

Perspective



www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Register by Oct. 12 for Retreat for Pastors' Wives

Ohio Conference will hold a Pastors' Wives Retreat Nov. 2-4 at the St. Francis Spirituality Center in Tiffin, Ohio. The registration deadline is **Oct. 12**.

Featured speaker Nan Kanagy will focus on the theme "Chosen Yet Chafing at the Servant Calling." Cost of this retreat will be \$115 per person. See the retreat brochure/registration form included with this issue of *Perspective* for more details.

Ohio Conference Cast: Ralph returns refreshed

What happened to Ohio Conference Regional Pastor Ralph Reinford during his three-month leave earlier this year, and how were rhinos and crocodiles involved? Listen to the latest episode of the Ohio Conference Cast to find out.



With hosts Thomas Dunn and Bill Seymour

Reflecting on his time away from his Ohio Conference work, Ralph talks with Ohio Conference Cast hosts Bill Seymour and Thomas Dunn about things he did during his leave, and some of the books he had time to read. Bill, Thomas and Ralph also discuss the value of sabbaticals for congregational pastors. "I think it was interesting just to have time to relax and reflect, to understand that life isn't only about the role that you're filling as a pastor or a regional pastor," Ralph says.

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.

Pastors' meeting set for Nov. 8

An All-Ohio Conference Pastors' Meeting will take place Nov. 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Upper Sandusky Library in Upper Sandusky, Ohio.

Everyone attending should bring a packed lunch. Coffee is not available on site, so those desiring coffee should bring their own coffee thermos.



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 the October issue of *The Parish Paper* and prayer requests from Mennonite Education Agency and Mennonite Mission Network.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

For the first all-pastors' meeting of the year, pastors will focus on welcoming Dick Barrett on board as the new conference minister. The discussion will center on ways we can all work together to build trust and further develop ourselves as people who are **both** gathered and sent.

If you plan to attend, RSVP to Judy King at ohmc@zoominternet.net or 330-857-5421 by Oct. 31.

Three fall cluster meetings remain

Fall cluster meetings for delegates to Annual Conference Assembly have begun. Each meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and last about one and a half hours. The first meeting was held Oct. 2 at South Union Mennonite Church in West Liberty.



The following meetings remain:

- Oct. 4 — Toledo Mennonite Church
- Oct. 16 — Wooster Mennonite Church
- Nov. 6 — Summit Mennonite Church in Barberton

ACA workshop proposals sought

Planners for Annual Conference Assembly are still accepting workshop proposal submissions. Do you have an idea for a workshop which would engage the interest of delegates at Annual Conference Assembly? If so, please submit your proposal as soon as possible. A copy of the workshop proposal form is included with this issue of *Perspective*. Annual Conference Assembly will take place March 8-9 at Salem Mennonite Church in Kidron.

Dove's Nest offers sample protection policy

Does your church need a protection policy? If so, check out Dove's Nest's updated three-page model policy available as a PDF: <http://bit.ly/ProtectionPolicyModel>. You can also find more resources on the Dove's Nest website: <https://dovesnest.net/policies>.

You can use this model policy as a guide to create or update your own that works for your church's context, settings, and values. The 2018 update includes the following additions:

- Guidelines for child-to-child and youth-to-youth contact
- Additional victim-centered steps, especially for situations when the victim and alleged offender are both in the church community
- Technology and social media concerns
- A best practices addendum

The model policy is a free resource, but please consider supporting Dove's Nest (<https://dovesnest.net/donate>) so that this organization can continue to make materials like this one available to all churches.

ACA prayer perspective

Ohio Conference fall cluster meetings have begun. Pray for the regional pastors, conference minister, moderator, and others as they lead these gatherings. Please also remember the delegates as they hear updates, begin to process information related to the Annual Conference Assembly, and share how God has been working in their churches.

Seminary perspective

AMBS Pastors and Leaders 2019: "Loving Our Neighbors in Tense Times" — Feb. 25–28. How do we respond to hate, intolerance and systemic racism in productive, transformative ways? What does the gospel of Jesus Christ call us to do in situations like these? We'll explore the biblical and theological grounding of our call to get involved and become equipped to lead — right here, right now. Speakers: Andrew Draper, Ph.D.; David Hooker, Ph.D.; Maren Tyedmers Hange, M.Div. See ams.edu/pastorsandleaders for details.

Perspective deadlines

Oct. 15 for Oct. 18 issue

Oct. 29 for Nov. 1 issue
