

Conference Calendar

NOV

- 10 "Passions and Values Shape Legacy," Kidron Mennonite
- 11-13 Youth Retreat, Camp Luz, Orrville
- 11-13 Pastor-Spouse Retreat, Mohican State Park, Loudonville
- 16 Leadership Team Meeting, Mansfield

DEC

- 14 Ministry Development Team Meeting

JAN '12

- 13-15 Junior High Retreat, Camp Luz, Orrville

FEB

- 11 Conflict Transformation Skills for Churches Workshop, Crown Hill Mennonite, Rittman
- 17-18 Pastor-Elder Retreat, Widewater Retreat Center, Liberty Center
- 19-20 Pastor-Elder Retreat, Comfort Inn, Millersburg

MAR

- 9-10 Annual Conference Assembly, First Mennonite Church, Berne, Ind.
- 16-18 Men's Retreat, Camp Luz, Orrville

MAY

- 4-6 Ohio Conference Hispanic Retreat, Camp Luz, Orrville

JUN

- 29-30 Ohio Youth Event, Bluffton University

JUL

- 1 Ohio Youth Event, Bluffton University

Ohio Conference bulletin inserts are published six times per year by Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA.

For more information about the Ohio Conference, see the Conference website: www.ohiomennoniteconference.org
Ann Leaman, editor: ohioevangel@earthlink.net



Youth event to build relationships, encourage ministry and service

Ohio Conference is planning the first Ohio Youth Event to be held June 29-July 1 at Bluffton University in Bluffton, Ohio. This three-day event is designed for high school-age youth in Ohio Conference congregations and their youth sponsors.

The event's theme, "Good Earth," comes from the Parable of the Sower as found in Mark 4:3-9.

One of the goals of the Ohio Youth Event is to intentionally build relationships between youth from Ohio Conference congregations. Planners of the event have several other goals as well:

- ♦ To invite youth to commit or re-commit their lives to Christ
- ♦ To call out and encourage gifts for ministry and service
- ♦ To strengthen Anabaptist identity



Ohio Youth Event 2012
June 29-July 1
Bluffton University

"Good Earth"
Mark 4:3-9

- ♦ To connect youth with mission and service opportunities as well as Mennonite higher education options

More information about the Ohio Youth Event can be found on page 2.

*Supporting
healthy, growing
congregations*

Youth event to include worship, workshops, recreation, more

The Ohio Youth Event will provide a variety of experiences for Ohio Conference youth when they meet on the Bluffton University campus June 29-July 1.

The event will include times for worship, workshops, recreation, small group discussions, late night activities, and the chance to meet with Mennonite college and service agency representatives.

Focusing on the theme "Good Earth," worship services will include input from a variety of sources. On Friday evening, Randy Keeler, Associate Professor of Religion and Director of the Youth Ministry Program at Bluffton University, will be the speaker. Drama and music will be featured during the Saturday morning worship service, and on Saturday evening, the guest speaker will be Deb Horst, former director of Camp Luz. The Sunday morning worship service will feature a panel discussion.

All youth groups are requested to have at least one adult sponsor for every 10 youth who are participating. Lodging for men and women will be in separate dorms.

Please note that each participant must have a completed medical re-

lease returned to the Conference to be registered for the event.

The early bird registration rate for this event is \$80 per person. After **April 15, 2012**, participants will be charged an additional \$10 per person. All registrations are due no later than **May 25, 2012**.

The registration fee pays for all activities, lodging, a t-shirt, a Friday night snack, all Saturday meals and breakfast on Sunday.

Materials for the Ohio Youth Event can be found on the Ohio Conference website at www.ohiomennoniteconference.org.

Continued on page 3



Randy Keeler



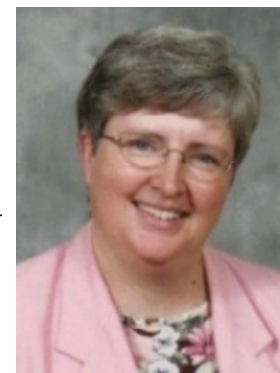
Deb Horst

Variety of curriculum resources available for youth, children

When your congregation is considering options for teaching materials for children and youth, don't forget that you have a resource for making an informed decision. Norma Duerksen, pastor of Summit Mennonite Church and Assistant Moderator of Ohio Conference, also serves as Resource Advocate for the Ohio Conference.

As Resource Advocate for the Conference, Norma has responded to numerous inquiries from congregations about resources available. The latest inquiry is this: "What Anabaptist resources are available for Sunday school for ages 2 through high school youth? We want to see all the curriculum possibilities."

If your church's education committee has the same question, let Norma know and she will come and meet with



Norma Duerksen

you. She will bring samples of everything available so you can look through them and make good and creative decisions for instructing your children. Contact Norma at pnduerksen@aol.com or call (330) 465-3628.

Youth event registration

Continued from page 2

Go to "Events" to download copies of a promotional flier, a registration form, youth medical release form, adult medical release form and a guide for sponsors.

Registration forms should be sent

to Ohio Conference of MC USA, Box 210, Kidron OH 44636. Participants also will have the option of registering online on the Ohio Conference website beginning in January.