

# Perspective



Ohio Conference  
of Mennonite  
Church USA

[www.ohiomennoniteconference.org](http://www.ohiomennoniteconference.org)

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## ***Pastors' educational event planned***

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 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. As an extension of this weekend honoring pastors, we encourage congregations to give their pastors a Sunday off on Sept. 11.

Transportation will be provided from Kidron or Archbold (with a stop in Lima). A brochure with more information is included with this issue of *Perspective*. Registrations are due by Friday, Aug. 19. To register, go to <http://bit.ly/FinancialEducationforPastors>.

## ***Register now for Youth Worker Retreat***

Ohio Conference will hold a Youth Worker Retreat Sept. 31-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*. Please see the enclosed retreat brochure for details. The registration deadline for this retreat is **Friday, Sept. 9**. For more information or to register, go to <http://bit.ly/2016OCYouthWorkerRetreat>.

## ***Retreat for pastors' wives set for Nov. 11-13***

What is life in the parsonage like? Being a pastor's wife is a high calling and a great joy, a great responsibility and a great blessing. Pastors' wives, do you ever wonder if other pastors' wives experiences are similar to yours? How do they handle the struggles, lean on the blessing of this ministry and enjoy their high calling? During our Pastors' Wives Retreat on Nov. 11-13 at the St. Francis Spirituality Center in Tiffin, we will explore these thoughts as several women relate what life in the parsonage is like for them. We will have time to reflect on our own lives and participate in relaxing activities, crafts, and getting to know each other. Join us for a relaxing, kick-back, refreshing weekend.

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***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.***

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## ***Perspective inserts***

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*This issue of Perspective includes prayer requests from Mennonite Education Agency, bulletin announcements from Mennonite Church USA and the August issue of The Parish Paper.*

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## ***Please distribute Perspective copies to:***

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- Pastor(s)
  - Church chairperson
  - Youth sponsor(s)
  - Delegates
  - Duplicate for other church leaders
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To register for the retreat, contact the conference office at [ohmc@zoominternet.net](mailto:ohmc@zoominternet.net). Cost for the weekend is \$110. Church leadership teams are encouraged to cover the cost of this retreat for their pastor's wife/pastors' wives to attend.

### **Year of Covenant Meeting planned for fall**

Plans are well underway for Event Two of our Ohio Conference Year of Covenant. The event for credentialed leaders will be held Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2016, at Maple Grove Mennonite Church in Hartville from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Building on what we began to learn in Event One, we will be asking questions such as the following:

- “How would the relationships, partnerships and behaviors of Ohio Conference and our congregations be different if we emphasized a covenant relationship focused on joining God’s missional activity in our world?”
- “What patterns of relating and communicating could we put in practice that would create both stability and greater connection and intimacy in our relationships and interactions?”

Information about exact topics and final details on our presenter will follow soon.

Blessings to you in your summer!

— George O’Reilly, Facilitator of our Year of Covenant

### **Everence has resources for youth**

Everence continues to be a valuable resource to help us as we navigate our stewardship journey.

A great resource for youth is a three-session study called *Real life talk about money: navigating the money maze*.

The goal of this series is to introduce young people to real-life application of biblical principles about money so that young people will be prepared to make faithful, Christ-honoring financial decisions both now and in the future.

The best thing about this resource is that you are able to download and print all of these materials free from the Everence website: [everence.com/resources-for-youth](http://everence.com/resources-for-youth).

Please feel free to contact me at [loisbon1950@gmail.com](mailto:loisbon1950@gmail.com) with any questions you may have about resources you may need.

— Lois Bontrager, Resource Advocate

### **GC to offer study tour for high schoolers**

Goshen College’s new Study-Service Theology Term (SSTT) is currently seeking 20 high school applicants for a two-week study tour in Guatemala in June 2017. Students will be provided with the opportunity to explore their understandings of Jesus’ life and mission in light of contemporary challenges and their own sense of calling. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/2017SSTT>.

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### **Sale perspective**

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The Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale will take place this Friday and Saturday, Aug. 5-6, at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Wooster. See <http://www.ohiomccreliefsale.org> for a schedule and more details.

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### **Peace perspective**

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Richard Blackburn, executive director of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, will be leading “A Peacemaker’s Pilgrimage to the Holy Land” Jan. 11-22, 2017. Please see [www.lmpeacecenter.org/events/a-peacemakers-pilgrimage-to-the-holy-land/](http://www.lmpeacecenter.org/events/a-peacemakers-pilgrimage-to-the-holy-land/) for more information. A flier is included with this issue of *Perspective*.

Credentialed pastors, please note: Mennonite Church USA’s “Come and See Fund” will provide a minimum of a \$500 scholarship for any credentialed MC USA leaders who join the pilgrimage. To apply for a scholarship, contact Andre Gingerich Stoner at [AndreGS@MennoniteUSA.org](mailto:AndreGS@MennoniteUSA.org).

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### **Perspective deadlines**

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Aug. 15 for Aug. 18 issue  
Aug. 29 for Sept. 1

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