



Pastor's *memo*

NORTHERN OHIO DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN | MARCH 2018

Next BBI Class: Biblical Interpretation

*Instructor: Paul Bozman, April 7, 21 and May 5
Northern Ohio District Office, Ashland, OH*

This course will emphasize the historical concepts of how the Brethren viewed and interpreted Scripture. This course will also look at the many ways that the Bible is viewed and interpreted in today's culture, and we will also study how those concepts have evolved and influenced the Brethren understanding of Scripture today.

Paul Bozman serves as pastor of Eastwood COB in Akron, OH. He also serves the Northern Ohio District as the Ministry Education Director and has established the Buckeye Brethren Institute. Paul has earned a M.Div. in Theology from Ashland Theological Seminary and his undergraduate degree of Business Management in Accounting from Kent State University.

You may register online at www.nohcob.org/bbi or follow link to print brochure and registration form. Please mail form and payment to Northern Ohio District, 1107 E. Main Street, Ashland, OH 44805. Thank you!

Biblical Authority Conversations

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

Biblical Authority Conversations 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 for more information.

Mark Your Calendar

3/3—Buckeye Brethren Institute: Orientation, District Office, Ashland, OH

3/3—Youth Central/Eastern Area Bowling Event, Eastbury Lanes, Canton, OH

3/9-10—Jr. High Rally, Dupont CoB, Dupont, OH

3/10—District Board Meeting, Good Shepherd Home, Fostoria, OH

3/17—Disabilities Ministry Training w/Debbie Eisenbise, Mohican CoB, West Salem, OH

3/17—Sr. High Leadership Series #2, Inspiration Hills, Burbank, OH

3/24—Central Committee Meeting, District Office, Ashland, OH

4/6—Inspiration Hills Spring Clean Up, Inspiration Hills, Burbank, OH

Meet the Moderator—April 15th, 3:00 p.m. Mohican Church of the Brethren West Salem, OH

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.



Samuel Sarpiya, Moderator



2018 Annual Conference Volunteers Needed, Registration begins March 1st www.brethren.org/ac

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." Our district has the opportunity to be a "living parable" by assisting and serving in some capacity at the conference.

Volunteers are needed to assist with Early Childhood Care; Grades K-2, Grades 3-5, Junior High, Senior High, Young Adults, Single Adults, Conference Registration, Ticket Sales, Ushering, Unloading (7/3/18) and Loading (7/8/18) of equipment.

Click [here](#) to download a form, check your interests, provide your contact information and send it to Glenn and Linda Timmons, On Site Co-Coordinators by February 1, 2018. (4481 Valleybrook Drive, Englewood, OH 45322) If you have questions, call us at 937-832-2630 (H) or 937-623-5609 (C)

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.

"The Good Life"

Life More Abundant

John 10: 9-11

Northern Ohio District

Conference August 3-4, 2018

Dupont Church of the Brethren



Pastoral Placement

Congregations actively in the search process:

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

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

East Nimishillen – *Carolyn Kuryn* serving as interim. Search Committee reviewing profiles.

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

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

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.

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

Dupont – *Steve Heilshorn* serving as interim and beginning the credentialing process.

Lake Breeze – Congregation arranging pulpit supply.

Lakewood – *Gene Wyse* serving as interim.

Woodworth – *John Polanski* serving as interim.

Updated 02/22/18

District Prayer Calendar

February 25—March 3

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

March 4—March 10

North Bend CoB (Pastor Patrick Bailey) and Owl Creek CoB (Pastor Charles Barnhill)

March 11—March 17

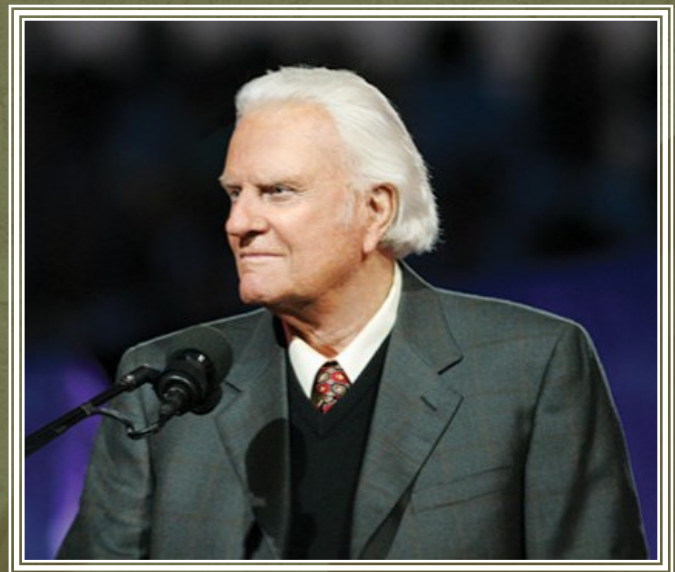
Painesville CoB (Pastors John & Sondra Bocchieri) and Paradise CoB (Pastor Terry Vaught)

March 18—March 24

Pleasant View CoB (Interim Byron Hawbecker) and Poplar Ridge CoB (Pastor Ben Polzin)

March 25—March 31

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



“Only God can give us a selfless love for others, as the Holy Spirit changes us from within. This is one reason we must receive Christ, for apart from His Spirit we can never be freed from the chains of selfishness, jealousy, and indifference. Will others see Christ's love in your life today?”

- Rev. Billy Graham

Source: [Hope for Each Day](#)

2018 Clergy-Spouse Retreat

Forty-eight gathered in the Toledo area for the 2018 Clergy-Spouse Retreat February 18-20. This was a time for renewal and rest, laughter and learning. Andy and Dr. Laura Hamilton held three sessions focused on “Finding Life in a Dying World” that challenged us to set aside time to hear God’s voice and be aware of the guiding of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in our ministries. The scriptural focus was 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 as we learned that we “inwardly we are being renewed day by day.” Worship time together was rich – and the singing was beautiful! Thank you to the Ministerial Commission for coordinating this event, to Vaughn and Miriam Loose for serving as our hosts, to Bruce Jacobsen for his worship and music leadership, and to John and Sondra Bocchieri for guitar accompaniment.



Andy & Dr. Laura Hamilton, Stevens Hill Community Church of the Brethren

Photos by Terry Baldwin



New and Renew Revitalize Plant Grow

The Risk & Reward of Embodying Jesus Locally
a conference for new and renewing congregations

Risk. Ask any church planter, and one of the first things they are likely to tell you is that it takes great deal of risk to enter into the difficult work of planting a new church. God took a risk sending Christ into the world, to move into the neighborhood with us. Come and explore with us the ways that we can do risk well as we go about the work of planting new communities of faith across our country and the world. Share your own experiences of risk in the work of church planting, as well as hearing how others have handled the risks and challenges of this important work.

See attached flyer for more information or visit www.brethren.org/churchplanting/2018/ for more information and to register online.

May 16-19, 2018

Bethany Theological Seminary

Keynote Speakers:
Christiana Rice
and Orlando Crespo

