News for Church Leaders

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Perspective



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Leadership Team would like to hear from you

The Ohio Conference Leadership Team has begun a process designed to call a person to serve the Conference as a half-time Missional Leader. The first steps are to gather feedback to help shape this new position and to solicit names of potential candidates for this position. The Leadership Team has sent a brief online survey to Ohio Conference pastors and delegates. Anyone else interested in completing this is survey is invited to participate. To complete the survey, go to <u>https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSep6_dGt_a--</u>rloWzpUm3vRlmNjssqep9cwPXRx8AWRJjinMg/viewform? usp=sf_link.

Your participation will give the Leadership Team helpful information as the process unfolds. Thank you for your time and thoughtful responses! Please complete the survey before **June 5**.

Podcast: Learning more about The Mennonite — a conversation with Hannah Heinzekehr

What exactly is the relationship between Mennonite Church USA and The Mennonite? In the latest episode of the Ohio Conference Cast, hosts Thomas Dunn and Bill Seymour explore that question with Hannah Heinzekehr, executive director of The Mennonite Inc. During the podcast they also learn more about the online presence of *The Mennonite*, and they hear a bit about Hannah's own experience as a podcaster. (She and



With hosts Thomas Dunn and Bill Seymour

Jason Boone of the Peace and Justice Support Network are hosts for the <u>PeaceLab Podcast</u> which is produced by *The Mennonite* and the Peace and Justice Support Network.)

You can listen to this episode of the Ohio Conference Cast on <u>iTunes</u> (search for "Ohio Conference Cast") or find it on the Ohio Conference website: <u>www.ohiomennoniteconference.org/</u><u>podcasts</u>.

Perspective: 1) The interrelation in which a subject or its parts are mentally viewed. 2) Point of view; capacity to view things in their relative importance.

Prayer perspective

Please pray for wisdom and guidance for the Ohio Conference Leadership Team members as they continue to work on the search for a new Conference Missional Leader.

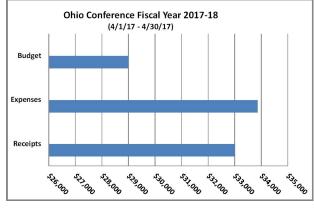
Please distribute Perspective *copies to:*

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

Conference ends April with slight deficit

Ohio Conference ended the first month of the 2017-18 fiscal year with a slight deficit, according to figures provided by Ohio Conference Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth. Receipts for the month of April totaled \$33,015, including \$28,693 in

congregational giving. Expenses for the month were \$33,861, resulting in an operating balance of -\$846 for the month. The Ohio Conference fiscal year runs from April 1 to March 31.



Ervin Stutzman to hold meetings in Ohio

Ervin Stutzman, executive director of Mennonite Church USA, is traveling through Ohio, and Ohio Conference has set up two meetings for delegates, pastors and other interested persons to meet Ervin. Those attending will hear him share about the upcoming MC USA convention in Orlando and the Future Church Summit, which will take place at the convention.

The two meetings will be held in early June:

- June 8 Salem Mennonite Church in Elida, 7-8:30 p.m.
- June 9 Salem Mennonite Church in Kidron, 7-8:30 p.m.

MC USA Archives to host open house

Mennonite Church USA Archives is hosting an open house on Thursday, June 1, from 2 to 4 p.m. at its new location in Elkhart (3145 Benham Ave., Suite 1, Elkhart, Indiana). A short dedication program will take place at 3 p.m. Come join us as we dedicate the new space and celebrate the many people whose service and generosity have sustained the work of the archives for the last 80 years. All are welcome to attend!

Bible studies for youth to be livestreamed

The Mennonite Inc. is teaming up with Michele Hershberger, professor of Bible at Hesston College, to offer a series of four virtual Bible studies for junior and senior high youth groups in June. Whether your youth groups are headed to the Mennonite Church USA convention in Orlando this summer or not, they'll be sure to benefit from Michele's four-week Bible study series focusing on the theme "Love is a Verb." Michele will offer input on four Wednesdays: June 7, 14, 21 and 28 from 8-9 p.m. EDT. Youth groups also will have a chance to share their stories and input with Michele. The events will be livestreamed. For more information, visit <u>https://themennonite.org/love-verb-virtual-bible-study-series-michele-hershberger/</u>.

Seminary perspective

Did you know that Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary offers tuition discounts and scholarships (\$1,500 per academic year) to current and former voluntary service workers? Enrollment must occur within five years of completion of the voluntary service assignment. Apply now, or tap a shoulder! See <u>ambs.edu/admissions/</u> voluntary-service-scholarships.

Naming perspective

Over the past 30 years, the leaders of Mennonite World Conference (MWC) have been in conversation around the possibility of a name change. See the Mennonite World Conference website for more information: <u>http://bit.ly/</u> <u>MWCName</u>.

Perspective *deadlines*

June 5 for June 8 June 26 for June 29