

Perspective



Ohio Conference
of Mennonite
Church USA

www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Thanks to all who participated in ACA

Many thanks to all who participated in Annual Conference Assembly (ACA) March 9-10 at Bluffton University. Two hundred seven people participated in ACA, including delegates from 41 congregations. One hundred eight people attended the pre-ACA Gathered and Sent Missional Conference with Meghan Good and Marvin Lorenzana at Bluffton University March 8-9.

ACA photos now online, video coming soon

Photos from ACA and the Gathered and Sent Missional Conference are posted on the Ohio Conference website and the Conference Facebook page. To view ACA photos, go to <http://bit.ly/ACAvideophotos>. To view missional conference photos, go to <http://bit.ly/2018MissionalConfPhotos>.

A brief video summary of ACA is in process. It should be available by the end of this week. It will be posted on Facebook and on the Conference website at <http://bit.ly/ACAvideophotos>.

Ohio Conference Cast focuses on the Wheelhouse

“We don’t feel like we were particularly gifted to do this. Every time, though, we were worried about something — like where would we store the bikes, how would we learn how to fix bikes — every time we were worried about that, something came forward. An answer came from God.” — Ginny Cress, speaking about the Wheelhouse, a bicycle ministry in Lima

In the latest episode of the Ohio Conference Cast podcast, hosts Thomas Dunn and Bill Seymour talk to Larry and Ginny Cress, members of Salem Mennonite Church in Elida, about the Wheelhouse, a ministry in Lima which helps provide bicycles for people needing transportation.

You can listen to this podcast on [iTunes](#) (search for “Ohio Conference Cast”) or find it on the Ohio Conference website: www.ohiomennoniteconference.org/podcasts. You can also listen to two other recent podcasts which focus on Annual Conference Assembly: [Evangelism and discipleship – how are they related?](#) and [Evangelism – Is Jesus Christ worth knowing for his own sake?](#)

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.

Service perspective

Calling everyone ages 15-22: Are you looking for a fun and meaningful way to serve this summer? There are a few spots left to join a 2018 Youth Venture team! See and join in the work God is doing in Ecuador, Peru, Spain, or Benin. Apply by **April 1**. Visit www.MennoniteMission.net/Serve to learn more, or contact John Murray at JohnM@MennoniteMission.net.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

Stewardship Ministry seeks volunteers

The Ohio Conference Stewardship Ministry Team has spent some time recently brainstorming ways to save money for the Conference. One possible area of focus is the expenses of the Conference office located in Kidron.

Consequently, the Stewardship Ministry would like to form a group to do a feasibility study. This group would review the current Conference office structure to see if/where/how costs may be trimmed. The group would be a volunteer-based, independent study group, looking at things such as technology use, and ways to increase effectiveness and reduce costs.

If you understand technology and operational efficiencies and would be interested in helping with this study, or you know someone who could be an asset to this volunteer group, please contact a member of the Stewardship Ministry.

Stewardship Ministry Team

Melanie Miller, co-chair — mgfmiller@gmail.com

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Shalom to host boundaries training April 21

Friday, April 6, is the registration deadline for the Healthy Boundaries training event at Shalom Counseling and Mediation Center in Archbold on April 21.

Healthy Boundaries training is mandatory for continued credentialing in the Ohio Conference. The Ohio Conference Credentialing Ministry is encouraging each congregation to send a layperson to the training along with the pastor to share the experience.

Cost of this training is \$25 per person. To learn more about Healthy Boundaries training, see <http://bit.ly/PromotingHealthyBoundaries>. To register online, go to <http://bit.ly/HealthyBoundariesApril21>.

Laughter is Sacred Space coming to Springfield

Laughter is Sacred Space, performed by Ted and Co., is coming to Springfield, Ohio, on Friday, May 4, at 7 p.m. at the John Legend Theater, 700 S. Limestone St., Springfield.

The event is a collaborative effort of Southside Mennonite Church, Huber Mennonite Church and NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) along with several mental healthcare resources. The Ohio Conference also has provided grant money in support of this event. See the enclosed flier for more details.

This performance is free and open to the public, but those attending are asked to reserve tickets through Eventbrite. Go to <http://bit.ly/LaughterSacredSpaceSpringfield> to reserve your ticket.

Prayer perspective

The Archbold Area Ministers met with pastors and administration from several different areas recently to talk about waging prayer in our schools. What resulted is the first of hopefully several prayer vigils at local schools. It took a little bit of convincing for one of the superintendents to let us into the school building, but I think it is doable.

We wanted to share this concept with Ohio Conference pastors and try to reach as many school districts as possible. See the attached document for more information.

Please consider this, and if you have any questions, call me at 419-551-1315.

— Jessica Schrock-Ringenberg,
Zion Mennonite Church

Perspective insert

This issue of *Perspective* includes bulletin announcements for March from Mennonite Church USA.

Perspective deadlines

April 2 for April 5 issue

April 16 for April 19 issue
