



# Salem Church of the Brethren

6037 Phillipsburg Road • Englewood, Ohio 45322 • (937) 836-6145

Email: [salemcob@gmail.com](mailto:salemcob@gmail.com)

*Continuing the work of Jesus: Peacefully. Simply. Together.*

Salem Church of the Brethren

March 2019 Issue

## Greetings Sisters and Brothers...

***“Now to God be the glory, who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than we can ask or imagine.” (Ephesians 3:20)***

March promises to be a busy month--Lent, the start of Spring, Daylight Savings Time (March 10th) just to name a few. For our community, there are two things I want to highlight briefly: One Great Hour of Sharing and the start of Lent. One Great Hour of Sharing is March 17, and Lent starts on March 6.

For Lent, we will be following the Church of the Brethren Devotional Series titles *New World Coming* written by Edward L. Poling. He uses the Sermon on the Mount as the frame for the devotional and spends each day of Lent focusing in on one part of the Sermon. In his introduction to the text, Poling quotes University of Dayton graduate, Richard Rohr, a Franciscan Priest; “We want to help change the world for the better. But that change must come through transformation. Author Richard Rohr makes a clear distinction between the two: ‘The word change normally refers to new beginning. But transformation...more often happens not when something new begins but when something old falls apart. The pain of something old falling apart-chaos-invites the soul to listen at a deeper level...Transformation usually includes a disconcerting reorientation. Change can either help people to find a new meaning, or it can cause people to close down and turn bitter’”<sup>1</sup>

Put a pin in that thought for a moment. We will come back to it. March 17th will see the One Great Hour of Sharing, in which we, along with other Church of the Brethren sisters and brothers will present a special offering which will go and reach those near and far to us, reaching out to those who are in distress, both in our local communities and in places we may never get to go. The offering empowers the Church of the Brethren’s Global Mission and Service, Congregational Life Ministries, Brethren Disaster Ministries, Brethren Volunteer Service, workcamps, the Global Food Initiative and more. Our offering goes to those whose life and circumstances have brought them to a place of need, in a way that none could have envisioned. Their lives are changing...or transforming.

As Richard Rohr pointed out earlier, transformation happens when something falls apart. The One Great Hour of Sharing and the *New World Coming* Lenten Devotional will invite us to see that our work is not to change the world, but to be part of the transformation of it, into heaven on earth. We will be invited to offer ourselves and also be willing to let that which must fall apart, fall apart, so that the work of God may be seen. We are prone to fiercely hold onto structures that we have known, because we have known them for a long time. That is where the sentiment, “We have always done it that way” comes from. That sentiment is honest and true. But that feeling may also be a barrier to the transformation that we are being called to.

We are being called to be a people who are not apart from the transformation, but in the middle of it. We are called to maintain the love of God, the peace of God, the grace of God in our lives. It is my invitation to you this season of budding life, as the cold is forced out by the seasonal shift, that you look within yourself and within this community and ask, “where are we being asked to transform?” As that question guides you, may you answer the call to give during the One Great Hour of Sharing, so that those whose transformation came unexpectedly may know that they are cared for, and that hope is present. If we can do that work of self-examination and honest reflection, bravely letting the transformations happen, then we can be the beacons of the *New World Coming*. The new world of God’s peace on earth.

<sup>1</sup> Poling, Edward L. *New World Coming*. 2019. Introduction.

Blessings

*Pastor Lee*

## Those Serving in March

**Greeters:** March 3--Kent & Phyllis W, March 10--Carla D & Tom D, March 17--Tom & Kay H, March 24--Helen F & Doris S, March 31--Betsy D & Sue W

**Acolytes:** March 3--Rachel P, March 10--Colin H, March 17--Ryan F, March 24--Thomas S, March 31--Kinsey S

**Ushers:** Tony G, Hope G, Darryl S, Kinsey S

**Worship Leaders:** March 3--Diana H, March 10--*needed*, March 17--Jane E, March 24--Bonnie W, March 31--Tom W, Jr.



## Mark Your Calendars

### Deadlines

Next Newsletter Deadline: Sunday, March 24, 2019

Bulletin Articles: Thursday, 10:00am

### Executive Meeting

Thursday, March 14, 7:00pm

### Shepherding Prayer Group

Tuesday, March 19, 7:00pm

## Sunday Worship

*Join us for worship, each Sunday at 10:00am as we journey together through the season of Lent.*



March 17,  
2019

## March Birthdays-*Happy Birthday!!*

7-Hope G	27-Theresa M
7-June H	28-Andrew F
14-Miles C	29-Lindsay H
15-Diana H	30-Ralph S
15-Tom H	
18-Don M	
18-Marcella P	
18-Kennedy S	
26-Elaine S	



**email: salemcob@gmail.com**

Lee Saylor, Pastor  
Office Hours 9:30am-12:00noon, Tues.-Fri.

937-540-4533

iamleebob@gmail.com

Carrie Smith, Administrative Assistant  
Office Hours 9:00am-12:00noon, M-F  
Karen Dillon, Director of Christian Ed.

### Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00am Adult, Young Adult, and High School Sunday School with Childcare

10:00am Morning Worship

10:15am Children's Sunday School

Nursery (ages 2 and under)

### Wednesday Meal & Activities

6:00pm Fellowship meal and activities

**JOIN US!!**

## In Our Prayers

Barbara C, Shirley C, Janet H, Leon & Waneta M,  
Jayne S

**Long Term Needs:** Elois C, Aaron M, Sam P, Chad P,  
Myrna S, Martin S, Reta S

**Churches and more:** Our district churches, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Church of the Brethren in Nigeria (Godiya Bitrus), Bethany Theological Seminary



## This & That

*God has poured out His love to fill our hearts (Romans 5:5).*

Pastor Lee & our church family, Where do I even begin to thank our wonderful church family for their love for our family?! First, thank you to Pastor Lee for his comfort, kind words, love, & support during the passing of our father/grandfather, Lowell Cassel. You have truly been a blessing to our family! Second, a huge thank you to all the ladies who prepared a delicious luncheon for our family after Dad's services. We are truly grateful for all your hard work and wonderful meal! And last, but definitely not least, Our church family...thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your kind words in the cards you sent, your loving hugs, & most of all your prayers for our family! There is nothing like having wonderful, loving people in our lives to get us through each & everyday! God Bless you all. And again, thank you so much for being a blessing in our lives! Love, The Swaffords (Darryl, Shelley, Logan & Kinsey)

**The next church game night is Saturday, March 2 at 7:00pm.** Bring a snack and game to share!

If you have a **prayer request** you'd like to go through the prayer chain One Call, please call Sue Wampler at 286-4590. If she cannot be reached, please call Pastor Lee at 836-6145.

All ages are welcome to join us each Wednesday for a **fellowship meal and activities**. The meal begins at 6:00pm.

**Sew What** meets each Wednesday in the church fellowship hall. Join us beginning at 9:00am as we sew, cut, and tie quilts for missions. No experience is needed! Bring a packed lunch and join us for this time of service and fellowship!

The next **Shepherding Prayer group** meeting will be Tuesday, March 19 at 7:00pm in the parlor. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.



# District News

*Some articles adapted/taken from the district newsletter. You can email [sodcob@brethren.org](mailto:sodcob@brethren.org) to receive the district newsletter.*

## Working Together...Empowering Disciples.

*The District Newsletter for January is available at [sodcob.org](http://sodcob.org) or hard copies are available on the narthex table.*

### **2019 Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Conference**

Theme "God provides"

**October 11-12, 2019** at Happy Corner Church of the Brethren

Watch for more information!

### **New Carlisle Church of the Brethren announces the Music on Main Series dates and performers**

- Tecumseh High School Women's Chorus on Saturday, March 2, 2019.
- Saturday, April 6, 2019 will be a Flute and Harp Duo.
- Saturday, May 4, 2019, the Corndrinkers will perform. This group is a local group from the New Carlisle area who performs Appalachian folk music.
- The Series concludes with the Ohio Valley British Brass Band on Friday, June 7, 2019.

Come and enjoy these free concerts at the New Carlisle Church of the Brethren.

**2019 Summer Camp registration is open! It's going to be an exciting camping season for ALL AGES! Join us!** See what camps are available and download registrations forms at [sodcob.org](http://sodcob.org) or by calling Carrie in the church office (836-6145).



### **March Madness: An SOKD Youth Event (grades 6-12)**

Sunday, March 17 @ Prince of Peace CoB, 6:30-8:0 PM

Come play Open Bible Kahoot, an interactive game to put your Bible knowledge to test. Bring your Bible and you can also use your phone to look up answers. There will be free time for fellowship, Gaga Ball, 9 square, corn hole and snacks!

### **District Young Adult Movie night**

March 30th at Happy Corner CoB, 7:00 PM. Invite your friends ages high school graduates-39. RSVP to Laura Brown at [mbsae37@hotmail.com](mailto:mbsae37@hotmail.com) or by telephone at 937-267-0965. See you there!

**2019 Rebuilding Trips** – Sign up for a trip in 2019! The current site is in Lumberton, NC, but new sites will be opening later in the year. Volunteers need to be at least fifteen years old, unless they go with a parent or guardian, and then they may be fourteen. The June and July trips are for youth and their leaders. Expenses are covered, and transportation is provided in the BDM vans. A flyer with trip dates is available on the narthex bulletin board or on the district website. Sign up for a trip by contacting Burton Wolf at 937-287-5902 or [SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com](mailto:SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com)

**There are two youth-oriented trips**, June 16-22 and July 14-20, scheduled by S. Ohio/KY BDM for this summer. These are opportunities for youth and leaders to serve Christ by serving disaster survivors. There is no costs for volunteers. Contact Burt for more information!

**Sewing Bee** – Mark your calendar! A Sewing Bee will be held on April 27 at Greenville COB. We'll be sewing bags for school kits for Church World Service. Go to [sodcob.org](http://sodcob.org) for all the Sewing Bee dates or contact Carrie in the office.

## Denominational News

*Some articles adapted/taken from Church of the Brethren Newline. You can sign up online to receive these newsletters at [brethren.org](http://brethren.org).*

# Peacefully. Simply. Together.



**Annual Conference 2019 will be a very different event this year,** according to Conference director Chris Douglas. Instead of a usual business schedule, the delegate body will spend much of its time in compelling vision conversations. Nondelegates may reserve seats at tables during the business sessions in order to fully participate in those conversations. And the Conference will hold a love feast for the first time in decades. Annual Conference 2019 takes place July 3-7 in Greensboro, N.C., at the Sheraton/Koury Convention Center. It will be led by moderator Donita Keister, assisted by moderator-elect Paul Munday and Conference secretary Jim Beckwith. “Proclaim Christ; Reclaim Passion” is the theme, inspired by 2 Corinthians 5:17-18.

Online registration and hotel reservations open March 4 at 12 noon (central time) at [www.brethren.org/ac](http://www.brethren.org/ac). Read more at [www.brethren.org/news/2019/annual-conference-2019-registration-to-open.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2019/annual-conference-2019-registration-to-open.html).

**Emily Tyler started a new position as director of Brethren Volunteer Service on Feb. 4.** She continues to work out of the Church of the Brethren General Offices in Elgin, Ill., where she has been coordinator for BVS recruitment and the Workcamp Ministry for more than six years, since June 27, 2012. BVS is located within the denomination’s Global Mission and Service program. Read more at [www.brethren.org/news/2019/emily-tyler-begins-as-bvs-director.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2019/emily-tyler-begins-as-bvs-director.html)

**The Church of the Brethren has signed an interfaith letter to the US Congress about CIA drone strikes.** The sign-on by the denomination’s Office of Peacebuilding and Policy represented one of 25 faith-based organizations that together released the statement on Feb. 19. The letter asks members of Congress to end the CIA’s use of armed drones to carry out lethal attacks. In related news, the Office of Peacebuilding and Policy is inviting Brethren to a rally against drone warfare on May 3 in Washington, D.C. The office is part of the Interfaith Drone Network and is engaging in the work against drone warfare to fulfill the call of the 2013 Annual Conference “Resolution Against Drone Warfare.” Read more at [www.brethren.org/news/2019/interfaith-letter-opposes-cia-drone-warfare.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2019/interfaith-letter-opposes-cia-drone-warfare.html)

**Church of the Brethren mission work in Ecuador ended in the 1970’s, but the name, Brethren, lives on** in the Fundación Brethren y Unida (FBU - Brethren and United Foundation) in Picalqui, Ecuador, and Unidad Educativa “Brethren” (Brethren Educational Unit) in Llano Grande. In January, Global Food Initiative manager Jeff Boshart traveled to see FBU’s work, participate in a meeting of FBU’s board of directors as a newly appointed member, and visit the group in Llano Grande. Brethren values of service, peace-making and concern for the most vulnerable members of society have become embedded in the DNA of the Llano Grande. The elders sent their greetings and hopes for more news and communication from old friends. Read more and see photos at [www.brethren.org/news/2019/global-food-initiative-visits.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2019/global-food-initiative-visits.html)



**Church of the Brethren**  
*Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.*