

Pastor's *memo*

NORTHERN OHIO DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
JULY 2017

District Conference 2017



July 28-29, 2017

Hartville Church of the Brethren
“Be thoroughly Equipped”
2 Timothy 3:16–4:5

Be sure to register for District Conference and make necessary overnight reservations. The last day for purchasing meals is July 21st.

Look for Publicity Packets coming in the mail this week. Be sure to post this information on your congregation's bulletin board and share during your service announcements. Special thanks, prayers and blessings to Hartville Church of the Brethren for hosting this year's Conference. Please check out the links below for more information available on our website.

Register for District Conference and Reserve Lodging:

Registration and Printable Forms:

www.nohcob.org/dcregistration

Lodging, Restaurants, Things to See and Do:

www.nohcob.org/dclodging

ATTACHMENTS

- ⇒ Youth Conference Activities Flyer
- ⇒ Conference Offering & Charity Donation Information
- ⇒ Church Bulletin Insert

Mark Your Calendar

**7/28-29—District Conference,
Hartville CoB, Hartville, OH**

**8/5—Buckeye Brethren Institute
Orientation, District Office,
Ashland, OH**

**8/19—Buckeye Brethren Institute,
History, Beliefs and Practices,
District Office, Ashland, OH**

**9/9—Buckeye Brethren Institute,
History, Beliefs and Practices,
District Office, Ashland, OH**

**9/16—Inspiration Hills Chicken
BBQ, Burbank, OH**

**9/23—Buckeye Brethren Institute,
History, Beliefs and Practices,
District Office, Ashland, OH**

**9/29-30—District Board
Orientation and Meeting,
Inspiration Hills, Burbank, OH**

Special Offering and Local Charity Collection

Saturday Offering at District Conference For Famine Relief

Even as Nigeria continues to face threats from Boko Haram, there is another growing crisis in Northern Nigeria and that is famine. Most people in the region are subsistence farmers. Many have been driven from their land and have not been able to plant or harvest crops for several seasons. Some have tried to return to their land to wait for planting season. Others have planted only to have Boko Haram come back at harvest time, drive the farmers off and steal the harvest. These factors along with other political and economic issues are bringing famine to Nigeria. UNICEF reports that in Borno state alone, 244,000 children will suffer from severe malnutrition in 2017.

Many EYN (Church of the Brethren in Nigeria) members live in Borno state. The UN reports more than 20 million people in South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, and northeastern Nigeria are facing famine... “the Global Mission and Service office notes that ‘violent conflict, with the ensuing displacement and agricultural disruption, is the root cause of the food crises in all four countries’” (Newsline March 3, 2017). The Central Committee has decided to contribute all money received in the Saturday offering at District Conference to famine relief in Nigeria.

Charitable Collection for Local Men’s Shelters

This year’s Conference is collecting items to support two local charities in Akron and Canton. The items of need will be given to two men's shelters, Haven of Rest in Akron and Refuge of Hope in Canton.

Hartville Church of the Brethren greatly appreciates District Conference Central Committee in allowing Conference goers to bring items to help our two shelters in this way.

See attached flyer and conference publicity packet for a list of items needed.

Pastoral Placement

Congregations actively in the search process:

Bethel – Congregational profile completed. Congregation arranging pulpit supply.

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

East Nimishillen – *Matthew Reed* resigned as interim effective July 30th. Search Committee formed. Completing profile.

Eden – *Wayne Scott* serving as interim. Search Committee completing profile.

Pleasant View – *Dr. Byron Hawbecker* serving as interim. Interviewing.

Congregations that have chosen not to seek at this time:

Lake Breeze – *James Washington* serving as interim.

Lakewood – *Gene Wyse* serving as interim. Not actively seeking at this time.

Maple Grove – *John Ballinger* serving as interim.

Woodworth – *John Polanski* serving as interim.

Congregations that have not yet begun the Search Process:

Ashland Dickey – *Tom Zuercher* has resigned as pastor effective August 2018.

District Prayer Calendar

June 25—July 1

East Chippewa CoB (Pastor Brad Kelley) and East Nimishillen CoB (Interim Matthew Reed)

July 2—July 8

Eden CoB (Interim Wayne Scott) and Elm Street CoB (Pastor Doug Price)

July 9—July 15

Faith in Action Fellowship (Pastor Jim Gorrell) and Freeburg CoB (Pastor Mike Zellers)

July 16—July 22

Hartville CoB (Pastor Anthony DiMarco) and Jonah’s People Fellowship (Pastor Barry A. Belknap)

July 23—July 29

Lake Breeze CoB (Interim James Washington) and Lakewood CoB (Interim Gene Wyse)

July 30—August 5

Lick Creek CoB (Pastor Bill Holsopple) and Mansfield First CoB (Pastor Vaughn Loose)