

Conference Calendar

JAN

13-15 Junior High Retreat, Camp Luz, Kidron

20-21 Mother-Daughter Retreat, Camp Luz, Kidron

MAR

10-11 LEAD3D (Youth Leadership) Retreat, Camp Luz, Kidron

23-24 Missional Conference with Alan and Debra Hirsch, Kidron Mennonite

24-25 Annual Conference Assembly, Central Christian School, Kidron

31 Men's Retreat, Camp Luz, Kidron

APR

1-2 Men's Retreat, Camp Luz, Kidron

8 Spring Day of Inspiration, Ohio Mennonite Women, Crown Hill Mennonite, Rittman

JUL

4-8 Mennonite Church USA Convention, Orlando, Florida

AUG

18-19 LEAD3D (Youth Leadership) Retreat, Camp Luz, Kidron

OMW works to connect women

Attention all women! We are looking for women to serve on the Executive Board of Ohio Mennonite Women. We seek women who believe in our mission to connect Mennonite women in Ohio by planning meaningful spiritual and social events. We coordinate opportunities for women to support missions both locally and globally. Please

consider serving in this way. Thank you. Several positions are currently vacant: Vice-Chair/Chair-elect, Secretary, Jamboree/Retreat Coordinator, and Day of Inspiration Coordinator. If you are interested in serving, contact Willie Stoltzfus at stoltzfus.willie@gmail.com or 937-935-2642 (cell) or Roxanne Kauffman at roxykauff@gmail.com or 937-539-8527 (cell).

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@gmail.com



Conversations with leaders continue



Interim Regional Pastor Cliff Brubaker talks to attendees of a Fall Mission Event about his plan to meet with congregational leaders in churches all across Ohio Conference.

Beginning this fall, Interim Regional Pastor Cliff Brubaker has been traveling around the Ohio Conference, meeting with leaders from individual congregations for a time of conversation. His goal is to meet with leaders from each Ohio Conference congregation.

One purpose of these conversations is to identify ways to strengthen the relationships between the congregations and the Conference, as well as strengthening relationships between congregations. Another purpose is to

gather information to help the Ohio Conference Leadership Team plan for the 2017 Annual Conference Assembly and for the future direction of the Ohio Conference.

Assisting Cliff Brubaker in this task is his wife, Marilyn Grasse-Brubaker, who is serving as "scribe" for many of these conversations.

As of mid-December, Cliff has met with congregational leaders of 24 congregations in the Ohio Conference.

*Supporting
healthy, growing
congregations*

Register now for missional conference

"Who is my Neighbor?" is the theme for the upcoming Ohio Conference Missional Conference with Alan and Debra Hirsch. This two-day event will take place March 23-24, 2017, at Kidron Mennonite Church immediately prior to Annual Conference Assembly. Online registration is now open for this event.

This missional conference will focus on a variety of topics:

- Inviting all people in so they feel that they have a place to just be and feel loved
- Leading with embrace rather than theology
- Respecting high standards while extending grace
- Engaging third places

Who Is My Neighbor?
Luke 10: 25-37



- Christ and the Gospel as core for mission and church life

Cost for this event will be \$40 for Ohio Conference members attending Annual Conference Assembly, \$55 for other Ohio Conference members, and \$85 for non-Ohio Conference members. Participants ages 30 and

younger will receive a half-price discount on the cost of registration.

To learn more about this event, see <http://bit.ly/2017MissionalConference>.

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

SALT offers cross-cultural experiences

What are your plans for next year? If you're a young adult looking for a cross-cultural learning experience, check out the open assignments in Mennonite Central Committee's

Serving and Learning Together (SALT) program. See <http://bit.ly/SALT2017-18> for details. Applications are due Feb. 15.

Christmas podcast features contest

Have you listened to the Ohio Conference Cast yet? This podcast, hosted by Thomas Dunn and Bill Seymour, features a series of audio interviews with people from around the Ohio Conference.

In the Christmas edition of the Ohio Conference Cast, the hosts are giving listeners something special — a chance to win a \$25 gift card. To learn more about the contest, go to <http://ohiomennoniteconference.org/podcasts> and listen to the episode titled "How does Ohio Conference work?" (You can also find the podcasts on iTunes. Search for "Ohio Conference Cast.")



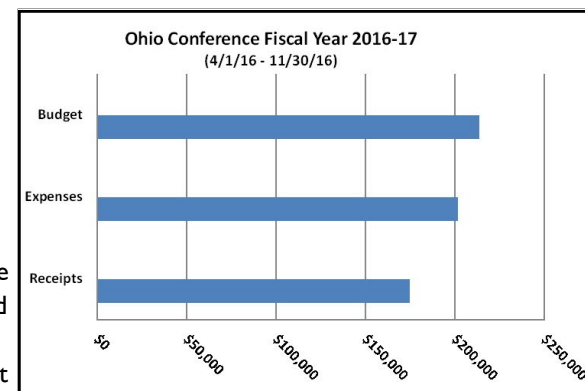
With hosts Thomas Dunn and Bill Seymour

All contest entries are due by Thursday, Jan. 5. Send your contest entry to ohioconferencecast@gmail.com. The winner will be announced in an upcoming podcast.

Conference deficit increases in 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.