

Perspective



www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

Editor: Ann H. Leaman 5854 Sunland St. N.E., Louisville OH 44641 Phone: (330) 453-0150 Email: ohioevangel@gmail.com

Year of Covenant Meeting set for May 11

The first Ohio Conference Year of Covenant Meeting will take place Wednesday, May 11, at Sharon Mennonite Church in Plain City. "Growing Together in Spirit and Truth" will be the theme of this meeting, which is for credentialed leaders from around the Conference, including retired pastors. They will meet together from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. for a day filled with times of worship, learning and discerning together.

In this first event credentialed leaders will explore how bringing together the dynamics of

- making covenant together as God has made with us
- identifying shared values in the Confession of Faith and other understandings
- understanding our lives as those sent into God's missional endeavor

might allow us to find both peace and empowerment in being God's people in mission together as Ohio Conference.

Please see the attached flier for details. All credentialed leaders are asked to RSVP to Judy King at ohmc@zoominternet.net or 330-857-5421 no later than **Wednesday, May 4.**

George O'Reilly begins new position

The Ohio Conference Leadership Team has asked George O'Reilly, who previously served as Transitional Conference Leader, to serve as Year of Covenant Facilitator on a half-time basis. This position is for the 2016-17 Conference year, which runs from April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017. As part of his new duties, he will be facilitating the Year of Covenant Meeting on May 11.

Prayer session set for noon today

The Ohio Conference Leadership Team will be meeting for prayer via GoToMeeting today, April 21, from noon to 12:30 p.m.

If you would like to join the prayer session, please follow these instructions:

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 Ohio Conference Ministry Development Team will meet on Monday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to noon at the public library in Upper Sandusky.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

- Pastor(s)
 - Church chairperson
 - Youth sponsor(s)
 - Delegates
 - Duplicate for other church leaders
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You may join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone by clicking on this link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/791206949>

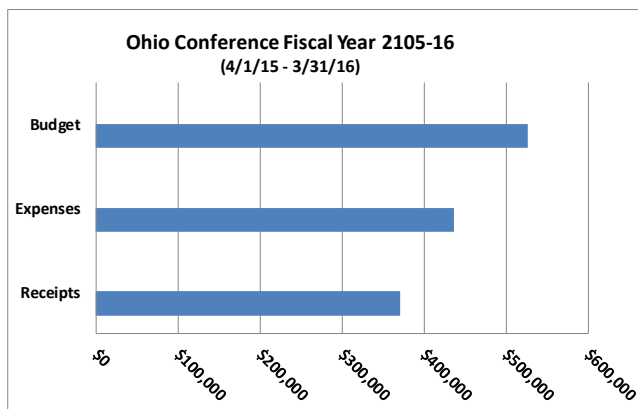
You can also dial in using your phone:

United States : +1 (408) 650-3123

Access Code: 791-206-949

Conference ends 2015-16 with a deficit

Ohio Conference ended its 2015-16 fiscal year March 31 with an operating balance of -\$65,209. The Conference operating deficit was reduced slightly during March.



Receipts for the month of March totaled \$41,194, while expenses for the month were \$34,714.

Total receipts for 2015-16 were \$371,097, a decrease from the \$425,337 received in 2014-15. Total expenses for the year were \$436,386, which is less than the amount of spending called for in the 2015-16 spending plan, \$526,170.

The 2016-17 spending plan approved by delegates at Annual Conference Assembly plans for a reduced amount of spending, \$325,723. To see the 2016-17 spending plan, go to the "Assembly Documents" page of the Ohio Conference website: <http://bit.ly/ACADocuments>.

Salem Mennonite in Elida plans celebrations

Salem Mennonite Church in Elida is celebrating 175 years as a congregation during 2016. The church has planned a series of events to celebrate not only the congregation's history but also the history of the surrounding area and Anabaptist Christian traditions.

On May 22 John Roth, professor of history at Goshen College, will be the guest speaker in one of the first of these special programs. He will speak during the 10:30 a.m. worship service and during a program at 1 p.m., focusing on the Anabaptist story in the 21st Century. Please see the enclosed flier for further information on upcoming programs.

Hesston seeks candidates for president

Hesston College is seeking candidates for the position of president of the college. Please see the enclosed job description for details.

Tax refund perspective

Retailers offer special promotions this time of year, encouraging people to buy new mattresses or TVs with their income tax refunds.

Everence would like to offer a different idea. Taxpayers may use their refunds to help charities advance their missions – and the donors can lower their own taxable income for their 2016 tax returns in the process. See the Ohio Conference website for more details: <http://bit.ly/TaxRefundDonations>.

Staff perspective

Year of Covenant Facilitator George O'Reilly discusses the health of the Body of Christ in the latest installment of his newsletter, *Grapevine*.

Perspective deadlines

May 2 for May 5 issue

May 16 for May 19 issue