

Perspective



Ohio Conference
of Mennonite
Church USA

www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Ministry Development Team awards grants

The Ohio Conference Ministry Development Team (MDT) has awarded eight grants totaling \$21,614. The MDT approved the grants at its Aug. 1 meeting. Funding for these grants comes from surplus funds that had accumulated during years in which the Conference ended its fiscal year with a surplus.

Grants will provide funding toward the following projects:

Connexus (a developing conflict management center for Holmes and Wayne counties) — Mediation training grants for volunteers, educational services for the public, and publicity and marketing

Huber Mennonite — Renovation of a 40' x 60' steel building for use in church outreach activities and community use

Lighthouse Ministries of Canton — Peace curriculum and team-building curriculum for use with grade school students in an after-school program

MennoMedia — Development of a new hymnal for congregations in Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada

Salem Mennonite (Waldron, Mich.) — Development of a welcome area in the congregation's new worship facility, with a coffee house-style atmosphere in part of the gathering area

Salem Mennonite (Wooster) — Playground set for the church grounds

Toledo Mennonite and partnering organizations — Guns into Garden Tools event in Toledo, to be held in Toledo Oct. 29-30

Wayne County Five-Church Network — Funds for Chestnut Ridge Mennonite, Crown Hill Mennonite, Martins Mennonite, Orrville Mennonite and Salem Mennonite of Wooster to work with consultant JR Rozko to develop their missionary competencies in their local setting

Register now for pastors' educational event

A reminder for pastors: Ohio Conference and Everence would like to honor active and credentialed pastors serving in Ohio Conference congregations and their spouses with a relaxing and free

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.

Youth worker perspective

Friday, Sept. 9, is the registration deadline for the Ohio Conference Youth Worker Retreat, which will be held Sept. 30-Oct. 1 at Camp Luz in Kidron. Featured speakers will be Dr. Randy Keeler, associate professor of religion at Bluffton University; and Brent Lacey, author of the book *Rural Youth Ministry: Thrive Where You're Planted*. To register, go to <http://bit.ly/2016OCYouthWorkerRetreat>.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

overnight trip to Cincinnati on Sept. 9-10. Enjoy a dinner cruise, a stay at the Embassy Suites Hotel and a tour of the Underground Railroad Freedom Center, in addition to receiving valuable financial education from Everence. The registration deadline for this free event has been extended to **Wednesday, Aug. 24**. To register, go to <http://bit.ly/FinancialEducationforPastors>.

Giving to Conference decreases in July

Giving to the Ohio Conference decreased during July, according to figures provided by Finance Coordinator Stan Helmuth. Receipts for July totaled just \$15,062, down significantly from the amount received during June, which was \$24,751. Expenses for the month totaled \$22,103. As of July 31, the Conference's operating balance for the first four months of the fiscal year was -\$29,042.

Seminar to focus on missional essentials

Berlin Mennonite Church will host a one-day seminar, "Missional Essentials: Engaging God's mission where you live, work and play," on Oct. 29. The facilitators of this seminar will be Brad Brisco and Lance Ford, who were the presenters at the "Becoming Missional" training event at Central Mennonite Church in March 2016 prior to Annual Conference Assembly. Please see the enclosed flier for details about this seminar.

Transitional ministry training offered

Amigo Centre will host a Transitional Ministry Training retreat Oct. 31-Nov. 4 for individuals interested in pursuing this type of ministry. Transitional ministry has a unique place in the mission of the church. While interim pastors have provided preaching and pastoral care for many years, transitional ministry involves training to lead congregations through a process of preparation for entering a new chapter of leadership. Please see the enclosed brochure for more details about this retreat or visit <http://tmt.amigocentre.org/> for additional information.

Conference to focus on faith formation

A conference for individuals concerned about faith formation is coming to Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) in Elkhart, Indiana, this fall. **Deep Faith: Anabaptist Faith Formation for All Ages** will be held Oct. 6-8 at the seminary.

Keynote speakers for the event include **John Roberto** of LifelongFaith Associates; **Rachel Miller Jacobs**, assistant professor of congregational formation at AMBS; and **Brian Quan**, pastor of Toronto Chinese Mennonite Church.

Early registration costs will be \$125 for adults and \$50 for students until Sept. 14. See the enclosed flier for details or go to mennoniteusa.org/deepfaith.

Covenant perspective

Maple Grove Mennonite Church in Hartville will host Event Two of the Ohio Conference Year of Covenant. This meeting for credentialed leaders will take place Wednesday, Sept. 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information about this event, please see the enclosed flier and the letter from George O'Reilly, Year of Covenant Facilitator. RSVP by **Wednesday, Sept. 21**, to Judy King at 330-857-5421 or ohmc@zoominternet.net.

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George O'Reilly, Ohio Conference Year of Covenant Facilitator, has assembled a group of five people from across the Ohio Conference to serve as the Year of Covenant Strategy and Planning Group. The group includes **Megan Troyer** of Pike Mennonite Church in Elida, **Dan Hooley** of Friendship Mennonite Church in Bedford Heights, **Myron Weaver** of Berlin Mennonite Church, **Marilyn Grasse-Brubaker** of Central Mennonite Church in Archbold, and **Rod Miller** of Maple Grove Mennonite Church in Hartville.

Perspective deadlines

Aug. 29 for Sept. 1
Sept. 12 for Sept. 15
