

Steve and Annie Chapman to speak at Lasting Flame Marriage Seminar

Steve and Annie Chapman will be the featured speakers at the sixth annual Lasting Flame Marriage Seminar March 22-23 at Fairlawn Mennonite Church in Apple Creek. They will speak on the topic "How to Be Married and Still Be Friends."

In addition to speaking at the seminar, the Chapmans will present a concert on Saturday, March 23, which is included for those registered for the seminar. Those interested in the concert only may purchase tickets at the door for \$10 on a first come, first served basis. The concert also will take place at Fairlawn Mennonite Church.

Seminar hours are Friday, March 22, from 6 to 8:45 p.m. and Saturday, March 23, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., The concert will begin at 7 p.m. Saturday.

The Chapmans have authored books, are recording artists and have appeared as guests on numerous radio and television programs over the years. Steve and Annie were the



guest speakers at the 2009 Lasting Flame Marriage Seminar. Their stated ministry goal is this: "Believing that the family is under severe attack, we want to put our efforts toward encouraging husbands and wives, mothers and fathers, and children of all ages to pursue righteousness. Like spokes in a wagon wheel, as each family member draws near the hub, Jesus Christ, they will indeed be drawn closer to each other. Putting Christ at the center of a home is the key to a healthy family!"

Registration information can be found online at www.lastingflame.org or by calling (330) 621-1783 or (330) 465-2866. Cost for the seminar is \$100 per couple for those registering by March 15, and \$130 per couple if registering after that date.

Planners for the Lasting Flame Marriage Seminar come from Wayne and Holmes counties and include members of Chestnut Ridge Mennonite Church.

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For more information about the Ohio Conference, see the Conference website: www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Spring brings workshops, retreats

This spring members of Ohio Conference congregations have the opportunity to take part in a variety of workshops, retreats and other events sponsored by the Ohio Con-

ference and by other related organizations. More information about the events featured here can be found on the Ohio Conference website at www.ohiomennoniteconference.org.

Conference networking event to focus on engaging the community

Ohio Conference is sponsoring Church Renewal Institute: Engaging the Community, a networking event which will take place April 13 at the Quality Inn & Suites in Mansfield.

This event is an opportunity for congregations to hear stories about the creative ways four Ohio Conference congregations are engaging their communities. Presenters will come from Summit Mennonite (food pantry ministry), Salem Mennonite in

Wooster (cross-cultural worship), Oak Grove Mennonite in Smithville (Habitat for Humanity) and Kidron Mennonite (Living Among).

Cost is \$10 per person or \$25 for three people from the same congregation. The registration deadline for this event is March 29. Visit the Ohio Conference website to register online or download a flier with more information.



Supporting
healthy, growing
congregations

Seminar intended for small congregations

“Strengthening Your Small Congregation” is the title of a day-long event planned for Saturday, April 13, from 8:45 a.m.-4 p.m. at Camp Alexander Mack in Milford, Ind. The gathering will be devoted to encouraging and equipping pastors and lay leaders of small congregations. It is designed especially to reach those in Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio. Keynote leadership will be provided by Margaret Marcuson, whose presentation will be on the topic “Leaders Who Last: Sustaining Yourself in Small Church Ministry.”

Cost for this event is \$50 for the first person from each congregation

and \$25 for each additional person attending from the same congregation. A flier with more information can be found in the “Events”

section of the Ohio Conference website. To register, go to www.brethren.org/training/small-churches.



Camp Luz to host Hispanic Retreat

The annual Ohio Conference Hispanic Retreat will take place May 17-19 at Camp Luz, 152 Kidron Road, Orrville.

This is the 10th year for the retreat, which brings together Hispanics

from various churches in Ohio. Activities are planned for adults, youth and children. For more information about the retreat, contact Haroldo Nunez at Haroldo_nunes@yahoo.com.br.

Pastors' wives retreat set for April 12-14

Ohio Conference will hold a retreat especially for pastors' wives April 12-14, 2013, at the Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center in Fremont, Ohio. **March 11** is the deadline to register for this retreat, which has been planned by the Northwest Ohio

Pastors' Wives Group. The theme will be “Sometimes I Don't Feel Very Spiritual.” Registration cost is \$150 per person. Visit the Ohio Conference website to register online or to download a brochure with more information and a registration form.

Sister Care Seminar comes to Bluffton

First Mennonite Church in Bluffton will host a Sister Care Seminar April 26-27 for women from the Ohio Conference and Central District Conference. First Mennonite Church is located at 101 S. Jackson St., Bluffton, Ohio.

This event, which is held under the auspices of Mennonite Women USA, is intended to equip women for caring ministry.

Presenters Carolyn Heggen and Rhoda Keener have led seminars across the country and in India to women interested in gathering with other women to learn ways to integrate scripture, prayer, self-care, and their individual gifts (including some they don't know they have) in caring ministry.

According to Heggan and Keener, “Sister Care seminars validate women's gifts of caring and equip them to respond more effectively and confi-



Rhoda Keener and Carolyn Heggen

dently to the needs of others in their lives and in the congregation.”

The Sister Care Seminar will take place Friday evening, April 26, from 7 to 9 p.m. and continue on Saturday, April 27, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Refreshments and meals will be included. The registration fee is \$35, and in-home lodging is available upon request.

A registration form can be found in the “Events” section of the Ohio Conference website. For more information, contact FMC@Bluffton.edu or call the church at (419) 358-5766.

Spring Day of Inspiration is April 6

Ohio Mennonite Women will hold their annual Spring Day of Inspiration April 6 at Salem Mennonite Church, 4275 W. State Road, Elida, Ohio.

Featured speaker for the day will be Kathy Dickson, director of career development at Bluffton University.