

# 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)

## **Cliff Brubaker to have surgery Oct. 23**

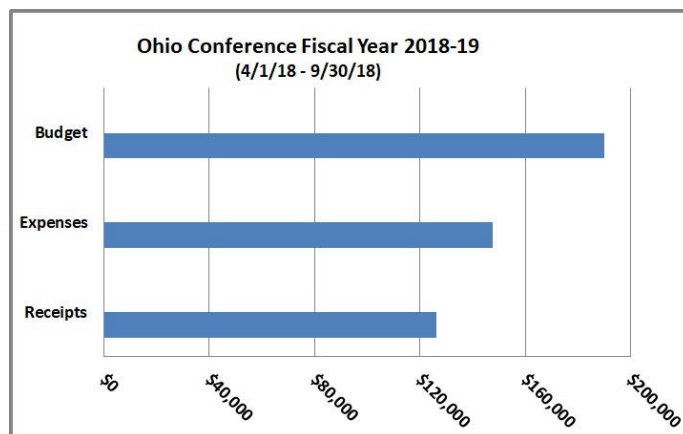
Please pray for Regional Pastor Cliff Brubaker, who is scheduled for open heart surgery Oct. 23 to replace his aortic valve. He will be having surgery at Borgess Medical Center in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Plans are that he will be hospitalized for about one week after surgery, followed by a more extended recovery period at home. While Cliff is recovering from surgery, Regional Pastor Ralph Reinford will be covering Cliff's work with pastoral search committees and other regional pastor tasks.

## **Giving to Conference increases in September**

Congregational giving to the Ohio Conference was higher in September than in the previous month, according to figures provided by Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth. Congregational giving in September totaled \$24,417, compared to just \$18,515 in August.

Total receipts for September were \$24,753, while expenses totaled \$20,974, resulting in a surplus of \$3,779 for the month. However, the Conference still is running an operating deficit for the current fiscal year.

As of Sept. 30, the Conference had an operating balance of -\$21,525 for the year. The 2018-19 fiscal year ends March 31, 2019.



## **Credentialed leaders to gather Nov. 8**

Credentialed leaders: Have you registered for the All-Ohio Conference Pastors' Meeting on Nov. 8?

On Nov. 8, we will gather in the conference room of the Upper Sandusky Library for another installment of Gathered. Over the

***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**

**T**ired of searching all the websites for Anabaptist-rooted service opportunities?

Look no further, because [www.ChooseService.org](http://www.ChooseService.org) has them all! Lots of places, lots of partners, lots of possibilities, on one site!

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

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

last few years, Ohio Conference credentialed leaders have gathered for fellowship and conversation. In these times we have built stronger relationships as we learned about each other and built trust with each other. This year, we'd like to continue building trust together while also moving toward consensus on our identity. On Nov. 8, we will:

1. Spend time in Scripture together
2. Interact with Dick Barrett, our new Conference Minister
3. Begin to identify the most core beliefs and actions we mean when we say "Jesus is our center"

Come with a sack lunch and a full water bottle and/or coffee thermos at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 8.

We'll finish at 3 p.m. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by **Oct. 31** to Judy King at [ohmc@zoominternet.net](mailto:ohmc@zoominternet.net) or 330-857-5421. The Upper Sandusky Library is located at 301 N. Sandusky Ave., Upper Sandusky, Ohio.

— The Gathered Ministry Team

### **Bluffton U. to celebrate Spiritual Life Week**

BLUFFTON, Ohio – Hannah Troyer, a grassroots community organizer, will speak during Bluffton University's semi-annual Spiritual Life Week Forum at 11 a.m. on Oct. 23 in Yoder Recital Hall. The title of her presentation is "Grassroots Organizing: Reclaiming and Reimagining the Church."

Troyer, of Akron, Ohio, is the co-founder of a community organization focused around challenging conversations. She is a member of Summit Mennonite Church in Barberton. During her presentation, she will share her dream of a church that proclaims Christ's love to a hyper-politicized and divided world.

### **Everence offers Safe Church Grants**

Everence supports churches in protecting children, teens, and vulnerable individuals from harm with the Safe Church Grant. This grant provides \$350 to help reimburse churches for costs they incur to keep people in their care safe from sexual or other forms of abuse. With the grant, Everence supports the healthy development of churches as they contribute to the good spiritual and emotional health of their attendees. The grant can be used to develop policies, train people, or implement programs within a church's ministries. Churches can receive help from organizations such as Dove's Nest (<https://dovesnest.net>) or GRACE (<http://www.netgrace.org>).

Churches with an Everence Stewardship Advocate may apply; if your church doesn't have a stewardship advocate, contact Lyle Miller ([lyle.miller@everence.com](mailto:lyle.miller@everence.com)) or another stewardship consultant to set one up. More details, including a downloadable grant application, are available at [everence.com/safe-church-grant](http://everence.com/safe-church-grant).

---

### ***ACA prayer perspective***

---

Ohio Conference invites you to be in prayer for its Missional Planning Team, composed of Paula Snyder Belousek, Corben Boshart, Jacob Dodson, Jamie Rye, Joel Shenk and Alysa Short. Please pray that they would hear the Holy Spirit's leading as they work together to plan the upcoming Missional Conference on March 7-8, 2019, at Salem Mennonite Church in Kidron.

---

---

### ***Photo perspective***

---

Several Ohio Conference congregations held a joint World Communion Sunday worship service Oct. 7 at Central Christian School, along with members of the Akron Swahili Community Church. Photos by Diane Hostetler are posted on the Ohio Conference website: <http://bit.ly/WorldCommunionPhotos>.

...

Central Mennonite Church in Archbold hosted the "Enhancing and Equipping for Worship" workshop Oct. 5-6. Photos from this event are posted on the Ohio Conference website: <http://bit.ly/2018WorshipWorkshopPhotos>.

---

---

### ***Perspective deadlines***

---

Oct. 29 for Nov. 1 issue

Nov. 12 for Nov. 15 issue

---