

# Perspective



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

---

Editor: Ann H. Leaman 5854 Sunland St. N.E., Louisville OH 44641 Phone: 330-453-0150 Email: [ohioevangel@gmail.com](mailto:ohioevangel@gmail.com)

---

## **Learn about Missional Discipleship Initiative**

Are you interested in nurturing discipleship in your congregation? Marvin Lorenzana, director of the Missional Discipleship Initiative (MDI) of Mennonite Mission Network, is offering three information sessions for Ohio Conference people about MDI. Each session is 30 minutes long and will take place online. The MDI is one of the main initiatives of the Missional Planning Team.

The online sessions will take place on these dates:

- Monday, July 16 — 11-11:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, July 17 — 11-11:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, July 24 — 11-11:30 a.m.

If you are interested in participating in one of these information sessions, email Jacob Dodson at [pastor@woostermennonite.org](mailto:pastor@woostermennonite.org).

## **Grant application deadline is Aug. 6**

Do you have more ideas for ministries than funds to make those ideas happen? Consider applying for an Ohio Conference Ministry Grant. 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. To submit your proposal, go to <http://bit.ly/OCMinistryGrants>.

## **Podcast explores church planting conference**

What happens when non-church planters — aka pastors from long-established churches — attend a church planting conference? And why would they even want to attend?

In this episode of the Ohio Conference Cast podcast, host Bill Seymour talks with Ohio Conference pastors Paula Snyder Belousek, Corben Weaver Boshart and Jessica Schrock-Ringenberg about their experience attending SENT 2018, a church planting conference which was held in Chicago this spring. SENT 2018 was sponsored by Mennonite Mission Network and Everence. The theme for the gathering was “From Jerusalem to Antioch,” focusing on the spread of the gospel message outward from the established church in Jerusalem.

---

***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.***

---

## ***Search perspective***

**O**n Monday, July 9, the Conference Minister Search Committee met to review candidates who have applied for the position.

The Committee plans to set up a first round of interviews for late July and early August. Please be in prayer for the candidates and the search committee during this process.

---

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

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

Listen to this podcast episode to learn what a “legacy” congregation is, and to find out what impressed Bill, Paula, Corben and Jessica most about this diverse gathering of church leaders from across Mennonite Church USA.

### **Stewardship Ministry seeks volunteers**

The Ohio Conference Stewardship Ministry has been considering ways to save money for the Conference. One area of focus is expenses of the Conference office located in Kidron. The Stewardship Ministry is seeking volunteers to conduct a feasibility study. This group will review the current Conference office structure to see if/where costs can be trimmed. If you would be willing to take part in this feasibility study, please contact Melanie Miller, Stewardship Ministry co-chair, at [mgfmiller@gmail.com](mailto:mgfmiller@gmail.com).

### **Your prayers are requested**

- Please pray for the Akron Community Swahili Church and pastor Benaya Wattina. The church’s elders have contacted Ohio Conference through Regional Pastor Ralph Reinford with a request for information about obtaining pastoral credentials through the Conference. The congregation meets in rented space on Sunday afternoons with about 100 attenders, half of whom are children and youth.
- Please continue to pray for the conference minister search process and committee members. And with inspiration from the Antioch Church (as found in Acts 13), we invite you to include fasting with your prayers.

— Dan Hooley, Ohio Conference prayer coordinator

### **Ohio Conference seeks vehicle**

There comes a time in any non-profit organization when a need arises outside of budgeted expenses. That time has come for the Ohio Conference. We have found that it is less expensive to provide a vehicle for staff persons who are expected to travel many miles to perform their duties than it is to pay them mileage to drive their own vehicles. We currently own two vehicles for our regional pastors. One has more than 150,000 miles and the other one more than 200,000 miles. With the expected hiring of a full-time conference minister in the near future, we have the need for another vehicle.

There also comes a time in everyone’s life when it is better for them and for everyone else to stop driving. We are looking to match up those two times.

So, if you find yourself in possession of a late model, low-mileage, fuel-efficient vehicle that you need to get rid of we would be glad to help you do that. Just contact Judy King (330-857-5421), Ohio Conference administrative assistant, with a description of the vehicle and a contact number. She will forward that information to the nearest Leadership Team or Stewardship Team member who will get in touch with you.

—Bob Sauder, Ohio Conference moderator

---

### ***Worship perspective***

---

**S**ave the date: Oct. 5-6, 2018, Central Mennonite Church in Archbold is hosting Rachel Miller Jacobs for a one-and-a-half-day workshop titled “Enhancing and Equipping for Worship.” Break-out workshops, worship, food, and fellowship are planned for this educational and inspirational experience for worship leaders and planners, lay persons and pastors. Brochures will be available in August. The Worship Ministry Team at Central Mennonite is planning this ecumenical conference.

---

---

### ***Retreat perspective***

---

**O**hio Conference invites all pastors and their leadership teams to an overnight retreat Oct. 26-27 in Bellville, Ohio. Duane Beck will provide input on the topic “Leadership Matters: Finding God in the Changes.” **Please note that for lodging purposes, the registration deadline for this retreat is somewhat early, Aug. 27.** For details or to register, go to <http://bit.ly/OCLeadershipRetreat2018>.

---

---

### ***Perspective insert***

---

**T**his issue of *Perspective* includes the July issue of *The Parish Paper*.

---

---

### ***Perspective deadlines***

---

July 23 for July 26 issue

Aug. 6 for Aug. 9 issue

---