

Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren



District Resources

2019-2020

Our mission is to resource congregations, ministers, and individuals, in all aspects of Christian life so that we might continue the work of Jesus Christ in our world today - peacefully, simply, together.

Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren

1107 East Main Street
Ashland, OH 44805
Phone: 419.281.3058
Fax: 419.281.8914



Visit us at:
www.nohcob.org

District Staff

Kris Hawk, *District Executive Minister*

Email: krishawk@nohcob.org

Julie Watson, *District Administrative Secretary*

Email: julie@nohcob.org

Linda Fry, *Peace & Conciliation Advocate*

Email: linda@nohcob.org

Esther Harsh, *District Youth Coordinator*

Email: esther@nohcob.org

Shannon Kahler, *Inspiration Hills Director*

Email: shannon@inspirationhillscamp.org



46 Congregations

1 Fellowship*

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Adrian | Lakewood |
| Akron Eastwood | Lick Creek |
| Akron First | Mansfield First |
| Akron Springfield | Maple Grove |
| Ashland First | Marion First |
| Ashland Dickey | Mohican |
| Bethel | Mount Pleasant |
| Black River | New Philadelphia |
| Bristolville | North Bend |
| Brook Park | Danville Location Clear Fork Location |
| Center | Owl Creek |
| Chippewa | Painesville |
| County Line | Paradise |
| Defiance | Pleasant View |
| Dupont | Poplar Ridge |
| East Chippewa | Reading |
| East Nimishillen | Richland |
| Eden | Ross |
| Elm Street | Silver Creek |
| Faith In Action | Sugarcreek East |
| Freeburg | Sugar Creek West |
| Hartsville | Swan Creek |
| Jonah's People* | Woodworth |
| Lake Breeze | Zion Hill |

Church Improvement Loans Available

Church Improvement Loans are available at 0% interest to any congregation of the Church of the Brethren in the Northern Ohio District for building improvements and repairs to the main ministry property. Examples of projects would include building additions, structural repairs, adding handicap accessibility, parking lot improvements, new restroom facilities, replacing an old furnace, adding air conditioning, new lighting, roof replacement, window replacement, painting, signage, etc. Loans can be for up to \$20,000 or more on a case by case basis. Visit www.nohcob.org/loan or contact the District Office for more information.

Hottle Grants Available

Hottle Grants up to \$5000 are available to congregations for 1. Projects within the church to expand the ministry of the church; 2. Outreach Ministry that impacts not only the church but the community at large and 3. Program Development within the church to stimulate growth or spiritual health. Visit www.nohcob.org/grant or contact the District Office for information.

District Conference

Sometime we think of the "District" as being something totally separate from our congregations and Christian life. But each of us ARE the District. The District Board is made up of church members that have been called to serve in a broader role in the District.

They are elected by the delegates at **District Conference** where financial, policy, and program decisions are made by those gathered from each congregation. Each congregation can send 2 delegates (3 for congregations with more than 200 members).

District Conference is a time for **fellowship and worship** (and food, of course), in addition to providing a time for decisions to be made by the delegates. This is a time rich in being together as God's people: learning of the work that has been done, seeking the mind of Christ, and receiving new life and hope as we gather in Jesus' name.

The District Board is organized with four *Commissions that have the following responsibilities:*

Congregational Commission:

("believing on" Jesus, Acts 16:31)

- Encouraging and assisting new church plants and training leaders
- Encouraging and assisting church vitality/revitalization
- Providing guidance in congregational mergers
- Assisting with disorganization of churches when necessary
- Overseeing financial resources to assist church revitalization and church plants
- Educating for peace and other justice concerns

Connections Commission:

("koinonia" joint participation and sharing in community with Christ and each other, Luke 2:42-47)

- Promotion of age-specific programs for all ages
- Providing resources for family ministries
- Education for retirement
- Lay leadership development
- Training Sunday School teachers and church workers

Ministerial Commission:

("kerygma" proclamation, announcement or preaching of the Good News, Luke 4:16-21)

- Instructing churches in identifying, calling, and caring for those in ministerial leadership
- Licensing, Ordaining & Commissioning ministers
- Leadership training/continuing education for ministers
- Conducting annual licensing renewal and five-year ordination renewal

Stewardship & Finance Commission:

("following after" Jesus, Matthew 4:18-22)

- Stewardship education and enlistment of churches
- Supervising the financial interests of the district
- Organizing appropriate response to disasters
- Maintenance of district property
- Oversee the Church Improvement Loan Fund Process

Available for Pastors

- Clergy-Spouse Retreat
- Pastor's Workshops
- Area Clergy Meetings
- Annual Clergy Visits
- Ministerial Training for licensed pastors and those exploring ministry (see right)
- Training in Ministry (TRIM)
- Education for Shared Ministry (EFSM)
- Financial Assistance for Education through the Student Minister's Fund

Finding a Pastor

The District Executive works closely with the Pastoral Search Committee in a congregation in transition, providing pastoral profiles from across the denomination, setting up interviews, and resourcing the Committee as they discern God's calling for their church. The District Executive can also provide possible

candidates to serve as Interim Pastors, and an extensive list of those available to fill the pulpit on any given Sunday. Please contact Kris Hawk, District Executive for more information.

Ministerial Training Program available within our District

Buckeye Brethren Institute (BBI) has been developed in our district. This provides an education option for ordination for licensed ministers and/or those considering a call to ministry. BBI is designed to be a three year program that consists of 12 classes and additional training activities. Instructors are Master's prepared pastors from within our district. BBI was developed for those students whose life circumstances prevent them from participating in seminary or other traditional ministry training sessions. For more information, please contact Paul Bozman, coordinator at pbozman@neo.rr.com.

Inspiration Hills—Events

4819 West Easton Road—Burbank, Ohio 44214
888.462.2267 www.inspirationhillscamp.org

The Annual Fall Festival & Chicken BBQ is September 14th from 9am—4pm. 5k walk/run, pancake breakfast, archery tournament, fishing derby, silent auction, family games, craft fair, chicken BBQ, camp store, benefit auction, boating, and slip & slide!

While IH is finishing up their 2019 summer camps, we look forward to winter camps and 2020 summer camps, which include but are not limited to: Mom & Me Camp, Grand Camp, Senior High Weekend Bash, Senior High Camp, Junior High Camp, Fine Arts Camp, Family Camp, Junior Camp, Survivor Camp, and Mountain Adventure Camp.

Becoming a Pastor

The District Ministry Commission work closely with the District Executive in the credentialing of ministers. They provide testing, background checks, and education on Church of the Brethren beliefs/practice (for those coming from outside our denomination). The Commission members interview each candidate making recommendations to District Board for licensing, commissioning, and ordination. They work to provide each new clergy with a mentor as they move through the process. If you sense a calling to ministry and that call is affirmed by others, please contact the District Office to talk about next steps.

GOOD SHEPHERD HOME

725 Columbus Avenue, Fostoria, OH 44830
Phone: 419.937.1801 | Fax: 419.937.1800
www.goodshepherdhome.com

Discover the joys of living in a welcoming community where neighbors can share good food, good conversation, hearty laughter and Christian fellowship. Rooted in a faith-based tradition of service yet open to people of all beliefs, Good Shepherd Home is a continuing care retirement community with a comfortable, relaxed atmosphere. Within this close-knit community, people greet you by name and offer friendship freely.

WEST VIEW HEALTHY LIVING

1715 Mechanicsburg Road, Wooster, OH 44691
Phone: 330.264.8640
www.westviewhealthyliving.org

West View Healthy Living is a not-for-profit continuing care retirement community offering lifestyles and care designed to make life easier for seniors. From independent and assisted living, to memory care, transitional care and rehabilitation, and long-term care, we provide everything our residents need to live well, engage, learn, contribute and play. Here, our philosophy centers around wellness and what we call the Essential Elements of Well-Being.

District Publications

Pastor's Memo—Published each month and emailed to ordained, licensed, interim, retired pastors, lay speakers, lay leaders, friends of the Northern Ohio District.

The Herald—Published quarterly, with a quantity mailed to each congregation, to be distributed to those who do not have online access.

Peace Advocate News—Published quarterly.

Creation Care Newsletter—Published periodically.

These are all available on the District Website.

Please contact the District Office if you would like a copy mailed to your home.

SISTERS Fall 2019 Retreat

October 19, 2019

County Line Church of the Brethren—Harrod, OH

“SISTERS” is the Women’s Ministry of the Northern Ohio District

Email: sistersnorthernohio@gmail.com

Webpage: nohcob.org/sisters



Peace Advocate

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Matthew 5:9

Peace begins when you make your peace with Jesus, accept Him as Savior and follow Him as Lord.

The Peace and Conciliation Advocate works with the Peace Task Team to provide peace education in the

district. The goal is to help people of all ages follow Jesus’ example and live out His calling to treat all people as God’s children. We are to respond with love and forbearance to both friends and foes alike. Teaching Biblical peacemaking principles, listening skills, and conflict resolution skills, through preaching, workshops, and creating peace education materials, are part of this work. So is facilitating support to those who are oppressed by the many forms of violence that are common in our society.



**BRETHREN
Disaster Ministries**

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.

Brethren Disaster Ministries engages a network of volunteers to repair or rebuild damaged homes for disaster survivors who lack sufficient resources to hire a contractor or other paid labor. BDM’s goal is to ease the trauma and foster recovery in disaster-stricken communities across the United States.

Children’s Disaster Services meets the needs of children impacted by disaster. Specially trained and certified volunteers provide a calm, safe and reassuring presence for children, as well as individualized consultation for parents about their child’s unique emotional needs. Visit <http://www.brethren.org/bdm/>

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Jr. & Sr. High Activities Rallies and Area Events (bowling, skating, etc.) are held throughout the year.

Jr. & Sr. High Camp Inspiration Hills offers Jr. & Sr. High camping experiences each summer.

Youth Leadership Training Provides overnight leadership retreats where youth will learn about styles of leadership, how to deal with conflict and confrontation, cultural importance, leading with integrity,

District Workcamp Provides opportunities for service with youth from across our District.

Advisor Training Provides Youth Advisors with ideas, inspiration, and support from others serving in this ministry.

Powerhouse Regional Youth Conference An annual conference is sponsored by Manchester University for Church of the Brethren Midwest youth.

National Youth Conference Happening every four years, NYC is a week long faith formation conference for Sr. High youth (completed 9th grade through 1 year of college) and their advisors.

We have a Scholarship Fund to help assist youth with the cost of events. No youth should miss out because of the cost. For more information, contact

