



NORTHERN OHIO DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN | JUNE 2018

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

August 3rd, 2018 from 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Dupont Church of the Brethren | Open to all | 0.3 Clergy CEU's available

Sharing the Good Life

Moving from fear to contagious joy

One of the most expressed concerns in our district is losing members and the drop in attendance – particularly among young people. How can we as individuals and churches move from fear into a place of joy – a joy that is contagious and draws others in. What is the good news that we have to share? How do we grasp the amazing gift that has been given – this life abundant and life eternal. What does it look like to live life anchored in the joy of the Lord that is our strength? What are the risks? Why should we bother? Come and learn and laugh and hope together! (0.3 CEU's for Clergy) **Presenter: Michaela Alphonse**



Michaela Alphonse is pastor of Miami (Fla.) First Church of the Brethren. From 2012 through summer 2017, Michaela served through Global Mission and Service as a program volunteer with Mission Evangelique des Eglises des Frères D'Haiti (Church of the Brethren in Haiti). In this role, Michaela created and coordinated an extensive theological training program as well as student scholarship and school health programs. She further served the Haitian church through hosting workcamps, assisting with mobile medical clinics, and serving as a liaison between Haitian and American Brethren. Michaela brings an infectious joy and a depth of faith to her preaching and teaching and living.

Mark Your Calendar

- ⇒ **June-August** – Summer Camp, Inspiration Hills, Burbank, OH
- ⇒ **June 16** – Water Street Workday, Water Street Church, Kent, OH
- ⇒ **June 30** – Woodworth 100th Anniversary Celebration, Woodworth Church, Poland, OH
- ⇒ **July 4-8** – CoB Annual Conference, Cincinnati, OH
- ⇒ **July 10** – Eastern Area Clergy Lunch, Front Porch Café, Hartville, OH
- ⇒ **July 11** – Central Area Clergy Breakfast, Tim Hortons, Ashland, OH
- ⇒ **June 21-22** – NYC, Fort Collins, CO
- ⇒ **August 1** – Western Area Clergy Lunch, Blue Ribbon Diner, Wauseon, OH
- ⇒ **August 3-4** – Northern Ohio District Conference, Dupont CoB, Continental, OH

Mt. Pleasant Church of the Brethren 4th Annual Marriage Retreat at the Carlisle Inn, Sugarcreek, Ohio

Friday November 2, 2018, 6:00pm—9:00pm

Saturday November 3, 2018, 9:00am—4:30pm

Since 2015, Mt. Pleasant Church of the Brethren has been pleased to host an annual marriage retreat event. This ministry effort was born out of a call to provide resources and support to married couples. The 2017 event was held last October at the beautiful campus of the Amish Door Restaurant and Inn in Wilmot, Ohio and featured outstanding biblical teaching from The Art of

Marriage video series, an outreach of FamilyLife ministries. Pastor Mark Kell of Center Church of the Brethren said "Attending this marriage retreat, my wife and I were met with a thoroughly rewarding experience! What a blessing it is to spend such time in the company of friends, brothers and sisters in Christ and devote ourselves to this task, this most wonderful relationship."

The 2018 marriage retreat will take place at the countryside setting of The Carlisle Inn, Sugarcreek, Ohio on November 2nd and 3rd, and will feature portions of the video series "What did you Expect?: Redeeming the Realities of Marriage" by Dr. Paul David Tripp. Mt. Pleasant wishes to extend the reach of this ministry as far as possible into the Northern Ohio District. The cost of this year's event has been graciously supported by a Hottle Memorial Fund Grant which will enable couples to enjoy an overnight stay at the Carlisle Inn, meals, and all retreat materials at a cost of \$50 per couple. Please contact the Mt. Pleasant church office at

mpchurchoffice@sbcglobal.net or 330-499-5131 to register or request additional information. A limited number of rooms have been reserved for overnight accommodations; registrations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis through September 1.

Pastor Bruce Jacobsen of Mt. Pleasant encourages couples to participate. "Each marriage retreat has been helpful, meaningful and spiritually rich. I'm confident that the 2018 retreat will be worth your interest and participation, and that you will walk away having been both challenged and encouraged in your walk with Christ." (See attached flyer for more information.)

Annual Conference Compelling Vision guiding statement:

Annual Conference has called on the Church of the Brethren to work through a "Compelling Vision" process, seeking God's vision for our church. One and a half business sessions at this year's conference are devoted to this discernment process. The Compelling Vision Working Group has embraced the following guiding statement as foundational to the visioning framework and process:

"Confessing Jesus Christ as Teacher, Redeemer, and Lord, we desire to serve Him by proclaiming, professing, and walking in His way together bringing His peace to our broken world. Join us in reclaiming a new passion for Christ and helping set a course for our future as the Church of the Brethren serving Him in our communities and in the world!"

It is our intention that conversations about this vision will start with Jesus Christ as the center of our existence as a denomination.



Annual Conference Volunteers

July 4-8, 2018, Duke Energy Convention Center, Cincinnati, Ohio

We are in need of volunteers to serve as Floor Tellers during the business sessions of Annual Conference. Delegates and Non-delegates alike can volunteer for this position. The Tellers see that all printed information is provided to the delegates so that they can fulfill their responsibility. Any standing vote count is also handled by the Tellers. If you are willing to serve, or know of someone who is, please contact Mark Liller, (Head Teller) at mwliller@gmail.com or 814-695-3979.

Linda and Glenn Timmons, Southern Ohio's On-Site Coordinators for Annual Conference are still in need of volunteers for various positions at Annual Conference. Please follow the attached link for volunteer information. Please note that their area code is (937). Thank you!

www.nohcob.org/volunteer

Pastoral Placement

Congregations actively in the search process:

Ashland Dickey – Pastoral Call vote July 22nd.
Tom Zuercher retiring in August.

Bethel – **David Wyant** approved for ordination pending call to Bethel on June 26th.

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

County Line – In negotiations. **Chris Ewing** serving as interim.

East Nimishillen – James Lee called as pastor on June 10th and begins serving July 1st.

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:

Lake Breeze – Congregation arranging pulpit supply.

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

Thank You's

Dear Friends, On behalf of the entire family, thank you for your contribution to the Burns Family Trust. The money will be used to help provide for the children. We are grateful for all the prayer support we have received from all across the district. God Bless You—Tom & Susan (Zuercher)

Thanks so much for the gift to Inspiration Hills Camp & Retreat Center in memory of Melvis Cormany. Pearl & Family



District Prayer Calendar

June 17—June 23

Akron Eastwood CoB (Pastor Paul Bozman) and Akron First CoB (Pastor Tobin Crenshaw)

June 24—June 30

Akron Springfield CoB (Pastor Alan Brumbaugh) and Ashland Dickey CoB (Pastor Tom Zuercher)

July 1—July 7

Ashland First CoB (Pastor Tina Hunt) and Bethel CoB (Interim David Wyant)

July 8—July 14

Black River CoB (Pastor Mark Teal) and Bristolville CoB (Pastor Fred Keener)

July 15—July 21

Brook Park Community CoB (Interim Tom Michaels) and Center CoB (Pastor Mark Kell)

July 22—July 28

Chippewa CoB (Pastor Bill Eley) and County Line CoB (Interim Chris Ewing)

The Good Life

LIFE MORE ABUNDANT

John 10: 9-11

Northern Ohio
District Conference
August 3-4, 2018

Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren District Conference, August 3-4, 2018 Dupont of the Brethren Continental, Ohio

District Conference Highlights

- **Worship**

Friday evening – Moderator Terry Porter speaking. Performing Arts Camp was cancelled due to low registration, but Youth will share several skits and music.

Saturday evening – Jeff Carter, President, Bethany Theological Seminary

- **Saturday Morning 7:30 Prayer Walk**
All are encouraged to attend

- **Offerings**

Friday evening – District Conference expenses

Saturday evening – Puerto Rico Disaster Ministries

Health Kits for Church World Service

- **Business Items:**
2018 Ballot
2019 Budget
Faith in Action Recommendation
Resolution on Same Sex Weddings

- Non-delegate session with Michaela Alphonse during the morning business session
- Friday evening – Ice Cream social after worship
- Child care available during Pre-Conference Workshop, Business sessions, Worship, and Insight Sessions
- Junior and Senior High activities / Children's activities for K-5
- No cost for youth or children!
- Your church will be receiving a publicity packet with more information on each of these. We ask that you please share this information with your congregation.

OFFICE & STAFF SUMMER SCHEDULE

The District Office will be closed July 4th through July 6th for Annual Conference.

Kris Hawk will be on vacation the week of June 17th.

Julie Watson will be on vacation the week of June 24th.

District Executive Kris Hawk takes Monday as her day off. She can be reached at 330-612-2086 or krishawk@nohcob.org

Administrative Secretary, Julie Watson is in the office Monday through Friday, 9 am—3 pm. She can be reached at 419-281-3058 or julie@nohcob.org

Youth Coordinator, Esther Harsh is in the office on Mondays. She can be reached at 330-880-7161 or esther@nohcob.org

