

# Perspective



Ohio Conference  
of Mennonite  
Church USA

[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)

---

## **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.

The MDT will consider all grant proposals at its Aug. 23 meeting. To submit your proposal, go to <http://bit.ly/OCMinistryGrants>.

## **Conference operating deficit continues**

Ohio Conference's expenses were greater than receipts during June, according to figures provided by Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth. Expenses for the month were \$24,784, while receipts totaled just \$19,460, resulting in an operating balance of -\$5,324 for the month. For the first three months of the fiscal year, the Conference's operating balance stands at -\$23,435.

## **Missional Network training events scheduled**

Ohio Conference Missional Consultant Jessica Schrock-Ringenberg will be leading a second Missional Network training event during August and September. This training event will cover two focus areas: 1. Leadership Development and 2. Growing Missional Communities. See the [Missional Network page](#) for more details.

The training event will be offered three times:

- **Saturday, Aug. 18** — 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Zion Mennonite Church, Archbold
- **Tuesday, Aug. 28** — 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Mansfield/Richland County Public Library, Mansfield
- **Sunday, Sept. 9** — 4-8 p.m. at Lee Heights Community Church, Cleveland

In addition, on Thursday, Sept. 13, Jessica Schrock-Ringenberg will lead a training session from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Mansfield/

---

***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.***

---

---

## ***Prayer perspective***

---

**T**he Conference Minister Search Committee has scheduled its first round of interviews for next Monday and Tuesday, July 30 and 31. Please pray for the candidates and the search committee as they seek God's guidance in this process.

— Bob Sauder, Ohio  
Conference moderator

---

---

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

---

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

Richland County Library, Mansfield. This session will include information from both the June and August training events, covering three focus areas: 1. Moving Toward Missional, 2. Leadership Development, and 3. Growing Missional Communities.

To attend any of these trainings, RSVP to Jessica at [jsringenberg@gmail.com](mailto:jsringenberg@gmail.com).

### **'Reviving Hope' to focus on suicide prevention**

Camp Luz is sponsoring "Reviving Hope," a suicide prevention training event on Saturday, Sept. 22. The event will be held at Central Christian School in Kidron from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jay Trainer from NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will be the presenter.

The registration fee for this event is \$15 per person, which includes refreshments and lunch catered by Panera. To register, go to [www.campuz.com/reviving-hope.html](http://www.campuz.com/reviving-hope.html). An event flier is included with this issue of *Perspective*.

### **Podcast explores church planting and patience**

What role does patience play in the church planting process? In this episode of the Ohio Conference Cast, host Bill Seymour and his guest co-host, Paula Snyder Belousek, talk with Sally Youngquist of Living Water Community Church in Chicago, Illinois, about the process of planting that congregation. Listen to find out how many years it took for Living Water to transform from just an idea to small groups to an actual congregation.

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

### **Lockport Mennonite to host MDS fundraiser**

Ted & Co. is bringing its newest event, "Boots, Buckets & Barrows," to Lockport Mennonite Church in Stryker on Sunday, July 29, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. This event is part theater/part auction, to raise awareness, funds, and volunteers for Mennonite Disaster Service.

The event will feature the show *The Jesus Stories: Faith, Forks & Fettuccine*, written by and starring Ted Swartz, with original songs by Jeff Raught. To learn more about this event, see the [Ted & Co. website](#).

### **Retreat to focus on responses to climate change**

Camp Friedenswald in Cassopolis, Michigan, is hosting a retreat Sept. 17-19 with the theme "Who Cares about Climate Change? Pastoral Responses to Denial and Despair." This retreat will explore the effects of climate change on our brothers and sisters worldwide, our own locales, and ourselves.

The retreat is free to Mennonite pastors. Meals and lodging are included. Others pay \$225. Register by Aug. 31 at <https://www.mennocreationcare.org/retreat>.

---

## ***Financial perspective***

---

**A** reminder from the Stewardship Ministry Team:

At our Annual Conference Assembly in March delegates strongly affirmed the 2018-2019 budget. This budget allows us to hire a full-time conference minister.

Currently, our congregational support is not adequate to support our budget for 2018-2019.

Please consider increased support of our Conference needs, both as a congregation and as individuals. Your prayer and financial support will be sufficient! Thank you.

---

---

## ***Hotel perspective***

---

**T**he management of the Comfort Inn Millersburg and the Comfort Suites Berlin has a special offer for pastors of Ohio Conference congregations: Pastors may enjoy one free night of lodging per year at either the Millersburg or the Berlin location. The offer is good for one room on a **Sunday** night.

To take advantage of this offer, contact Jen Rangel at 330-893-7400 or [comfordsuitesberlin@gmail.com](mailto:comfordsuitesberlin@gmail.com). Mention that you are a pastor of an Ohio Conference congregation and that you would like to redeem the offer of one free night's lodging.

---

---

## ***Perspective deadlines***

---

Aug. 6 for Aug. 9 issue

Aug. 20 for Aug. 23 issue

---