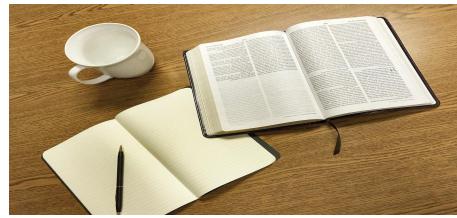




Beavercreek Church of the Brethren

Listening to God, we celebrate, include and serve all...



Mini Calendar

Sundays

10:15 am Worship in person
and via Zoom

Thursday January 1st

Happy New Year!

Sunday January 4th

Communion Sunday
Take Down Christmas Tree

Tuesday January 6th

7pm Deacon's Meeting
via Zoom

Sunday January 18th

Mug Dump

Tuesday January 20th

Board Meeting
Via Zoom 7-8pm

Tuesday January 27th

Newsletter Deadline

Pastor's Desk for January 2026

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ,

Here we are in 2026! Happy New Year to all. May God bless you, may Christ lead you, and may the Holy Spirit motivate you all the days of this new year! Reading the January 1st offering from our Advent devotional: *Word Among Us*, gave me much to ponder. As this new year begins, where are you (and we collectively) limiting God with our expectations? Has God crossed into our good with something great? These are the questions asked by the author. I invite you to ponder with me how you (and we collectively) can ask God through prayer and worship to help us recognize and share the great things that God has given us. I also invite you to see the glory of God that is already at work in our church community. What will the future God realizes bring? I'm excited to see. The blessings are amazing. God is at the head of all of these blessings! Happy New Year as we together venture into this new year with faith!

Blessings,
Pastor Sandy

Scriptures and messages

1/4 **Isaiah 60:1-5 / Ephesians:1-12 / Heirs in the Promise of Christ**

1/11 **Isaiah 42:1-9 / Matthew 3:13-17 / Defining Our Role in the Gospel**

1/18 **Psalm 40:1-7 / 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 / One Person Can Make a Difference!**

1/25 **Isaiah 9:1-4 / Matthew 4:18-23 / Counting the Cost**



Karen Farwell 01/03
Christa Barnes 01/07

Patrick Young 01/12
Pauline Petry 01/20



Anniversaries

(There are none this month.)

Who are you thankful for?

Whenever you think of someone in the church that you want to thank for something they did, please send the information to Mary-Anna (beavercreekcob1@gmail.com) so that she can include it in the newsletter.



Thanks for helping us say thanks!

- Being told you're appreciated is one of the most incredible things you can hear.
To all that went unthanked this year, know that you are appreciated and thanked!

026 Men's Retreat

January 16-18, 2026

Theme: "One Step Beyond the Point of No Return"

Registration Deadline January 5, 2026

This retreat is a spiritual weekend for all men regardless of church affiliation. Men 16 years of age and older are invited to enjoy a weekend of fellowship, scripture teachings, worship and fun.

The guest speaker will be Pastor Mark McVey, Sr Pastor of Agape Family Worship Center in Beavercreek, OH. Pastor Mark carries a deep passion that fuels every message he preaches, fulfilling the Great Commission by reaching a lost world and proclaiming the saving power of Jesus Christ. His preaching style both challenges and inspires, stirring hearts to draw closer to God.

You are invited to attend all or part of the retreat. For your convenience, the retreat committee has created 3 different options, each with their own payment scale. Please [Click here](#) to download a brochure with more information, including how to register by mail.

[Click here](#) to register online.

Chicken Tortilla Soup

Ready in 1 hour, 15 minutes. This recipe is spicy and serves 15.

INGREDIENTS:

2 cans (10 ½ oz.) cream of mushroom soup
2 cans (10 ½ oz.) cream of chicken soup
2 cans (10 ½ oz.) cream of celery soup
2 cans (10 ½ oz.) cheddar cheese soup
2 cans (15 oz.) chicken broth
1 can (15 oz.) diced tomatoes
1 cup chunky salsa
1 can (4 ½ oz.) diced green chilies
1 onion, chopped
¼ cup fresh cilantro, chopped
4 garlic cloves (minced) (optional)
1 teaspoon red chili powder
Salt to taste
Pepper to taste
4 chicken breasts, cooked and chopped



DIRECTIONS:

Add all to a large pot. Bring to boil and simmer one hour.

Can be topped with:

Flour tortilla chips, cut into strips and fried.

Shredded cheese

Chopped cilantro, red chili powder, salt & pepper

You can substitute fat free soups

UPDATE ON THE CHRISTMAS FAMILY:

The Christmas family is receiving three Walmart cards, two each for \$200 and one for \$250 due to the generosity of the Church members. Jeanette and Tom E will deliver the cards on Christmas to the young couple who have limited themselves to one meal a day to afford special, expensive, formula their baby needs



2026 Men's Retreat

January 16-18, 2026

Theme: "One Step Beyond the Point of No Return"

Registration Deadline January 5, 2026

This retreat is a spiritual weekend for all men regardless of church affiliation. Men 16 years of age and older are invited to enjoy a weekend of fellowship, scripture teachings, worship and fun.

The guest speaker will be Pastor Mark McVey, Sr Pastor of Agape Family Worship Center in Beavercreek, OH. Pastor Mark carries a deep passion that fuels every message he preaches, fulfilling the Great Commission by reaching a lost world and proclaiming the saving power of Jesus Christ. His preaching style both challenges and inspires, stirring hearts to draw closer to God.

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[Click here](#) to register online.

Contributions for Brethren Disaster Ministries in November totaled \$576.00.

Monarch Report

After a year of having no Monarchs to raise it was great to be involved again this year. A total of 20 butterflies were released, including three in August, three in September, and October. Otherwise, the Black Swallowtails found on dill and parsley were keeping me busy. Five butterflies were released in August and one in September. Ten chrysalises will spend the winter in the unheated garage and hopefully all will emerge as beautiful butterflies in May. Of course none of those ten would have survived if they had been left on the parsley in October.



Ed



Welcome Theodora Amtry!!!

Theodora was born Friday, December 26th.
She weighed 8 pounds, and was 21 inches.



Together in Faith

Southern Ohio/Kentucky District
Shared Ministries

Preparing for Annual Conference

February 2 - Luke 9:23-27, 14:25-33

March 2 - 2 Timothy 3:16-17; John 1:1-5, 14

April 6 - Acts 2:42-47; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27;
Romans 12:9-10

May 4 - Matthew 5:9; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21;
Romans 12:14-21

June 1 - John 13:1-17; Luke 22:24-27

District Study

1st Mondays 7-8PM

Happy Corner

New Carlisle

BRCC

Zoom

Preparing for District Conference

August 3 - Matthew 25:40-45

For More Information

mtipton3027@gmail.com
937-671-7392



Theme Statement

When the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost amidst tongues of fire and miracles of speaking and hearing, the people were amazed and perplexed. Peter explained to them that the words of the prophet Joel were being fulfilled:

¹⁷ *'In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.*
¹⁸ *Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,
and they shall prophesy. (Acts 2:17-18 NRSVUE)*

Scholar Walter Brueggemann in his classic work *The Prophetic Imagination* argued that the role of a prophet is to imagine new possibilities. Perhaps one reason the church remains mired in the same old patterns is that we have lost our ability to envision anything better.

Paradoxically, Brueggemann suggested that a prophet's visions and dreams for a hopeful future often reappropriate themes and symbols from the past that are rooted in God's call and faithfulness—a newness that is so old, he wrote, that it has been forgotten.

When I was a young man leaving for a year abroad, a mentor encouraged me to "remember who you are." Could it be that the key to envisioning a way forward for the church is to remember where we've come from? Rather than something entirely new, what may be needed are renewed dreams and restored vision as we reclaim themes like radical discipleship, commitment to our New Testament creed, caring community, humble service, and nonviolent peacemaking.

The second verse of the hymn "What is this place" (HWB 1) suggests that "dreams, signs, and wonders sent from the past are what we need." What's old can be new again. "What a commission it is," wrote Brueggemann, "to express a future that none think imaginable!"

Imagine!

—Don Fitzkee, Moderator

Daily Themes

Each worship service will focus on a theme and symbol from our denomination's biblical heritage. Speakers will be asked to reexamine and reappropriate historic Brethren themes for our time.

Sunday, June 28, 2026

Preacher: Don Fitzkee

Symbol: Cross

Theme: Radical Discipleship

Suggested Scriptures: Luke 9:23-27, 14:25-33

Summary: In their quest to be faithful to Jesus, our spiritual ancestors made great sacrifices. What is the cost of being a follower of Jesus today? Is the cross just about what Jesus did for us, or are we still called to take up our cross and follow him? *

Monday, June 29, 2026

Preacher:

Symbol: Bible

Theme: A New Testament Church

Suggested Scriptures: 2 Timothy 3:16-17; John 1:1-5, 14

Summary: What does it mean to be "a people of the Book" who accept the New Testament as our creed? And how does God's authoritative written Word relate to Jesus, the Living Word?

Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Preacher:

Symbol: Meetinghouse or a Table/Potluck

Theme: Community

Suggested Scriptures: Acts 2:42-47; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Romans 12:9-10

Summary: Our church's somewhat archaic-sounding name claims we are family. We greet each other as "brother" and "sister" at Annual Conference. How do we "love one another with mutual affection" in a deeply polarized church and world? How do we honor all parts of "one body with many members"?

Wednesday, July 1, 2026

Preacher:

Symbol: Plowshare or Dove

Theme: Peace

Suggested Scriptures: Matthew 5:9; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Romans 12:14-21

Summary: Can we be "blessed peacemakers" in the world if we can't get along with children of God in our own church? What does it mean to be ministers of reconciliation? How do we overcome evil with good?

Thursday, July 2, 2026

Preacher:

Symbol: Basin & Towel

Theme: Service

Suggested Scriptures: John 13:1-17; Luke 22:24-27

Summary: Does performing the symbolic act of feetwashing make any practical difference in how we treat other people? Jesus was among us as one who serves. Are we still known by the manner of our exemplary living and serving?

Working Together . . . Empowering Disciples January, 2026 District newsletter

2026 Men's Retreat January 16-18, 2026

Theme: "One Step Beyond the Point of No Return" Registration Deadline

Today January 5, 2026!!!

This retreat is a spiritual weekend for all men regardless of church affiliation. Men 16 years of age and older. Go to the district website to download a brochure with more information, including how to register by mail.

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.

Camp Sugarwood Updates

Winter Blast is coming; It is time to Register!

Enjoy time with friends playing games, swimming, sledding (if there's snow!), and deepening your faith. \$25 per person.

Elementary Winter Blast: January 9-10 at Cricket Holler, K-5 grades with accompanying adult.

Jr and Sr High Winter Blast: January 16-17 at Cricket Holler, 6th-12th grades.

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.

Registration forms and flyers with more information for each of these events can be found on the district website.

A New Way to Support Camping and Retreat Ministries 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

Southern Ohio/Kentucky Disaster Ministries Updates

Rebuilding Trips – Join a rebuilding crew in 2026! S. Ohio/KY BDM has a rebuilding trip scheduled for most months. We'll start the year working in Letcher County, KY, raising and

repairing flood damaged homes and building new homes on higher ground properties. 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.

Children's Disaster Services Training (CDS) - 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 at [www.brethren.org/ cds](http://www.brethren.org/cds). Use the following link to register for the training: <http://www.brethren.org/cds/training/>. Contact Toni Custer (937- 423-1841), our CDS Area Coordinator, if you have questions.

Sewing Bee/CWS Prep – In 2026 Sewing Bees will be held February through October on the fourth Saturday of the month at 9:00 AM. They will alternate between Greenville COB and Eaton Community Church. Volunteers will sew school bags for Church World Service (CWS) school kits. Non-sewers will prep items for school kits and cleanup buckets. The 2026 schedule can be found on the district website.

Beavercreek Church of Brethren, Cub Scout Pack 68, Evergreen, Troop 68 Tecumseh

Fri Jan 2, 2026

11am - 3pm CHURCH OFFICE OPEN AM/PM

Sat Jan 3, 2026

8am - 8pm Pinewood Derby Car - Cut/Build Day

Where: Scout House

Calendar: <https://pack-68.trooptrack.com/troops/C0PppMC04eEIJmLPzSS7kw/calendar>

Sun Jan 4, 2026

10:15am - 11:15am Communion Sunday

 10:15am - 11:15am Worship Service

Tue Jan 6, 2026

6pm - 7pm Webelos Den 13

Where: Scout House, 2659 Dayton Xenia Road, Beavercreek, OH, 45434

Calendar: <https://pack-68.trooptrack.com/troops/C0PppMC04eEIJmLPzSS7kw/calendar>

 7pm - 8pm Deacons meeting via zoom

Wed Jan 7, 2026

11am - 3pm CHURCH OFFICE OPEN PM

Fri Jan 9, 2026

11am - 3pm CHURCH OFFICE OPEN AM/PM

Sun Jan 11, 2026

 10:15am - 11:15am Worship Service

Mon Jan 12, 2026

6:30pm - 9pm Weekly Troop Meeting

Where: Scout House, 2659 Dayton Xenia Rd, Beavercreek, OH 45434

Calendar: troop68.tecumseh@gmail.com

Tue Jan 13, 2026

6pm - 7pm Den 7 - Lions (2nd and 4th Tuesdays)

Where: Trebein Computer Lab 1145, 1728 Dayton Xenia Rd, Xenia, OH, 45385

Calendar: <https://pack-68.trooptrack.com/troops/C0PppMC04eEIJmLPzSS7kw/calendar>

7pm - 8pm Bear Den 4 Meeting

Where: Scout House, 2659 Dayton Xenia Road, Beavercreek, OH, 45434

Calendar: <https://pack-68.trooptrack.com/troops/C0PppMC04eEIJmLPzSS7kw/calendar>

Wed Jan 14, 2026

11am - 3pm CHURCH OFFICE OPEN PM

Beavercreek Church of Brethren, Cub Scout Pack 68, Evergreen, Troop 68 Tecumseh

Thu Jan 15, 2026

6:30pm - 7:30pm Wolf Den 6

Where: Trebein Computer Lab 1145,1728 Dayton Xenia Rd,Xenia,OH,45385

Calendar: <https://pack-68.trooptrack.com/troops/C0PppMC04eElJmLPzSS7kw/calendar>

Fri Jan 16, 2026

11am - 3pm CHURCH OFFICE OPEN AM/PM

5:30pm - 6:30pm Troop Campout Departure

Where: Parking Lot/Brethren Hall

Calendar: troop68.tecumseh@gmail.com

Sun Jan 18, 2026

 10:15am - 11:15am Worship Service

10:30am - 11:30am Troop Campout Return

Where: Parking Lot/Brethren Hall

Calendar: troop68.tecumseh@gmail.com

 10:30am - 11:30am Mug Dump

12:30pm - 4:30pm Troop - Eagle Court of Honor - Will Clark

Where: Brethren Hall

Calendar: troop68.tecumseh@gmail.com

Tue Jan 20, 2026

6pm - 7pm Webelos Den 13

Where: Scout House,2659 Dayton Xenia Road,Beavercreek,OH,45434

Calendar: <https://pack-68.trooptrack.com/troops/C0PppMC04eElJmLPzSS7kw/calendar>

 7pm - 8pm Board Meeting

7pm - 9pm Patrol Leader Council Meeting

Where: Scout House, 2659 Dayton Xenia Rd, Beavercreek, OH 45434

Calendar: troop68.tecumseh@gmail.com

Wed Jan 21, 2026

11am - 3pm CHURCH OFFICE OPEN PM

6:30pm - 8pm Pack Meeting

Where: Trebein Elementary,1728 Dayton Xenia Road,Beavercreek Twp,OH,45385

Calendar: <https://pack-68.trooptrack.com/troops/C0PppMC04eElJmLPzSS7kw/calendar>

Fri Jan 23, 2026

11am - 3pm CHURCH OFFICE OPEN AM/PM

Sat Jan 24, 2026

12pm - 5pm Troop : NYLT Introduction

Where: Brethren Hall

Calendar: troop68.tecumseh@gmail.com

Beavercreek Church of Brethren, Cub Scout Pack 68, Evergreen, Troop 68 Tecumseh

Sun Jan 25, 2026

10:15am - 11:15am Worship Service

Mon Jan 26, 2026

6:30pm - 9pm Weekly Troop Meeting

Where: Scout House, 2659 Dayton Xenia Rd, Beavercreek, OH 45434

Calendar: troop68.tecumseh@gmail.com

Tue Jan 27, 2026

All day Newsletter Deadline

Tue Jan 27, 2026

6pm - 7pm Den 7 - Lions (4th Tuesdays)

Where: Trebein Computer Lab 1145, 1728 Dayton Xenia Rd, Xenia, OH, 45385

Calendar: <https://pack-68.trooptrack.com/troops/C0PppMC04eElJmLPzSS7kw/calendar>

7pm - 8pm Bear Den 4 Meeting

Where: Scout House, 2659 Dayton Xenia Road, Beavercreek, OH, 45434

Calendar: <https://pack-68.trooptrack.com/troops/C0PppMC04eElJmLPzSS7kw/calendar>

Wed Jan 28, 2026

11am - 3pm CHURCH OFFICE OPEN PM

Fri Jan 30, 2026

11am - 3pm CHURCH OFFICE OPEN AM/PM