

Pastor's *memo*

NORTHERN OHIO DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN | FEBRUARY 2018

2018 Clergy-Spouse Retreat

February 18-20, Holiday Inn French Quarter, Perrysburg, Ohio

Our District Clergy-Spouse retreat will be held February 18th-20th at the Holiday Inn French Quarter in Perrysburg (Toledo area). This is a time for relationship-building, renewal, learning, and rest. The food and facilities are great, but the fellowship is even greater! Andy and Laura Hamilton will provide leadership for this event. This year's theme is "Finding Life in a Dying World".

Dr. Laura Hamilton is Co-Founder and Director of Tender Shepherd: A Ministry of Soul Care. She holds a Master of Arts in Clinical Pastoral Counseling through Ashland Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry in Formational Counseling also through Ashland Theological Seminary. She has facilitated numerous groups on inner healing prayer and Spiritual Formation. Dr. Hamilton served as an advisor for the Institute of Formational Counseling and an advisor for Doctor of Ministry

students through Ashland Seminary. She serves as a Spiritual Director, and has served as guest speaker for various retreats and seminars.

Her passion is for others to experience the healing of Jesus Christ and through that healing grow in their walk with God.

Andrew Hamilton is Co-Founder of Tender Shepherd: A Ministry of Soul Care. He is an ordained Pastor in the Church of the Brethren serving at Stevens Hill Community Church of the Brethren. He holds a Master of Divinity through Ashland Seminary in Ashland Ohio and a Master of Philosophy from the



Andy & Dr. Laura Hamilton, Stevens Hill Community CoB

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Mark Your Calendar

- 1/27—Buckeye Brethren Institute: Introduction to Pastoral Care, District Office, Ashland, OH
- 2/10—Buckeye Brethren Institute: Introduction to Pastoral Care, District Office, Ashland, OH
- 2/12—Nominating Committee Meeting, Via Zoom
- 2/13—Executive Committee Meeting, District Office, Ashland, OH

Kris Hawk will be out of the office January 19-26. She will be attending the Council of District Executives meeting through the 25th. On the 26th she will be delivering the 398 health kits and 14 clean-up buckets collected in the district to the Service Center in New Windsor, Maryland.

Julie Watson has returned to the office after being on medical leave. She appreciates your cards and prayers on her behalf.

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University of St. Andrews, Scotland. Andy served as an adjunct instructor for 13 years teaching a variety of theology and church history courses. Andy has been a guest lecturer, and seminar speaker. He has published several papers and is currently a general editor for a Brethren theology series.

Single and married clergy and their spouses are encouraged to attend. Costs are \$325.00/couple, \$250.00/single, One day registration: \$130/couple, \$65.00/single. Complete the flyer attached to this Pastor's Memo or register online at nohcob.org/retreat.

Please register or let the office know by January 29th if you are able to attend. The hotel needs a room count at that time.

Buckeye Brethren Institute Upcoming Class—Beginning Jan. 27th.

Introduction to Pastoral Care (MS)

Instructor: Tom Zuercher

Meeting dates: January 27, February 10, 2018;

9:30am to 3:30pm

The first session of the Introduction to Pastoral Care class had to be cancelled due to weather. So, if you were regretting that you hadn't signed up, you still have the opportunity to join from the beginning of this important course. This course is designed to provide an overview of pastoral care from two perspectives: 1) the internal perspective of the personality traits, skills, talents, and habits of the individual as they relate to pastoral care, and 2) the external perspective

of congregational routines and situations that raise expectations and assumptions of pastoral care.

This class is available to those interested in the ministry and to licensed ministers moving towards ordination. Ordained and Commissioned clergy can also take this class for CEU's (1.5 CEU's for attendance at all three Saturday sessions) at a cost of \$25.00.

Visit our webpage nohcob.org/BBI to register or for more information.

District Conference

"The Good Life"

Life More Abundant

John 10: 9-11

Northern Ohio District
Conference August 3-4, 2018
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

Annual Conference Delegate



Briefing to be held at Mohican Church of the Brethren

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.

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

Pastoral Placement

Congregations actively in the search process:

Ashland Dickey – *Tom Zuercher* retiring in August 2018. Search Committee reviewing pastoral profiles.

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

East Nimishillen – *Carolyn Kury* serving as interim. Profile complete.

Maple Grove – *John Ballinger* serving as interim. Search Committee being formed.

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

Congregations that have not begun the search process or have chosen not to seek at this time:

Bethel – *David Wyant* serving as interim.

Dupont – *Steve Heilshorn* serving as interim.

County Line – *Tom Dearth* has resigned as pastor effective January 19th. *Chris Ewing* has resigned as Associate Pastor effective March 1st.

Lake Breeze – Congregation arranging pulpit supply.

Lakewood – *Gene Wyse* serving as interim.

Woodworth – *John Polanski* serving as interim.

Special Circumstances:

Jonah's People Fellowship – *Scott Hall* serving as interim while *Barry Belknap* is undergoing treatment for lymphoma.

Ross – *Jerry Holscher* is providing pulpit supply while *Keith Stoller* is on medical leave.

“We tend to use prayer as a last resort, but God wants it to be our first line of defense.

We pray when there's nothing else we can do, but God wants us to pray before we do anything at all.”

— Oswald Chambers

District Prayer Calendar

January 21—January 27

Freeburg CoB (Pastor Mike Zellers) and Hartville CoB (Pastor Anthony DiMarco)

January 28—February 3

Jonah's People Fellowship (Pastor Barry Belknap and Interim Scott Hall) and Lake Breeze CoB (Pulpit Supply)

February 4—February 10

Lakewood CoB (Interim Gene Wyse) and Lick Creek CoB (Pastor Bill Holsopple)

February 11—February 17

Mansfield CoB (Pastor Vaughn Loose) and Maple Grove CoB (Interim John Ballinger)

February 18—February 24

Marion CoB (Pastor Rick Hicks) and Mohican CoB (Pastor Paul Bartholomew and Associate Pastor Chad Palmer)

February 25—March 3

Mount Pleasant CoB (Pastor Bruce Jacobsen) and New Philadelphia CoB (Pastor Max Canfield)

CONVERSATIONS ABOUT BIBLICAL AUTHORITY

APRIL
23 - 25
2018

At Hueston Woods

Rev. Dr. Karoline Lewis
Marbury E. Anderson Chair in Biblical Preaching
Luther Seminary

Rev. Jason Barnhart
Director of Brethren Research and Resourcing
Brethren Church

Dan Ulrich, Bethany Theological Seminary
Denise Kettering Lane, Bethany Theological Seminary

Ted Swartz of Ted & Co. performing "The Big Story"

For pastors of congregations in Illinois and Wisconsin,
Michigan, Northern Indiana, Northern Ohio, Southern
Ohio/Kentucky, & South/Central Indiana