

Pastor's *memo*

NORTHERN OHIO DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
DECEMBER 2015

District Prayer Calendar

December 6—December 12

Swan Creek CoB (Pastoral Vacancy) and Water Street CoB (Pastor Denny Fox)

December 13—December 19

Woodworth CoB (Pastor Interim Mitch Funkhouser) and Zion Hill CoB (Pastor Jason Harsh)

December 20—December 26

Adrian CoB (Interim David Morton) and Akron Eastwood CoB (Pastor Paul Bozman)

December 27—January 2

Akron First CoB (Pastor Tobin Crenshaw) and Akron Springfield CoB (Interim Tom Michaels)

January 3—January 9

Ashland Dickey CoB (Pastor Tom Zuercher) and Ashland First CoB (Interim Tina Hunt)

Youth Leadership Workshop

On January 23rd we will be holding a Youth Leadership Workshop at the District Office from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. For the first portion of the morning Pastor Nate Bebout will talk about practical ministry tools. We will then spend the rest of our time discussing our individual ministries. The desire is to connect across our congregations and to talk about what is going well, what is working, where we could use advice, and where we could use prayer. Light breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please join us for a morning of fellowship! To register online, click or go to <http://members.nohcob.org/events/details/youth-leadership-workshop-64>. For questions contact Spencer Dolezal, District Youth Coordinator, Cell: (440) 554-4657 Email: spencer@nohcob.org.

Mark Your Calendar

- 1/16—Central Committee Meeting, District Office, Ashland, OH
- 1/23—Youth Leadership Workshop, District Office, Ashland, OH
- 1/30—Men's Fellowship Meeting, District Office, Ashland, OH
- 2/5-6—Vital Ministry Journey Training, Sponsored by Congregational Commission, District Office
- 2/9 Executive Committee Meeting, District Office, Ashland, OH
- 2/14-16—Clergy Spouse Retreat, Holiday Inn French Quarter, Perrysburg, OH
- 2/19-20—Jr. High Winter Rally North Bend CoB, Clearfork, OH

DISTRICT MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The District Fellowship Commission is asking that each church in the District select one male to attend a meeting at the District office in Ashland on January 30th at 10:00 a.m. for the purpose of reviving a District Men's Fellowship organization.

Rick Horst from East Chippewa will be leading the meeting and a brunch will be provided. This is an important first step in the process. Please prayerfully consider promoting this event.

Hebrews 10:23-25 New International Version (NIV)

²³ Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Please contact Julie Watson at julie@nohcob.com and/or Rick Horst at rhurst5534@sssn.net with your RSVP. You may also register online at <http://members.nohcob.org/events/details/men-s-fellowship-meeting-77>.

*But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little
among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall
come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose
goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.*
Micah 5:2

Pastoral Placement

Adrian – **David Morton** serving as interim.

Akron Springfield – Search Committee in negotiation with a candidate. **Tom Michaels** serving as interim.

Ashland First – **Tina Hunt** called as pastor December 13. Installation service scheduled for December 20.

Bethel – Congregation arranging pulpit supply.

Center – Congregation arranging pulpit supply.

Chippewa – Congregation arranging pulpit supply.

East Nimishillen – Congregational profile completed. **Matthew Reed** serving as interim.

Eden – Congregation arranging pulpit supply.

Lake Breeze – **James Washington** serving as interim.

Lick Creek – Search Committee reviewing pastoral profiles. **Dr. Nancy Berkheiser** serving as interim.

Maple Grove – Congregation arranging pulpit supply.

Marion First – **Rick Hicks** serving as interim.

Owl Creek – **Charles Barnhill** serving as interim.

Richland – **Jim Frado** pastoral installation scheduled for December 27.

Ross – **Keith Stoller** serving as interim.

Sugar Creek West – Search Committee conducting pastoral interviews. **Dr. Byron Hawbecker** serving as interim.

Swan Creek – Congregation arranging pulpit supply.

Woodworth – **Mitch Funkhouser** serving as interim.

Clergy Spouse Retreat

**February 14-16, 2016, Holiday Inn
French Quarter, Perrysburg, OH**

**Guest Speakers:
Pete and Janice Kaltenbaugh**

Plan on joining us for the upcoming Clergy-Spouse Retreat February 14-16, 2016 at the Holiday Inn French Quarter, Perrysburg, OH.

Our guest speakers will be Pete & Janice Kaltenbaugh. Pete has been in ministry since being licensed in 1966 in the Western Pennsylvania District of the Church of the Brethren. He attended and graduated from Bethany Theological Seminary and has served as pastor in 4 Church of the Brethren congregations (Hartville, Northern Ohio for 20 years) and an American Baptist/Community Church and a House Church in Turkey while serving in the Armed services. He and Janice have been married for almost 46 years and have two grown children and four grandchildren. Janice has been the Executive Director of Camp Harmony for almost ten years; following over twenty-five years in teaching (18 years, Lake Local schools, Hartville, Ohio.)

Both are involved in many ministries locally and district wide. They continue to live each day in service to Jesus Christ their Lord and Savior. They enjoy each and every day that is presented to them and have been best friends even longer than they have been married.

They look forward to the Retreat in Ohio, to renew former friendships and make new friends. Please remember this is going to be a learning experience but we will have lots of fun as well. Pete and Janice enjoy every day that God gives them, come along for the adventure. See You There.

Cost: \$325.00 per couple, \$250.00 per single, and \$130.00 per single one day registration

To register online click or go to: <http://members.nohcob.org/events/details/clergy-spouse-retreat-75>



Youth Missions Trip

June 26, 2016 through July 1, 2016

Center for Student Missions, Chicago, IL

Next Summer, the District Youth Ministry will be embarking on a mission trip to Chicago, IL. Our youth will have the opportunity to serve in inner-city children's ministries, homeless aid, prayer outreach, and other missional activities. We will be leaving on June 26, 2016 and returning July 1, 2016.

For this mission trip we are partnering with an organization called Center for Student Missions. CSM is focused around the idea that short term service has a long term impact. Throughout the week, we will work with CSM's staff as they guide us around the different ministry sites with which they partner. CSM provides all of our lodging and food arrangements, and we will have the opportunity to experience several different cultural restaurants throughout the week.

The timeline for the Summer Mission begins now as we are building interest and getting youth registered for the trip. There is a trip folder with information on CSM, our trip, and applications that will come around to the congregations in the District. As you receive these folders, I will be in touch with you to discuss what is in them, and how you can get involved.

The cost for the trip is \$400, and we will have a variety of fundraising opportunities for you to participate in. Our adult leaders for the trip will also take part in checking in on fundraising progress to make sure that we are able to take on the financial responsibilities of the trip.

Be on the lookout for your Summer Mission folder! We can't wait to partner with you in this outreach opportunity!

God bless!

Spencer Dolezal, District Youth Coordinator
Cell: (440) 554-4657 Email: spencer@nohcob.org

December's Great Star

The December Star
links heaven and earth...
with hope and grace
for our rebirth.

But violence and death
drive eagerly on...
and the promise of Christ
seems all but gone.

Our patience is tested
our hope insecure...
Can living like Jesus
bring us the cure?

"Fear Not," He speaks firmly,
"I am in control!"

"In my cross there is victory;
to heal every soul."

"So march on before me,
until I return...
all accounts will be settled
every evil deed burn."

So the victory is ours
if the faith we still keep...
For He is the great Shepherd
and we are His sheep.

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Announcements

Attention Northern Ohio District Congregations:

The Northern Ohio District Office will soon begin drafting the February 2016 Winter Issue of The Herald. If you have an article you would like to contribute to The Herald, please send it to the District Office no later than January 18, 2016. Please keep your article between 150-200 words and provide a couple of pictures to accompany the article. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office. Thank you!

Julie Watson, District Administrative Secretary

Phone: (419) 281-3058

Email: julie@nohcob.org

Check us out on Facebook or the district website nohcob.org for more information about Northern Ohio District Ministries. Click on the icons below or use your tablet/smart phone to connect to our website via the QR Code.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
from the Northern Ohio District Staff*

*Thank you for your continued support of the
ministries of the Northern Ohio District. We pray you
have a blessed Christmas and a healthy and
prosperous New Year.*

*John, Linda, Julie, Jen, Spencer, Shannon & Lisa
(From left to right)*

