

Pastor's *memo*

NORTHERN OHIO DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE
BRETHREN
JULY 2025

District Conference

August 8-9, 2025

East Chippewa Church of the Brethren, Orrville, OH

Mark your calendars and be sure to attend this year's District Conference, August 8-9. Registration and Delegate forms are available as well as online registration at <http://www.nohcob.org/register>. YOU MUST REGISTER BY JULY 25 IF YOU WANT TO ORDER MEALS.

Conference booklets are being sent to anyone who has registered and indicated they wanted a conference booklet. Conference books are detailed with information about worship, insight sessions, pre-conference workshop, and other events. Mike Conner serves as moderator for this special event in the life of our District. He will be bringing the message on Friday Night at 6:30 p.m. Josh Brockway will be leading the Pre-Conference Workshop on Friday afternoon from 1:00 until 4:30 p.m. and he will be bringing the message on Saturday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. More information is available at : <https://www.nohcob.org/ministries/conferences/district-conference/2025-northern-ohio-district-conference> or by paper forms that were in the May District Conference Herald. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

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Buckeye Brethren Institute 2025-2026 Classes Available

Classes are held at the District Office from 9:30 am - 3:30 pm. Classes are available by Zoom.

Buckeye Brethren Institute (BBI) is the Northern Ohio District's training program for those considering ministry or working towards ordination or even personal enrichment. The full program consists of 12 courses over three years. Cost is minimal thanks to the District Student Minister's Fund which supplements the program expenses.

Individual classes can be taken by clergy for CEU's (1.5 CEU/course). Cost is \$25 for CEU's. Interested non-clergy are also welcome to attend.

Please contact Tina Hunt, Ministry Education Director, at tmh4957@gmail.com for more information.

Preaching

Instructor, Tina Hunt

Meeting Dates September 12, September 26, and October 10, 2025

New Testament Survey

Instructor, Cindy Peel

Meeting Dates October 24, November 7, and November 21, 2025

History of the Church

Instructor, Tina Hunt

Meeting Dates January 9, January 23, and February 6, 2026

Ministerial Leadership and Administration

Instructor, Panel

Meeting Dates February 20, March 6, and March 20, 2026

Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership proudly offers:



Leadership and Administration for the Now and Future Church

Instructor: Audrey Hollenberg-Duffey

Registration Deadline: July 9, 2025

August 13- October 7, 2025

The Minister as Theologian

Instructor: Joelle Hathaway

Registration Deadline: July 30, 2025

September 10-November 4, 2025

Introduction to Hebrew Scriptures

Instructor: Matthew Boersma

Registration Deadline: September 10, 2025

October 14-December 8, 2025

Each Course Fee: \$300

Register on-line at <https://bethanyseminary.edu/brethren-academy/>

Pastoral Placement

Congregations actively in the search process:

Akron First— *Wayne Kissel* serving as interim pastor.

Center — *Joe Routh* serving as interim pastor.

Jonah's People — *Mark Self and Amanda Reidling* are serving as interim co-pastors.

Sugar Creek West — *Ministry Team* providing pulpit supply.

Congregations that have chosen not to seek at this time:

Bristolville— *Ed Agler* serving as interim.

Brook Park— *Ryan Lopez* serving as interim pastor.

Dupont — *Solomon Okang* serving as preacher.

Eden — *Tom Michaels* serving as transitional pastor.

Freeburg — *Ed Wartluft* serving as preacher.

Owl Creek — *David Searcy* serving as interim pastor.

Silver Creek— *Jason Martin* serving as preacher.

District Prayer Calendar

July

Our Churches

Freeburg, Preacher Ed Wartluft

Hartville, Pastor Anthony DiMarco

Jonah's People, Co-Chaplain's Mark Self and
Amanda Reidling

Lake Breeze, Pastor Stephen McLaughlin

District Leadership

Congregational Commission, Beverly Wengerd
Chair

Other Districts

Southern Plains, Western Plains

Denominational and Global CoB

Annual Conference July 2-6

Church of the Brethren in Venezuela



CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN NATIONAL OLDER ADULT CONFERENCE 2025

**September 1-5, 2025 at Lake
Junaluska, North Carolina**

NOAC is a Spirit-filled gathering of adults who love learning and discerning together, exploring God's call for our lives and living out that call by sharing our energy, insight, legacy, and faith with our families, communities, and the world.

Follow us on Facebook: Church of the Brethren NOAC

Register at: www.brethren.org/noac

Preachers

Greg Lazsakovitz

Rebecca Dali

Herb Smith

Samuel Sarpiya

Audri Svay

Keynote Speakers

Cole Arthur Riley

Ken Medema

Ted Swartz

Dominique Gilliard

Bible Study Leader- Chris Bowman

Early Morning Devotion Leaders- Martha Beahm,
Frank Ramirez

Workshops

Field Trips

Service Opportunities

Outdoor Ministries Campfire

Seminary, College, University Reunions

Early Morning Chair Yoga

Garden Tours

Lake Boat Rides

Congregational Singing

Talent Show

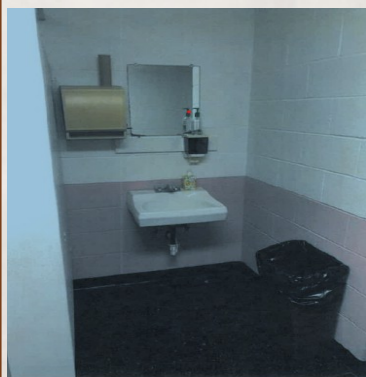
Hottle Grant from Eden Church of the Brethren

Thank you for the \$5,000 Hottle Grant to assist Eden Church in their renovation of their bathrooms. Attached are before and after pictures of the renovation which started on April 23 and completed on June 9. The total cost of the renovation was \$29,183.98.

We truly appreciate your help in this project.

Sincerely,

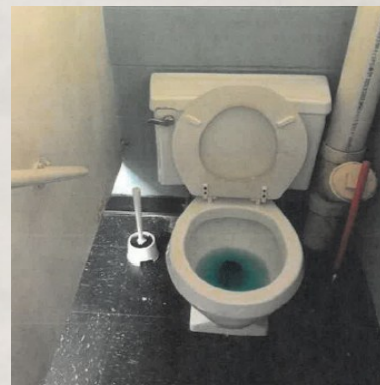
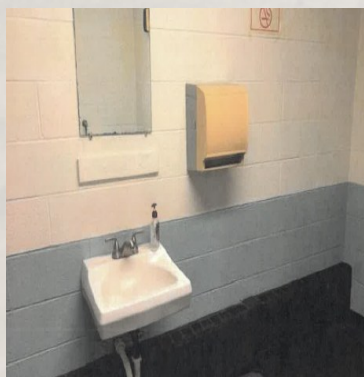
Jill Aldridge, Treasurer, Eden Church of the Brethren



Women's bathroom before renovation



Men's bathroom before renovation



Women's bathroom after renovation



Men's bathroom after renovation

District Staff Hours

The District Office is open Monday through Friday from 9 am to 2 pm.

Kris Hawk will be on vacation Monday, July 21st through the 28th.

District Executive Minister, **Kris Hawk** takes Monday as her day off.

Administrative Secretary, **Laura Huffaker** is in the office Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. She can be reached at 419-281-3058 or laura@nohcob.org.



Men's Retreat

Saturday October 18, 2025

Camp Inspiration Hills

More information to come!!

