

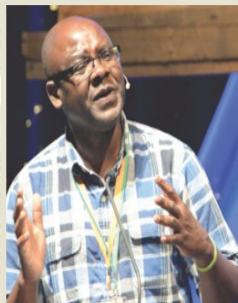


Pastor's *memo*

NORTHERN OHIO DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
APRIL 2018

Meet the Moderator—April 15th 3:00 p.m. Mohican Church

Mark your calendars for Sunday April 15th at 3:00pm. Samuel Sarpiya, Annual Conference Moderator, will hold our Annual Conference Delegate Briefing at Mohican Church of the Brethren. This session is for Annual Conference delegates, pastors, and all who would like to know more of what will be happening at Annual Conference this year in Cincinnati July 4-8th. Come hear of the fellowship and learning opportunities, the business items to be decided, and Samuel's vision for this Conference.



Samuel Sarpiya

Brother Samuel, pastor at the Rockford, Illinois Church of the Brethren, will also be preaching at both services at Mohican on Sunday morning.

2018 Annual Conference

July 4th—July 8th in Cincinnati

Registration is now open! The 2018 Annual Conference will be held at Duke Energy Center in Cincinnati. Southern Ohio District will be hosting the conference with the theme of "Living Parables." All are welcome. Each church is encouraged to send a delegate (2 delegates for churches with over 200 members). This is where vital decisions are made for our denomination and it is important that your church has a voice in these decisions. Having Annual Conference this close provides an excellent opportunity to come and see what it is all about. Even if you can come just for a day, it is good to experience the fellowship together with other believers. You can register on-line at <http://www.brethren.org/ac/2018/registration/>



Mark Your Calendar

- March 30th—Good Friday, District Office Closed
- April 6th—Inspiration Hills Spring Clean Up, Inspiration Hills, Burbank, OH
- April 7th—BBI Class: Biblical Interpretation, District Office, Ashland, OH
- April 15th—Delegate Briefing with Samuel Sarpiya, Mohican CoB, West Salem, OH
- April 15th-21st—Disaster Relief Trip to South Carolina
- April 17th—Executive Committee Meeting, District Office, Ashland, OH
- April 20th-21st—SISTERS Women's Spring Retreat, Round Lake Resort, Lakeville, OH
- April 21st—BBI Class: Biblical Interpretation, District Office, Ashland, OH
- April 23rd—25th—Conference on Biblical Authority, Hueston Woods Lodge and Conference Center, College Corner, OH

Hottle Grant Guidelines Updated

At the March District Board meeting, the Board voted to approve the updated Hottle Grant Guidelines recommended by the Congregational Commission. While most of the guidelines remained unchanged, the Commission sought to provide clarity about the projects that meet the criteria for the grants.

Support from the Hottle Fund is provided for:

- Project grants within the church to expand the ministry of the church.
- Outreach Ministry grants that impact not only the church but the community at large and may include changes to the physical plant.
- Program Development grants within the church to stimulate growth or spiritual health and may include changes to the physical plant.

Hottle Grant Application Deadline

Hottle Grant Application must be received 4 weeks prior to a District Board meeting in order to be considered at that meeting. The deadline to be considered at the May meeting is **April 21**. The application and guidelines can be found on the District website at <http://www.nohcob.org/resources/district-and-denominational-resources> or call the District Office to have a paper copy mailed to you.

KEEP YOUR FORK—DESSERT IS ABOUT TO BE SERVED

Inglenook Desserts is coming to your kitchen this summer. The cookbook continues the Inglenook tradition of the Church of the Brethren by featuring favorite desserts that have been passed from generation to generation. The recipes have been tested in kitchens across America, and selected for their value, excellence, and simplicity. The success of Inglenook cookbooks has been their appeal to everyday people—those who embody the principles of simple living and value good food, tastefully prepared.

Now dessert is being served. Brethren Press follows The New Inglenook Cookbook (2013) by publishing Inglenook Desserts. This sweet new cookbook reflects our rich Brethren heritage, bringing together some of the best dessert recipes from across the country. With over 175 recipes it is a simple yet profound way to unite our kitchens around memories and traditions of cooking and eating together. Whether it's in a sprawling farmhouse or a compact urban apartment, Inglenook Desserts will create delicious ending to meals that enrich our lives.

Brethren Press is offering generous early-bird

discounts off the retail price of \$25, to ensure that the cookbook finds its way into your kitchens. For individual copies ordered before April 9, the price will be \$21.00 each. If your congregation makes a group order of 10 or more copies before April 9, the price will be \$18.00 each.

Contact information: Brethren Press at 1-800-441-3712 or www.brethrenpress.com.



Pastoral Placement

Congregations actively in the search process:

Ashland Dickey – Search Committee interviewing. **Tom Zuercher** retiring in August.

Brook Park – Search Committee interviewing. **Tom Michaels** serving as interim.

County Line – Search Committee formed – initial meeting scheduled April 5th. **Chris Ewing** serving as interim.

East Nimishillen – Search Committee interviewing. **Carolyn Kuryl** serving as interim.

Maple Grove – Search Committee working on congregational profile. **John Ballinger** serving as interim.

Pleasant View – Search Committee interviewing. **Dr. Byron Hawbecker** serving as interim.

Congregations that have not yet begun the Search Process or have chosen not to seek at this time:

Bethel – **David Wyant** serving as interim and beginning credentialing process.

Lake Breeze – Congregation arranging pulpit supply.

Lakewood – **Gene Wyse** serving as interim.

Woodworth – **John Polanski** serving as interim.

Area Clergy Meetings

Plan on attending one of our Spring Area Clergy Meetings the week of May 20th. We will be posting more information soon about the speaker, dates and locations. Thank you!

District Prayer Calendar

March 25—March 31

Reading CoB (Pastor Larry Bradley) and Richland CoB (Pastor Jim Frado)

April 1—April 7

Ross CoB (Pastor Keith Stoller) and Silver Creek CoB (Pastor Terry Baldwin)

April 8—April 14

Sugar Creek West CoB (Pastor Mike Huffaker) and Sugarcreek East CoB (Pastor Dick Marshall)

April 15—April 21

Swan Creek CoB (Pastor Dick Neuwirth) and Woodworth CoB (Interim John Polanski)

April 22—April 28

Zion Hill CoB (Pastor Jason Harsh) and Adrian CoB (Pastor David Morton)



Steve Heilshorn called by Dupont Church

Steve Heilshorn was ordained in the Church of the Brethren and installed as pastor of the Dupont Church of the Brethren during the worship service on Sunday, March 18th. Steve and his wife, Leslie, have been serving at Dupont in an interim role since last October and have developed a deep love for this congregation. Steve and Leslie have been married 31 years, always living in the northwest part of Ohio not too far from Dupont. Steve also currently coaches a high school golf team and Leslie is a licensed insurance agent. Steve and Leslie have two sons, Ben (21) who is in Fort Wayne attending IPFW, and Sam (25) who graduated from Ohio State and works as an account analyst.

Northern Ohio 2018 District Conference

August 3-4

Dupont Church of the Brethren

Some highlights:

Pre-Conference Workshop: "Sharing the Good Life" led by Kayla Alphonse, pastor of the Miami Church of the Brethren

Friday Night: Speaker—Moderator Terry Porter

Friday Night: Performing Arts Camp led by our youth

Saturday Night: Speaker—Jeff Carter, President Bethany Seminary

ICE CREAM!

Please see attached flyer for items needed for the Peace Auction.

Biblical Authority Conversations

April 23-25, 2018, Hueston Woods Lodge and Conference Center, College Corner, Ohio

There is still time to register for the Biblical Authority Conversations coordinated by the District Executives from the six Midwest Districts (Northern Ohio, Southern Ohio/Kentucky, South/Central Indiana, Northern Indiana, Michigan, Illinois/Wisconsin). This is open to pastors and ministers, other congregational leaders, and interested church members. We will be offering 1.0 CEU to those who participate in the entire conference. The cost is included in your registration. See attached brochure or call Kris Hawk for more information.

Disability Awareness/Training

What an awesome day for those that gathered for the Disability Awareness/Training at Mohican Church on March 17. We had good fellowship and great discussion. A special thank you to Debbie Eisenbise for leading our day and to Jennifer Recker and her helpers for hosting the event.

Disability Awareness is an on going process. Therefore, we have shared the items from the March 17 training on the District Web Site (www.nohcob.org/disability). These items just touch the surface of what there is available for churches. We invite you to review them, share them, and even share with us any additional resource you may have.



PASTOR'S WORKSHOPS

Plan on attending one of this years' Pastor's Workshops at the District Office

Thursday, April 19th from 10 am – 3 pm

Saturday, April 28th from 10 am – 3 pm

All clergy – new and not-so-new, retired, and interim – are invited to join the fellowship and practical conversation about sharpening their ministry tools. "Open Forum" topics may include pastoral leadership, sermon preparation, worship planning, visitation, counseling, conflict, or self-care among others. CEU's available. Lunch will be provided. RSVP to the District Office by Friday, April 13th or register online at: www.nohcob.org/events. Fellowship time begins at 9:30 am.