
5109 · Financial Secretary Honora	1,167.00	1,000.00
5110 · Treasurer Honorarium	2,000.00	2,000.00
5113 · Accounting Fees	1,380.00	250.00
Total 5100 · Stewardship/Finance Commis...	4,547.00	3,250.00
5200 · Connections Commission		
5201 · Commission Expense	0.00	100.00
5203 · Junior/Senior High Cabinet	0.00	179.96
5204 · Youth Fellowship	283.61	36.25
5205 · Women's Fellowship	256.28	300.00
5207 · Young Adult Ministry	160.25	14.11
5210 · Child Protect/Background	85.75	85.75
5107 · VOAD dues	50.00	50.00
Total 5200 · Connections Commission	835.89	766.07
5400 · Ministerial Commission		
5402 · Pastor/Spouse Retreat	1,976.49	3,686.52
5407 · License & Ord. Gifts	0.00	122.37
5410 · Pastoral Ed. Expense	275.41	-208.53
5411 · Licensed Ministry Testing	800.00	750.00
5412 · Ministerial Background Check	15.00	30.00
Total 5400 · Ministerial Commission	3,066.90	4,380.36
5500 · District Executive		
5501 · D.E. Salary	48,799.92	50,792.34
5502 · Housing Expense	12,000.00	12,000.00
5504 · Health Insurance	0.00	0.00
5506 · Workers' Compensation	168.75	148.32
5507 · Travel & Expenses	7,872.59	4,326.26
5508 · Annual Conference	182.90	0.00
5509 · Professional Growth	0.00	500.00
5510 · CODE Dues	480.00	480.00
5511 · Retirement expense	7,295.98	7,535.07
5512 · Professional Expenses	386.00	799.83
Total 5500 · District Executive	77,186.14	76,581.82

Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren

01/13/22

Profit & Loss

Accrual Basis

January through December 2021

	Jan - Dec 21	Jan - Dec 20
5600 · District Office		
5606 · Office Administrative Expenses	875.28	900.00
5607 · Office Equipment Repair	85.00	116.88
5608 · Office Equipment - Leased	3,772.33	3,401.06
5609 · Telephone	1,772.85	1,801.20
5610 · Computer on-line	754.55	752.11
5611 · Herald & Directories	4,084.96	2,371.12
5612 · Utilities	3,064.13	3,002.88
5613 · Groundskeeping	2,060.00	1,570.00
5614 · Facility Security	855.00	756.00
5615 · Facility Maintenance	1,868.55	1,682.61
5616 · Real Estate Taxes	2,859.38	2,823.68
5619 · Office Supplies	1,162.11	1,055.84
5620 · Dues & Subscriptions	3,089.45	3,331.97
5621 · Office Equipment - New	234.99	1,169.59
5622 · Congregational Background Check	0.00	0.00
5623 · Postage	821.97	1,040.72
Total 5600 · District Office	27,360.55	25,775.66
5650 · District Admin Secretary		
5601 · Secretary Wages	26,283.92	26,461.58
5602 · Health Insurance	319.20	316.08
5603 · SS/Medicare Taxes	2,010.72	1,944.43
5604 · Workers' Compensation	81.12	71.32
5605 · Prof Growth - Travel & Expenses	422.22	75.00
5618 · Retirement expense	1,577.13	1,587.59
Total 5650 · District Admin Secretary	30,694.31	30,456.00
5700 · District Youth Worker		
5701 · Salary	9,215.19	15,356.38
5702 · SS/Medicare Taxes	695.66	1,219.23
5704 · Workers' Compensation	55.16	48.49
5705 · Travel	565.24	1,244.93
5706 · Professional Growth	75.00	-265.00
Total 5700 · District Youth Worker	10,606.25	17,604.03
5800 · District Peace Worker		
5801 · Salary	6,244.08	6,435.04
5802 · SS/Medicare/Taxes	477.67	527.69
5803 · Workers' Compensation	19.47	17.09
5806 · Continuing Ed. Expenses	0.00	100.00
Total 5800 · District Peace Worker	6,741.22	7,079.82
5900 · District Board		
5901 · District Board Expense	1,245.07	646.32
5902 · Annual Conference Expenses	2,896.08	2,970.66
5903 · Ohio Council of Churches	1,380.00	1,380.00
5904 · Standing Committee Delegate	306.00	306.00
5907 · Legal Fees	0.00	4,644.00
5908 · District Liability Insurance	1,299.00	1,403.50
5910 · Financial Services Fee	50.00	275.00
5911 · Memorials	200.00	450.00
5914 · Executive Committee Expense	0.00	63.00
Total 5900 · District Board	7,376.15	12,138.48
6000 · Self-Allocation Payments		
6007 · Church of the Brethren M and M	2,996.00	200.00
6015 · Good Shepherd	165.00	165.00
6020 · Inspiration Hills Self Alloc.	1,545.00	2,360.00
6035 · Student Minister's Fund	4,350.00	5,581.88
6040 · Westview Healthy Living	200.00	200.00
Total 6000 · Self-Allocation Payments	9,256.00	8,506.88

Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren

01/13/22

Profit & Loss

Accrual Basis

January through December 2021

	Jan - Dec 21	Jan - Dec 20
6100 · Non-budget Church Expense		
6106 · Jonah's People Grant	10,000.00	8,904.00
Total 6100 · Non-budget Church Expense	10,000.00	8,904.00
6200 · Non-Budget Expenses		
5912 · Investment Admin Fees	13,749.70	12,935.84
6210 · District Conference Expenses	4,688.53	113.48
6211 · Non-Budget - Inspiration Hills	60,771.96	63,783.96
6220 · Hottle Grants paid out	59,821.00	63,783.96
6221 · Bank Service Charges	0.00	0.00
6223 · Church Improvement Fund grants	0.00	36,000.00
6224 · Church Extension Fund Grants	772.00	14,522.04
6200 · Non-Budget Expenses - Other	1,737.21	9,730.17
Total 6200 · Non-Budget Expenses	141,540.40	200,869.45
Total Expense	329,210.81	396,312.57
Net Ordinary Income	-182,216.98	-258,305.09
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
8003 · Rounding Differences	0.24	-0.02
8000 · Interest Income	70.54	247.34
8001 · Interest Income - BF Accounts	39,135.08	48,047.03
8002 · Gain/Loss (Mkt Fluc) - BF Acct	350,707.57	282,981.86
8005 · Miscellaneous Income	0.00	2,007.38
Total Other Income	389,913.43	333,283.59
Net Other Income	389,913.43	333,283.59
Net Income	207,696.45	74,978.50

Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren

01/13/22

Budget vs. Actual

Accrual Basis

January through December 2021

	Jan - Dec 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary				
Income/Expense				
Income				
3000 · Self Allocations				
3010 · Church of the Brethren M&M	2,496.00			
3013 · District Disaster Self Allocation	120.00			
3015 · District Self Allocation	132,434.00			
3020 · Good Shepherd Self Allocation	165.00			
3025 · Inspiration Hills Self Allocation	1,545.00			
3040 · Westview Healthy Living Allocation	200.00			
Total 3000 · Self Allocations	136,960.00			
3100 · Church Property Funds				
3115 · Church Extension self allocation	215.00			
Total 3100 · Church Property Funds	215.00			
3200 · Other Income				
3205 · District Conference Income	3,799.99			
3215 · Nondesignated donations	2,780.80			
3230 · District peace work income	2,051.83			
3240 · Student Minister's Fund Income	1,186.21			
Total 3200 · Other Income	9,818.83			
Total Income	146,993.83			
Gross Profit	146,993.83			
Expense				
5100 · Stewardship/Finance Commission				
5101 · Commission Expense	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5109 · Financial Secretary Honora	1,167.00	1,000.00	167.00	116.7%
5110 · Treasurer Honorarium	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	100.0%
5113 · Accounting Fees	1,380.00	600.00	780.00	230.0%
Total 5100 · Stewardship/Finance Commis.	4,547.00	3,700.00	847.00	122.9%
5200 · Connections Commission				
5201 · Commission Expense	0.00	65.00	-65.00	0.0%
5202 · Education Training	0.00	380.00	-380.00	0.0%
5203 · Junior/Senior High Cabinet	0.00	525.00	-525.00	0.0%
5204 · Youth Fellowship	283.61	1,045.00	-761.39	27.1%
5205 · Women's Fellowship	256.28	165.00	91.28	155.3%
5206 · Men's Fellowship	0.00	95.00	-95.00	0.0%
5207 · Young Adult Ministry	160.25	200.00	-39.75	80.1%
5210 · Child Protect/Background	85.75	140.00	-54.25	61.3%
5211 · Sr. High Cabinet	0.00	95.00	-95.00	0.0%
5107 · VOAD dues	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.0%
5306 · Peace Task Team	0.00	140.00	-140.00	0.0%
Total 5200 · Connections Commission	835.89	2,900.00	-2,064.11	28.8%
5300 · Congregational Commission				
5301 · Commission Expense	0.00	300.00	-300.00	0.0%
5305 · New Church Development	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
Total 5300 · Congregational Commission	0.00	1,300.00	-1,300.00	0.0%
5400 · Ministerial Commission				
5402 · Pastor/Spouse Retreat	1,976.49	4,000.00	-2,023.51	49.4%
5407 · License & Ord. Gifts	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5410 · Pastoral Ed. Expense	275.41	250.00	25.41	110.2%
5411 · Licensed Ministry Testing	800.00	600.00	200.00	133.3%
5412 · Ministerial Background Check	15.00			
Total 5400 · Ministerial Commission	3,066.90	4,950.00	-1,883.10	62.0%

Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren

01/13/22

Budget vs. Actual

Accrual Basis

January through December 2021

	Jan - Dec 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
5500 · District Executive				
5501 · D.E. Salary	48,799.92	48,800.00	-0.08	100.0%
5502 · Housing Expense	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00	100.0%
5504 · Health Insurance	0.00			
5506 · Workers' Compensation	168.75	300.00	-131.25	56.3%
5507 · Travel & Expenses	7,872.59	13,500.00	-5,627.41	58.3%
5508 · Annual Conference	182.90	1,600.00	-1,417.10	11.4%
5509 · Professional Growth	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
5510 · CODE Dues	480.00	540.00	-60.00	88.9%
5511 · Retirement expense	7,295.98	7,296.00	-0.02	100.0%
5512 · Professional Expenses	386.00	400.00	-14.00	96.5%
Total 5500 · District Executive	77,186.14	84,936.00	-7,749.86	90.9%
5600 · District Office				
5606 · Office Administrative Expenses	875.28	900.00	-24.72	97.3%
5607 · Office Equipment Repair	85.00	200.00	-115.00	42.5%
5608 · Office Equipment - Leased	3,772.33	3,800.00	-27.67	99.3%
5609 · Telephone	1,772.85	1,800.00	-27.15	98.5%
5610 · Computer on-line	754.55	800.00	-45.45	94.3%
5611 · Herald & Directories	4,084.96	4,000.00	84.96	102.1%
5612 · Utilities	3,064.13	3,000.00	64.13	102.1%
5613 · Groundskeeping	2,060.00	1,800.00	260.00	114.4%
5614 · Facility Security	855.00	760.00	95.00	112.5%
5615 · Facility Maintenance	1,868.55	1,300.00	568.55	143.7%
5616 · Real Estate Taxes	2,859.38	2,900.00	-40.62	98.6%
5619 · Office Supplies	1,162.11	1,300.00	-137.89	89.4%
5620 · Dues & Subscriptions	3,089.45	3,300.00	-210.55	93.6%
5621 · Office Equipment - New	234.99	600.00	-365.01	39.2%
5622 · Congregational Background Check	0.00			
5623 · Postage	821.97	900.00	-78.03	91.3%
Total 5600 · District Office	27,360.55	27,360.00	0.55	100.0%
5650 · District Admin Secretary				
5601 · Secretary Wages	26,283.92	26,322.12	-38.20	99.9%
5602 · Health Insurance	319.20	350.00	-30.80	91.2%
5603 · SS/Medicare Taxes	2,010.72	2,105.77	-95.05	95.5%
5604 · Workers' Compensation	81.12	150.00	-68.88	54.1%
5605 · Prof Growth - Travel & Expenses	422.22	600.00	-177.78	70.4%
5618 · Retirement expense	1,577.13	1,579.33	-2.20	99.9%
Total 5650 · District Admin Secretary	30,694.31	31,107.22	-412.91	98.7%
5700 · District Youth Worker				
5701 · Salary	9,215.19	15,950.00	-6,734.81	57.8%
5702 · SS/Medicare Taxes	695.66	1,196.25	-500.59	58.2%
5704 · Workers' Compensation	55.16	75.00	-19.84	73.5%
5705 · Travel	565.24	3,850.00	-3,284.76	14.7%
5706 · Professional Growth	75.00	250.00	-175.00	30.0%
5707 · District Conference	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
Total 5700 · District Youth Worker	10,606.25	21,371.25	-10,765.00	49.6%
5800 · District Peace Worker				
5801 · Salary	6,244.08	6,020.00	224.08	103.7%
5802 · SS/Medicare/Taxes	477.67	461.00	16.67	103.6%
5803 · Workers' Compensation	19.47	35.00	-15.53	55.6%
5805 · Office Expenses	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
5806 · Continuing Ed. Expenses	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5807 · Travel	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
5808 · District Conference	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
Total 5800 · District Peace Worker	6,741.22	7,066.00	-324.78	95.4%

Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren

Budget vs. Actual

January through December 2021

	Jan - Dec 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
5900 · District Board				
5901 · District Board Expense	1,245.07	2,000.00	-754.93	62.3%
5902 · Annual Conference Expenses	2,896.08	2,900.00	-3.92	99.9%
5903 · Ohio Council of Churches	1,380.00	1,400.00	-20.00	98.6%
5904 · Standing Committee Delegate	306.00	1,300.00	-994.00	23.5%
5905 · Historical Committee	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5906 · Shalom Team	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.0%
5907 · Legal Fees	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
5908 · District Liability Insurance	1,299.00	1,400.00	-101.00	92.8%
5909 · Ethics Committee	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.0%
5910 · Financial Services Fee	50.00	400.00	-350.00	12.5%
5911 · Memorials	200.00	500.00	-300.00	40.0%
5914 · Executive Committee Expense	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
Total 5900 · District Board	7,376.15	13,000.00	-5,623.85	56.7%
6000 · Self-Allocation Payments				
6007 · Church of the Brethren M and M	2,996.00			
6015 · Good Shepherd	165.00			
6020 · Inspiration Hills Self Alloc.	1,545.00			
6035 · Student Minister's Fund	4,350.00			
6040 · Westview Healthy Living	200.00			
Total 6000 · Self-Allocation Payments	9,256.00			
6100 · Non-budget Church Expense				
6106 · Jonah's People Grant	10,000.00			
Total 6100 · Non-budget Church Expense	10,000.00			
6200 · Non-Budget Expenses				
5912 · Investment Admin Fees	13,749.70			
6210 · District Conference Expenses	4,688.53			
6211 · Non-Budget - Inspiration Hills	60,771.96			
6220 · Hottle Grants paid out	59,821.00			
6224 · Church Extension Fund Grants	772.00			
6200 · Non-Budget Expenses - Other	1,737.21			
Total 6200 · Non-Budget Expenses	141,540.40			
Total Expense	329,210.81	197,690.47	131,520.34	166.5%
Net Ordinary Income	-182,216.98	-197,690.47	15,473.49	92.2%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
8003 · Rounding Differences	0.24			
8000 · Interest Income	70.54			
8001 · Interest Income - BF Accounts	39,135.08			
8002 · Gain/Loss (Mkt Fluc) - BF Acct	350,707.57			
Total Other Income	389,913.43			
Net Other Income	389,913.43			
Net Income	207,696.45	-197,690.47	405,386.92	-105.1%

Income vs Expense (Budget and Actual)

Year End 2021

EXPENSE	Actual 2019	2019 Budget	Actual 2020	2020 Budget	Actual 2021	Budget 2021
Stewardship	4,920.00	13,100.00	3,250.00	5,100.00	4,547.00	3,700.00
Connections	3,059.27	8,550.00	866.07	2,795.00	835.89	2,900.00
Congregational	240.67	3,500.00	0.00	1,300.00	0.00	1,300.00
Ministerial	5,798.79	7,150.00	4,380.36	4,900.00	3,066.90	4,950.00
DE	84,846.68	93,262.00	76,581.82	84,936.00	77,186.14	84,936.00
Office	31,486.66	30,355.00	25,775.66	27,690.00	27,360.56	27,360.00
Admin Assistant	29,598.75	30,824.00	30,456.00	30,448.00	30,694.31	31,107.22
Youth Worker	22,910.15	22,659.00	17,604.03	22,814.00	10,606.25	21,371.25
Peace Worker	6,552.79	7,287.00	7,079.82	7,066.00	6,741.22	7,066.00
District Board	13,546.36	21,550.00	12,138.48	15,385.00	7,376.15	13,000.00
Total Expense	202,960.12	238,237.00	178,132.24	202,434.00	168,414.42	197,690.47
INCOME						
District SA	127,824.68	127,824.68	130,655.00	125,824.68	132,434.00	
Hottle dispersements	67,516.08	67,516.08	63,783.96	63,783.96	60,771.96	60,771.96
Peace reimbursement	7,287.00	7,287.00	7,066.00	7,066.00	7,066.00	7,066.00
Emergency draw						
Total Income	202,627.76	202,627.76	201,504.96	196,674.64	200,271.96	
Income minus expense	(332.36)	(35,609.24)	23,372.72	(5,759.36)	31,857.54	

Financial Secretary Report			District Self Allocations		Year End 2021	
Church	2019 Pledge	Giving 2019	2020 Pledge	Giving 2020	2021 Pledge	Giving 2021
Adrian	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Akron Eastwood	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
Akron First	500.00	550.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
Akron Springfield	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Ashland Dickey	6,700.00	6,700.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,300.00	7,300.00
Ashland First	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,475.00	2,475.00	2,475.00	2,475.00
Bethel	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00
Black River	0.00	800.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Bristolville	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,800.00	3,800.00
Brook Park	0.00	1,171.00	0.00	770.00	0.00	1,330.00
Center	600.00	600.00	625.00	625.00	650.00	650.00
Chippewa	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00	0.00	0.00
County Line	3,780.00	3,780.00	3,780.00	3,780.00	3,780.00	3,780.00
Defiance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dupont	6,500.00	6,500.00	6,500.00	6,500.00	6,500.00	6,500.00
East Chippewa	13,200.00	13,200.00	13,100.00	13,100.00	13,100.00	13,100.00
East Nimishillen	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Eden	1,950.00	2,075.00	2,000.00	1,500.00	1,619.00	1,619.00
Elm Street	600.00	950.00	950.00	950.00	0.00	950.00
Faith in Action	900.00	900.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
Freeburg	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
Hartville	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
Jonah's People	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00	300.00	300.00
Lake Breeze	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Lakewood	2,250.00	2,465.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Lick Creek	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Mansfield	3,885.00	3,885.00	3,885.00	3,885.00	3,885.00	3,885.00
Maple Grove	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,180.00	6,180.00	6,180.00	6,180.00
Marion	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
Mohican	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,300.00	15,300.00	0.00	20,000.00
Mount Pleasant	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
New Philadelphia	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	2,400.00	1,400.00	1,650.00
North Bend	7,500.00	7,500.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Owl Creek	1,400.00	1,400.00	0.00	1,400.00	0.00	1,400.00
Painesville	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Paradise	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pleasant View	1,000.00	1,125.00	1,200.00	1,225.00	1,200.00	1,225.00
Poplar Ridge	8,000.00	10,000.00	8,240.00	8,240.00	8,240.00	8,240.00
Reading	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	8,000.00	4,000.00	8,000.00
Richland	400.00	400.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00
Ross	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Silver Creek	1,000.00	1,330.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Sugar Creek West	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Sugarcreek East	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00
Swan Creek	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodworth	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
Zion Hill	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,600.00	0.00	1,200.00
Individual	0.00	4,268.68	0.00	2,750.00	0.00	2,175.00
TOTAL	113,290.00	127,874.68	115,560.00	130,655.00	99,554.00	132,434.00

Stewardship and Finance Commission	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed Budget 2023	Change from 2022	Comments
5101 Commission Expenses	100	100	0	-100	
5109 Financial Secretary Honorarium	1,000	1,000	1,000		
5110 Treasurer Honorarium	2,000	3,000	3,000		
5113 Audit Fees (NOHCOB)	600	2,750	3,000	250	
5114 Audit Fees (Inspiration Hills)			3,000	3,000	
Total Discipleship	3,700	6,850	10,000	3,150	
Connections Commission					
5201 Commission Expenses	65	65	65		
5202 Education Training	380	380	380		
5203 Jr/Sr High Youth Cabinets	525	525	525		
5204 Youth Ministry	1,045	1,045	1,045		
5205 SISTERS Fellowship	165	165	165		
5206 Men's Fellowship	95	95	95		
5207 Young Adult Ministry	200	200	200		
5210 Child Protection/Background Checks	140	140	140		
5103 Disaster Representative	95	95	95		
5104 Disaster Travel*	0	0	0		
5105 BVS Representative*	0	0	0		
5107 VOAD/General Scholarship*	50	50	50		
5306 Peace Task Team*	140	140	140		
Total Fellowship	2,900	2,900	2,900	0	
Congregational Commission					
5301 Commission Expenses	300	300	300		
5302 Leadership Training	0	0	0		See* below
5303 Spiritual Life Retreats	0	0	0		
5305 New Church Development	1,000	1,000	0	-1,000	See** below
Total Congregational	1,300	1,300	300	-1,000	
Ministerial Commission					
5401 Commission Expenses	0	0	0	-4,000	See *** below
5402 Clergy/Spouse Retreat	4,000	4,000	0		
5403 New Pastor's Expenses	0	0	0		
5404 Mentor Expenses	0	0	0		
5405 TRIM Expenses	0	0	0		
5406 Trim Coordinator Expenses	0	0	0		
5407 License and Ordination Gifts	100	100	100		
5410 Pastoral Education Expenses	250	250	250		
5411 Licensed Ministry Testing	600	600	600		
5412 Ministerial Background Checks	0	0	0		
Total Ministerial	4,950	4,950	950	-4,000	

*Leadership Training/Spiritual Life Retreats will be funded through the newly created "Congregational Growth Fund"

**New Church Development will be funded through the "Church Extension Fund"

***Clergy/Spouse Retreat will be funded through the newly created "Excellence in Ministry Fund"

	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed Budget 2023	Change from 2022 (rounded)	Comments
District Executive					
5501 Salary	48,800	48,800	48,800		
5502 Housing Expenses	12,000	12,000	12,000		
5503 Medicare/Taxes	0	0	0		
5504 Health Insurance	0	0	0		
5505 Health Savings Account	0	0	0		
5506 Workers Compensation	300	300	200	-100	
5507 Travel and Expenses	13,500	12,500	12,500		
5508 Annual Conference	1,600	1,600	1,600		
5509 Professional Growth	500	500	500		
5510 CODE dues	540	540	540		
5511 Retirement Pension	7,296	7,296	7,296		
5512 Professional Expenses	400	400	400		
Total District Executive	84,936	83,936	83,836	-100	
District Administrative Secretary					
5601 Salary	26,322.12	27,125.40	27,955	830	
5602 Health Insurance	350.00	350.00	350		
5603 SS/Medicare/Taxes	2,105.77	2,170.03	2,236	66	
5604 Workers Compensation	150.00	100.00	100		
5605 Professional Growth, Travel, Expenses	600.00	600.00	600		
5618 Retirement Pension	1,579.33	1,627.53	1,677	49	
Total District Administrative Secretary	31,107.22	31,972.96	32,918	945	
District Office					
5606 Office Administrative Expenses	900	950	1,000	50	
5607 Office Equipment Repair	200	200	200		
5608 Office Equipment Lease	3,800	3,500	3,800	300	
5609 Telephone	1,800	1,850	1,200	-650	
5610 Computer On-Line	800	800	800		
5611 Herald and Directories	4,000	3,500	3,700	200	
5612 Utilities (electric, gas, water, trash)	3,000	3,200	3,200		
5613 Groundskeeping	1,800	1,800	1,900	100	
5614 Facility Security	760	800	850	50	
5615 Facility Maintenance	1,300	1,700	1,700		
5616 Real Estate Taxes	2,900	2,900	2,950	50	
5619 Office Supplies	1,300	1,200	1,200		
5620 Dues and Subscriptions	3,300	3,300	3,400	100	
5621 Office Equipment New	600	600	500	-100	
5622 Congregational Background checks	0	0	0		
5623 Postage	900	1,000	900	-100	
Total District Office	27,360	27,300	27,300	0	
District Youth Coordinator					
5701 Salary	15,950.00	16,000	16,500	500	
5702 SS/Medicare/Taxes	1,196.25	1,280	1,320	40	
5704 Workers Compensation	75.00	75	75		
5705 Travel	3,850.00	3,800	3,800		
5706 Professional Growth	250.00	250	250		
5707 District Conference	50.00	50	50		
Total District Youth Coordinator	21,371.25	21,455	21,995	540	

	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Proposed Budget 2023	Change from 2022	Comments
District Peace & Conciliation Advocate					
5801 Salary	6,020	6,202.25	6,386	184	
5802 SS/Medicare/Taxes	461	496.18	511	14	
5803 Workers Compensation	35	25.00	25		
5805 Office Expenses	200	100.00	100		
5806 Continuing Ed Education	100	100.00	100		
5807 Travel	200	200.00	200		
5808 District Conference	50	50.00	50		
5809 Health Insurance	0	0.00	0		
Total District Peace & Conciliation Advocate	7,066	7,173.43	7,372	198	
District Board Expense					
5901 District Board Expenses	2,000	2,000	2,000		
5902 Annual Conference Assess	2,900	2,900	2,500	-400	
5903 Ohio Council of Churches	1,400	1,400	1,450	50	
5904 Standing Com Delegates	1,300	1,300	1,300		
5905 Historical Committee	100	100	300	200	
5906 Shalom Team	250	250	250		
5907 Legal Fees	2,000	2,000	2,000		
5908 District Liability Insurance	1,400	1,475	1,475		
5909 Ethics Committee	250	200	200		
5910 Financial Services Fee	400	0	0		
5911 Memorial Gifts	500	500	500		
5914 Executive Meetings Expense	500	450	400	-50	
Total District Board Expense	13,000	12,575	12,375	-200	
Sub Totals					
Total Commission/Board Expenses	25,850.00	28,575.00	26,525	-2,050.00	
Total Non-Commission/Board Expenses	171,840.47	171,837.39	173,421	1,583.61	
Total Budget	197,690.47	200,412.39	199,946	-466.39	
Income (* = estimates)	Actual 2021	Projected 2022	Projected 2023	Change from 2022	
Self-Allocations	132,434.00	*136,000.00	*134,000		
Hottle Endowment Disbursement	60,771.96	*46,126.00	*46,000		
Peace Worker Endowment Disbursement	7,066.00	7,174.00	7,372		
Income	200,271.96	189,300.00	187,372		
Amount of Reserve Funds to be used		11,112.39	12,574		
Total Income		200,412.39	199,946		
Budget vs Income Difference		0.00	0.00		

Inspiration Hills

District Conference Report 2022

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:21

This summer, the campers and staff had a great time seeking the buried treasure that is found in the word of God. We studied the parables and the deeper meanings behind those very odd stories found in the New Testament and discovered some “jewels” to take home as a reminder of God at work in us. The campers had a great time worshiping and praising the Lord with songs, daily Bible teachings, nature hikes and studies, meaningful campfires, and prayers. It is always wonderful to give our youth this time of respite and reflection during some very difficult times in our world.

At camp, we are still feeling the effects of the pandemic and the current economic instability that all of you are experiencing. Our summer camp numbers are slightly higher than last summer but certainly not back to normal yet. We were bursting at the seams during Junior High Camp and had many empty bunks during Junior Camp. This seems to be a trend throughout summer camps across the country and the camp staff is devoting a lot of time to “reimagining” and breathing new life into our summer camp program. The spiritual development of our district youth continues to be our highest priority and we have added new program staff to help us continue building new opportunities for our youth.

Fewer youth made up our summer staff this year, but they all worked hard and helped to provide a great experience for our campers. We want to thank Anna Burns (Ashland Dickey), Dawson Clay (County Line), Derrick Clay (County Line), Chloe Matz (Ashland Dickey), Kenny Melton (Elm Street), Peyton Stuafter (Dupont), Madi Stokes (Maple Grove), Dalys Tice (Dupont), and Hanna Warnick (Eastwood) for serving as camp counselors this summer.

We thank Brian Layman, Allen Kahler, Gary Griffith, Terry Vaught, and Mark Kell for leading our campers in their spiritual journey as they prepared Bible studies and activities for each day of camp, and Denise Layman, Gary Griffith, and Ashley Steiner for assisting with Senior High Camp. Finally, we thank Elyssa Kline and Katie Smith for their work in the very hot kitchen, Ben Allshouse for heading up our facility work, and Chris Kaake for leading the summer program.

Please thank all of these people when you see them!

What’s New?

We continue to focus on rebuilding our summer programs and retreat season offerings post pandemic. We added three staff members this past year to fill the Facility Manager position (Ben Allshouse), Program & Operations position (Chris Kaake) and General Assistant (Hanna Warnick). All of the camp staff has been tasked with seeking out new groups to add to the IH family and this past year we added Camp Quality (a pediatric cancer camp), Cloverleaf HS Soccer Camp, and H2O Church of Cincinnati who is church planting in Buffalo NY.

The camp welcomed Lisa Snyder (Ashland 1st) as the new camp treasurer. She has been hard at work converting our accounting program to a new platform for the past several months and we are truly thankful for her diligence in completing this difficult task!

We will be harvesting a crop of trees this fall as part of our tree farm operation. The camp’s forester tracks the growth of our trees and recommends areas needing to be harvested on a 5- 7 year cycle. We are truly blessed to have this great gift that was imagined by our district over 50 years ago as a way to sustain the camp operations well into the future.

The Annual Fall Festival is scheduled for Saturday, September 24, 2022! Festivities will begin at 10am with a silent auction and camp tours-delicious food and live auction will follow. We currently accepting handmade goods and antiques for our benefit auction; all proceeds will go to rebuilding the summer camp programs at IH.

Hidden Treasures

We have many year-round volunteers that keep our grass mowed, snow plowed, trails clear, equipment running, and our water treatment plant up to code; these volunteers are dedicated to serving the ministry and show up many times a week. I would like to thank Brian Horst (Mohican), Jim Reichard (Mohican), Peter Snyder (Ashland First), and Mark Dickerhoof (Freeburg) for their tireless work on behalf of Inspiration Hills Camp.

The camp also has a group of volunteers who are working members of the Camp Administration Committee. Please thank Linda Worthen, Jim Shives, Jessie Adams, Mark Dickerhoof, Denise Layman, Allen Luginbill, Gary Griffith, Erich Basset, Lisa Bertsch for their service. These committee members have diligently supported the camp and their commitment to the ministry is a blessing to all of us!

In Christ,

Shannon M. Kahler

Executive Director

Inspiration Hills Camp



Inspiration Hills Account Balances Year End 2021

ACCOUNT BALANCES

	Checking	Savings	BBT Investments
Beginning Balance 01/01/2021	36,254.41	2,893.36	14,892.51
Transfer to checking	+450.00	-450.00	
	+10,243.74		-10,243.74
Interest		+0.24	+223.50
Market Fluctuation			+1,275.17
Administrative Fee			-150.97
Net Income/Loss	-24,162.74		
Change in Accounts Payable	-2,714.71		
Ending Balance 12/31/2021	20,070.70	2,443.60	5,996.47

Inspiration Hills Camp Income Statement

1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

1) Income from Operations	
Food Service Income	900
Rental Income	59,857
Retreat Income	331
Summer Camp	27,080
Total 1) Income from Operations	88,167
2) Donations	
51100 - Contributions	15,072
51200 - Self Allocations	48,256
51250 - District Allocation	60,772
Total 2) Donations	124,100
3) Other Operating Income	
53000 - Gas Well Revenue	3,589
55000 - Camp Store Revenue	1,500
59000 - Miscellaneous Income	120
Fundraising Income	6,976
Total 3) Other Operating Income	12,185
Total Revenue	224,453
Gross Profit	224,453
Operating Expenses	
1) Salaries and Wages	
60010 - Salary - Admin	54,121
60020 - Salary - Kitchen	15,378
60030 - Salary - Maintenance	22,556
60520 - Wages - Kitchen	4,610
60530 - Wages - Maintenance	4,343
60540 - Wages - Program	1,600
60550 - Wages - Summer staff	11,643
Total 1) Salaries and Wages	114,249
2) Other Employee Expenses	
61050 - Payroll Taxes	8,580
61060 - Workers' Compensation	1,834
61100 - Medical Insurance	1,096
61120 - HSA Employer Contribution	4,000
61160 - Pension Plan	10,495
61400 - Travel Reimbursement	468
61500 - Training	1,566
Total 2) Other Employee Expenses	28,039

Inspiration Hills Camp Income Statement

1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

3) Other Operating Expenses	
62180 - Sales Tax	54
62190 - Real Estate Taxes	387
71010 - Insurance - Fire & Liability	17,654
71700 - Licenses	1,087
71720 - Legal & Professional Fees	4,113
71800 - Bank Fees	146
72010 - Marketing	4,162
72500 - Office Supplies & Equipment	4,261
72600 - Postage	888
Total 3) Other Operating Expenses	32,751
4) Direct Costs	
73000 - Food Purchases	23,792
73500 - Camp Store Goods	4,939
74010 - Heritage Festival Expenses	830
Total 4) Direct Costs	29,561
5) Supplies	
75100 - Kitchen Supplies	1,783
75200 - Facilities Supplies	7,771
75250 - Program Supplies	2,561
75350 - Recreation Equipment	337
Total 5) Supplies	12,451
6) Miscellaneous	
78000 - Miscellaneous Expenses	1,003
Total 6) Miscellaneous	1,003
7) Utilities	
81100 - Telephone & Internet	5,908
81200 - Electricity	20,819
81300 - LP Gas & Natural Gas	8,490
81400 - Trash Removal	2,039
Total 7) Utilities	37,257
8) Maintenance	
82000 - Gasoline & Diesel	2,415
84000 - Repairs & Maintenance	13,792
85030 - Small Tools & Equipment	2,062
86030 - Grounds & Conservation	959
86040 - Pest Control	1,868
86050 - Gravel	1,963
86060 - WWTP Testing	3,024
Total 8) Maintenance	26,084

Inspiration Hills Camp Income Statement

1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

Total Operating Expenses	281,395
Operating Income / (Loss)	(56,942)
Other Income and Expense	
1) Other Income	
92000 - Other Income	30,217
92025 - Grants	45,024
92030 - Interest Received	224
92035 - Market Value Fluctuation	1,275
Total 1) Other Income	76,740
2) Other Expenses	
Capital Improvements	(43,961)
Total 2) Other Expenses	(43,961)
Total Other Income and Expense	32,779
Net Income / (Loss) before Tax	(24,163)
Net Income	(24,163)
Total Comprehensive Income	(24,163)

Line Item		2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Notes
60000	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR			
60010	Salary - Executive Director	55,000	55,000	
60011	Payroll Taxes- Executive Director		10,800	(total for all employees)
60012	Workers' Compensation- Executive Director		2,800	(total for all employees)
60013	Medical Insurance- Executive Director		0	
60014	HSA- Executive Director		3,000	
60015	Pension Plan- Executive Director		10,600	
60016	Travel Reimbursement- Executive Director		0	
60017	Other Expenses- Executive Director		0	
	60000 TOTAL		82,200	
61000	FACILITY MANAGER			
61010	Salary-Facility Manager	45,000	45,000	
61011	Payroll Taxes- Facility Manager			(see line 60011)
61012	Workers' Compensation- Facility Manager			(see line 60012)
61013	Medical Insurance- Facility Manager		0	
61014	HSA- Facility Manager		3,000	
61015	Pension Plan- Facility Manager		4,500	
61016	Travel Reimbursement- Facility Manager			
61017	Other expense- Facility Manager			
	61000 TOTAL		52,500	
62000	DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM AND OPERATIONS			
62010	Salary - Director of Program and Operations	40,000	40,000	
62011	Payroll Taxes-Director of P&O			(see line 60011)
62012	Workers' Compensation- Director of P&O			(see line 60012)
62013	Medical Insurance- Director of P&O		4,000	
62014	HSA- Director of P&O		0	
62015	Pension Plan- Director of P&O		4,500	
62016	Travel Reimbursement- Director of P&O			
62017	Other expenses-Director of P&O			
	62000 TOTAL		48,500	
63000	KITCHEN COORDINATOR			
63010	Salary - Kitchen Coordinator		0	
63011	Payroll Taxes- Kitchen Coordinator			(see line 60011)
63012	Workers' Compensation- Kitchen Coordinator			(see line 60012)
63013	Medical Insurance- Kitchen Coordinator			
63014	HSA- Kitchen Coordinator			
63015	Pension Plan- Kitchen Coordinator			
63016	Travel Reimbursement- Kitchen Coordinator			
63017	Other Expenses- Kitchen Coordinator			
	63000 TOTAL		0	

Line Item		2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Notes
64000	OFFICE STAFF			
64010	Wages - Office		0	
64011	Payroll Taxes- Office			(see line 60011)
64012	Workers' Compensation -Office			(see line 60012)
64013	Training/other expense- Office			
	64000 TOTAL		0	
65000	KITCHEN STAFF			
65010	Wages - Kitchen	5,000	5,000	
65011	Payroll Taxes- Kitchen			(see line 60011)
65012	Workers' Compensation -Kitchen			(see line 60012)
65013	Training/other expense- Kitchen			
	65000 TOTAL		5,000	
66000	MAINTENANCE STAFF			
66010	Wages - Maintenance	20,000	20,000	
66011	Payroll Taxes- Maintenance			(see line 60011)
66012	Workers' Compensation -Maintenance			(see line 60012)
66013	Training/other expense- Maintenance			
	66000 TOTAL		20,000	
67000	Program Staff			
67010	Wages - Program		0	
67011	Payroll Taxes- Program			(see line 60011)
67012	Workers' Compensation -Program			(see line 60012)
67013	Training/other expense- Program			
	67000 TOTAL		0	
68000	SUMMER STAFF			
68010	Wages - Summer staff	16,000	18,000	
68011	Payroll Taxes- Summer staff			(see line 60011)
68012	Workers' Compensation- Summer Staff			(see line 60012)
68013	Training/other expense- Summer Staff			
	68000 TOTAL		18,000	
69000	OTHER EMPLOYEE EXPENSES			
69010	Travel Reimbursement			
69011	Training		500	
69012	Conferences		800	
69013	Summer Staff orientation expenses		500	
	69000 TOTAL		1800	
60000	TOTAL EMPLOYEE EXPENSES		228,000	

Line Item		2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Notes
70000	OPERATING EXPENSES			
71000	Financial Services Fees (QB, HR block, treas,...)		1,600	
71010	Insurance - Vehicles		0	
71050	Licenses	500	1,200	
71190	Insurance - Fire & Liability	20,000	18,000	
71700	Legal Fees		1,200	
71710	Association Fees		500	
71720	Watershed tax		300	
	7100 TOTAL		22,800	
72010	Summer Registration (brochure/bottles/t-shirt)	5,000	3,000	
72020	Marketing (brochures/ banners/ etc.)	5,000	3,000	
72050	Office Supplies & Equipment	3,500	3,500	
72500	Postage	1,500	1,500	
72600	Camp Store Goods	3,000	3,000	
	7200 TOTAL		14,000	
73100	Food Purchases - Retreats	40,000	40,000	
73200	Food Purchases - Summer Camp		15,000	
73300	Food Purchases - Volunteers		5,000	
	7300 TOTAL		60,000	
74000	SUPPLIES			
74010	Outreach Expenses		2,000	
74030	Misc Fundraiser Expenses		500	
74040	Facilities Supplies (paper towels/ etc.)	10,000	13,000	
74050	Program Supplies	3,000	1,800	
74060	Medical Supplies		1,000	
74070	Craft Supplies		200	
74080	Recreation Equipment		500	
74090	Miscellaneous Expenses	500	500	
	7400 TOTAL		19,500	
70000	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES		116,300	
80000	UTILITIES			
81000	Telephone & Internet	5,000	4,200	
81100	Electricity	20,000	21,000	
81200	LP Gas & Natural Gas	15,000	15,000	
81300	Trash Removal	3,000	3,500	
81400	Gasoline & Diesel	3,500	4,500	
	81000 TOTAL		48,200	

Inspiration Hills
PROPOSED BUDGET 2023
Page 4 of 4

Line Item		2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Notes
82000	Maintenance	10,000	10,000	
83000	Repairs		10,000	
84000	Annual Inspections		1,000	
84010	Small Tools & Equipment		1,500	
85030	Grounds & Conservation		500	
86030	Pest Control	2,000	2,000	
86040	Gravel & Mulch	2,000	3,000	
86050	WWTP Testing	2,000	1,500	
	82000-86000 TOTAL		29,500	
80000	TOTAL UTILITIES		77,700	
90000	OTHER EXPENSES			
95000	Depreciation		0	
95600	Cap Imp - Other			
	9500 TOTAL		0	
	TOTAL EXPENSES		422,000	

	REVENUE			
	Rental Income	120,000	120,000	
	Summer Camp Income	45,000	45,000	
	Food Income - Rentals		50,000	
	Food Income - Summer Camp		20,000	
	Individual Contributions	15,000	15,000	
	Hottle Allocations	48,000	45,000	
	Church Allocations	55,000	42,000	
	Camp Store	2,400	2,400	
	Fundraising - Fall Festival	8,000	6,000	
	Fundraising - Other	0	1,000	
	Gas Well	4,000	4,000	
	Timber	96,000	0	
	TOTAL REVENUE		350,400	
	BALANCE		-71600	

Denominational Report



May 2022

Church of the Brethren

Greetings to you in the name of Christ our Savior, Redeemer, and Lord!

Once again I want to express my gratitude for the many ways your district and local congregations faithfully strive to live out the Gospel—to simply try to do what Jesus did. The vital ministries of our Church of the Brethren congregations, small to large, are at the heart of our Church. We should never diminish the essential role that each unique part of the body plays in our common ministry together. With that in mind, as you gather in person or virtually for your District Conferences, I have invited our Mission and Ministry Board and staff to hold you and your work and ministries in our prayers.

For a more comprehensive report about the work of the Mission and Ministry Board and staff, I would point you to the Annual Report found at <https://www.brethren.org/about/annualreport/>. In addition, we are planning to report at many of your district conferences or be available for questions and conversations.

In these days, uncertainty and disruption are prominent in many of our congregational and district circles. One cannot deny the challenges that we face as a denomination—challenges that are manifest in the recent splits in which congregations have left or are leaving us; the ongoing disputes regarding sexuality, Biblical authority, and the calls for greater accountability; and the echo chambers of misinformation that continue to fuel mistrust. Yet these challenges and others that seem to gather the most attention only serve to mask the pressing reality that our membership continues to decline. While it is much easier to blame others or claim that the issues named above cast a shadow that discourages outsiders from darkening our doorways, I would simply ask: What are you doing to be Jesus in your neighborhood? If we Brethren are known by the manner of our living, what is your living saying to those in your local community? Who are your neighbors? What are their needs? Do you really know?

As a former pastor, I know that it was rare for the people in the communities where I served to look to the district or denominational stage. What made the most significant impression was the local congregation's invitation and hospitality; their engagement, service, and mission in the local community; and their efforts at supporting missions beyond their local setting. If it is our purpose to find fault and scrutinize those who do not live up to our standards and understanding of Scripture, then we will surely have little problem finding that which we seek, given the sinful and imperfect nature of each of us. Meanwhile, our neighbors will miss out on learning to know about the transformative power of Jesus.

In the context of the Mission and Ministry Board's Strategic Plan, the Board has identified priorities for our staff's work. Among them: develop a prominent, comprehensive, sustained framework for equipping evangelism; and develop a program about healing and reconciling relationships within the church and transforming conflict, including the intentional construction of a network of members who understand the dynamics of conflict and who are called to serve in a ministry of bringing healing to our brokenness. In naming these priorities, the Board is

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recognizing that to be Jesus in our neighborhoods and to do that together, we must first begin healing the brokenness within our own body. In addition, our staff needs to help provide the tools and resources to support and guide our congregations in their effort to engage their communities in mission and service.

It is important to acknowledge that no program will fix us. Healing our brokenness and the brokenness in our relationships will take time, and it is an effort we must make together. This is not a pass to dismiss the tough issues that we face, but an invitation to commit to finding ways to come together, setting aside our assumptions about the other and learning to know one another—learning about their families, jobs, interests, retirement, etc. It is also an invitation to gather with others in your district to study and discern scripture together around those tough issues, to pray together, and to open yourselves to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

My friends, it is my hope and prayer that you will join me in efforts to heal the brokenness between us and focus more on loving each other to death. May we also give our full attention to our call and work to be disciples of Jesus in our communities and world. I believe loving each other to death—as well as those in our communities—allows for the transforming power of Jesus to be set free in our neighborhoods.

I invite you to join me in our common efforts at being Jesus in our neighborhoods.

Your servant in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Steele", written in a cursive style.

David Steele General
Secretary

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410-635-8731 800-451-4407 Fax: 410-635-8739

Greetings to the moderator, delegates, and members, as you gather for your District Conference!

By the time you read this report the ministries of Church of the Brethren Benefit Trust will have become the ministries of Eder Financial. That's right, this agency of the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference has changed its name and internal operations so that the one thing that does not change for years to come is our steadfast service to your pastors, church staff members, and district and camp staffs.

Just like Church of the Brethren Benefit Trust, Eder Financial provides retirement and insurance services to employees of the denomination. It manages funds for congregations and organizations, as well as a benevolent fund for pastors and employees of congregations, districts, and camps. It offers help to denominational members with end-of-life financial decision making through the deferred gift financial instruments, which it writes and administers. It offers resources and seminars to help members and others within the denomination ask the right questions to ensure a fruitful retirement and appropriate insurance benefits along the way. One more distinctive of which we are proud is that our funds are invested in a socially responsible manner. Our screens prohibit investments in areas that are counter to Church of the Brethren statements, and we advocate for companies in which we invest so that their decisions might better honor God's creation.



Our new logo tells the Eder Financial story –

- The cross is representative of our organization being grounded in faith as disciples of Jesus Christ.
- “Eder” is from the Eder River, where the Brethren movement began in Schwarzenau, Germany, in 1708. This name honors the movement and the ideals that led to the creation of our original ministry-focused, not-for-profit organization that serves people and organizations of like mind.
- “Financial” indicates that we are rooted in products and services that help members and organizations become sound stewards of their own financial resources.
- “Bold” describes how we provide our values-based services, based on the teachings of Jesus, through helpful products, concierge customer service, and competitive fees. Our investment screens are based on Brethren values, and our engagement in advocacy implores companies to weigh their strong business practices with being caretakers of God's creation and people.
- “Balanced” is the manner in which we partner with those we serve to help them achieve their objectives.
- “Trusted” signals that we look out for the best interests of those we serve by being proactive and maintaining confidentiality.

Why the change? In 2021, Church of the Brethren membership fell below 100,000 members for the first time. Two years into the articulation of the Church of the Brethren's Compelling Vision discernment process, there continued to be real division within the denomination. Within our own organization, this raised questions about how to best serve those for whom we were created. With so many factors to consider and the care of our members and client institutions at the forefront of our minds, we decided to boldly reinvent our organization and its ministries. While attempting to honor the past, our Board affirmed five strategic outcomes for our ministries, centered on growth, marketing, our employees, the location from which we do our work, and our identity.

In January 2022 we became a "work-from-home" organization, which allows us to hire new staff from anywhere in the country. We continue to maintain a minimal footprint at the Church of the Brethren General Offices for occasional use by our various teams. Another aspect of change was the announcement of a new organizational structure that brings more staff to the decision-making table for better ideas, collaboration, planning, and coordination, which now gives us better bench strength, business continuity, and succession planning. Eder Financial is overseen by a 12-member board of directors. They may serve up to two four-year terms. Board members have organizational, financial, or accounting backgrounds and experience.

A little about what we offer our members and clients, which might include *you*:

- A robust and competitive retirement plan that allows members to build their savings with plenty of options. Employees can select from more than 30 investment offerings and receive fiduciary-level investing advice through our partner, Edelman Financial Engines.
- Several options for extra insurance including dental, vision, life (basic and supplemental), accidental death and dismemberment, short- and long-term disability, accident, Medicare supplement, pet insurance, and long-term care. All of this is now coordinated by the online web portal that was launched in fall 2021.
- Investment options for congregations and related denominational organizations that have from \$10,000 to more than \$10 million to invest. Our staff is focused on quality customer service, and a web portal allows clients to find resources, manage the transfer of funds, and generate customizable reports.
- A benevolent fund that helps employees of churches, districts, and camps who find themselves with extraordinary financial needs. The Plan is meant for employees who meet minimum tenure, as well as several other requirements related to annual income and overall net worth. In 2021, the Church Workers' Assistance Plan distributed regular grants to 47 individuals, totaling \$274,821. During the peak of COVID, special grants totaling \$426,000 were issued to 128 people.
- Deferred Gifts offers charitable gift instruments for Church of the Brethren members who want to leave some of their assets with one or more Brethren organizations as part of their end-of-life planning process. We would be glad to illustrate to you how Eder Financial can help establish and manage such gifts.

We believe the strategic steps we are in the process of implementing will allow us to continue serving you and others within the Church of the Brethren, while at the same time building relationships that enable us to serve individuals beyond the denomination. Our desire is to remain a reliable voice in helping your congregation, district, camp, or related Brethren organization manage its pension, insurance, organizational investing, and deferred gifts. We exist to serve you so that you can, in turn, more effectively live out your life in faithful service to Jesus Christ.

Donna Rhodes

Board Chair

Nevin Dulabaum

President



A World of Possibilities

Since 1905, Bethany Theological Seminary has followed the example of Jesus by preparing others for lives of ministry and service. Our innovative learning community is grounded in an Anabaptist and Radical Pietist witness. We provide students with exceptional opportunities for advanced biblical and theological study that values both faith formation and academic freedom. We empower students to answer their call from God and to lead through spiritual engagement, faith-filled thought, and transformative practice.

CLEARING A PATH TO MINISTRY

We do everything we can to make seminary education accessible and affordable for all qualified students. Over the last decade, we have made remarkable progress in reducing the amount of student debt at the Seminary. Our concerted efforts to increase scholarships, provide affordable housing, and offer financial guidance have been effective in dramatically reducing student borrowing and in encouraging a diverse and vibrant student body to pursue ministry and service with confidence and without unnecessary financial burdens.

CULTIVATING THE PASTORATE

This year we are introducing a revised Master of Divinity program that will provide robust preparation to students who are called to specific career paths including:

- Congregational Leadership
- Chaplaincy
- Spiritual Direction and Care
- Family Ministry
- Teaching
- Conflict Transformation and Mediation

Our residential students form a strong community, living in newly renovated houses in our "Bethany Neighborhood." They gain practical experience while studying Bible, History, Ministry, Peace, and Theology.

INNOVATING IN THE CLASSROOM

Bethany's professors are highly attuned to student needs and interests, so they are regularly designing new courses, and even launching new degree programs. We continue to invest in classroom technology so that our faculty and students can connect with one another from anywhere in the world for robust conversations seeded with a variety of perspectives. We foster creativity and innovation so that we remain on the leading edge of seminary education. This learning environment prepares our vibrant and diverse students to minister, serve and lead.



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There's a Place for You at Bethany!

Bethany Theological Seminary is committed to helping all qualified students to answer their call from God and receive an exceptional education without taking on additional educational or consumer debt. As many seminaries have struggled with enrollment, our vibrant community has grown — and we have room for more students, both studying from a distance or joining our on-campus community and living in our “Neighborhood” of houses a few steps from campus.

In recent years the Seminary has dramatically reduced total student borrowing, even as enrollment has grown. Participants in our Pillars and Pathways Residential Scholars program receive reduced tuition, free housing, living stipends, work opportunities, and a course in Conscious Financial Living with a goal of helping students earn Bethany degrees without taking on additional student or consumer debt.



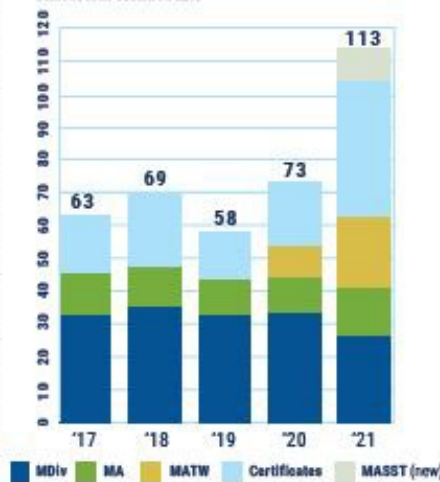
Currently supported: 13 students
Goal: 24 students

“THE NEIGHBORHOOD” AT-A-GLANCE:

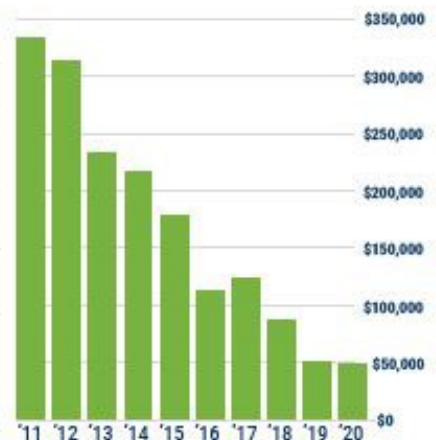
- Bethany has seven houses with capacity for up to 24 students, living in community.
- Cost per student: \$9,000 (tuition, housing, living stipend, and books)

5-YEAR ENROLLMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Historical Headcount



TOTAL AMOUNT BORROWED BY ALL STUDENTS, PER YEAR





“When I was considering graduate school programs, I didn’t want to put additional financial burdens on my parents. I have lived in community for most of my life, so that was

an attractive aspect of the Neighborhood as well. Bethany has been a wonderful choice for me.”

/SUSUYU LASSA, MASST 2022



“I consider The Neighborhood a type of ‘deep community’ that allows students to build something bigger than themselves. It’s nice to put work into something and see it grow.”

/PHIL COLLINS, MDIV STUDENT



“I follow each student’s financial journey closely to ensure that they have the resources needed to make smart financial choices now and in the future.”

/TERRI MITCHELL, FINANCIAL AID AND ENROLLMENT ASSISTANT



“At Bethany, we believe that financial concerns should not be an obstacle to students answering a call from God to ministry and service. Providing an education that is exceptional, accessible, and affordable is our core mission.”

/REV. DR. JEFF CARTER, PRESIDENT

Making Seminary Affordable

85 PERCENT TUITION DISCOUNT

Thanks to the generous support of alumni and friends, and the careful investment of our resources, Bethany is very affordable.

GENEROUS FINANCIAL AID

Most students pay only the base tuition of \$1,100 per semester, qualifying for enough financial aid to cover the remaining costs.

TYPES OF AID AVAILABLE

- Academic Excellence Scholarship
- Church Covenant Grant
- Pillars and Pathways Residential Scholarship
- Need-based grant
- Federal Work-Study
- Federal Stafford Loans
- International student aid



An exceptional biblical and theological education,
accessible and affordable for all.

Bethany At-a-Glance



DEGREE PROGRAMS

- Master of Divinity
- Master of Arts
- Master of Arts: Theopoetics and Writing
- Master of Arts in Spiritual and Social Transformation



CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

- Certificate of Achievement in Theological Studies
- Certificate of Achievement in Biblical Peacemaking
- Certificate in Intercultural Biblical Interpretation
- Certificate in Just Peace and Conflict Resolution
- Certificate in Theopoetics and Theological Imagination



BETHANY ACADEMY FOR MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

- Education for a Shared Ministry
- Training in Ministry
- Educación para un Ministerio Compartido
- Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano-de la Iglesia de los Hermanos
- Learn more at bethanyseminary.edu/brethren-academy

Bethany's impact is possible because of the generosity of our friends.

Make a gift today at bethanyseminary.edu/donate

BETHANY QUICK FACTS

- 643 licensed or ordained pastors in the Church of the Brethren are graduates of Bethany Theological Seminary.
- 10 of 24 Church of the Brethren District Executives are Bethany graduates.
- We have expanded our educational partnership in Nigeria, hiring a full-time staff member to help build relationships with EYN and other denominations.
- In May, 15 students graduated with degrees from Bethany and another 5 completed training through the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership.
- This year, 114 students were enrolled at Bethany, pursuing master's degrees or certificates.
- Pillars and Pathways Residential Scholars serve more than a dozen non-profit organizations in the surrounding community, completing 312 volunteer hours per semester.
- Financial support from alumni and congregations during 2021 totaled \$587,415.39.



On Earth Peace 2022 District Conference Greetings

The aim of “On Earth Peace,” ...is to clarify the issues that a Christian Church must face now regarding violence, . . . in search for a better way to settle human conflicts. [We can]...do something in the name of Christ by endeavoring to implement the message that came when Christ was born, “On Earth Peace and Good Will among [all].” --OEP Founder M.R. Zigler



The Church of the Brethren has powerful Annual Conference statements on many issues and topics. But how equipped are we to act on issues like violence, social division, white supremacy, war, militarism, and the violation of human rights? On Earth Peace believes that the Church of the Brethren would be strengthened by developing a shared methodology for addressing these problems.

Let us equip ourselves as followers of Jesus to be able to live a commitment to active nonviolence! An approach called Kingian Nonviolence, based on the theology and work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the leadership of the Civil Rights movement, was codified by Church of the Brethren member, David Jehnsen. Kingian Nonviolence includes values and practices for interpersonal conflict and community leadership. Seeing this as a path to implement the values and teachings of Jesus, OEP has moved to institutionalize this approach in our ministry. Dr. King’s teachings are a faithful and constructive place to stand, helping us to act nonviolently on any issue of violence.

Are you willing to come on a journey to see how Jesus’ words and teachings can live in our times, as Dr. King did in his? On Earth Peace is lifting up a big goal of training 1000 Brethren in Kingian Nonviolence. This would transform the Church of the Brethren’s approach to violence, equity, justice, and peace.

- Attend a 2-hour introductory training in Kingian Nonviolence (offered monthly) or schedule one for your district.
- Schedule a 16-hour training to help orient district members to nonviolence as they form teams to work together on an area of violence or injustice.

Three more invitations:

- *Apply for a \$500 youth community engagement mini-grant for your congregation or district.*
- *Share about our paid internship program with young adults aged 18-24 or college/graduate students of any age. In 2022 we are especially recruiting for a Dunker Punks Podcast Organizer, a Youth and Young Adult Organizer, and a Church and Community Groups Organizer.*
- *Help us develop relationships with 50 new congregations in 2022 to financially sustain our ministries for the denomination and the world.*

Contact me at OEP@OnEarthPeace.org with questions about programs or how to connect with On Earth Peace.

Matt Guynn, Director of Church and Community Organizing



Church of the Brethren

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

In 2021, Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) weathered an unusual combination of the COVID-19 pandemic, the volcano eruption in DR Congo, and the Haiti earthquake responses, along with a major Afghan resettlement effort and the typical responses to hurricanes and tornados. Throughout yet another challenging year for disaster ministries, volunteers and staff refused to be discouraged and moved forward with courage to bring hope, healing, and God’s love to those impacted by disasters.

The challenges have continued in 2022 with the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the resulting humanitarian and refugee crisis. The Church of the Brethren is providing significant assistance to people impacted by the war, both in Ukraine and in the surrounding countries hosting refugees (especially Poland, Romania and Moldova), through partnerships with Church World Service CWS), International Orthodox Christian Charities, and others. Assistance is focused on the most vulnerable people who are not being served by the larger relief agencies.

Special Emergency Disaster Fund (EDF) funding in 2021 included COVID-19 pandemic grants to two US congregations, as well as global grants to Brethren in Venezuela, Nigeria, and Mexico and to partners IMA World Health (for India) and CWS. A grant to CWS supported a special resettlement program for Afghans evacuated during August’s historic airlift.

BDM’s domestic programs continued to navigate the complexities of serving disaster survivors in the midst of the pandemic, bolstered by flexible volunteers who were willing and able to serve under challenging conditions. COVID-19 protocols remained in place, with a focus on caring for housing hosts, partners, survivors of all ages, and volunteers.

To accommodate pandemic protocols and fewer numbers of volunteers, BDM’s Rebuilding Program maintained only one open project site at a time. The Coastal NC site in Bayboro, N.C., continued to assist Hurricane Florence (2018) survivors through April 2021. From May to September 2021, volunteers returned to Dayton, Ohio, to repair and rebuild homes damaged in the 2019 Memorial Day tornados. Through an innovative partnership program, BDM also worked on homes intended for purchase by renters displaced due to the tornados. The Bayboro project reopened in October, more than two years after Hurricane Florence, and continued to serve survivors there until mid-April 2022. After closing the North Carolina project, a new Rebuilding project opened in Waverly, Tenn., in response to a destructive and deadly August 2021 flash flooding event. The Waverly project and short-term projects in Kentucky, responding to winter 2021 tornadoes, will continue.

In 2021, BDM supported the Northern Plains district’s efforts to repair homes damaged in the August 2020 Derecho and sponsored a short-term two-week response to repair homes damaged in the Spring 2019 flooding near Omaha, Neb. By the end of the year, 829 Rebuilding Program volunteers had served 53 families in four states.

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After a year with no volunteer deployments, Children's Disaster Services (CDS) was able to serve a one-year record total of 13,728 children in 2021. A large focus centered around the refugee and migrant crises at the southern US border and with the historic Afghanistan evacuation. A Critical Response Childcare (CRC) team responded to the Surfside, Fla., building collapse in June. Natural disasters warranted the deployment of additional CDS teams, with the major response being to Hurricane Ida in Louisiana in August and September. Overall, CDS deployed 75 volunteers for 134 days in 2021.

The Church of the Brethren continued to support mission points, Global Brethren churches, and partners through EDF grants. The Nigeria Crisis Response (NCR), in collaboration with EYN (Church of the Brethren in Nigeria) and Mission 21, remains the largest global program. Even amidst ongoing, and often increasing, violence and insecurity, NCR maintains its focus on sponsorship of four camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs), food distributions, medical assistance, livelihood training centers for widows and orphans, seeds and fertilizer, new wells for drinking water, education assistance for orphan children, trauma workshops, training of one-on-one counselors, and home repairs for the most vulnerable.

The August 2021 earthquake in Haiti led to support for the L'Eglise des Freres d'Haiti (the Haiti Church of the Brethren) relief and rebuilding program in Saut Mathurine, where a previous joint Hurricane Matthew (2016) response project had resulted in the building of homes (which survived the earthquake) and an active and growing Brethren congregation. BDM is also supporting a CWS response to the earthquake in a neighboring impacted community.

Another major effort is the ongoing funding for Hurricanes Eta and Iota recovery in Honduras through Proyecto Aldea Global (Project Global Village) and CWS. Additional EDF grants supported relief and recovery through sister churches in DR Congo and Rwanda (Mt. Nyiragongo volcano eruption), the South Sudan Church of the Brethren mission, and partners in Burundi, Ecuador, Indonesia, Lebanon, Myanmar, Timor-Leste, and Yemen.

The 2021 BDM programmatic expenses were \$1,451,818. This includes expenses from EDF allocations that support specific programs such as \$217,810 for US responses (Rebuilding, CDS, etc.); \$146,460 for the Nigeria Crisis Response; \$427,226 for all other global responses; and \$84,800 for the domestic and global COVID-19 Pandemic Grant programs.

We are called to love God and to step out boldly in faith to serve our neighbors. The staff and volunteers of Brethren Disaster Ministries are truly grateful to each of you for both supporting and working alongside us to answer that call as "co-workers in God's service" (1 Corinth. 3:9).

We ask for your continued prayers and support as we serve survivors of both natural and human-caused disasters on their journey of recovery.



Roy Winter, Executive Director for Service Ministries

On behalf of BDM staff: Lisa Crouch, Jenn Dorsch-Messler, Sharon Franzén, and Kim Gingerich

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The 2021-2022 academic year was another challenging one. However we were also blessed with a lot of good. The following is an excerpt from an email from President Dave McFadden in December of 2021 where he named some of the good we have seen:

- Amazing generosity – Donors endowed a professorship in music and the department of mathematics and computer science, equipped nursing labs and provided scholarships, and emergency funds for students in need. We Crushed Hunger (collecting over 33,000 pounds of food for the Community Harvest Food Bank), exceeded our Manchester Fund goal and exceeded expectations for Giving Tuesday in November.
- Engaged students – Students breathed life back into our campuses, from re-energizing clubs and organizations to serving in our local communities. Participation in our esports programs doubled. Iysha Walker, a pharmacy student, published “The Future Me Can Be ...,” a coloring book encouraging children of color to see themselves in health professions.
- Exceptional faculty – *U.S. News and World Report* affirmed the quality of our undergraduate faculty by ranking us one of the top 10 colleges in the Midwest for undergraduate teaching and tied for first in Indiana. Our faculty across all programs and colleges presented, published and were recognized by their peers for exemplary teaching and scholarship.
- Committed staff – We celebrated our custodial staff with the Christopher Garber Award this year. Staff tested hundreds of students for COVID-19, moved furniture out of and back into buildings and navigated remote and in-person work fundamentally altered by the pandemic.
- Diversity, equity and inclusion – Our individual and collective commitment to DEI was expressed in art exhibits, student programming, classroom teaching, new scholarships, process improvements and the decision to name the Academic Center after Martha and Joseph Cunningham, Manchester’s first black students. The Cunningham Center was dedicated on May 2, 2022.
- Vibrant experiences – This year saw the return of in-person events with live audiences, including VIAs, music, theater, athletics, campus programming, Homecoming and graduation when graduation is supposed to happen.

Highlights in Religious Life and Church Relations include:

- Campus Interfaith Board (CIB) hosted Peace Week under the theme of Environmental Justice. The week included a VIA with Alicia Smith from Junction Coalition in Toledo, Ohio, a non-profit that promotes justice for people in the face of climate injustice. Smith’s talk was a precursor to the Peace Studies/Environmental Studies/Alumni Relations trip to Toledo where we explored environmental justice initiatives, bird migration, and the metro-park system in Toledo. Cliff and Arlene Kindy shared their lives of environmental sustainability with Church of the Brethren Students. CIB, Environmental Studies, and the Zoology club partnered for a service project at Koinonia, the University’s environmental and retreat center. CIB exceeded their fundraising goal for their annual Empty Bowls fundraiser, raising over \$1000 for Urban Seeds, a non-profit in Evansville, Indiana.

- Our worship travel team of 9 students visited 4 churches in person for the first time since the spring of 2020 and one church enjoyed our recorded service. If you would like to view our recorded service with your congregation please reach out to church relations and we will happily share it with you!
- Faith and Belief Luncheons continued for their 5th and 6th semesters thanks to a grant we received from the Goshen City Church of the Brethren. Students, faculty, and staff gather monthly for a luncheon and to hear the faith and belief stories from one student and one faculty or staff member.
- Now that travel and in-person professional development has returned we were fortunate enough to send students, faculty and staff to several conferences including Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Rooted and Grounded Conference – a conference on land and Christian discipleship, the Church of the Brethren National Young Adult Conference in Montreat, North Carolina, and the Church of the Brethren National Youth Conference.
- Powerhouse Regional Youth Conference resumed in person at Camp Alexander Mack in November of 2021 and we plan to return in November of 2022. All senior high youth and their advisors are invited to join us in this weekend of worship, fun, and faith formation.

Other notable events from this academic year include:

- The May 30 performance of Debra Lynn's *A Family Portrait* oratorio in Carnegie Hall in New York City. Lynn, director of choral organizations and vocal studies, conducted the New England Symphonic Ensemble and a choir including MU's A Cappella Choir students, alumni, and other singers from northern Indiana and high schools in Idaho and Missouri.
- The Administration Building was razed starting in December leaving a green space for students to gather together for recreation and fellowship. A recording of the January 21 remembrance service can be viewed on Manchester's Facebook page. The University set up pages on the website for story sharing and photos.
- Manchester broke ground on a new chime tower on May 13. The tower will be located in the center of the mall.
- The Manchester University Board of Trustees adopted an anti-racism statement in October 2021.
- For more news and information visit our website, www.manchester.edu and check out the news and media section.

We continue to give thanks for the many partnerships we have with the Church of the Brethren including individual congregations and people. Thank you for your support through prayer, resources, and time. We continue to pray for the health and safety of all God's people as we navigate a world that we never could have imagined. Thank you for your care for the students, staff, faculty, and legacy of Manchester University.

GOOD SHEPHERD HOME

District Conference Report 2022



Greetings from Good Shepherd Home! As we surpassed the two-year mark of the COVID-19 pandemic, we certainly have faced many challenges as well as opportunities to grow as a team and work together as a family. We have been fortunate to be able to begin to include even more events and activities than we were able to last year at this time. Although we understand that life may never return to exactly the way it was before COVID, we now have faced great adversity head on and are stronger because of it.

Last year we reported on the exciting new medical office building construction, which began in the spring of 2021 and was completed in February of this year. The new building houses ProMedica medical offices, Ohio Living Home Health and Hospice, as well as additional office space for Good Shepherd Home. We held a “dusty shoe tour” in January and had a great turnout as members of the community came to see the new building.

In June 2021 we held the inaugural Herald Award Luncheon. The Herald Award is named in honor of W. Harold Row, a servant and bridge-builder in Brethren Church history. The Reverend W. Harold Row, a Church of the Brethren pastor in Virginia and Pennsylvania, was highly regarded as a denominational leader. Harold’s vision of serving others was very personal to him. As caregivers, Good Shepherd Home staff demonstrate kindness and empathy on a routine basis. Herald Award honorees exhibit extraordinary gifts of compassion and a true desire to provide the healing touch residents cherish. We were especially honored that Bette Jo Green, daughter of W. Harold Row, was able to travel all the way from her home in Massachusetts to join us and help celebrate that day!

Also in June 2021, we welcomed back the annual Good Samaritan Dinner & Auction, as well as this year on May 11th! This is our biggest fundraiser and funds raised from this year’s event exceeded \$35,000! None of this is possible without the hard work of our Good Samaritan Dinner and Auction Committee, Donors, Supporters and Attendees of the event. It is always a great evening of fellowship and fun!

In September 2021, we welcomed back the Good Shepherd Home Auxiliary Bazaar which, until COVID, had been an annual tradition for over 60 years. Although it was held at an off-site location, it certainly was nice to bring this popular event back to the community!

This year on February 9th we held an Open House for our new SAIDO DayBreak Learning Center. SAIDO Learning® is a non-pharmaceutical learning therapy that has been shown to slow, and in some cases, reverse the signs of Alzheimer’s and dementia in cognitively impaired adults. Our DayBreak Learning Center is an adult day program that incorporates SAIDO Learning® in the curriculum along with many other brain-healthy activities. We are excited to welcome members of the community into the program as we open to the public!

We are blessed by all the support we receive from the community and in particular, the support and blessings from the Church of the Brethren. As a leader in Christ-centered senior living, Good Shepherd Home will continue to care for residents with a commitment to service and innovation, focused on preparing for the needs of tomorrow’s seniors and their families.



**Report to the
Northern Ohio District Conference of the
Church of the Brethren
August 12 and 13, 2022
(Please join our email listserv by going to
www.ohcouncilchs.org)**

“I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.” John 17:20-21 NRSV

Our Mission:

To be a transformational church body that makes visible the unity of the church; engages in worship, education and fellowship; and proclaims Christ's love and justice ethic through public witness.

Our Ministry Priorities: Unity, Justice, and Peace

Our Member Communions:

The African Methodist Episcopal Church, The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, The Alliance of Baptists, The Christian Church in Ohio (Disciples of Christ) US and Canada, The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Christian Science, The Church of the Brethren, The Community Churches, The Episcopal Church in the USA, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, The Greek Orthodox Church, The Moravian Church in America, The Ohio Baptist General Convention, The Presbyterian Church (USA), The Religious Society of Friends, The United Church of Christ, and The United Methodist Church.

Report of 2021-2022 Activities

Social Justice and Anti-Racism

- ◆ Continued public witness alongside the League of Women Voters, Common Cause, the NAACP, and other agencies in anti-gerrymandering/fair legislative maps efforts;
- ◆ Expanded the Council's involvement in the death penalty abolition campaign in Ohio. Partners include Ohioans to Stop Executions, ACLU, the 8th Amendment Project, Journey of Hope From Violence to Healing, and Catholic Mobilizing Network. Work also included participating in death penalty forums/vigils by the East Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church, Capital University Law School, and Death Penalty Action, and speaking directly to members of the Ohio Legislature. We also presented a Women and the Death Penalty Forum focusing on Melissa Lucio whose death sentence was recently commuted;
- ◆ Organized an Ohio African American clergy prayer breakfast in an effort to build support for HB 183 and SB 103 which are bills calling for the end of Ohio's death penalty. Was in partnership with the national Faith Leaders of Color Coalition, Ohioans to Stop Executions, and Conservatives Concerned About the Death Penalty;
- ◆ Working with Anti-Racism Team to produce directory of Anti-Racism statements and ministries of OCC member denominations. Efforts are currently underway to produce the OCC's second Anti-Racism Sunday experience set for fall 2022;
- ◆ Delivered public statement in favor of the rejection of HB 327, a measure designed to make it unlawful for educators to teach "divisive" subject matter in Ohio classrooms. Partners included Honesty 4 Ohio Education, the ACLU, the NAACP, and the Ohio Federation of Teachers;
- ◆ Supported the Ohio Poor People's Campaign mobilization effort in Ohio;
- ◆ Led workshops on ways people can work as advocates and "co-conspirators" for justice in forums by Ohio University and Ecumenical Advocacy Days;
- ◆ Worked with the Conference on National Black Churches in work to reduce coronavirus vaccination hesitancy among African American communities; and
- ◆ Issued pastoral letters on racism and gun violence in society in response to mass killings in Buffalo, NY and Uvalde, TX

Relationships

- ◆ Planned and carried out collegial fellowship gatherings for OCC denominational bishops and executives;
- ◆ Re-establishing the OCC Faith and Order Commission for purposes of igniting discourse among member churches;
- ◆ Engaged in conversation with the Armenian Church concerning OCC membership;
- ◆ Presented a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service;
- ◆ Consulted with the Columbus Metropolitan Area Church Council on collaboration with the OCC;
- ◆ Deepened advocacy partnerships with Faith and Public Life and the Hunger Network over issues such as voting rights and childhood hunger;
- ◆ Enhanced our relationship with the Bureau of Workers Compensation; and

Operations

- ◆ In December we welcomed the Rev. Dr. Amariah McIntosh as Director of Public Policy (Now Associate Director);
- ◆ We received a \$30,000 allocation from the State of Ohio Mental Health and Addictions Services offices to engage in mental health stigma reduction via our “Mental Health Mondays” where we present mental health-focused information every second Monday via Zoom;
- ◆ The 8th Amendment Project issued a \$10,000 grant to the Council to support our death penalty abolition work;
- ◆ The Governing Board approved a new organizational framework that makes room for gun-violence reduction as a priority of the Ohio Council of Churches;
- ◆ The New Covenant Trust Fund of the Presbyterian Church is working to help us grow the funds that are in the OCC Foundation; and
- ◆ We launched a new website, newsletter, and an overall sharper effort to communicate the presence and work of the Council. www.ohcouncilchs.org

Our Staff:

The Rev. Jack Sullivan, Jr., D.Min., Executive Director
The Rev. Amariah H. McIntosh, D.Min., Associate Director
Ms. Deanna Fouchè Baldwin, BS, Executive Administrator
Ms. Cindy Ries, BS, Bookkeeper

***The Ohio Council of Churches appreciates the generous mission giving of the
Northern Ohio District of the Church of the Brethren that helps to sustain
the witness and work of the Council!! Thank you!!***

A Request:

***We would like every person at the Conference to receive news and information from the Ohio
Council of Churches! Please go to www.ohcouncilchs.org to sign up for our newsletter!***



Church of the Brethren

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Northern Ohio District:

As you prepare for and participate in District Conference this year, I hope you will think of it as both a joyous gift as well as a solemn responsibility. I consider it a gift and a responsibility because it provides us the opportunity to celebrate Christian community beyond our home congregation and it encourages us to nurture and challenge one another on our faith journeys as we strive to better understand who God is calling us to be. District Conference enables us to laugh together, to pray together, to think well together, to see the divine in one another, and to gather together before God to seek the leading of the Holy Spirit. I'm delighted that you are investing your time, energy and gifts in District Conference this year and on behalf of the Annual Conference officers it is a pleasure to thank you for that commitment. I hope it will be an inspiring and rejuvenating experience for you.

In a similar way I look forward with hope and anticipation to gathering together in Cincinnati next summer for our 236th recorded Annual Conference. We will have important work to do as we carefully and prayerfully deliberate together. Annual Conference will also provide time for listening, learning, and discernment. We will be blessed through challenging and meaningful worship services. We will be intentional about preserving time for good conversation, soul-soothing music, and biblical inspiration.

Wilbur Hoover, a former pastor and mentor of mine, once defined the church as "people grouped together so they can live out their faith better than they could alone." I think Wilbur was right. We belong together. We need each other. We need each and every one of us if we are to fulfill the new commandment Jesus gave us: that we love one another (John 13:34). When we meet for worship on Sunday mornings in our home congregation, when we gather for District Conference, and when we assemble as the Body of Christ at Annual Conference we contribute to and benefit from being the church.

Let's be the church as we gather together in Cincinnati on July 4-8, 2023. Let's listen anew to Jesus's call to inclusive love and costly discipleship. Let's unite at Annual Conference in God's presence so we can live out our faith more fully than any of us could alone. It will be a

pleasure to greet you then and there!

Tim McElwee

2023 Annual Conference Moderator

Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together

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Poplar Ridge Church of The Brethren

