

The Herald

District Conference Issue

May 2018

NORTHERN OHIO DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN | VOLUME 62 | ISSUE 2

THE GOOD LIFE

“I am come that you may have life, and that you might have it more abundantly.” John 10:10b

The abundant life that becomes ours when we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior is truly beyond amazing. “God who is **rich in mercy**, for **His great love** with which **He loves us**, even when we were dead in our sins, made us **alive** together with Christ (**by grace** you have been saved)...it is the **gift of God.**” (Ephesians 2:4-5, 8b) The greatest gift ever given...**the gift of becoming a new creation in Christ Jesus**, old things have passed away; behold all things are new (II Corinthians 5:17). I John 1:19 says, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” Praise God!

Our Lord’s **tender mercies** to us are **everlasting** and **His truth will endure to all generations** (Psalms

100:5). Our Savior **will never leave us nor forsake us** (Hebrews 13:5). Our God will **fill us with all joy and peace** as we **trust in Him**. And He doesn’t just fill us, but He fills us until we **overflow with hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13).

At our District Conference on August 3 & 4 we will be coming together to acknowledge & celebrate God’s goodness to us. We will be gathering at the Dupont Church of the Brethren. I hope to see you there.

In His Service,
Terry Porter
District Conference Moderator

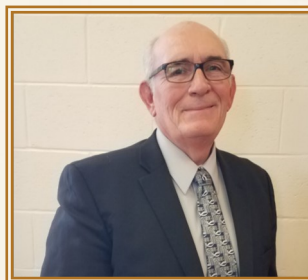


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District Conference Schedule of Events

Friday, August 3

- 11am** Exhibit & Peace Auction Set-up Begins
- 12pm** Registration Begins
- 1-4:30pm** Pre-Conference Workshop: "Sharing the Good Life" Michaela Alphonse
Childcare
- 5pm** Dinner
- 6:30pm** Opening Worship / Terry Porter, Moderator – opening message
- 7:15pm** Performing Arts Camp
- 8:30pm** Ice Cream Social

Saturday, August 4

- 7:30am** Prayer Walk – Pastor Steve Heilshorn
- 8:30am** Business Session
Children’s Activities: K-5th Grade
Childcare
- 12pm** Lunch

Saturday, August 4 (cont’d)

- 1:15pm** Insight Sessions:
Sharing the Good Life – Michaela Alphonse
Hottle Memorial Grant Workshop – Congregational Commission
Resurrection Time: A Window of Opportunity – Stan Dueck
- 2:30pm** Business Session Resumes
- 3:45pm** Insight Sessions:
Resurrection Time: A Window of Opportunity – Stan Dueck
Inspiration Hills: What’s Next? – Shannon Kahler & CAC
What Good is a Seminary Anyway? – Jeff Carter
- 5pm** Dinner
District Board Reorganization
- 6:30pm** Worship – Jeff Carter, President Bethany Theological Seminary
Installation of Officers

Child Care, Children’s Activities and Youth Activities

Child Care is provided by Dupont CoB staff during Pre-Conference, Friday and Saturday Worship and Business Sessions.

Children’s Activities are provided by Dupont CoB staff during Insight and Business Sessions.

Jr. & Sr. High Activities are coordinated by Esther Harsh, District Youth Coordinator from Friday beginning at 3pm and overnight through Saturday evening at 5pm.

More information to follow with church publicity packets.

Pre-Conference Workshop

Michaela Alphonse, Pastor, Miami Church of the Brethren "Sharing the Good Life", Friday August 3: 1pm—4:30pm

One of the most expressed concerns in our district is losing members and 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)



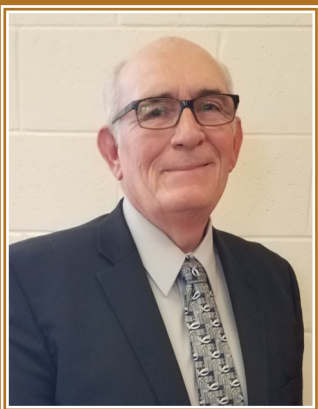
Michaela Alphonse is pastor of Miami (Fla.) First Church of the Brethren. From 2012 through summer 2017, Michaela served through Global Mission and Service as a program volunteer with Mission Evangelique des Eglises des

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.



Worship Arts Camp, Friday, August 3, 7:15pm

Presented by the 2018 Worship Arts Camp. The 6th - 12th graders from the 2018 Worship Arts Camp at Inspiration Hills will bring a collection of songs and skits that celebrates the God of the universe - that is also the God that loves us so much that He gave His only Son.



*Northern Ohio District Conference
August 3-4
Dupont Church of the Brethren
Dupont, Ohio
Conference Speakers*



Friday, August 3
Terry Porter, Ordained Minister,
Dupont Church of the Brethren

Saturday, August 4
Jeffrey W. Carter, President,
Bethany Theological Seminary

Insight Sessions

“Resurrection Time: A Window of Opportunity” presented by Stan Dueck, Director, Transforming Practices

Estimates vary, but of the 300,000 Protestant congregations in the United States, 80-90% have plateaued or in attendance decline. God hasn't given up on these churches. There is hope, but it isn't about learning a new outreach method or changing your music style or church name. We need to be honest that this hope likely requires risk from both leaders and churches.

During the session, participants explore two distinctive roadmaps congregations and a district can take to partner with God in bringing about a revitalized life and producing disciple-making churches. (0.1 CEU's for Clergy)

“What good is a Seminary anyway?” presented by Jeff Carter, President Bethany Theological Seminary

In an age of church decline and shift away from traditional patterns of religious life, Bethany is seeking to meet the needs of the current and future church. With a low-debt/no-debt education and new models for the way we educate, Bethany is entering an exciting time of growth and vitality. From Springfield, Ohio to Jos, Nigeria, Bethany is connecting the local with the global as we dive deep into scripture, empower students for faithful service, and continue a tradition of education in both new and known ways. So what GOOD is a Seminary anyway?

“Sharing the Good Life” (a condensed message from pre-conference workshop) presented by Michaela Alphonse, Pastor, Miami Church of the Brethren

One of the most expressed concerns in our district is losing members and 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!

“Hottle Memorial Grant Workshop” presented by the Northern Ohio District Congregational Commission

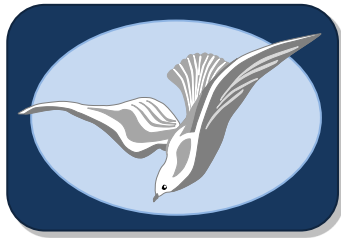
The Hottle Memorial Fund, established from a generous gift from Dwight Hottle, allows congregations of the Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren an opportunity to expand the ministry of the church, impact the community for Christ, and stimulate growth and spiritual health for the congregation and neighborhood.

Come and learn more about the grants and the guidelines for receiving grant money, how to apply (it's not complicated!), and get some ideas on how these funds have been used to make a difference in our churches and communities.

Inspiration Hills, “What's Next?” presented by Shannon Kahler, Camp Director and the Camp Administration Committee

Inspiration Hills has seen a lot of changes in its 50 years in Northern Ohio and we know that more changes are on the way. We continue to update the facilities to meet the needs of a variety of guests, campers and churches; that is the “easy” part. Our focus on the gospel of Christ will never change but it is time to update our ministry programs to meet the needs of the ever-changing, diverse world that we live in. We want you to be a part of the change that is taking place; please join us for this time of discussion and sharing, we want your input!

Coming At District Conference!



The 30th Silent Auction For the Peace Endowment Fund

Support District Peace Education Efforts!



The Peace Task Team organized the auction to raise money for the District Peace Endowment Fund. This fund supports peace education efforts in the District. **First Silent Auction at District Conference to support Peace Endowment Fund was held at Oberlin College in 1988 – 30 years ago this year!**

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 in 1982 to support efforts in the District to teach the things that make for peace!

We Need YOU!

- to bring handmade items and goodies (handcrafted items, artist's work, homemade food) for the auction!
- to come prepared to bid on the donated items in the auction!

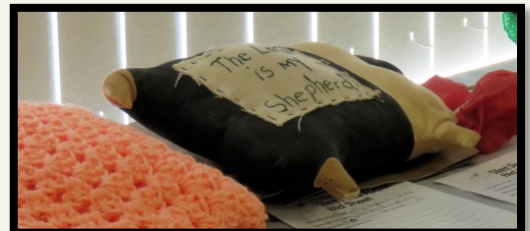
Donate by:

- Bringing your donated items to the Exhibit Area Friday, August 3 by 5 p.m.
- Giving us an estimate of their value
- Noting what a minimum starting bid should be

How to Bid:

- 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 support peace education efforts by donating items or by bidding in the auction!



Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren 2018 DISTRICT CONFERENCE DELEGATE AUTHORIZATION FORM

Mail the form to: Northern Ohio District, 1107 East Main Street, Ashland, Ohio 44805

Please do not include any payments with this form. All payments should be sent with the Registration Form along with any choices for meals.

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.

Adult Registration Form

August 3-4, 2018 Northern Ohio District Conference

YOU MUST REGISTER BY JULY 16 IF YOU WANT TO ORDER MEALS

Send Registration Forms and checks to: Northern Ohio District, 1107 E. Main Street, Ashland, OH 44805

All delegates must also complete this form. Delegate authorization forms are to be sent without payment. Each congregation must provide a delegate authorization form signed by the church's pastor, moderator or clerk. This is verification that the delegate has been chosen by the congregation to represent them at conference.

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

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Are you a Delegate? **Yes** **No**

Congregation Name _____

Your Name _____

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

Registration Fee: \$25.00 (\$35.00 on site) _____ → \$ 25.00

Choose your meal options:

Friday Dinner - \$11.00	Saturday Lunch - \$7.00	Saturday Dinner - \$11.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Total Meals: \$ _____

Do you have any special dietary needs? _____

Are you attending the Pre-conference event? Yes No

Do you wish to receive CEU's? Yes No

Are you attending the Ice Cream Social Friday after worship?

(The cost is included in registration fees.) Yes No

Please add together your Registration Fee & Meal Costs

(Make checks to "Northern Ohio District") **Total Cost:** \$ _____

Child Under 12 Registration Form

August 3-4, 2018 Northern Ohio District Conference

YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER BY JULY 16 IF YOU WANT TO ORDER MEALS.

IF YOU ARE REGISTERING ADULTS, USE ADULT FORM

Send Registration Forms to: Northern Ohio District, 1107 E. Main Street, Ashland, OH 44805

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 No

Parents' contact information at conference

Who will pick up children from their activities?
(Children attend District Conference at no charge.)

Child Under 12 Individual Meals

Friday Dinner	Saturday Lunch	Saturday Dinner
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Preschool Children: Child care is provided during Pre-Conference, worship on Friday and Saturday, and Saturday business sessions. Please indicate below if your child will be in Child Care.

Friday Worship	Saturday Business	Saturday Worship
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Pre-Conference	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Grade School Children: Children's activities are provided for children in grades 1 through 5 during the Saturday business sessions. Register children who will participate in Children's Activities. 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:

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 No

Parents' contact information at conference

Who will pick up children from their activities?
(Children attend District Conference at no charge.)

Child Under 12 Individual Meals

Friday Dinner	Saturday Lunch	Saturday Dinner
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Preschool Children: Child care is provided during Pre-Conference, worship on Friday and Saturday, and Saturday business sessions. Please indicate below if your child will be in Child Care.

Friday Worship	Saturday Business	Saturday Worship
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Pre-Conference	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Grade School Children: Children's activities are provided for children in grades 1 through 5 during the Saturday business sessions. Register children who will participate in Children's Activities. 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:

Jr. High & Sr. High Youth Registration Form

August 3-4, 2018 Northern Ohio District Conference

YOU MUST REGISTER BY JULY 16 IF YOU WANT MEALS

Send Registration Forms to: Northern Ohio District, 1107 E. Main Street, Ashland, OH 44805

Youth attend District Conference at no charge

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

Sr. High (9th-12th)

Jr. High (6th-8th)

Congregation Name

Your Name

Address

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Phone Number (____) _____ **E-mail** _____

Is this your first conference? Yes No

Are you a delegate? Yes No

Indicate which meals you will be eating at conference:

Friday Dinner	Saturday Lunch	Saturday Dinner
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Do you have any special dietary needs? _____

Are you attending the Ice Cream Social Friday after worship? Yes No

How will you be coming to District conference?

- With family
- With my youth leader
- Driving myself

If you need help with transportation, contact Esther Harsh at 330-880-7161.

In addition to this Conference Registration form, you must complete the Youth Event registration form at www.nohcob.org/youth. (If you have completed this in the past calendar year, no need to complete it again.)

Pastoral Placement

Congregations actively in the search process:

Ashland Dickey – In negotiations. **Tom Zuercher** retiring in August.

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

County Line – Search Committee working on congregational profile. **Chris Ewing** serving as interim.

East Nimishillen – Search Committee interviewing. **Carolyn Kury** serving as interim.

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:

Bethel – **David Wyant** serving as interim and beginning credentialing process.

Lake Breeze – Congregation arranging pulpit supply.

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

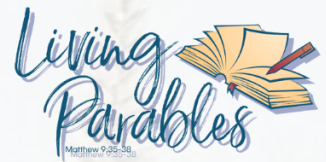
Updated 05/10/18

Mark Your Calendar

- May 22-24—Spring Area Clergy Meetings (www.nohcob.org/events for locations)
- May 26—Inspiration Hills Hog Roast and Chapel Dedication, Inspiration Hills, Burbank, OH
- June 2—Central Committee Meeting, District Office, Ashland, OH
- June 2—BBI: Practice of Ministry Day, Mansfield First CoB, Mansfield, OH
- July 4-8—Annual Conference, Cincinnati, OH
- August 3-4—District Conference, Dupont CoB, Dupont, OH

2018 Annual Conference

July 4th—July 8th
in Cincinnati, OH



Registration is now open! 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.” All are welcome. Each church is encouraged to send a delegate (2 delegates for churches with over 200 members). This is where vital decisions are made for our denomination and it is important that your church has a voice in these decisions. Having Annual Conference this close provides an excellent opportunity to come and see what it is all about. Even if you can come just for a day, it is good to experience the fellowship together with other believers. You can register on-line at <http://www.brethren.org/ac/2018/registration/>

District Prayer Calendar

May 20—May 26

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

May 27—June 2

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

June 3—June 9

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

June 10—June 16

Black River CoB (Pastor Mark Teal and Associate Pastors Dean Foster and Cullen Thompson) and Bristolville CoB (Pastor Fred Keener)

June 17—June 23

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

District Bicycle Ride

Note to our cycling friends: If you would be interested in a group ride we have the one for you. There are a group of Church of the Brethren bikers who would love for you to join us for the Greene County Cycling Classic based in Xenia, Ohio.

This is an “out & back” ride on a different **paved** trail each day. Ride as far as you want, then turn around and go back to camp. Breakfast is provided every morning, snacks & water stops every 10 miles and supper Thursday & Saturday nights.

Dates are July 19-22. Arrive afternoon/evening of 18th to set up camp. Cost of 4-day ride is \$150. (\$140 group rate if we can get at least five to register as “NOCOB” and let us know that you registered.) You can pitch your tents for free at the rec center next to the Greene County fairgrounds or stay in your camper in the fairgrounds for \$30 per night, or stay in a hotel in town.

Get info and registration forms at www.gcparkstrails.com. Please contact Jean or Theron Nesbitt if you are interested or plan to go. jeannesbitt@hotmail.com Phone 330-628-4723.



Inspiration Hills Annual Hog Roast & Chapel Dedication

The annual hog roast and open house are quickly approaching and we have added the dedication of the new camp chapel to the day! Please join us on May 26th from 12-4 to enjoy some great food and fellowship, meet the summer staff, and dedicate the new chapel. Tours will be provided throughout the event along with family games and crafts. This is your opportunity to see “What’s Happening at Camp” in person!



New Chapel at Inspiration Hills

Steve Heilshorn called by Dupont Church

Steve Heilshorn was ordained in the Church of the Brethren and installed as pastor of the Dupont Church of the Brethren during the worship service on Sunday, March 18th. Steve and his wife, Leslie, have been serving at Dupont in an interim role since last October and have developed a deep love for this congregation. Steve and Leslie have been married 31 years, always living in the northwest part of Ohio not too far from Dupont. Steve also currently coaches a high school golf team and Leslie is a licensed insurance agent. Steve and Leslie have two sons, Ben (21) who is in Fort Wayne attending IPFW, and Sam (25) who graduated from Ohio State and works as an account analyst.



Steve & Leslie Heilshorn

Conference Lodging and Activities near Dupont, Ohio

A block of rooms has been reserved at the following hotels and must be booked by July 1st to guarantee rates.

MICROTEL INN & SUITES (if coming from Rt. 30)
480 Moxie Lane
Delphos, OH 45833
Phone: (567) 765-1500
Website link: www.nohcob.org/lodging

Room Rates:

2-Queen beds \$79.20 plus tax / night

1-Queen suite \$88.20 plus tax / night

Ask for the Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren room block.

This is the closest hotel to the Dupont Church and is a 23-minute drive. A continental breakfast is included in the room rate.

HAMPTON INN (if coming from the north)
1037 Hotel Drive
Defiance, OH 43512
Phone: (419) 784-1515
Website link: www.nohcob.org/lodging

2-Queen beds or 1-King bed \$135 plus tax / night

Ask for the Northern Ohio District Church of the Brethren room block.

This is a 33-minute drive to Dupont Church. A full hot breakfast is included in the room rate.

Camping:

Woodbridge Campground – 8656 Rd 137 (via St Rt 613), Paulding, OH (17 minutes away)
www.woodbridgecamp.com (419) 399-CAMP

Bluewater Campground – 2757 Co Rd 173, Grover Hill, OH (15 minutes away)
(419) 587-3186

Activities:

Kalida, OH (10 minutes away) has a very nice park with Frisbee golf, 2 very nice play areas for children, restrooms, built in corn hole games and shelter houses. They also have a golf course, Country Acres Golf Club (419) 532-3434

Oakwood, OH (8 minutes away) has Auglaize Canoe and Kayak and primitive camping.
www.auglaizecanoe.com (419) 594-3456

Defiance, OH (35 minutes away):

- Independence Dam State Park has picnics and walking. (no camping) (419) 956-1368
- Putt-Putt Golf and Games has mini golf, go carts, laser tag and batting cages.
www.puttputt.com (419) 782-1801
- Kingsbury Park with swimming pool (419) 784-2745
- Auglaize Golf Club www.auglaizegolf.com (419) 393-2211