

February, 2026
Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Newsletter
Printable Version



More information on Disaster Ministry and Camp Sugarwood including complete schedules, registration forms, etc can be found on the district website: www.sodcob.org.

District Clerk needed!

As of December 31, 2025 the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Clerk will be an open position. The role of the clerk as stated in the District bylaws is: *"The clerk shall keep the minutes of District Conference and of Board Meetings, see that all notices are given according to these regulations or as required by law; have custody of the corporate records; keep a register of the post-office addresses of each member; in general perform all the duties incident to the office of secretary; and perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by District Conference."*

This position can be filled by either a man or woman. Would you, or someone you know, be able and willing to fill this vital position within District Leadership? Please contact Interim DE, Nick Beam (nbeam@brethren.org) or the Trent Smith, District Board Chair (pastortrent@happycornerchurch.org) for more information.

2026 National Youth Conference Information

Held every four years, NYC provides young people in high school and the first year of college (or age equivalent) and their advisors to gather for a week of fellowship, worship, workshops, recreation and more. And 2026 is the year! NYC will be held July 18-23 at Estes Park in Colorado. Registration is now open. Earlybird registration ends Feb. 28. Southern Ohio/Kentucky District is offering a \$1000.00 grant for each young person and each advisor to help offset expenses. More information and a grant application can be found on the district website.

Camp Sugarwood Updates

Winter Quilting and Crafting Day Camp

February 5, 6, and 7 at Happy Corner CoB 9am-4pm

Quilters and Crafters bring projects to work on in the company of others. Devotions daily, fellowship, and lunch.

Campers can attend any or all days. Cost \$25 per day.

Email or text Carrie ASAP to register. cdrees23@gmail.com, 937-564-7346

Camp Ambassador Meeting

Camp Ambassadors' Meeting will be March 1, 3:00-4:30 at Salem Church of the Brethren. Ambassadors and anyone who would like to know what is planned for this summer is invited to this event. Come experience a tiny piece of camp as we have devotions, singing, snacks, games, and lots of fellowship.

Amazon WishList

New items have been added to the Camp Sugarwood Amazon wishlist. https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/17UUZ989BSJ4D?ref=wl_share

Save the Date

More info coming soon.

TBD Women's Mini-Retreat

June 3 Camp Setup Cricket Holler

June 5-6 Buddy Camp (preschool-2nd grade with adult buddy)

June 7 District Picnic

June 8-11 Sewing and Crafting Day Camp (6th grade through Adult)

June 12-14 Level Up and Join the Party! Game Camp (7th-12th grades)

June 14-16 Exploration Crew Camp (2nd through 4th grade)

June 14-20 Pathfinders Camp (3rd through 6th grade)

June 14-20 Trailblazers Camp (7th through 12th grade)

June 22-24 Adult Vacation Bible School

July 5-11 Intergenerational BDM Trip (14yr old with parent, 15 yr old and up)

July 18-23 National Youth Conference Estes Park, CO (9th-12 grade)

August 4-7 Pieceful Quilt Camp

October 2-3 Women's Retreat

November 6-8 Fall Family Gathering

A New Way to Support Camping and Retreat Ministries

Buy Gift Cards through Raise Right. Turn your everyday expenses into support.

Simply buy gift cards and shop online through CRM's RaiseRight Program and brands will automatically give up to 20% back to help pay for Camping and Retreat Ministries programs like Winter Blast. Use gift cards to pay for everyday things like groceries, gas, clothing, coffee, or dining out. Whether you're at home or on the go RaiseRight gives you the flexibility with eGift cards, reloadable cards, and a mobile app. Help CRM any time, anywhere.

Download the app or use your computer. Enter this enrollment code: MGV2V7Y2G92N

Brethren Disaster Ministry Updates

CDS Training - There will be a CDS training on Friday and Saturday, February 20-21, 2026 at Oakland Church of the Brethren. This is for those who are 18 years or older, have a heart for children, and may be interested in becoming Children's Disaster Services volunteers. Learn more about CDS and register for training at www.brethren.org/cds. Contact Toni Custer (937- 423-1841), our CDS Area Coordinator, if you have questions.

Rebuilding Trips – Join a rebuilding crew in 2026! S. Ohio/KY BDM has a rebuilding trip scheduled for most months. Through March we're working in Letcher County, KY, raising and repairing flood damaged homes and building new homes on higher ground properties. After March, work could continue at this site or a new site may open which would likely be Hurricane Helene recovery. A flyer with



trip dates can be found on the district website. Transportation, housing, food, tools, and leadership are provided. Call/text Helen Wolf at 937-902-3475 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com to join a crew.

Intergenerational BDM Trip – July 5-11, 2026 is a BDM trip for adults and youth. It's an opportunity for grandparents/youth (15 yrs. +), parents/youth (14 yrs.+) to work together rebuilding homes for disaster survivors. A flyer with additional information can be found on the district website. Call/text Helen Wolf at 937-902-3475 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com to register.

Sewing Bee/CWS Prep – The first Sewing Bee in 2026 will be held on February 28 at 9:00 AM at Greenville COB. Volunteers will sew school bags for Church World Service (CWS) Kids Kits, formerly called school kits. Please bring your sewing machine and an extension cord. Non-sewers will prep items for school kits and cleanup buckets. Everyone is invited to bring a sack lunch. [Click here](#) for a flyer with the 2026 schedule.

Potsdam Church hosts Women's Event

The Potsdam invites all women to "A Servant's Heart". This free event is led by Carrie Vree on February 28 from 9 AM-noon at the Potsdam Church of the Brethren, 22 E Cross St, Potsdam, OH. They are asking that you RSVP by calling 937-947-1920.

Prayer Needs . . .

A very important way we can be supportive of each other is to lift each other up in prayer. 2026 Prayer List for Congregations can be found on the district website.

- Pray for the Salem, Bellefontaine, West Charleston, and Living Peace churches.
- Larry Lutz--dealing with a lot of pain. Having trouble getting around
- For the people who have lost homes and barns due to recent hurricanes and flooding and fires.
- For the violence and war in the Middle East. May the God of peace prevail and lead those on both sides to ending the conflict.
- For the people in Ukraine living in fear and for the families who have lost loved ones and for those who have been displaced because of the invasion.
- For the victims and their families recovering from the never-ending cycle of gun violence.
- May we remember those congregations in pastoral transition -
New Carlisle--Tara Hornbacker, Interim.
Prince of Peace--John Sgro, Interim.
Donnells Creek-- open position
Eversole-- Brent Driver, Interim
Circleville--Open position
Good Shepherd--Dennis Delk, Interim
- There are many issues and situations continuing to face us as we minister in our respective locations, including those who are serving in interim situations and others who are in discernment regarding placement or are considering a move. There are others facing health issues, please keep these situations in prayer.

Please [contact Nick](#) if you know of prayer situations of which we should be aware. May we lift each other in prayer as we work to continue the work of Jesus, peacefully, simply, together.