

# Perspective



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

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## **Dick Barrett hired as conference minister**

The Ohio Conference Leadership Team has hired Dick Barrett of West Liberty to serve as conference minister of the Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA. Dick comes to the conference minister position after serving Oak Grove Mennonite Church in West Liberty, Ohio, for 16 years, the first four as associate pastor and the last 12 as lead pastor. To learn more about Dick Barrett, please see the Ohio Conference website: <http://bit.ly/ConfMinDickBarrett>.

## **Podcast features conversation with Dick Barrett**

In the latest episode of the Ohio Conference Cast podcast, hosts Thomas Dunn and Bill Seymour talk with Dick Barrett, the new conference minister for the Ohio Conference. Listen to this conversation to learn more about Dick's background, his journey to becoming an Anabaptist, and his hopes for the Ohio Conference in the coming years.

As a bonus, this episode also includes the debut of a new musical theme for the start of each episode. The theme is performed by Ohio Conference Cast listener Lucas Johnson, a member of Valley View Mennonite Church in Spartansburg, Pennsylvania.

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).

## **Ministry Development Team awards grants**

The Ohio Conference Ministry Development Team (MDT) has awarded seven grants totaling \$21,860. The MDT approved these grants at its Aug. 23 meeting. Funding for these grants comes from surplus funds that had accumulated during years in which the Conference ended its fiscal year with a surplus.

Grants will provide funding toward the following projects:

**The Server** — Crown Hill Mennonite Church is working with an ecumenical group of churches to open a café in Rittman called the Server. The emphasis of the café will be to provide a ministry

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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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## ***Worship perspective***

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***“Enhancing and Equipping for Worship”*** is coming to Central Mennonite Church Oct. 5-6. This event featuring speaker Rachel Miller Jacobs will include a variety of workshops. Register by Sept. 15 to receive the regular registration price, \$20 per person. For more information, see <http://bit.ly/2018WorshipWorkshop>.

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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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of presence, providing a space in town where people of all ages can feel safe hanging out and strengthening relationships. Snacks will be available, and patrons will have access to wifi.

**Mennonite & Brethren Marriage Encounter** — Open Arms Hispanic Ministry is partnering with several congregations (Salem Mennonite in Wooster, Orrville Mennonite, Chestnut Ridge Mennonite and Martins Mennonite) to hold a Marriage Encounter weekend at the Comfort Inn in Millersburg. The weekend presentation will be for both English and Spanish speakers.

**Tedrow Homework Table** — Tedrow Mennonite Church is providing a homework table program for youngsters in the Tedrow area. Volunteers work with the students on Tuesdays after school. Grant funds will help with costs of the program, as well as a fall field trip.

**Doxology Coffee Shop** — LifeBridge Community Church in Dover is opening the Doxology Coffee Shop in the church's foyer. The goal of the coffee shop is to provide a healthy place that is alcohol-free for people to meet and connect.

**Enhancing and Equipping for Worship Workshop** — Central Mennonite Church is hosting a worship workshop, Enhancing and Equipping for Worship, on Oct. 5-6. The workshop is being planned with support from the Mennonite congregations in Northwest Ohio. Area churches of other denominations are also involved, as well as Fairlawn Haven and First Mennonite Church in Bluffton. Rachel Miller Jacobs will be the featured speaker, and a variety of workshops will be offered.

**Healthy Congregations Workshop** — Berlin Mennonite Church will host a Healthy Congregations Workshop led by staff from the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. The workshop will be scheduled for sometime during spring or summer 2019.

**Community Shared Work Space** — Oak Grove Mennonite Church in West Liberty is planning to offer shared work spaces at the church's downtown community center, the Grove. These shared work spaces will be for small business owners, freelancers and independent contractors needing an office space during the week or a place to meet with clients. The hope is to increase community connections in West Liberty.

### ***MDS seeks volunteers for fall and winter***

Mennonite Disaster Service is seeking weekly volunteers for October, November and December 2018. Join us as individuals or groups to help those affected by disasters. We are working in the following locations: Lake County, California; Pine Ridge, South Dakota; Victoria County, Texas; La Grange, Texas; Fort Myers, Florida; West Virginia; Williams Lake, British Columbia; and Puerto Rico. Serve with a positive and Christ-like heart using your trade skills or learning new skills on the job. To serve with us, contact Deanna Frey by calling 1-800-241-8111 or emailing [dfrey@mds.mennonite.net](mailto:dfrey@mds.mennonite.net). For more information about our current projects, visit [mds.mennonite.net](http://mds.mennonite.net).

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## ***MC USA perspective***

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**G**len Guyton, executive director of Mennonite Church USA, is coming to Ohio. He will visit Sharon Mennonite Church in Plain City on Sunday, Sept. 23.

The day's events will include worship with Glen Guyton preaching, a question-and-answer session with Glen Guyton, a cornhole tournament with lunch provided, and an evening meeting, "Talk Back and Conversation with Glen." Please see the enclosed flier for more details. If you plan to attend, RSVP by Sept. 19 to [jchase2882@gmail.com](mailto:jchase2882@gmail.com).

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## ***Workshop perspective***

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**S**ept. 17 is the deadline to register for "Reviving Hope," a suicide prevention training event sponsored by Camp Luz. The workshop will be held at Central Christian School in Kidron on Sept. 22. For more information or to register, go to <http://bit.ly/RevivingHope>.

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## ***Perspective inserts***

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**T**his issue of *Perspective* includes the September-October issue of *Prayer Prompter*, the September issue of *The Parish Paper*, and prayer requests from Mennonite Education Agency.

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## ***Perspective deadlines***

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Sept. 17 for Sept. 20 issue

Oct. 1 for Oct. 4 issue

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