

Perspective



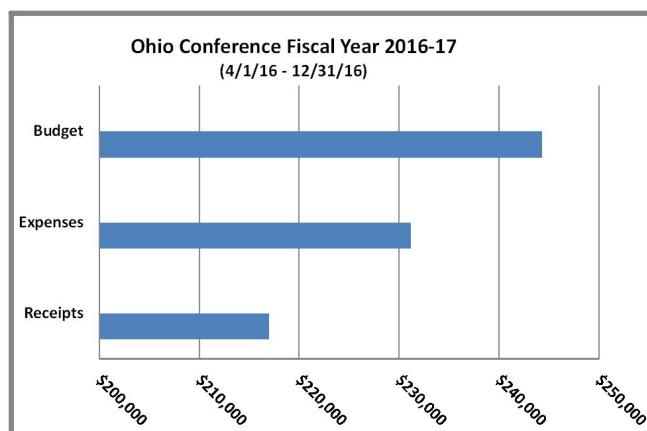
www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Deficit continues, but giving in December is up

Giving to the Ohio Conference in December was stronger than in any other month of the 2016-17 fiscal year, according to figures provided by Conference Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth.

Total receipts for the month of December were \$42,212, including \$8,950 in year-end giving from individuals in response to an appeal from Conference leadership. Our thanks go out to all those individuals who contributed.



Congregational giving in December totaled \$33,250, the largest monthly amount for the fiscal year so far.

Total expenses for the month were \$29,341, leaving an operating surplus of \$12,871 for the month. However, the Conference is still experiencing a deficit for this fiscal year. As of Dec. 31, the Conference's operating balance was -\$14,164. The Conference fiscal year ends March 31, 2017.

Summer Youth Program applications accepted

The Summer Youth Program (SYP) of Mennonite Disaster Service is now accepting applications. The SYP is a weeklong summer service experience designed for youth and their sponsors to put hands and feet to the gospel by serving others. SYP work is focused on cleanup, disaster mitigation, and repairing homes. The 2017 SYP locations are Detroit, Michigan; Pine Ridge, South Dakota; and southern Ontario, Canada. To apply or to get more information, visit the MDS website: <https://mds.mennonite.net/volunteer/youth-programs/>.

Perspective: 1) The inter-relation in which a subject or its parts are mentally viewed. 2) Point of view; capacity to view things in their relative importance.

Memorial perspective

Regina Wenger, pastoral team member at Central Mennonite Church in Archbold, has written a tribute to Naomi Engle for *The Mennonite*. You can read it at <https://themennonite.org/feature/remembering/>.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

- Pastor(s)
- Church chairperson
- Youth sponsor(s)
- Delegates
- Duplicate for other church leaders

Conference to discuss dealing with trauma

The registration deadline for Hesston College's 2017 Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series is rapidly approaching. The Feb. 17-19 conference will cover the topic "When the Unthinkable Happens," and will discuss how congregations and communities can prepare for and respond to trauma.

Participants will learn key principles and practices for responding to trauma with resiliency, hope and healing. For more information, see the Hesston College website: <http://bit.ly/2017AVDS>.

Conference to look at Minority Ministries Council

Greencroft Community Center in Goshen, Indiana, will host a conference with the theme "Black, Brown, and Mennonite: Lessons from the Chicana/o, Puerto Rican, and Black Freedom Movements for the Mennonite Church" March 30-April 1.

The work of the Minority Ministries Council (MMC) in the 1960s and 1970s was cutting edge and in many ways ahead of the rest of the Mennonite church during the civil rights era. But since the group disbanded in 1973, the denomination and its primary storytellers, historians, and church leaders have for the most part ignored this important story. We hope you will join us for this historic event as we honor the essential work of leaders who during the civil rights era marched, struggled, imagined, and believed that another church — an anti-racist church — was indeed possible.

More information, including registration materials, will be available soon. Event sponsors include Schowalter Foundation, Everence, Mennonite Mission Network, Mennonite Central Committee, Goshen College, College Mennonite Church and Greencroft Retirement Community.

GC seeks candidates for president

The Goshen College Presidential Search Committee is seeking candidates interested in serving as the 17th president of Goshen College. A presidential search ad is included with this issue of *Perspective*. For more information about this position, please see <http://bit.ly/GCPresidentialSearch>.

Voice festival planned in Florida

Planning on being in Florida this winter? The eighth annual Sarasota Mennonite Male Voice Festival, with Lloyd Kauffman as director, will take place Sunday, March 5, 2017, at Bahia Vista Mennonite Church at 3 p.m. and again at 6:30 p.m. Rehearsals will be held at the church on the evenings of Feb. 9, Feb. 16, Feb. 23 and March 3 from 7-9 p.m. An all-day Saturday rehearsal will be held on March 4 from 8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. All men who enjoy singing to God's glory are invited to participate. Any questions or a request for music and practice CD in advance, may be addressed to Lynn Miller, (941) 504-6851; or Lloyd Kauffman, (941) 379-3390.

Missional perspective

Have you registered for the Missional Conference with Alan and Debra Hirsch? The conference will take place at Kidron Mennonite Church March 23-24, just prior to Annual Conference Assembly. Planners of this event would like to encourage all congregations to cover the cost of registration for their young adults interested in attending. Young adults up to age 30 already receive half off the registration price.

To register, go to <http://bit.ly/2017MissionalConferenceRegistration>.

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Interested in learning more about Alan Hirsch? For a brief video featuring Alan Hirsch, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brBLdENBH8o>.

Meeting perspective

The third Year of Covenant Meeting for Pastors will take place Thursday, Feb. 2, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Toledo Mennonite Church. Pastors, please contact Judy King at ohmc@zoominternet.net or 330-857-5421 by **Wednesday, Jan. 25**, if you plan to attend.

Perspective deadlines

Jan. 30 for Feb. 2
Feb. 13 for Feb. 16
