

Perspective



Ohio Conference
of Mennonite
Church USA

www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Ralph Reinford begins three-month leave

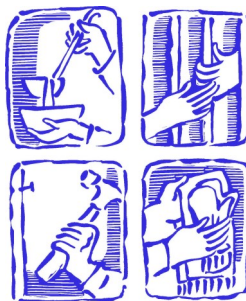
As was announced at Annual Conference Assembly, Regional Pastor Ralph Reinford is taking a three-month leave from his duties with Ohio Conference. His leave will last from May 1 until the end of July.

During May, June and July, contact Cliff Brubaker for any regional pastor work needed. Email Cliff at cliffbru7@gmail.com or call him at 517-398-2172.

For any other questions during Ralph's leave, please contact Judy King, Ohio Conference administrative assistant, at ohmc@zoominternet.net or 330-857-5421.

Apply for grants by Aug. 6

Is your congregation looking for ways to fund a ministry that impacts your community? **Aug. 6** is the deadline to submit a grant proposal to the Ohio Conference Ministry Development Team (MDT). The MDT is accepting proposals from Conference congregations and related organizations for projects and mission initiatives. This year the MDT has **\$24,282** available for grants.



Please note that this is a one-time grant, and grant monies are not intended to be used for staffing. You may either submit an online application or mail a printed application form to Ohio Conference, Box 210, Kidron OH 44636. The MDT will consider all grant proposals at its Aug. 23 meeting.

To apply online, go to <http://bit.ly/OCMinistryGrants>. A copy of the grant application is included with this issue of *Perspective*.

Prayer requested for conference minister search

Pray for the conference minister search: The Conference Minister Search Committee, consisting of Paula Snyder Belousek, Robb Esh, LaVonne Hartman, Jeff Hochstetler, John Rohrer and Bob Sauder, has begun accepting letters of interest and will do so through June 30. After June 30, the interview process will begin

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.

Perspective inserts

This issue of *Perspective* includes bulletin announcements from Mennonite Church USA, prayer requests from Mennonite Education Agency, the May-June issue of *Prayer Prompter* and the May issue of *The Parish Paper*.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

- Pastor(s)
 - Church chairperson
 - Youth sponsor(s)
 - Delegates
 - Duplicate for other church leaders
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with the goal of calling a new conference minister by Nov. 1.

One way that Ohio Conference congregations can support this search process is through prayer. Ohio Conference Prayer Coordinator Dan Hooley has begun making plans for Conference-wide prayer gatherings online via the GoToMeeting platform. Dates and times will be scheduled soon. Check the Ohio Conference website and upcoming issues of *Perspective* for notices about these online prayer sessions.

Ohio Conference Cast: Looking at Mennonite Education Agency and higher education

In the latest episode of the Ohio Conference Cast podcast, hosts Bill Seymour and Thomas Dunn are joined by Darrin Snyder Belousek and Carlos Romero, executive director of Mennonite Education Agency (MEA).

As part of this conversation, Bill and Darrin remind listeners about their role as members of The Voice, a task force which facilitates conversation between Ohio Conference congregations and Mennonite Church USA agencies. To learn more about this task force, you can listen to an earlier podcast: "[What is The Voice?](#)"

Darrin talks about the questions one congregation has raised about Mennonite colleges and seminaries, the *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective*, and the role Mennonite Education Agency plays in overseeing these institutions.

Carlos Romero addresses these questions and introduces listeners to a document dealing with the relationships between Mennonite Education Agency and these higher education institutions. This proposal is expected to go into effect July 1. A copy of this document is included with this issue of *Perspective*.

Pastor-Leadership Team Retreat planned

Save the Date: Ohio Conference will hold a Pastor-Leadership Team Retreat Oct. 26-27 at the Quality Inn & Suites in Bellville. Speaker Duane Beck will help church leadership teams consider the topic, "Leading the Church: Finding God in the Changes." Please see the enclosed card for more details.

The Mennonite invites submissions

The Mennonite, Inc., welcomes your original submissions for the July 2018 print magazine issue and corresponding online content focusing on the theme "Aging with Dignity." Submissions are due to Editor@TheMennonite.org no later than May 21, 2018. For more details, see <http://bit.ly/TheMennoniteJuly2018>.



With hosts Thomas Dunn and Bill Seymour

Volunteer perspective

The International Guest House in Washington, D.C., is seeking short-term summer volunteers. Please see the enclosed flier for more information.

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Mennonite Disaster Service has an urgent need for volunteers to serve in Puerto Rico, South Dakota, Texas and British Columbia. See the enclosed MDS Update for more details.

Young Adult perspective

"The church and young adults" is the theme of the Spring 2018 issue of *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology*. This free online journal is produced by Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary and Canadian Mennonite University. Go to <http://bit.ly/VisionSpring2018> to download any or all of the articles.

Perspective deadlines

May 14 for May 17 issue

June 4 for June 7 issue
