

Conference Calendar

JUN

- 17 Town Hall Meeting with Ervin Stutzman, Kidron Mennonite Church
- 18 Town Hall Meeting with Ervin Stutzman, First Mennonite Church, Bluffton
- 19 Town Hall Meeting with Ervin Stutzman, West Clinton Mennonite Church, Wauseon
- 20-21 Black Swamp Benefit, Fulton County Fairgrounds, Wauseon

JUL

- 17 "How Can We Keep from Singing...and Eating?," Leetonia Mennonite

AUG

- 1-2 Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale, Buckeye Event Center, Dalton
- 8-10 Girls' Jamboree, Camp Luz
- 9 Special Delegate Session, Martins Creek Mennonite, Millersburg
- 15-16 Youth Leadership Project Retreat, Camp Luz

SEPT

- 13 Leadership and Anxiety in the Church Seminar, Central Mennonite, Archbold
- 19-21 Ohio Mennonite Women's Retreat, Camp Luz
- 26 Creating Congregational Cultures of Generosity Workshop, Jubilee Mennonite, Bellefontaine

OCT

- 18 Adriel Benefit Auction, 500 N. Detroit St., West Liberty
- 31 Creating Congregational Cultures of Generosity Workshop, Jubilee Mennonite, Bellefontaine

NOV

- 21-23 Retreat for Pastors' Wives, St. Francis Spirituality Center, Tiffin, Ohio

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For more information about the Ohio Conference, see the

Conference website: www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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JUNE 2014

MC USA executive director to hold town hall meetings in Ohio

A series of "town hall" meetings with Ervin Stutzman, executive director of Mennonite Church USA, will be held on three consecutive nights in Ohio.

Meetings will take place June 17 at Kidron Mennonite Church, June 18 at First Mennonite Church in Bluffton, and June 19 at West Clinton Mennonite Church in Wauseon.

The format of the evening will be a short update from Ervin followed by a time of questions and conversation with those gathered.

All three meetings will begin at 7 p.m. and are scheduled to last 90 minutes. All are invited to come with their questions, concerns, hopes and fears for the church.

In conjunction with the town hall



Ervin Stutzman

meetings, Ervin Stutzman also plans to meet with pastors in a series of lunch meetings hosted by local churches.

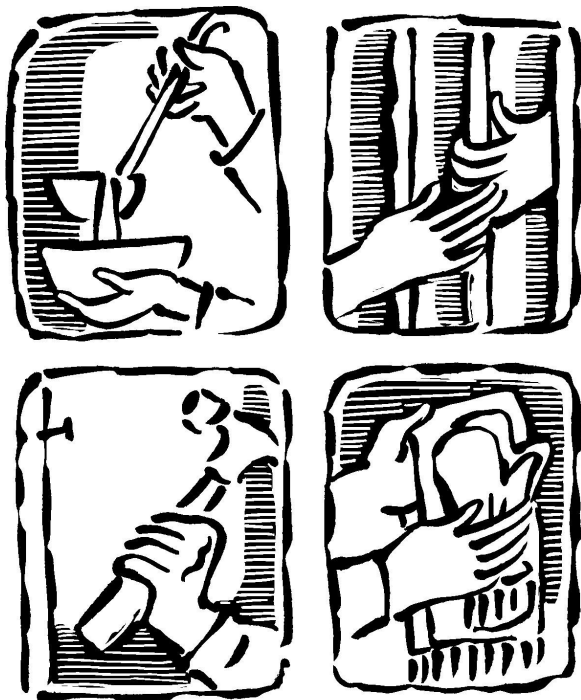
Supporting
healthy, growing
congregations

Grants to benefit local ministries

Is your congregation looking for ways to fund a ministry that impacts your community? For the third year in a row, the Ohio Conference Ministry Development Team (MDT) is accepting proposals for grants to benefit local ministries. **This year \$36,414 is available for grants.**

The grant program began in 2012-13 at the recommendation of the Stewardship Ministry Team, which suggested to delegates at the 2012 Annual Conference Assembly in Berne, Ind., that 20 percent of the Conference's surplus funds be used for congregational projects. (These surplus funds have accumulated from years in which the Conference ended the fiscal year with a surplus.)

In its decision making process, the Ministry Development Team will give priority to projects that are new initiatives and projects which could not be carried out without the grant funding. Please note that these are one-time grants, and the grant mon-



ey is not intended to be used for staffing.

The deadline to submit a grant proposal is **Aug. 8**. Congregations may apply online or through the mail.

The Ministry Development Team will consider all grant proposals at its Aug. 25 meet at Wooster Mennonite Church.

To apply online or to download a printed copy of the grant request form, go to www.ohiomennoniteconference.org and click on "Grants."

Songfest and food event to be held July 17 at Leetonia Mennonite

LEETONIA, OH — "How Can We Keep from Singing...and Eating?" will be held Thursday, July 17, at Leetonia Mennonite Church, 764 Columbia St. (Rt. 344), Leetonia, Ohio. Food events will begin at 5 p.m., and the free concert and singing will begin at 7 p.m.

This night of song, group singing and local food is co-hosted by Leetonia, Midway and North Lima Mennonite churches and supported by local farm, business and individual sponsors.

Four young-adult musicians are collaborating to create an evening of performance and congregational singing. **Adrian Labra**, a senior accounting student at Youngstown State University, fronts the Labra Brothers Band. They play in many local venues, and are the worship band at Midway Mennonite Church on the second Sunday of each month. The Labras tend toward Latin rock and folk in their renderings.

Two members of The Walking Roots Band, **Greg Yoder and Seth Crissman**, will bring their "Hymn Reclamation Project" passion to this

event. They will be in town due to their performance with Ted Swartz at The Dutch Village Inn dinner theater in Columbiana, reprising the *St. John's Revival* show they are also doing there in June. They tend toward "new grass-mountain music" in style.

Aubrey Helmuth Miller from Kidron is the fourth musician. She served with the MCC-SALT program in Bolivia and taught in Virginia. She is a banjo player with a love for mountain music.

Youngstown local-food chef Adam Lee will be serving a catered meal (\$14). Several local farms are donating their crops for his use. There is also a potluck supper option for those who wish to bring salad and desserts to accompany hot sandwiches provided by the church.

Pre-registration is required by July 8 for either meal option. Call (330) 427-6827 or email leetoniamennonite@yahoo.com to register.

Any proceeds from the evening will be split between Whitestone Ministries of Lisbon and Open Arms Hispanic Ministry of Kidron.

