

The Herald

District Conference Issue

“In everything set them an example...” - Titus 2:7

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the apostle Paul wrote these words in his letter to young pastor Titus in the work of leading the church on Crete. This mandate is our theme verse as we meet July 29-30 for our District Conference at Maple Grove Church of the Brethren. In our time together we will use the greater context of Titus 2:1-8 in hopes of gaining a clearer understanding of a model of congregational life that is regarded by many as ‘old school.’ As we will see, Paul gave Titus some valuable insight into Body life and vitality that still holds great value for us today as we seek to be “people of the Book.” It is a call to unity in the body of believers as intentional relationships are formed and nurtured involving those of various age groups. It calls us back to teaching/mentoring, and it bids us return to a humble, teachable spirit. It calls us to see all the parts of the community of faith as today’s church. It may well call us to change...

You will notice our venue is once again a local church, and that decision was made by the Central Committee based on evaluations by delegates at the 2015 gathering at Mohican. Last year’s conference-goers overwhelmingly favored the more intimate setting of the local church, and Central Committee was pleased with a significant cost savings over a University setting. As you have noticed, we are once again at a site more centrally located in the district but that will not always be the case. While there are only a handful of our congregations that have facilities suitable for a conference, it is the intent of Central Committee to move conference around to various congregations within the district. Host churches will be encouraged to enlist volunteers from the surrounding congregations, strengthening the understanding that “we” are the district.

Continued on Page 2

Table of Contents

- Message from the Moderator**..... 1-2
- Pastoral Placement** 2
- Mark Your Calendar** 2
- District Prayer Calendar** 2
- District Conference Schedule**..... 3
- Performing Arts Camp** 3
- Youth Attendance at Conference** 3
- Worship Times & Speakers**..... 4
- Friday Evening Insight Sessions** 4
- Saturday Insight Sessions** 4-5
- SISTERS Fellowship** 5
- Annual Conference** 5
- Ice Cream Social** 6
- Notes of Praise**..... 6
- Peace Auction**..... 7
- Pre-Conference Workshop**..... 8
- Childcare** 8
- Children’s Activities** 8
- Registration Form** 9-10
- Delegate Authorization Form** 11
- Akron/Canton Lenten Services** 12
- Jonah’s People Update**..... 12
- In Remembrance**..... 13
- Inspiration Hills News** 14
- Mt. Pleasant Gospel Night** 14
- Akron Eastwood Christ’s Closet**..... 15
- Kris Hawk Consecration Service** 16

Continued from Page 1

As you peruse this issue of the Herald, you will see detailed information on some of what you can expect to find at Maple Grove in July. Your Central Committee – fueled by the strength of many committed volunteers from across the district, and welcomed by an enthusiastic host church – has worked hard to bring you a great conference. It is our sincere desire that the NAME of Christ will be exalted, the WORK of Christ in/through our district will be accomplished and the BODY of Christ will be equipped and strengthened.

Paul Bartholomew

District Conference Moderator

Pastoral Placement

Congregations actively in the search process

Bethel – Congregational profile completed. Congregation arranging pulpit supply.

Center – Search Committee conducting interviews. **David Hall** serving as interim.

Dupont – Search Committee completing church profile. **Bill Helmlinger, Doug Price, Terry Porter** serving as interim pastoral team.

Lick Creek – In negotiations. **Dr. Nancy Berkheiser** serving as interim.

Sugar Creek West – **Michael Huffaker** will begin ministry there July 25th. **Dr. Byron Hawbecker** serving as interim.

Swan Creek – Dick Neuwirth called as pastor. Consecration service scheduled for May 22.

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

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

Chippewa – **Bill Eley** serving as interim.

East Nimishillen – **Matthew Reed** serving as interim. Congregational profile complete, but not actively seeking at this time.

Eden – **Wayne Scott** serving as interim. (waiting 6-12 months to begin the search process).

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

Maple Grove – **John Ballinger** serving as interim.

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

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

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

Woodworth – Congregation arranging pulpit supply.



Mark Your Calendar

- May 21—District Board Meeting, Lakewood CoB, Milbury, OH
- May 29-June 4—Northern Ohio District Brethren Disaster Ministry Project, Detroit, MI
- June 16—Christian Peacemaker Team, Biking for Peace Visit, Center CoB, Louisville, OH
- June 21—Central Committee Meeting, District Office, Ashland, OH
- June 26-July 1—Youth Summer Mission, Chicago, IL
- June 28-July 3—Annual Conference, Greensboro, NC
- July 29-30—District Conference, Maple Grove CoB, Ashland, OH
- July 30—District Board Reorganization Meeting, Maple Grove CoB, Ashland, OH

District Prayer Calendar

May 15—May 21

Sugarcreek East CoB (Pastor Dick Marshall) and Sugar Creek West CoB (Interim Dr. Byron Hawbecker)

May 22—May 28

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

May 29—June 4

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

June 5—June 11

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

June 12—June 18

Akron First CoB (Pastor Tobin Crenshaw) and Akron Springfield CoB (Pastor Alan Brumbaugh)

District Conference Schedule

Friday, July 29, Maple Grove CoB, Ashland, OH

- 12:00 p.m. Exhibit & Peace Auction Set-up
 1:00 p.m. Registration Begins
 2:00 p.m. Pre-Conference Workshop: Meeting Across Generations (see Page 8)
 5:00 p.m. Dinner
 6:15 p.m. Insight Sessions
 7:30 p.m. Worship
 9:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social & Musical Entertainment

Saturday, July 30, Maple Grove CoB, Ashland, OH

- 8:00 a.m. Business Session, Children's Activities
 11:30 a.m. Lunch & SISTERS Fellowship Gathering
 12:30 p.m. Insight Sessions
 1:40 p.m. Business Session Resumes
 3:40 p.m. Insight Sessions
 5:15 p.m. Dinner
 6:30 p.m. Worship & Installation of New Officers

Online Registration Available

This year you may registration online for District Conference at nohcob.org. Go to the Event Calendar tab to listings for July 29-30, 2016 District Conference. You may register and pay by credit or debit card or by check. If you register online and pay by check, please mail your check to: Ginny Herbert, 1185 Pearce Dr., Mansfield, Ohio 44906. The direct link to the event is: <http://members.nohcob.org/events/details/district-conference-2016-53>.

Performing Arts Camp is Back

Now renamed Worship Arts, Inspiration Hills is holding a camp this summer for our musically and dramatically inclined youth. Campers will develop a collection of songs, skits, and scripture readings into a performance to be shared with the District Conference attendees on Friday, July 29.

The performance will be centered on the conference theme of mentorship. The life of previous director Alan Patterson will be honored and recognized at the end of the performance.

We are currently seeking youth from grades 4-12 to join us for an amazing camp experience during the week of June 5th - 10th. Contact directors Abbie Bartholomew (330) 201-7041 or Deana Gilmore (419) 989-0038 if you have any questions or would like more information.



District Youth Conference Attendance

District Youth have the opportunity to attend Camp Inspiration Hill's Senior High Weekend Bash during the weekend of District Conference. The youth who attend the Senior High Weekend Bash will also have the opportunity to join us at District Conference for our Friday night worship and Ice Cream Social, as well as our Saturday night worship service. This is a great chance for us to engage in the intergenerational community on which this year's District Conference is focused. The Senior High Weekend Bash is also being offered for FREE to any senior high student who attends a different week of camp earlier in the summer. We are excited to participate in worship with our youth, and we hope you will encourage youth from your congregation to join in the Senior High Weekend Bash and join us at District Conference for worship!

Worship Times & Speakers

Friday Worship 7:30 p.m. in Sanctuary

Speaker: Paul Bartholomew



Paul Bartholomew serves as part of the pastoral team at Mohican Church of the Brethren, where he recently began his 21st year of ministry. He married Kathy more than 28 years ago, and they have two girls who were born into their home (Abbie and Alison), as well as another girl who came into their lives later (Allie T). In addition to his current service as Moderator for the Northern Ohio district, Paul serves as moderator for three local congregations. He is also actively involved in the community in which he lives and the public school system of which they are part. Paul's interests include a great love for the outdoors, hunting and fitness.

Saturday Worship 6:30 p.m. in Sanctuary

Speakers: Intergenerational Panel

The intent of the 'message' will be hearing from one another (by way of representatives from various age groups) as to the ways we can best help each other grow toward maturity in Christ. Ideally, we will all come away from the service with a renewed sense of unity in the body and a clearer understanding of our responsibility to our brothers and sisters in Christ, recognizing the giftedness and usefulness of each part of the Body in today's Church.

Insight Sessions

Friday Evening 6:15 – 7:15

“Truth Behind Bars” Presented by Sandra Humphrey, Member of Center CoB, Currently serving on the Discipleship Commission and Ohio Counsel of Churches Representative

Mass incarceration in United States is higher than in any other country. This session will share the effects of mass incarceration on America's impoverished and minority populations and their families. Join in discussion of how we need to be ministering to these people and welcoming the least of these into our church families. Sandy has been a member of Center CoB most of her life. It was through her position with Ohio Counsel of Churches, she volunteered to help prepare and present a report on mass incarceration and had a major enlightenment regarding the subject.

“Stories of Service” Our Short Term Mission to Chicago Presented by Spencer Dolezal, District Youth Coordinator, and youth

The District Youth Ministry is going to send 40+ youth and advisors to serve in Chicago this summer, and we are going to have some amazing stories to share! Join us to hear about what God led us into during our trip.

Saturday Afternoon 12:30 – 1:30

“Inspiration Hills Beyond 2020” Presented by Shannon Kahler, Camp Director and Kerri Bailey, CAC Member

As a young adult the year 2020 was seen as a vital visioning point for those working in Christian ministries. Our mission, ministry and leadership development was focused on the kids who would be the new leaders of the church when the baby boomer generation entered into retirement. 2020 is just around the corner and some of our assumptions were not correct. Churches and parachurch ministries have experienced a cultural shift that was not anticipated and have had a hard time adapting; this shift is happening across all denominations and cultures and shows no signs of slowing down. Can the Northern Ohio District re-imagine

and adapt the camp ministry (and ministry in general) in 2016 so that the message of Christ is heard well beyond 2020?

“What do you think?” Listening Session with the District Transitional Team

Listening sessions will be happening all over our District as the Transitional Team gathers information to formulate recommendations for our District. This opportunity at District Conference will be the first one. Come and share your thoughts about our District, what is going well, what could be improved, what should be kept, and what should be changed.

Saturday Afternoon 3:40 – 5:10

“Caring for our Elderly” Presented by Dr. Lynn Ritter, Education Coordinator, National Alzheimer's Association, Northwest Ohio Chapter.

80% of care for older adults is provided by family members. Most find this a privilege, not a burden. Come discover how to care in ways that minister to older adults and strengthen relationships.

“Church Secretaries, Volunteers and Staff... Getting to Know You!” Presented by Billi Janet Burkey and Julie Watson, Northern Ohio District Staff

This will be the church secretary, volunteer or paid staff's opportunity to get together and meet our District Secretary in person and each other and begin to form a network of support. We will talk about the communication flow of the District and how we can help keep our pastors and congregations informed.

“Simple Home Repairs...Learn How to Help Yourself and Others” Presented by Northern Ohio Brethren Disaster Ministries Team

You are able to do so much more than you think! Come join this special insight session as members of the Brethren Disaster Ministries team provide hands-on instruction for repairs and maintenance that you can do in your own home. You can also use these newly discovered skills to help others. Come learn what you can do!

SISTERS Fellowship During Conference Lunch



Join the SISTERS team for lunch. We will spend our time this year at Conference looking at how to continue the legacy. Bring your pictures from past SISTERS retreats and Women's Fellowship retreats (electronically if possible). Also your ideas for future SISTERS events.

Annual Conference Information

The 2016 Church of the Brethren Annual Conference will be held June 29-July 3 in Greensboro, NC. The theme is "Carry the Light" from John 1:1-5. Information on conference business including two delegate briefing videos may be found at www.brethren.org/ac/2016/business.

Please consider sending delegates to this important event in the life of the church. Decisions are made, relationships strengthened, and we are called to deeper faith through worship and praise as we gather together in Jesus' name. (Registration deadline for receiving the discount is June 5).



Carry the
Light

Conference Ice Cream Social

Sponsored by Richland Church of the Brethren

Friday Evening, July 29, 2016 at 9:00 p.m.



Richland Church of the Brethren will be sponsoring and hosting the Ice Cream Social during District Conference, at Maple Grove Church of the Brethren, on Friday evening, July 29, 2016 at 9:00 p.m. Members of Richland's congregation have been making homemade ice cream for over 20 years, holding their socials each July. It is always an enjoyable time of fellowship. Free-will offerings are received at

Richland's ice cream socials and the proceeds are used to benefit area families in need. Richland's ice cream making is done the week before their social, usually making around 18 gallons all together. The women begin by mixing ingredients and filling ice cream cylinders, the men make sure ice cream makers keep churning (electric of course). They are looking forward to sharing with all of you at District Conference.



Members of Richland Church of the Brethren: Sondra Kuhn & Don Kockheiser cutting fruit while Bob Grove puts cut fruit in the fridge.

Musical Entertainment provided by

Notes of Praise

Notes of Praise, a musical group from Maple Grove Church of the Brethren will be providing musical entertainment during the Ice Cream Social at District

Conference. There have been different instrumental groups playing together at Maple Grove Church of the Brethren for a number of years going back into the late 1970s. The latest group of instrumentalists are called Notes of

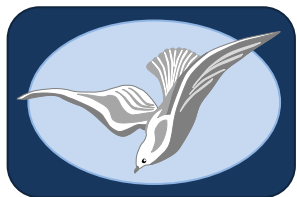
Praise and meets every other month or so to prepare a song or two for worship services. This group of people, both students and adults, enjoy playing their instruments and praising the Lord with this music. Current members of the group are: Mary Cuffman (Piano), Randy Keener (French

Horn), Wendy Taylor (Piano), Nik Beebe (Tenor Sax), Kate Beebe (Bells), Terry Vaught (Flute), Morgan Stutzman (Tenor Sax), Emily Stutzman (Trumpet), Carlie Stutzman (Flute), Qiana Donley (Clarinet), Jasmine Donley (Flute), Sharon Barr (Flute), Rhdawnda Bliss (Flute), Maryellen Bliss (Alto Sax), Susan Benner (Alto Sax), Cathy Bishop (Flute). We hope to see you there!



Coming At District Conference!

Northern Ohio District Conference 2016, Maple Grove Church of the Brethren



A Silent Auction For the Peace Endowment Fund

Support District Peace Education Efforts!

The Silent Auction at District Conference is organized by the Peace Task Team to raise money for the District Peace Endowment Fund. This fund supports peace education efforts in the District.

As one of the Historic Peace Churches, we are committed to teaching Christ's message of peace – peace within ourselves as we make our peace with Jesus; peace within our families, our congregations, and with our friends; peace in our communities; and peace in the world with our friends and those we may call enemy. The Peace Endowment Fund was established to support efforts in the District to teach the things that make for peace!

DONATIONS ARE NEEDED!

We need you to bring handmade items and goodies for the auction!

Donate:

Handcrafted items

Artist's Work

Homemade Food



How to Donate Items:

- Please bring your donated items to the Exhibit Area Friday, July 29 by 5 p.m.
- Give us an estimate of their value
- Please note what a minimum starting bid should be

We appreciate all those who contribute items for the Auction!

We also need you

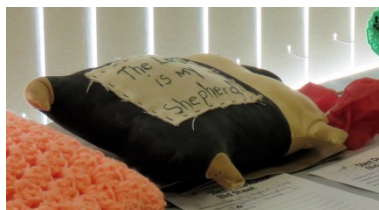
to come prepared to bid on the donated items in the auction!

How the Auction Works:

- The Silent Auction runs from 5 p.m. Friday to 6:30 p.m. Saturday.
- The person with the highest bid on an item at 6:30 p.m. Saturday takes the item home in return for their contribution to the Peace Endowment Fund!
- All items should be picked up on Saturday evening.

We appreciate all those who contribute to Peace Endowment Fund peace education efforts by bidding on items in the auction!

Come, contribute, and take home a hand crafted item or two!



Set Them An Example: Mentoring Across Generations

Pre-Conference Workshop—Friday, July 29 from 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

A workshop for church leadership, clergy, and all interested in connecting with people across generations.

No matter your age, you certainly have something to share with others. No matter your age, you're certainly growing through relationships. This workshop will focus on developing relationships across generations through mentoring. Participants will explore what it means to be a mentor, consider what skills they bring to mentoring, recognize their own perspectives, challenge misperceptions, convert fears/hesitancies into gifts, and practice relationship-building. Basic concepts in listening and communication will be (re)introduced and practiced. There will also be opportunity to explore ways to reach out initially to people from various generations and backgrounds and consider opportunities for your congregation to foster mentoring programs. There is no cost for this workshop, but so we can plan for space, please preregister by contacting Ginny Herbert at (419) 709-9083 or by email at cherb7082@gmail.com.

Presented by Karen Jeffers Tracy from On Earth Peace. More details to follow. Three contact hours (0.3 CEU's) provided to Clergy.

District Conference Childcare & Children's Activities

Childcare will be provided for Preschoolers during Business & Worship Friday & Saturday

Children's Activities will be provided for Grades 1-5 during Business

Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:40 p.m. to 3:35 p.m.

Children's Program Coordinator: Ronda Hinkle, Maple Grove

Childcare Providers: Ronda Hinkle, Maple Grove

& Samantha Sayers, Maple Grove

Children's Activities Provider: Annabelle Kettering, Maple Grove



Ronda Hinkle is the co-director of the nursery at Maple Grove Church with her daughter Samantha Sayers. Ronda has been married to David for 27 years. They have two daughters, Sam and Annette. Annette was diagnosed with developmental disabilities, she is 23 and lives at home. Ronda works for Buehler's Markets in Ashland as a prep cook. She has grown up at Maple Grove as well as her two daughters. She has worked with the nursery department for the last several years and really enjoys it.

Samantha (Sam) Sayers is an early intervention specialist and works for Ashland City Preschool. She has been married for 5 years to John and has a son, Jameson who is 2 1/2 years old.

Annabelle Kettering is the children's director for Maple Grove. She has served in this position for many years and has served in children's ministry for over 50 years as well as doing bible school programs, Sunday School programs, and Christmas programs. She also runs the children's church program. Annabelle is retired from FE Myers and has been married to George for 59 Years. They have two children Jody Freer and Melody Barber and three grandchildren. She does many more things for Maple Grove and is a great asset to the church.

Adult Registration Form

July 29 – 30, 2016 Northern Ohio District Conference

YOU MUST REGISTER BY JULY 22 IF YOU WANT TO ORDER MEALS.

Send Registration Forms and checks to: Ginny Herbert 1185 Pearce Dr., Mansfield, Ohio 44906
419-709-9083 (Make checks to "Northern Ohio District")

Send Authorization forms without payment to: Jeanene Pifer 3546 Denise Dr., Toledo, O. 43614 419-344-4006

You may now also register on-line & print conference materials from the District Website: www.nohcob.org.

Adult 1 Are You a Delegate? Yes No

Congregation Name: _____
 Your Name M/F _____
 Address (Street) _____
 (City, State, zip code) _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____
 Is this your first conference? Yes No
 Do you want a Conference Book? Yes No

Delegate Fee \$25.00. (\$35 on site), \$25.00

Non-Delegate Adult Fee \$25.00 (\$35 on-site.) \$25.00

Please circle the meals you wish to order.

| Individual meals | Lunch | Dinner | 3- Meal pkg. |
|------------------|--------|---------|--------------|
| Friday | | \$12.50 | |
| Saturday | \$5.00 | \$12.50 | \$30.00 |
| | | TOTAL | |

Adult 2 Are You a Delegate? Yes No

Congregation Name: _____
 Your Name M/F _____
 Address (Street) _____
 (City, State, zip code) _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____
 Is this your first conference? Yes No
 Do you want a Conference Book? Yes No

Delegate Fee \$25.00. (\$35 on site) \$25.00

Non-Delegate Adult Fee \$25.00 (\$35 on-site) \$25.00

Please circle the meals you wish to order.

| Individual meals | Lunch | Dinner | 3-Meal pkg. |
|------------------|--------|---------|-------------|
| Friday | | \$12.50 | |
| Saturday | \$5.00 | \$12.50 | \$30.00 |
| | | TOTAL | |

| Housing at camp | No. of adults \$25.00 each | Family \$50.00 | Cont. Breakfast | Total |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------|
| Friday | M F | | \$7.00 | |
| Saturday | M F | | \$7.00 | |
| Tent | | | | Free |

Housing is at Camp Inspiration Hills. Please bring your own pillow/ bed linens. Indicate if you will be in your tent.

***Are you attending the Women's Lunch? Yes No**
YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER!

There is an Ice Cream Social Friday after worship. The cost is included in registration fees. Will you attend? Yes No

Please add together your Registration Fee, Housing and Meal Costs:

Total Cost: _____

| Housing at camp | No. of adults \$25.00 each | Family \$50.00 | Cont. Breakfast | Total |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------|
| Friday | M F | | \$7.00 | |
| Saturday | M F | | \$7.00 | |
| Tent | | | | Free |

Housing is at Camp Inspiration Hills. Please bring your own pillow/ bed linens. Indicate if you will be in your tent.

***Are you attending the Women's Lunch? Yes No**
YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER!

There is an Ice Cream Social Friday after worship. The cost is included in registration fees. Will you attend? Yes No

Please add together your Registration Fee, Housing and Meal Costs:

Total Cost: _____

Child Under 12 Registration Form
 July 29 – 30, 2016 Northern Ohio District Conference

YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER BY JULY 22 IF YOU WANT TO ORDER MEALS.

Send registration forms to: **Ginny Herbert 1185 Pearce Dr. Mansfield, Ohio 44906 (419) 709-9083**
cherb7082@gmail.com **Make checks out to "Northern Ohio District"**

Child 1

Congregation Name: _____

Child's Name M/F Age/Grade

Address (Street, City, State) _____

Parent's Name _____

Parent's Phone Number _____

Is this your child's first conference? Yes

Parent's contact information at conference _____

Who will pick up children from their activities? _____

(Children under 12 do not pay registration fees.)

Please circle the meals you want for your child.

| Meals | Lunch | Dinner | 3-meal pkg. |
|----------|--------|----------------|-------------|
| Friday | | \$4.50 | |
| Saturday | \$2.50 | \$4.50 | \$11.50 |
| | | TOTAL ➡ | |

Will your child attend the ice cream social after worship.
(Included in registration fee) Yes No

Preschool Children: Child care is provided during worship on Friday and Saturday & during Saturday business sessions.

Please register your child below for each session.

| Friday Worship | Saturday Business | Saturday Worship |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |

Grade School Children: Children's activities are provided for children in grades 1 through 6 during the Saturday business sessions. Will your child attend Children's Activities on Saturday? Yes No

Does your child have any special needs, food allergies, etc?

Yes No Explain: _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature: _____

Please add together your child's Meal Cost:
Total Costs: \$ _____

Child 2

Congregation Name: _____

Child's Name M/F Age/Grade

Address (Street, City, State) _____

Parent's Name _____

Parent's Phone Number _____

Is this your child's first conference? Yes

Parent's contact information at conference _____

Who will pick up children from their activities? _____

(Children under 12 do not pay registration fees.)

Please circle the meals you want for your child.

| Meals | Lunch | Dinner | 3-meal pkg. |
|----------|--------|----------------|-------------|
| Friday | | \$4.50 | |
| Saturday | \$2.50 | \$4.50 | \$11.50 |
| | | TOTAL ➡ | |

Will your child attend the ice cream social after worship.
(Included in registration fee) Yes No

Preschool Children: Child care is provided during worship on Friday and Saturday & during Saturday business sessions.

Please register your child below for each session.

| Friday Worship | Saturday Business | Saturday Worship |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |

Grade School Children: Children's activities are provided for children in grades 1 through 6 during the Saturday business sessions. Will your child attend Children's Activities on Saturday? Yes No

Does your child have any special needs, food allergies, etc?

Yes No Explain: _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature: _____

Please add together your child's Meal Cost:
Total Costs: \$ _____

Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren
2016 DISTRICT CONFERENCE DELEGATE AUTHORIZATION FORM

Mail the form to:

Jeanene Pifer
 3546 Denise Dr.
 Toledo, Ohio 43614

Please do not include any payments with this form.

All payments should be sent with the Registration Form along with any choices for meals and lodging.

CONGREGATION NAME: _____

Delegate 1

Name

Complete Mailing Address

Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

Delegate 2

Name

Complete Mailing Address

Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

Delegate 3

Name

Complete Mailing Address

Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

Delegates Authorized by: (Pastor, Clerk, or Moderator)

Sign below, name and title

Number of Delegates: District Polity says: "There shall be two (2) for each member church or fellowship with 200 or fewer members. Larger churches shall have one (1) delegate for each additional 100 members or fraction thereof. One delegate should be a church board member. No elected delegate shall serve more than two years in succession, except in those congregations where the average weekly worship attendance is (35) or less.

Akron/Canton area congregations combine for Lenten Services

Each spring, the Akron/Canton area Church of the Brethren congregations gather together each Sunday evening during the Lenten season for a time of worship and fellowship. This year, these services began on the second Sunday of Lent (February 21) with a total of four combined services that ended with a festival of choirs on March 13. The congregations that participate in these services each year are Akron Eastwood, Akron First, Akron Springfield, Center, Eden, East Nimishillen, Freeburg, Hartville, Mount Pleasant, and Water Street.

The theme for these services focused upon Jesus' three predictions of the Cross as found in the Gospel of Mark (8:31ff, 9:30ff, 10:32ff). Unique to this year's services was the opportunity to hear some of the area's licensed ministers who do not currently serve a congregation have the opportunity to deliver the message, and each of them did a wonderful job.

In addition to gathering together for worship, these services also serve another purpose that benefits the Northern Ohio District. 100% of the offerings that were collected during the Lenten services are given to the district to support the Student Ministers Fund. This year, the total amount collected during these services was \$1,277.79. This fund exists to assist licensed individuals who are called into ministry pay for their education. If you are a licensed minister who would like more information about this fund, please contact the District Office, (419) 281-3058.



Photo displays the combined choir singing during the festival of choirs at Akron Springfield

Jonah's People Update

Northern Ohio District Fellowship located in Fostoria, Ohio

- A charter membership group of 18 people will be recognized in worship on Pentecost Sunday, 5/15.
- Three monthly collections of food to assist the Food Pantry Plus in Fostoria totaled 68 jars of peanut butter, 108 tooth brushes, 127 tubes of tooth paste, 5 dental care kits, 133 cans of soup, 41 bottles of shampoo, 7 bars of soap, 65 cans of tuna, 52 sticks of deodorant, a few dozen misc. items, and \$275.00 in donations.
- We are partnering with Fostoria's Summer Park Program to bring groups of young people to Good Shepherd Home to develop a relationship with an adult mentor as they work together on community projects.
- A fall workshop for clergy is in the planning stages (date to be announced) that will provide in depth training for clergy as they work with people diagnosed with various types of dementia and their families. We are partnering with the Alzheimer's Association in Toledo to make this possible.
- Pastor Barry A. Belknap will attend the New Church Planting Conference in Richmond, IN, May 19-21.

Farwell & God Speed to Our First District Peace Worker



Paul Moser Martin died April 11, 2016 at the age of 94. Paul was a teacher, pastor, and the first Northern Ohio District Peace Worker.

In 1970 the Northern Ohio District created a Peace Task Team to “send Peace Education Literature yearly to all high school students and to be a resource for local congregations, Bible studies and individuals.” The Team also did workshops and other training in the District. By 1980 the Team felt the need of a staff person to emphasize and facilitate this work and on August 24, 1980 they recommended to Missions & Social Action of the District Board that the staff position of Peace-worker be created. Bruce Rosenberger, Debbie Beer, Wayne Hochstetler, and Gloria Kindy served on the Commission at the time. In 1982 Noel Bradt, Clyde Fry, Wayne Hochstetler, and Penny Cameron (BVS Peace Worker) began work on the process of setting up an Endowment Fund to provide funding for the staff position and for district, congregational, and community education and action programs. In 1983 Paul Martin became the first District Peace Worker. He served in that position from 1983 to 1988. Paul laid a good foundation for the Peaceworkers who would follow him, continuing to be supporting and encouraging of the work after his tenure in the position.

Paul brought a unique background to this ministry. He was born to Presbyterian missionary parents in Brazil on October 28, 1921 and never tired of telling stories of growing up there. His Brazilian flag and 20 foot plus long anaconda snake skin made many trips to all kinds of presentations about his birth country. His Brazilian bird traps made frequent appearances at the District Peace Auction, an annual event at District Conference after 1988 to support the Peace Endowment Fund. One of the delights of Paul’s later years was taking his family to Brazil to visit the home of his youth. Paul came to the U.S. to go the school, graduating from Bluffton College (General Conference Mennonite school) in 1948. He got his master’s degree and taught 5th and 6th grade at Northwood Elementary school for 33 years. He was a much loved teacher who had a special way with children. His caring for them in the classroom and beyond was a life long vocation. Long after his retirement from teaching he continued to tutor children in the local schools and help children learn to plant and tend gardens.

Following his retirement from teaching, Paul and his wife Helen were licensed and then ordained into the ministry May 16, 1982 in the Church of the Brethren from the Lakewood Congregation. They were co-pastors at the Oak Grove, OH, Blissfield, IN, and Richland, OH congregations. They later also served as interim pastors twice for the First Church of the Brethren in Mansfield, Ohio.

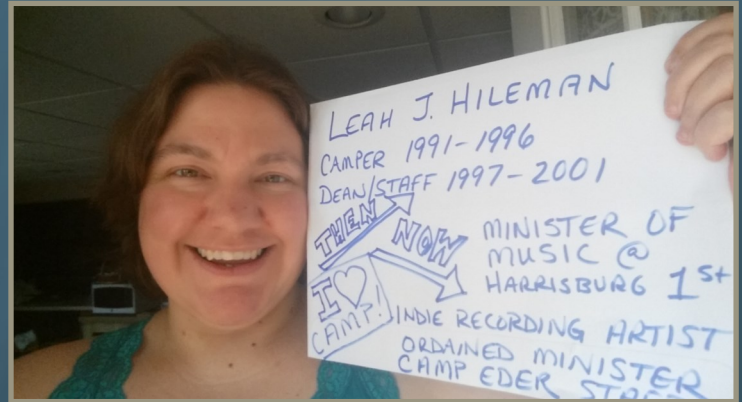
Paul’s witness for peace began in his youth. During World War II, Paul was a conscientious objector. He did alternative service in forestry camps in the west where he engaged in dangerous back-breaking manual labor. Then, following the war, he served as a Seagoing Cowboy, helping take cows and horses to Europe to help replace the livestock lost during the war. Paul’s commitment to peace was strong and communicated in his manner of living and relating to people. His students, parishioners, and colleagues report that Paul was never critical or judgmental. He was always encouraging and uplifting to those around him. Paul was known as a peaceful, gentle, spirit-filled man who loved life and people. He and Helen always had an extra bed for a weary traveler and offered a helping hand to those in need.

Paul is survived by his wife of 64 years Helen (Knoke) Martin and four children Bonnie (Robinson) Taylor, Linda (Jim) Lynch, Neal (Beth) Martin, and Steve (Lori) Martin. Paul chose to be of service after death as well by donating his body to the Toledo College of Medicine. The family has asked that in lieu of flowers, donations go the Habitat For Humanity in Paul’s name.

Inspiration Hills

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

As a part of our 50th anniversary celebration on September 17, 2016, we are collecting photos of past campers, staff, BVS'rs, and OMC or CAC members for our "selfie wall". We would like to have 500 photos of the people who have been a part of this ministry over its 50 year history. We want to know where you are now, what ministries you currently serve in, and what your role at camp was. If you would like to participate, write your information on a poster board or large piece of paper and take a photo of yourself with the poster and email a copy of it to inspirationhills@frontier.com. We want to hear from you!



Southern Gospel Night Featuring



The Morse Family Gospel Singers

Sunday, May 22, 2016

7:00 PM

Mt. Pleasant Church of The Brethren

www.mpcob.org

4152 Mt. Pleasant Street NW
North Canton, OH 44720

(330) 499-5131

Come join us as we worship the LORD in song and testimony!!

www.themorsefamilygospelsingers.com

419-957-6485

Inspiration Hills

ANNUAL HOG ROAST and OPEN HOUSE MAY 28th, 2016!

Join us for the Annual Hog Roast and Open House on Saturday, May 28th. The day will include great food, family games, camp tours, awesome fellowship, and a chance to meet the summer staff. Some of our activities include **Fishing**, **Archery**, and a camp wide **Scavenger Hunt** for all. The day will begin at noon and end by 4pm. **Save the date.** You will receive more information later this month!

Welcome Pastor Alan Brumbaugh

Alan Brumbaugh began serving as pastor at Akron Springfield Church of the Brethren this April. He and his wife Sally moved here from Pennsylvania, where Alan served as Pastor at Yellow Creek Church of the Brethren in Hopewell, PA. They have 2 adult children. Alan can be reached at (814) 761-0986 (cell), (234) 334-1314 (home) or by email at aesab81@gmail.com. We are blessed to have Alan and Sally providing ministry at Akron Springfield.



CHRIST'S CLOSET

Eastwood Church of the Brethren
581 Darrow Rd.
Akron, OH 44305



We are writing to express our joy and appreciation as the leaders of the Christ's Closet ministry at Eastwood Church of the Brethren for the Hottle Grant aid we received last fall. We have been working on this ministry for the last 3 ½ years and although we have made strides in growth, we had hurdles we could not successfully overcome without the help. We have been blessed with the support of our congregation, yet projects remained that we did not have the funds to complete. This grant allowed us to amplify our ministry to further help our community.

The birth of Christ's Closet was over 3 ½ years ago and was started by one of the Sunday School classes at Eastwood, in an attempt to reach out to the community. The initial goal was to help those in need of clothing. What started as a few clothes on tables blossomed into a regularly run operation with an overwhelming number of donations and benefactors (again we are so blessed!) This has fulfilled the initial goal and allowed us to reach out to the community in ways never imagined.

However, the larger quantities created storage and display problems. Our limited funds did not allow us to buy the sturdy racks we needed. So many of our racks would break and our need for storage to preserve donations from off season was growing. Our congregation supported some of our need for totes and storage racks to keep clothes clean, fresh and more organized, but our need had become rampant. The Hottle Grant solved both of these problems. We were able to purchase sturdy racks and more of them. We are now able to display more clothes and our display of clothes looks almost professional and radiates a positive environment to those whom utilize the ministry. We were also able to make purchases for more totes and storage racks, and all are stored in an even more organized fashion, so locating what is needed is made easy.



The other needs facing us were the need to spread the word about our ministry and maintain proper records about our ministry. The Hottle Grant funds solved this problem with money for supplies to bring all our records and marketing projects to the church. Prior to this, all records were spread among members homes and were hard to access. Closely related, we were spending valuable funds with an outside printing company in order to facilitate any of our literature needs. However, again, this money from the grant will save Christ's Closet in cost and work efficiency for years to come in these areas of managing our ministry.

One additional unique request within the current grant funding, is the expanding of our new Free Uniform Program for Akron Public Schools. This program started at the beginning of the 2015-16 school year in August with third party grant money originating within the local community. The money parceled from the Hottle Grant, allotted to this project, added a 5th school to the mission, being one source to expand the program from last year's total distributions. This gives an additional 15 students, from an economically deprived school district, a uniform package that contains 2 pairs of pants, 3 polo shirts, and 3 pairs of socks. It is our hope that these 15 children will feel Christ's love in this gift.

This Hottle Grant has allowed Christ's Closet to grow in many ways and overcome previous barriers. We were unable to achieve this success prior to these provisions. Christ's Closet has realized the accomplishment of being a near professional operation with the support of our community, volunteers (especially Marilyn and Michelle Gryder), congregation, our district and the direction from our Lord. We are appreciative of all the support and know that God has blessed all of the individuals who have contributed in both time and resources. Christ's Closet continues as a family, in an outward display of love, as we grow in a way that best reflects God's plan for our community mission.

Sincerely,

Christen Stockdale, Anthony Brautigam, and Tammy Rhodes
Christ's Closet Managers

Consecration Service for Kris Hawk, Interim District Executive

Saturday, April 23 was a special day as many gathered in Cherry Lodge for a consecration service for Kris Hawk, Interim District Executive. The Congregational Commission coordinated a worship service filled with music, scripture, and meditation. All were invited to participate in a time of laying on of hands and prayer.

Thank you to the Billi Janet Burkey and Brian Layman for their leadership during the service, to Pastor Tom Zuercher for his ministry of prayer, to the camp for the wonderful refreshments that enhanced the fellowship time together, and to all who came to share in this time of worship and celebration.



Interim District Executive Kris Hawk and her family at the consecration service

Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren

1107 East Main Street
Ashland, Ohio 44805
(419) 281-3058 Office
(419) 281-8914 Fax
nohcob.org

