

## Conference Calendar

### MAY

- 6 Worship Resourcing Seminar, Sonnenberg Mennonite, Kidron
- 8 Jewish and Palestinian Voices for Peace, Lima Mennonite
- 10 Jewish and Palestinian Voices for Peace, Zion Mennonite, Archbold

### JUN

- 16-17 Black Swamp Benefit, Fulton County Fairgrounds, Wauseon
- 16-18 Hispanic Families Retreat, Camp Luz, Kidron

### JUL

- 4-8 Mennonite Church USA Convention, Orlando, Florida

### AUG

- 4-5 Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale, Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster
- 11-12 Girls Jamboree, Camp Luz, Kidron

### SEPT

- 15-17 Women's Retreat, Camp Luz, Kidron

### NOV

- 10-12 Pastor-Spouse Retreat, Mohican State Park Lodge, Perrysville

## Gathering Place is for youth leaders

The Gathering Place is an interactive website for Anabaptist youth leaders to find connection, resourcing, networking, mentoring and spiritual formation. Check out the website at [www.thegatheringplace.us](http://www.thegatheringplace.us). You can subscribe to receive the latest



information from the Gathering Place.

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](http://www.ohiomennoniteconference.org)

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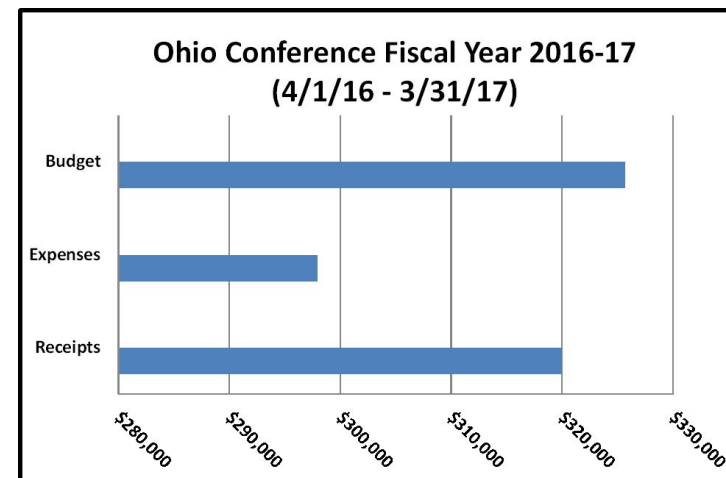
## Conference ends 2016-17 in the black

For the first time since March 2011, Ohio Conference has ended its fiscal year in the black, according to figures provided by Conference Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth. On March 31, 2017, the Conference finished the 2016-17 fiscal year with an operating surplus of \$22,095.

The Conference's total expenses for the month of March were \$20,905, and receipts for the month totaled \$33,698, including \$28,787 in congregational giving. Giving by individuals during March totaled \$4,890. Our thanks go out to everyone who responded generously

to the Conference's end-of-year fundraising letter.

The last time previously in which the Conference ended the fiscal year with a surplus was in 2010-11.



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## Voices for Peace Tour coming to Ohio

The Jewish and Palestinian Voices for Peace Tour, sponsored by Mennonite Church USA, is coming to Ohio in May with stops at three Ohio congregations. Dates and locations are as follows:

- May 7 — Columbus Mennonite Church, 9:30 a.m.
- May 8 — Lima Mennonite Church, 7 p.m.
- May 10 — Zion Mennonite Church, 6:30 p.m.

tinian Arabs and Israeli Jews need to live free, dignified and whole lives in the land.

The Jewish and Palestinian Voices for Peace Tour is one effort to implement the Mennonite Church USA “Israel/Palestine Partners in Peacemaking” resolution, which was adopted in 2015. (A separate resolution on Israel/Palestine that was tabled at the 2015 Convention is coming back to delegates this summer following further study and revision.) The goal of



At these programs Amy Shuster, a representative of Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) Central Ohio chapter, will partner with Jonathan Kuttab, a prominent Mennonite Palestinian human rights lawyer, on this leg of the cross-country speaking tour, exploring diverse perspectives on Israel/Palestine and prospects for peace in the current political climate. Audiences will be invited to take part in a shared vision of what Pales-

the tour is to raise the profile of Jewish and Palestinian groups in America who are working for peace in Israel-Palestine, according to Jonathan Brennenman, one of the tour organizers. “We are especially excited that Mennonites will be introduced to JVP members who live in their communities,” he said. The tour also includes stops in North Carolina, Kansas, Pennsylvania, Texas, Indiana, Illinois and Virginia.

## Pastor-Spouse Retreat set for Nov. 10-12

Ohio Conference will hold a Pastor-Spouse Retreat Nov. 10-12 at the Mohican State Park Lodge in Perrysville. Presenters for the weekend will be James Lapp and Miriam Book. Tim Shue will be the worship leader for this event.

The Ministry Development Team of Ohio Conference encourages congregations to gift this weekend to their pastors by paying the registration fee and not counting this time away as vacation. This retreat is specifically designed to provide opportunities to nurture couples who experience the unique challenges and stresses of ministry.



The first 25 couples to submit their completed registration with payment will receive a reduced registration rate of \$210 for the retreat, thanks to sponsorship from Mennonite Mutual, Hummel Group, Lehman's, P.

Graham Dunn, Oak Grove (Smithville) Endowment Fund and the Mennonite Women's Group of Kidron Mennonite Church. The registration cost for all other couples is \$410. Registration

and payment are due by Sept. 1.

A brochure with more information about this retreat is on the Ohio Conference website. Go to <http://bit.ly/2017Pastor-Spouse> to download a copy.

## Conference will no longer print *Evangel*

Beginning with the March-April issue, the Ohio Conference is no longer printing copies of *Ohio Mennonite Evangel*. Every two months congregations will receive *Ohio Mennonite Evangel* via email, and each congregation is asked to forward the publication to its members. If you would like to have your email address



added to the mailing list, send your email address to Ann Leaman at [ohioevangel@gmail.com](mailto:ohioevangel@gmail.com).