

Perspective



www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Surgery is successful

Thank you for all your prayers for Regional Pastor Ralph Reinford as he underwent hernia surgery Dec. 7 at the Cleveland Clinic. The surgery was successful and took only about two hours to complete, less time than had been projected. Ralph was able to return home on Dec. 9. He will be taking time off work for at least one more week, and his travel will be limited during December. Please call Judy King at the Conference office (330-875-5421) for questions. In the event of an emergency, call Interim Regional Pastor Cliff Brubaker (517-398-2172).

Remember Ohio Conference in prayer

In your prayer times, please remember these Ohio Conference prayer requests from Bob Sauder, Ohio Conference moderator:

- Pray for the Ohio Conference Leadership Team as they prepare the agenda for Annual Conference Assembly in March.
- Pray for Interim Regional Pastor Cliff Brubaker, and his wife, Marilyn Grasse-Brubaker, as they continue their travels around the Ohio Conference, conducting interviews with leaders from individual congregations. Marilyn is serving as “scribe” for these conversations.

Podcast – How does Ohio Conference work?

Podcast hosts Bill Seymour and Thomas Dunn are giving listeners something special in the Christmas edition of the Ohio Conference Cast — the chance to win a \$25 gift card. To learn more about the contest, go to <http://ohiomennoniteconference.org/podcasts> and listen to the podcast episode titled “How does Ohio Conference work?” All entries are due by **Thursday, Jan. 5**. Send your contest entry to ohioconferencecast@gmail.com. The winner will be announced in an upcoming podcast.



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.

Meeting perspective

The third Year of Covenant Meeting for Pastors, originally scheduled for Jan. 12, 2017, has been postponed until early February. Check future issues of *Perspective* for details about this meeting.

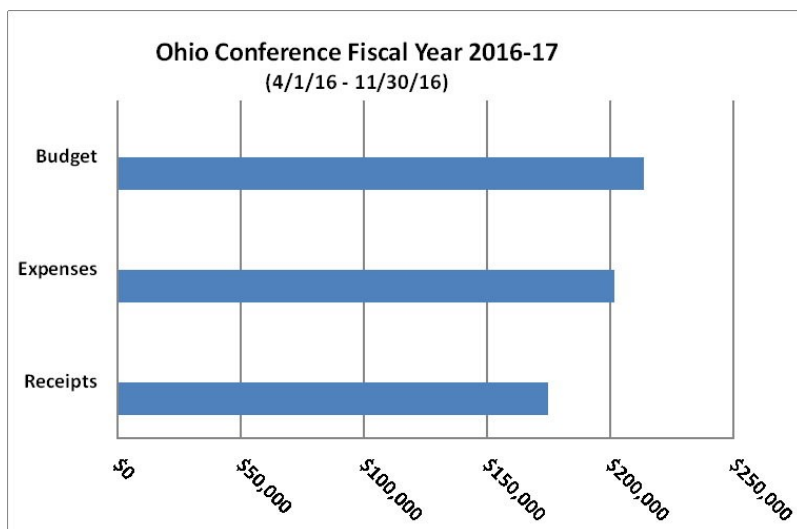
Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

Conference deficit increases during November

Ohio Conference's financial deficit increased during the month of November, according to figures provided by Ohio Conference Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth. Receipts for the month were \$21,055, and expenses totaled \$22,562, resulting in a net loss of -\$1,507 for the month of November.

For the first eight months of the fiscal year, receipts have totaled \$174,781, and expenses have totaled \$201,817, resulting in an operating balance of -\$27,036. The Ohio Conference fiscal year ends March 31, 2017.



Persons with disabilities to have increased accessibility at Orlando 2017

Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADN) and planners for Orlando 2017 are collaborating to provide increased accessibility for persons with disabilities attending next summer's biennial Mennonite Convention, July 4-8 in Orlando, Florida.

ADN will serve as the information center and point of access for accessibility services to assist the new convention accessibility coordinator and volunteers. Various accessibility services are planned:

- Printed maps showing accessible restrooms and elevators
- Transportation coordination between hotels and the convention center
- Sign language interpretation to be provided as needed
- Visual description and reporting for the vision impaired
- Large-print materials for workshops and seminars

Anabaptist Disabilities Network is currently seeking interested people to help at Orlando 2017 in July, and to serve on a planning committee with the convention accessibility coordinator to get ready for next summer's MC USA Convention. If you are interested in volunteering, email adnet@adnetonline.org or call 877-214-9838 for more information.

Report perspective

Reports for the Ohio Conference Annual Report Book are due this month. If you have been asked to submit a report for the Annual Report Book, please send it to Judy King at the Ohio Conference office at ohmc@zoominternet.net by Friday, Dec. 30.

Magazine perspective

The Mennonite welcomes your original submissions of feature articles, poems, original artwork and photos for the February 2017 print magazine issue and corresponding online content focusing on Mennonites, race, identity and faith. You can read the full details online at <https://themennonite.org/december-call-submissions-mennonites-race-identity>. Submissions are due to Editor@TheMennonite.org by Jan. 5.

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The Mennonite is featuring online devotions each day during Advent. To see them, go to <https://themennonite.org/category/advent>.

Perspective deadlines

Jan. 2 for Jan. 5

Jan. 16 for Jan. 19