

Perspective



www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Ministry Development Team awards grants

The Ohio Conference Ministry Development Team (MDT) has awarded six grants totaling \$22,100. The MDT approved the grants at its Aug. 23 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:

Wheelhouse — A Christian Bike Cooperative — Wheelhouse is a ministry located in Lima, Ohio, which refurbishes bicycles and makes them available for people in need. Salem Mennonite and Pike Mennonite in Elida are partnering in this ministry with Elm Street Church of the Brethren in Lima, with support from various other local churches.

Branches of Hope — Ramas de Esperanza — Millersburg Mennonite Church is working to form Branches of Hope — Ramas de Esperanza, a ministry to support Hispanic immigrants in Holmes County.

Laughter is Sacred Space — Southside Mennonite in Springfield, Huber Mennonite in New Carlisle and the local chapter of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), are partnering to bring the drama *Laughter is Sacred Space*, performed by Ted & Co., to Springfield in the spring of 2018.

Wayne County Five-Church Network — Crown Hill Mennonite, Chestnut Ridge Mennonite, Martins Mennonite, Orrville Mennonite, and Salem Mennonite of Wooster are working together to hold a marriage retreat.

RAW Tools — Toledo Mennonite Church, Shalom Counseling and Mediation Center, Colorado-based RAW Tools, and Creative Peaceful Resistance (CPR) are working together to form a Great Lakes chapter of RAW Tools in Toledo. RAW Tools is a non-profit organization focused on peacemaking, and plans are for the Great Lakes chapter to provide conflict resolution and restorative justice services for Toledo.

“Reading the Bible with Jesus” — A group of congregations including Martins Mennonite in Orrville, First Mennonite in

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.

Orientation perspective

The New Pastor Orientation, scheduled for Sept. 10-11 has been canceled. Scheduling conflicts for several pastors resulted in a low number of pastors able to attend the orientation in September. The Conference staff plans to reschedule the orientation for a later date, possibly in the summer of 2018.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

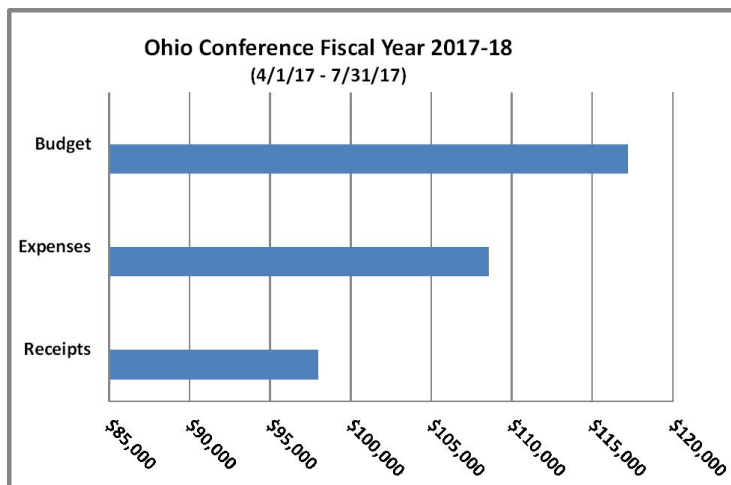
- Pastor(s)
 - Church chairperson
 - Youth sponsor(s)
 - Delegates
 - Duplicate for other church leaders
-

Canton, Summit Mennonite in Barberton, and Sonnenberg Mennonite and Salem Mennonite in Kidron are working together to bring Bryan Moyer Suderman of Kitchener, Ontario, to Ohio to lead a weekend of scriptural study titled “Reading the Bible with Jesus” Feb. 16-17.

Conference deficit increases during July

Ohio Conference’s deficit increased during July, according to figures provided by Ohio Conference Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth. Receipts for July totaled \$19,041, including \$14,910 in congregational giving.

Expenses for the month totaled \$27,256, resulting in an operating balance of -\$8,215 for the month. The year-to-date operating balance at the end of July was -\$10,594.



Online course to focus on scripture

AMBS online short course: Understanding Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture: Oct. 25 – Dec. 12, 2017. The early Anabaptists’ approaches to Scripture were both similar to and different from those of Catholics and other Protestants. Loren Johns, Ph.D., will lead this interactive online Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary short course on understanding these approaches in light of today. The cost is \$200 before Oct. 4, and \$250 after. CEUs are available. See www.ambs.edu/lifelong-learning/anabaptist-short-courses.

MDS scheduling volunteers for fall

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) is now scheduling volunteers for its fall projects. MDS will be working in the following locations from Oct. 8–Dec. 15:

- [Lake County, California](#) – Wildfires
- [Pine Ridge, South Dakota](#) – Straight Line Winds
- [Lafayette, Louisiana](#) – Flooding
- [Greenbrier, West Virginia](#) – Flooding
- [West Virginia Bridges](#) – Flooding

To register to volunteer, go to <https://mds.mennonite.net/volunteer-registration>.

Volunteer perspective

Sunshine Inc. of Northwest Ohio is seeking volunteers to help with its annual Walk, Run and Roll fundraiser on Saturday, Sept. 9. The event will take place from 6:30 a.m. to noon at Monclova Elementary School, 8035 Monclova Road, Monclova. Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks. See the enclosed flier for details.

Perspective deadlines

Sept. 4 for Sept. 7
Sept. 18 for Sept. 21
