



# Salem Church of the Brethren

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

Salem Church of the Brethren

October 2019 Issue

## ***Greetings Brothers & Sisters***

Please take a moment and read Ephesians 3:16-19. I'll wait.

I like trees. A lot. We went on a hike this past weekend after church and we noticed how much our boys seem to like trees and being in the woods as well, especially Isaac. There is something about being among the trees, among the life giving, air cleaning, tree life that is often older than I am that is calming. I recognize that the trees that I see in front of me have seen so much and have weathered so much. The resiliency to grow is not an easy one, but comes from a healthy root system, a strong root ball that allows the tree to reach into the depths of the ground, to reach out to other trees around them and to network together to live. What an image.

Paul in writing to the church in Ephesus, is trying to give the church a roadmap of sorts, a system of interacting with one another, a means of understanding what it means to live in this new way of life, with God's grace and salvation present through Jesus at its center. This passage from Ephesians 3 is almost smack dab in the middle of his letter. A typical structure of writing in the day of Paul was called *Chiastic* (ki-as-tick), which is to say that the writer has a central point and the build up to that point is mirrored as the letter draws to a close. The point in the middle, where the letter begins to end, is what is considered the central point.

"I ask that Christ will live in your hearts through faith. As a result of having strong roots in love, I ask that you'll have the power to grasp love's width and length, height and depth, together with all believers." (vv. 17-18) Roots. I love that idea. We all have roots in something. We do. And where we have our roots will really determine what grows on our trees and how resilient they are. Whenever our roots are planted with God, we are connected to a perpetual life source that connects us to others, much like trees in the forest do.

"Two decades ago, while researching her doctoral thesis, ecologist Suzanne Simard discovered that trees communicate their needs and send each other nutrients via a network of latticed fungi buried in the soil — in other words, she found, they "talk" to each other."<sup>1</sup> At the core of creation, God placed trees, which work to communicate their needs and strengths to other trees. When they do this, they grow together, stronger, and are able to reach out for miles around them. What a model God has placed all around us.

Paul's writing to the church is encouraging them to have this kind of love, a love that can reach out to others, is able to weather storms, provide shelter, purify the air around them, and to provide. He uses the foundation of trees to make his point. The roots, when planted in God, provide life again and again. May we do the same.

Blessings

*Pastor Lee Saylor*

<sup>1</sup> [https://e360.yale.edu/features/exploring\\_how\\_and\\_why\\_trees\\_talk\\_to\\_each\\_other](https://e360.yale.edu/features/exploring_how_and_why_trees_talk_to_each_other)

## Those Serving in October

**Greeters:** October 6—Dawn & Gary S., October 13—Kent & Phyllis W.,  
October 20—Carla D. & Tom D., October 27—Kay & Tom H.

**Acolytes:** October 6—Eric B., October 13—needed, October 20—Colin H.,  
October 27—needed

**Ushers:** Doug S., Charlie W., Tom W., Jr. Darryl S.

**Worship Leaders:** October 6—John & Sue E., October 13—Kyle H., October 20—Bonnie W.,  
October 27—Tom W., Jr.



## Mark Your Calendars

### Deadlines

Next Newsletter Deadline: Sunday, October 20, 2019

Bulletin Articles: Thursday, 10:00am

### Board Meeting

Thursday, October 10, 7:00pm

### Shepherding Prayer Group

Tuesday, October 15, 7:00pm

## Sunday Worship

October 6	From Psalm 37:1-9 <i>Drive Thru Wait Time</i>
October 13	From 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15 <i>Serving the Enemy/Wicked/Bad</i>
October 20	From Genesis 32:22-31 <i>Let's Get Ready to RRUUMMBLLEE!</i>
October 27	From Luke 18:9-14 <i>False Humility, False Piety</i>

## *Sunday Sermons*

### 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 Meal, with activities following

## October Birthdays—Happy Birthday!!

1-Doug S.	17-Karen D.
3-Kelly S.	18-Linda H.
4-Addison D.	21-Tracy S.
8-Kent S.	23-Connie T.
8-Jerry S.	24-Sue E.
11-Julie S.	31-Bud O.
12-Dorothy O.	
16-Kasy S.	
16-George S.	



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Lee Saylor, Pastor

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Carrie Smith, Administrative Assistant

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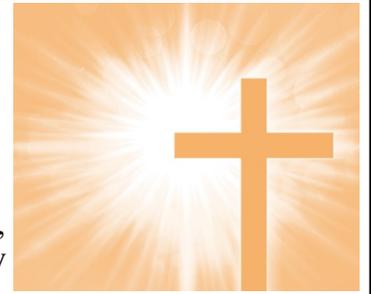
Karen Dillon, Director of Christian Ed.

## 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., Reta S.

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



## This & That & Special Events

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-Church Game Night!** Saturday, October 5, 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Join us! Bring a snack and a friend!

**We are looking to hire a Recreation Hall custodian**, to begin October 1. If you are interested or know someone interested, please contact Diana Binkley at 469-4993.

**Thanks to all who participated in or helped with Adult Bible School.** A great time was had by all!

**Sew What is at 9:00am on Wednesdays.** No experience needed! Just come and tie, sew, and press, blankets and quilts to be donated to people around the world. Bring a packed lunch. See Carol Shroyer with any questions.

**Wednesday Meal & Activities**-Join us at 6:00pm on Wednesdays for a meal and activities. All ages are invited to join us. See Karen Dillon with any questions!

The next **Shepherding Prayer Group** meeting is Tuesday, October 15 at 7:00pm in the parlor. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Thank you Salem for your **financial support of the Southern Ohio District** and partnering with us in the ministries we provide. Blessings, Dave Shetler, District Executive.

**The Salem Bells are in search of new players!!** If you can read music join us on Tuesday evenings from 7-8pm. Never played before? We can teach you! Very easy to learn.

### Love Feast/Worldwide Communion Sunday

Join with Happy Corner, Lower Miami, and Trotwood churches on Sunday, October 6, at 6:00pm for our joint Love Feast. This is a meaningful event that bridges churches and communities in a sacred Church of the Brethren act. If you have any questions see Pastor Lee.

### FALL FESTIVAL



Come and join Salem, Happy Corner, Trotwood and Lower Miami for our Fall Festival on **November 10** from **4-7 at Salem Church of the Brethren**. We will have a kickball game and a tractor ride. Guests are asked to bring food items based on their last name: **G-M main dish, N-S side dish, A-F dessert, T-Z drinks**. Bring Cornhole, Ladder ball, or other outdoor games to share. If the weather looks like it won't be very good, we will move the event inside the Rec Hall and ask for people to bring their own Pumpkins and tools to enjoy some pumpkin decorating. If you have any questions, please reach out to Pastor Lee.

# 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 May is available at [sodcob.org](http://sodcob.org) or hard copies are available on the narthex table.*

**The 2019 Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Conference will be October 11-12, 2019** at Happy Corner Church of the Brethren. Conference is almost here! If you are a non-delegate and have not yet registered yet, please do so as soon as possible. Registration forms are available on the district website or by contacting Carrie in the office. This year the SOKD Program and Arrangements and the SOKD Resource Development Commission are teaming up to offer several excellent workshops for the educational portion of our conference which support our theme, "God Provides". These workshops will benefit everyone: Church Treasurers, Board Chairs, Board Members, Stewardship Teams, Pastors, anyone who has a family budget, anyone who doesn't have a family budget, if you preach about stewardship, wish you could preach about stewardship, if you spend money, save money, earn money . . . yes, we will be talking about money! Register now, on the district website.

### **Quilt offered for Silent Auction at District Conference**

2019 was the 10th anniversary of our Piece-Full Quilt Camp sponsored by Camping and Retreat Ministries of the S. OH/KY District of the Church of the Brethren. Each camper was sent fabric and a quilt block pattern before camp. We assembled the blocks and sewed it together at camp. It was quilted by Paula Yagisawa who joined us for a day or so at camp. Judy Wellman, a new camper this year, machine embroidered the label. This quilt will be given for silent auction at district conference with the proceeds going to Camping and Retreat Ministries for camp scholarships. Come prepared to bid and take this beauty home.

**The Prince of Peace Church of the Brethren is delighted to have recent Bethany graduate Hassan Dicks with them** as a Visiting Pastor for six months! Pastor Hassan is from Nigeria and is passionate about trauma healing and peacemaking. During his time at Prince of Peace he is interested in learning how the North American church functions and gain experience leading in this context. He will also be helping Prince of Peace live into its new vision statement. However, Pastor Hassan is available to provide leadership throughout the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District. Prince of Peace will be announcing a workshop Hassan will lead for the district soon, to be held sometime in January, but any church or group interested in hearing him speak or spending time with him is welcome to contact him to set up a time. Mileage reimbursement for his travels would be appreciated as compensation. Prince of Peace hopes that the whole district can benefit from the gifts he brings and get to know Pastor Hassan over these six months. For inquires, please contact the Prince of Peace church office at 937-294-0708 or at [popcob1956@aol.com](mailto:popcob1956@aol.com).

**The Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Women's Bible study/spirituality group** will begin meeting again in October. This group meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month at the Salem Church of the Brethren from 7-8:30 pm. Their first meeting will be Thursday, October 3, 2019 when they will evaluate last year, catch up on how the summer went, decide how they way this next year to look and what they will begin studying on October 17. Anyone can join at any time. However, this is an especially good time to add members to the group.

### **District Young Adult Gathering**

On October 26 at 6:00pm we will visit the Brethren Heritage Center. All young adults are welcome to attend. Planning ahead: November 9, 1:00pm at the Dayton Peace Museum and December 21, 7:00pm at Carillon Park.

# District News Continued



## Cost of Poverty Experience

You are invited to a free workshop/experience at Prince of Peace Church of the Brethren on Saturday, October 19, from 9:00-11:30am. This event offers individuals to experience what it's like to live in poverty and the many obstacles that entails. Register at [www.popcob.org](http://www.popcob.org) or call Carrie in the Salem office with questions or to register.

## Southern Ohio Disaster Ministries Update

**Local Tornado Response** - The cleanup phase of our local tornado response is winding down for now. Much work has been done cutting trees and removing brush. The current plan is to take a break in October. Discussion is taking place about the rebuilding phase.

**13th Annual Ice Cream Social** – Thank you to all for your support of the BDM Ice Cream Social held August 3rd. There were about 440 in attendance. About \$11,500 was raised which will be used for rebuilding trips, Church World Service kits/buckets, and local response. The support of the S. Ohio/ KY District makes this ministry possible.



**BRETHREN  
Disaster Ministries**

## 2019 Empowering Grants Given

By action of the 2015 Southern Ohio District Conference a percentage of the interest on monies received from The Nature Conservancy for their portion of the sale of the Camp Woodland Altars property has been set aside each year for use as grants to Empower Congregations and to Empower Leadership within the District. We are happy to share that the following congregations have applied for and received grant money this year:

Prince of Peace Church of the Brethren \$2800.00  
Constance church of the Brethren \$1500.00  
Cincinnati Church of the Brethren \$1100.00  
Trotwood Church of the Brethren \$ 550.00  
Artistry Leads (Church Vitality Survey) \$2000.00  
Ecumenical Stewardship \$225.00  
Happy Corner Church of the Brethren \$3000.00  
Prince of Peace Church of the Brethren \$3000.00  
West Charleston \$2000.00  
An Empowering Leadership Grant to Andrew Wright \$295.00

More about how this money has been used will be shared at our upcoming District Conference.

Purpose of the grants is to:

1. Provide financial support to any congregation within the District which seeks it for the development of new or expansion of existing missional efforts; or
2. Provide financial support for any member of a District congregation who is in a leadership position and wishes to obtain further training to enhance their leadership role or any member of a District congregation who wishes to seek training to prepare them for future church leadership.

If your congregation would like to apply for a grant go to the district website for more information including how to apply.

## Denominational News

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

# Peacefully. Simply. Together.

**Orange stars were held high by an overwhelming attendance of Candlelight Vigil participants at the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference in Greensboro, N.C.,** this year, as they reached high to remember the immigrant children separated at the border. These orange stars were worn on badges throughout the Conference. Immigration issues were touched on in many ways during Annual Conference, and are a growing concern in the Church of the Brethren. “Just as a body without spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.” —James 2:14-17 As Christians, we have a heart for the stranger among us. “When you see your brother or your sister suffering do not remain still; help them.” —The Red Sea Diving Resort, a series about getting refugees out of Syria to safety The 1982 Annual Conference Statement on “Undocumented Persons & Refugees in the United States” reaffirmed the longstanding position of the COB on immigration and the biblical basis to extend welcome to immigrants and refugees. “We need to affirm that everything belongs to God and that we are an immigrant people...Our brother and sister immigrants are reminders of who we are and whom we serve...” Intercultural Ministries of the Church of the Brethren has created a website (The Xenos Project) where congregations who are involved and working on immigration issues can communicate with each other and with other congregations interested in becoming involved; connecting congregations who are passionate and want to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this area. The purpose of Xenos is to build a community of congregations feeling called to speak up and take action supporting immigrants within our nation. You can learn more about the Xenos project by visiting the website, [www.brethren.org/xenos](http://www.brethren.org/xenos).

**Three organizations carrying out relief efforts in the Bahamas following Hurricane Dorian have received grants directed by Brethren Disaster Ministries from the Church of the Brethren’s Emergency Disaster Fund (EDF).** The grants, each for \$10,000, are going to the Church World Service Development and Humanitarian Assistance Program, Feed the Children, and Mercy Chefs. To financially support these grants and the work of Brethren Disaster Ministries and Children’s Disaster Services give to the EDF at [www.brethren.org/edf](http://www.brethren.org/edf). Read more at [www.brethren.org/news/2019/edf-grants-for-hurricane-relief-in-bahamas.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2019/edf-grants-for-hurricane-relief-in-bahamas.html)

**Children’s Disaster Services (CDS) deployed a team to Beaumont, Texas,** in response to the flooding from Tropical Depression Imelda. The team arrived Sunday, Sept. 22, and began serving children in Beaumont and Silsbee, Texas, the following day. Read more at [www.brethren.org/news/2019/cds-team-deployed-to-texas.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2019/cds-team-deployed-to-texas.html)

### **Peace church seminaries form cross-registration partnership**

#### **A release from Bethany Theological Seminary**

Bethany Theological Seminary, Earlham School of Religion, and Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary have entered into an open cross-registration agreement. This is the first collaborative effort of its kind among seminaries of the three Historic Peace Church traditions: Church of the Brethren, Quaker (Society of Friends), and Mennonite. The new agreement allows eligible students at the Indiana-based seminaries to enroll in most courses offered by the seminaries without tuition adjustments being made. The cross-registration opportunity begins with the fall 2019 semester. Read the Bethany release at <https://bethanyseminary.edu/peace-church-seminaries-form-cross-registration-partnership>