



Witness to the Host City

The Church of the Brethren will be a witness to the city of Cincinnati during Annual Conference this summer. Be sure you and your congregation plan to participate by collecting items for our Witness to the Host City:

First Step Home

A place for Hope...A place for Help...A place for Healing

Founded in 1993, First Step Home is the only addiction treatment center in Cincinnati allowing children up to the age of 12 to live with their mother while she is in treatment. They provide a continuum of care, and work to assist women in rebuilding their families as they break the cycle of drug and alcohol addiction.

Through an array of services including residential and outpatient treatment, group and individual counseling, maternal and newborn support, job placement, and wellness education, they have helped thousands of pregnant and new mothers fight their addictions and establish stable lives for themselves and their children.

How you can help

Annual Conference attendees can help by collecting and bringing any of the following items First Step Home has expressed are their needs:

- Twin sheet sets
- Towels
- Wash Cloths
- Soap
- Deodorant
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Lotion
- Women's socks
- Women's underwear (all sizes)
- Women's sports bras (all sizes)
- Diapers (all sizes)
- Baby onesies
- \$5 gift cards to Walmart or Kroger



Mission Team News

Thanks to everyone who came out to Chick Fil A for our fundraiser in February. We raised \$118.50 toward our trip with that event.

We have decided to reschedule our International Buffet for a date that will be determined later. Please stay tuned.

We are currently at \$6503 of our \$7500 goal. There is also still room for others who might like to go on the trip.

Lunch Ladies

After cancelling their March lunch due to the snow, the ladies lunch has been rescheduled for April 3 at 11:30 am at Olive Garden in Martinsburg. All ladies are invited and encouraged to bring friends. This is always a wonderful time of fellowship.

Disaster Auction

The 38th Annual Disaster Response Auction will be held on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at the **Carroll County Agricultural Center in Westminster, MD.**

In 2017, \$60,000 was given to the Emergency Disaster Fund of the Church of the Brethren to help victims recover from many disasters all around our world.

You can support Disaster Response in various ways:

- Prayer
- Make quilts, comforters and wall hangings or other handcrafts to sell.
- Donate special items such as high quality woodwork, paintings and artwork. Antiques, furniture and collectibles also are a valuable donation.
- Encourage your church group or children's Sunday School class to collect items to make special gift baskets, school bags full of new books, etc. to auction off. Get creative!
- Contribute a gift certificate from your business for the auction.
- Donate quality auction items (value of \$10 or more) such as craft items, food, baked goods, flower and vegetable plants, trees and shrubs for booth sales.
- Volunteer to help at the Auction.

The auction has something for everyone! Plan now to attend. If you have items to donate, please let the pastor know. Also, if you are available to transport items, let him know, too.

Just a few of the projects that the 2017 auction supported were:

- CDS Hurricane Harvey response in Texas
- Hurricane Irma and Maria response in Puerto Rico
- Hurricane Matthew response in South Carolina
- Hurricane Matthew response in Haiti
- Flooding rebuild response in West Virginia