

The Herald

Fall 2020

NORTHERN OHIO DISTRICT
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Annual Conference Moderator Q & A for Northern Ohio District

Thursday, November 12th, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Via Zoom

Thursday, November 12th, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Via Zoom

Annual Conference Moderator Paul Munday is hosting a ZOOM session in districts, focusing on the "state of the church." Both laity and clergy are urged to participate. The ZOOM session will use a Q&A format; any and all questions are invited. Joining Moderator Paul will be the other Annual Conference Officers: Dave Sollenberger, Moderator Elect, and Jim Beckwith, Annual Conference Secretary.

The Moderator's District Q&A sessions for the Northern Ohio District will be November 12, at 10 a.m. and at 7 p.m. Please share with your congregation. All are encouraged and welcome to participate!

10:00 AM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86993235789?pwd=N25ybFIOSEp3MmsycHI4aTlBeFFJQT09>

Meeting ID: 869 9323 5789#

Passcode: 091220

7 PM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87609801978?pwd=TCtDb2pMQjJKQmNXN3FjSzJ1c1M3dz09>

Meeting ID: 876 0980 1978#

Passcode: 071226

You may also visit www.nohcob.org/acmod for the links or dial in numbers.

In This Issue

| | |
|---|-----|
| Moderator's Q&A | 1 |
| Bristolville CoB | 2 |
| Dupont CoB | 3 |
| Brook Park CoB, Audrey's Outreach | 4-5 |
| Youth and Young Adults | 6 |
| Pastor's Workshop | 7 |
| Connections Commission | 7 |
| SISTERS | 7 |
| Inspiration Hills | 7 |
| Pastoral Placement | 8 |
| District Prayer Calendar | 8 |
| Mark Your Calendar | 8 |
| District Conference 2021 | 8 |

Bristolville CoB

Hottle Grant Project

A little over a year ago, a proposal was presented at our council meeting to install a basketball hoop for the youth of our church and community. Our previous hoop, which had received a lot of use, had unfortunately rusted away. A “Hoop Group” was formed to take charge of the planning of the project. For those of you unfamiliar with Bristolville, we are a very small town. Our local school district is too small to have a football program; therefore, basketball is a

passion of our school and community. We recognized the need for a space where people in the community could connect with friends, enjoy athletics, and embrace its love for God.

Over the years, our church has continued to grow and upgrade the property we own across the road from our church. We built a pavilion in 2013 and then installed a playground in 2017. The Hoop Group decided to install the cement pad basketball court and hoop near our pavilion and playground. We submitted a request for a Hottle Grant of \$4,000



Pastor Fred Keener making the first shot

View of the court alongside the church pavilion and playground

View of the new basketball court

to help with the total cost of the project which was \$6,599. The money received from the Hottle grant was used to hire Higgins Concrete, a local business, to install a 25 x 30' cement pad to be used as a basketball court. A basketball hoop was donated by a member of the church for the project. The cement pad was installed in October of 2019 and the basketball hoop was installed June of 2020.

The youth of our church are undoubtedly the most excited about the new addition. We know our own church will take advantage of the new basketball hoop during VBS, church picnics, etc. but we also look

forward to seeing the community use the basketball hoop as well. Due to the need for social distancing, not much activity has taken place at the basketball court currently. However, we know that this new basketball court will be a blessing to our church body and the community. God willing - we can use it to reconnect very soon!

We would like to thank the District Board and the Hottle fund for the \$4,000 granted to our church for the basketball court project.

Article submitted by Amy Smith, Bristolville CoB



Pictured from front to back:

Jack and Karen Fetter of Fetter and Friends, Steve Heilshorn, Senior Pastor of the Dupont Church of the Brethren, and Casey Etter, Fresh Encounter Woods Board of Directors representative.

Fresh Encounter Woods—Dupont CoB

The Youth for Christ Wilderness Camp has changed hands and is now Fresh Encounter Woods, under the direction and leadership of Dupont Church of the Brethren. During the Open House held Sunday, August 23, an announcement was made during a special ceremony where the former Wilderness Cabin was named the new Fetter Family Chapel to honor Jack and Karen Fetter and their entire family.

Jack and Karen had a vision over 30 years ago to launch and develop a nature-based ministry near Grover Hill. The camp was widely used and operated for over 25 years by Defiance Area Youth for Christ (YFC). When Defiance YFC decided to sell the camp, the Fetter's inquired and bought the facility. Since Jack had retired from ministry, they decided that they would donate the camp to a local church. Because of the many hours the Dupont Church of Brethren has helped Jack and his ministry they decided to donate the facility to the church. Since the time that Dupont Church of the Brethren took ownership of facility in June, the camp has undergone repairs and additions that will allow the property and facilities to serve the community and surrounding area.

Along with the Fetter Family Chapel, the Eagles Nest at Fresh Encounter Woods will be available for reunions, birthday parties, school groups, business meetings, family outings and summer camps. All guests can enjoy the nature trails, volleyball, field sports, a large air-conditioned/heated meeting space within the Eagle's Nest, which also has a full kitchen and restrooms.

Fresh Encounter Woods is located at 20700 Township Road 48, Grover Hill, Ohio. For more information, contact Dupont Church of the Brethren at 419-596-4314.

Article submitted by Chris Murphy, Dupont CoB

*Pictured in photo – Jack and Karen Fetter of Fetter and Friends, Steve Heilshorn, Senior Pastor of the Dupont Church of the Brethren, and Casey Etter, Fresh Encounter Woods Board of Directors representative.



Racks of bread that has been donated by local stores and bakeries.



Lunch sack supplies fill the sanctuary pews. Against the wall, pre-packed boxes from the Greater Cleveland Food Bank await distribution during open pantry.



Volunteers in the office keep things running smoothly while wearing masks and maintaining distance.

Brook Park Community CoB, Audrey's Outreach

Brook Park Community Church of the Brethren serves Brook Park and the surrounding communities with food and clothing through their Audrey's Outreach ministry. The ministry began in 1992, when Audrey Telep, a longtime church member, began giving away free clothing. Audrey's Closet, as the ministry was called, grew and became Audrey's Outreach when free food was added in 2014. Audrey's Outreach became a distribution center for The Greater Cleveland Food Bank in 2014. A summer lunch sack program was started in 2016 to help feed children over summer break. The need in the area is great and the Audrey's Outreach ministry has spilled over into the community (both literally and figuratively!) After using every available square inch of the church building, a vacant apartment in a local retirement center was converted into additional storage and a free-standing walk-in freezer/cooler was recently installed. Additional volunteers from local churches and the community have joined this labor of love and work regular shifts alongside Brook Park Community Church of the Brethren volunteers.

Volunteers drive to local stores each week to pick up donations of soon-to-be-expired produce and other grocery items. Additional volunteers pick up donations from bakeries and restaurants. Volunteers unload trucks, sort and weigh donations, and prepare for open pantry sessions which are held twice a week: Mondays between

11:30 am and 2 pm and Thursdays between 4 pm and 7 pm.

During these open pantry sessions, individuals and families in need can access a ample supply of groceries for their entire household once every 4 weeks including meat, dairy, dry goods, produce & bread, and personal items when available. These individuals and families are referred to as clients and they are welcome to return more frequently than every 4 weeks for fresh produce.

Audrey's Outreach is a free-choice pantry where under normal circumstances volunteers welcome clients into the church building, check them in, and then allow them to choose a certain number of foods from each category that they and their family members will eat. This eliminates waste (why give cheese to a lactose intolerant person or a box of sweetened cereal to a health conscious individual?) and provides clients with a sense of dignity and a bit of control when some circumstances in their lives might be out of their control.

When the COVID19 shutdown began, volunteers quickly converted the indoor operation into something safer for volunteers and clients alike. Without skipping a beat, over a weekend, volunteers created a new system and set up a drive-thru pantry in the church parking lot. Clients are no longer able to come into the building to select their own foods, but volunteers still ask them for some of their

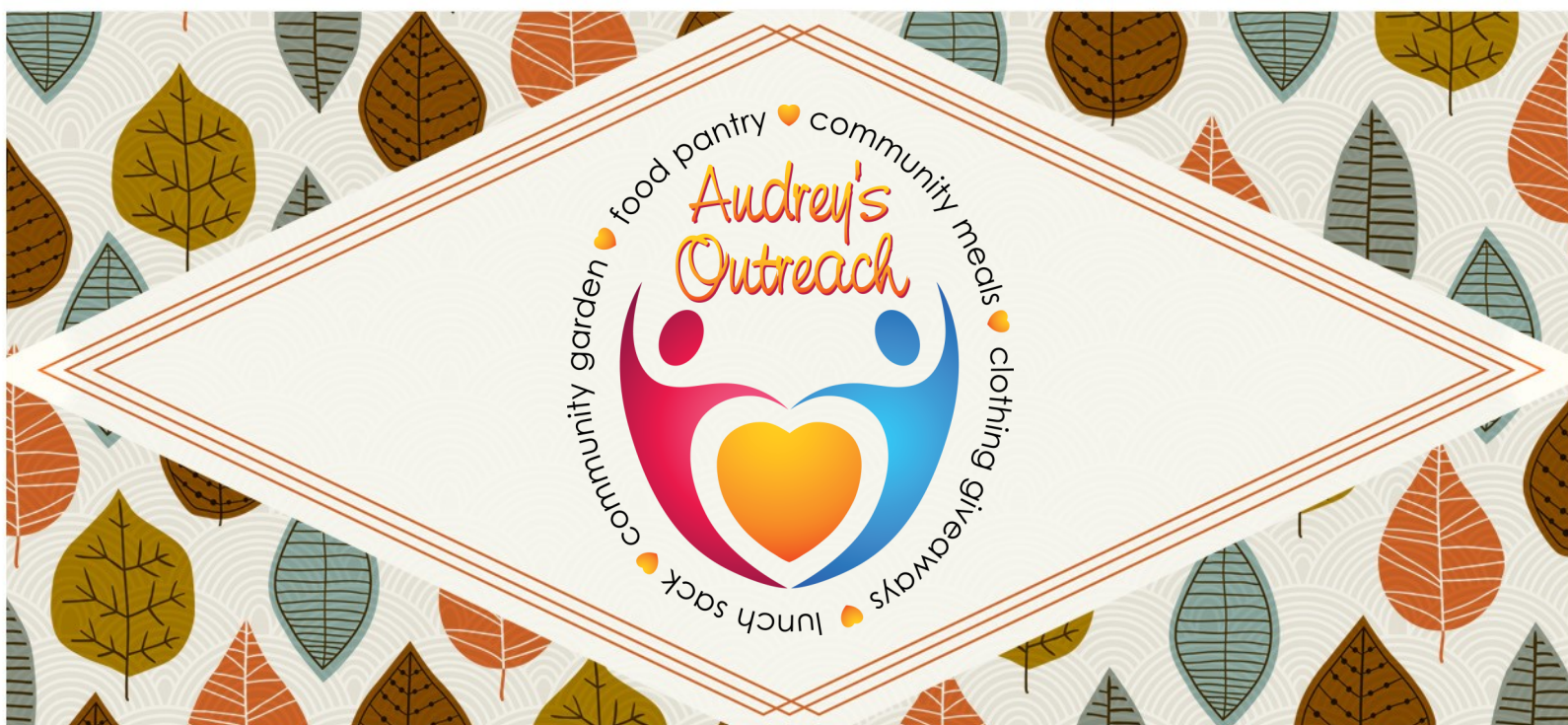
preferences and select accordingly as they are able. Some volunteers have been able to continue during COVID, but others haven't because of risk factors or changes in their routine. New volunteers have come to help at the pantry as they now have more availability. Precautions have been taken to avoid spreading the virus: volunteers wear masks, face shields & gloves.

Due to COVID19, the church building is not being used for services and activities at this time. Our pastor and others record worship services off-site and meet via Zoom.

Audrey's Outreach continues to expand and is currently using almost every room in the church to store food and clothes for the ministry. Even the sanctuary is currently serving as a temporary stockroom!

Audrey's Outreach currently distributes food to 725 families representing 2900 individuals. Each month an average of 55,000 pounds of food is distributed. Additionally, through the summer Lunch Sack program which has also been converted to a drive-thru, Audrey's Outreach distributes a week's worth of breakfast, lunch and snacks to the families of 128 children.

During normal times, Audrey's Outreach was serving 125-140 families per week. Since the pandemic began, things have been much less predictable. At first, demand slowed down even though new clients were coming each week. Unemployment benefits and federal stimulus checks allowed some families to make it on their own. When



things first shut down, food donations increased as restaurants temporarily closed and then adjusted to business in a pandemic. Finding freezer space for donations was a challenge. People's grocery shopping patterns were very different which had a big impact on the donations we received from stores. Recently, need has been increasing, with averages of 165-180 families per week. With the expiration of the stimulus package, rising unemployment and evictions looming, Audrey's Outreach is expecting demand to continue to increase.

Audrey's Outreach has no paid staff and relies on donations and grants to operate. They recently received a \$5000 grant from Brethren Disaster Ministries for Audrey's Outreach which were used to purchase bulk food, PPE supplies and household items. Outreach offers a twice weekly drive-thru

food distribution to families and individuals.

All programs are managed and run exclusively by volunteers who are from Brook Park Community Church of the Brethren, other nearby churches and the local community. Their volunteer service exceeds 1,250 hours each month.

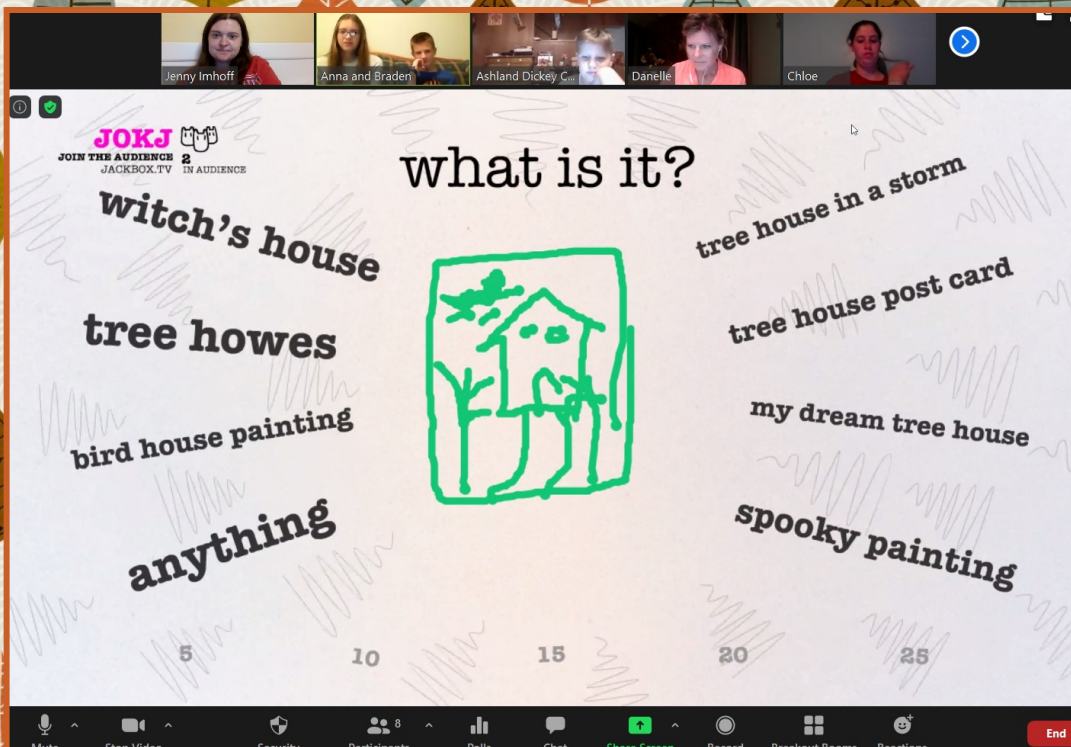
Interested in helping? Visit:

<http://www.audreysoutreach.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/AudreysOutreach>

Article written by Samuel Ramser & Dot Samsi, Brook Park Community CoB

Also visit www.nohcob.org/audreys for this article and to view additional pictures of Audrey's Outreach in action.



Youth & Young Adults update

Events for youth and young adults are getting back on track! If you have ideas for events, need resources, or have any questions, contact Jenny Imhoff, Interim District Youth Coordinator at 330.234.8991 or jenny@nohcob.org.

Want to join our Remind list for text updates? Text the username below to **81010** to get reminders about events.

Youth: **@nohyouth**

Young Adults: **@brethrenya**

Upcoming events:

Youth Game Nights & Devotions over Zoom

Every Monday at 7:30pm

Jr High and Sr High youth have been meeting each week for games, fellowship, and a devotion. Contact Jenny for the Zoom link.

Young Adult Fall Hiking Day

Sunday, November 8, 2020 at 2pm

Deep Lock Quarry Metro Park – 5779 Riverview Road, Peninsula, OH

Anyone who is a recent HS grad through in their 30's is welcome to join us for a fun fall afternoon of

exploring the park. RSVP by contacting Jenny or on the Facebook event page: <https://fb.me/e/3AfUNmw1o>.

Powerhouse Regional Youth Conference

Usually this time of year, we are planning a trip to Camp Mack in Indiana for our regional youth conference, Powerhouse. However, this year Powerhouse is going virtual! This fun weekend hosted by Manchester University will be Friday and Saturday, November 13th & 14th. It is open to all high school students and advisors, and completely free over Zoom. If you're interested, please let me know! You can read about our speaker, see the schedule, and sign up to attend here:

manchester.edu/powerhouse

Young Adult Service-Learning Trip to Ukraine

The trip has been rescheduled for May 2021. Thank you to everyone who has been praying for and supporting our team!

Article Submitted by Jenny Imhoff, Interim District Youth Coordinator

“Caring for yourself and others as the COVID-19 pandemic continues”

A word cloud of various professions. The most prominent words are 'preacher', 'teacher', 'pastor', and 'project-manager'. Other visible words include 'evangelist', 'crisis-minister', 'prayer-leader', 'personnel-director', 'mediator', 'chaplain', 'counselor', 'life-coach', 'CEO', 'office-manager', 'CFO', 'custodian', 'prayer-leader', 'webmaster', 'supervisor', 'ministry-developer', 'fundraiser', 'Minister-of-Education', 'leader', 'sports-minister', 'Executive-Pastor', 'IT-technician', 'social-worker', 'property-manager', 'musician', 'writer', 'author', 'discipler', 'worship-leader', 'public-relations-director', 'community-organizer', 'leadership-trainer', 'moderator', 'media-minister', 'strategy-planner', 'visioneer', 'prayer', and 'director'.

Please email Kris Hawk at krishawk@nohcob.org to

Tentative 2021 Camp Schedule is listed to the right:

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Mom & Me Camp | June 10-11 |
| Senior High Camp | June 13-18 |
| Junior High Camp | June 20-25 |
| Beginners Camp | June 27-29 |
| Annual Conference | June 30-July 4 |
| Junior Camp | July 4-9 |
| Royal Family Kids | July 10-16 |
| Junior Camp “Light” | July 18-22 |
| Beginners Camp 2.0 | July 18-22 |
| Specialty Camps TBD | July 18-22 |
| Grand Camp | July 23-25 |
| Family Camp | July 23-25 |

Pastoral Placement

Congregations actively in the search process:

Ashland First – Search Committee has completed the congregational profile. **Tina Hunt** bringing a message weekly via Facebook Live.

Reading – Search Committee is now interviewing candidates. **Brian Layman** serving as interim.

Congregations that have completed the search process:

Zion Hill – **Scott McPeck** licensed to ministry and installed as pastor on August 23rd.

Congregations that have not yet begun the Search Process or have chosen not to seek at this time:

Jonah's People – **Jerry Copeland** serving as interim pastor.

Lake Breeze – **Stephen McLaughlin** is serving as interim.

Lakewood – **Gene Wyse** serving as interim and beginning the credentialing process.

Mansfield First – **Tom Michaels** serving as transitional pastor.

New Philadelphia – **David Hobbs** serving as interim.

Painesville – **John Ballinger** serving as transitional pastor.

Updated 10/22/2020

District Prayer Calendar

November

Churches/Pastors

Pleasant View, James Washington

Poplar Ridge, Ben Polzin

Reading, Brian Layman

Richland, Jim Frado

District Leadership

District Office Staff

Other Districts

Middle PA, Southern PA

National Leadership

Stan Dueck/Josh Brockway, Discipleship Ministries

December

Churches/Pastors

Ross, Keith Stoller

Silver Creek, Terry Baldwin

Sugar Creek West, Michael Huffaker

Sugarcreek East, Dick Marshall

District Leadership

Camp Inspiration Hills

Other Districts

Puerto Rico, Atlantic Southeast

National Leadership

Nancy Heishman, Director Office of Ministry

Mark Your Calendar

- 11.7 BBI History, Beliefs & Practices of the Church of the Brethren (Via Zoom)
- 11.8 Young Adult Fall Hiking Day, Deep Lock Quarry Metro Park, Peninsula, OH
- 11.9 District Youth Games & Devotions
- 11.12 Moderator's Q & A (Via Zoom)
- 11.14 District Board Meeting (Via Zoom)
- 11.16 District Youth Games & Devotions
- 11.17 Pastor's Workshop, With Kyle Kerschner (Via Zoom)
- 11.21 BBI History, Beliefs & Practices of the Church of the Brethren (Via Zoom)
- 11.23 District Youth Games & Devotions

District Staff/Office Holiday Hours:

November 26-27, Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

December 6-20, Kris Hawk on Vacation

December 24-January 1, Closed for Christmas/New Years Holiday

District Conference

Focusing on **Jesus' Vision**
of His Church and for His Church
Matthew 16:18 & Matthew 28:18-20

Akron Springfield CoB
August 13th & 14th, 2021

We are looking forward to meeting in 2021 for our District Conference at Akron Springfield Church of the Brethren. Please visit www.nohcob.org/dc for more information about events planned for District Conference 2021.