

# Perspective



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

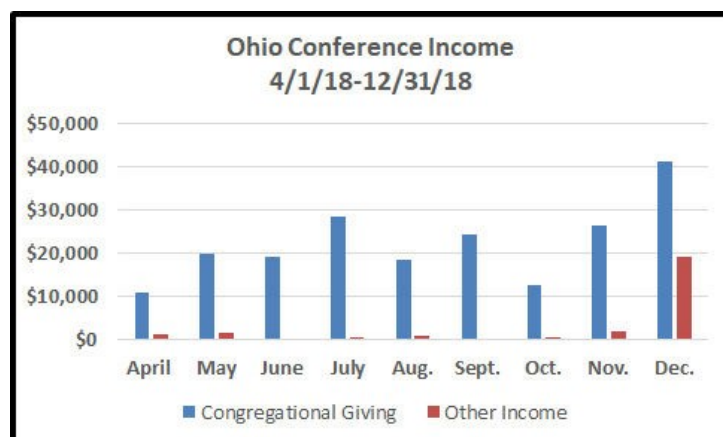
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## ***Giving increases during December***

Giving to Ohio Conference increased greatly during December, according to figures provided by Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth. In fact, the amount received in December was more than double the amount received in any other month of the current fiscal year. (See the chart below for details.)

Receipts for December totaled \$60,171. Of that amount, \$41,174 came from congregational giving. During December giving from individuals was also very strong. In response to a year-end appeal from Conference Moderator Bob Sauder, individuals gave a total of \$15,133.

Expenses for the month totaled just \$30,041, resulting in a surplus of \$30,130 for the month. As a result, the Conference operating balance was -\$6,446 at the end of December, a great improvement from the balance at the end of November, -\$36,576. Thank you to all who contributed! The Conference fiscal year ends March 31, 2019.



## ***Register now for ACA, missional conference***

Online registration is open for the 2019 Annual Conference Assembly (ACA). Salem Mennonite Church in Kidron will host ACA March 8-9. For more information about ACA, see the Ohio Conference website: <http://bit.ly/2019ACAInfo>. To register online, go to <http://bit.ly/2019ACA>. Register for ACA by Feb. 15.

***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***

On Monday, Jan. 14, Ohio Conference's Missional Planning Team will be meeting with Steve North and Sally Schreiner Youngquist, the speakers at this year's missional conference on March 7-8. Please pray for the Spirit's guidance as they discern the schedule and discuss the general topics for the conference.

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

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

Salem Mennonite Church in Kidron also will host a missional conference featuring Sally Schreiner Youngquist and Steve North March 7-8. To register online, go to <http://bit.ly/2019MissionalConference>.

### **Four winter cluster meetings planned**

Ohio Conference will hold four winter cluster meetings for delegates to Annual Conference Assembly. Each meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and last for about 90 minutes. The following meetings are planned:

- Jan. 22 — Beech Mennonite Church in Louisville
- Jan. 24 — Oak Grove Mennonite Church in West Liberty
- Jan. 29 — Central Mennonite Church in Archbold
- Jan. 31 — Crown Hill Mennonite Church in Rittman

### **Ted and Company coming to Maple Grove**

Maple Grove Mennonite Church in Hartville is hosting a performance by Ted and Company on Sunday, Jan. 20, at 6:30 p.m. Ted and Company will perform *The Big Story: The Whole Bible in 80 Minutes (More or Less)*. This performance is free and open to the public. To learn more about this program, see the Ted and Company website: <http://bit.ly/TedandCoJan20>. Maple Grove Mennonite Church is located at 2121 Smith-Kramer St. NE, Hartville.

### **Author to speak at Bluffton Student Life Forum**

BLUFFTON, Ohio — Spiritual writer Christiana Peterson will present “Searching for Koinonia: In Community with Mystics and Misfits,” at 11 a.m. on Jan. 15 in Yoder Recital Hall at Bluffton University.

A blogger and author, Peterson will share her experience of living in a Mennonite intentional community and being drawn to mystics such as St. Francis, Dorothy Day and Clare of Assisi. Peterson has a master’s degree in theology and a Ph.D. in creative writing from St. Andrews University in Scotland.

She is the author of *Mystics and Misfits: Meeting God Through St. Francis and Other Unlikely Saints*. Her writing has appeared in *Christianity Today*, *Art House America*, and *Christian Century*. She is a regular contributor to “Good Letters,” an Image Journal blog. She is a member of Midway Mennonite Church in Columbiana. To hear an Ohio Conference Cast interview with Christiana Peterson, go to <http://bit.ly/MysticsandMisfits>.

### **Take a look at MWC year in review**

Mennonite World Conference (MWC) invites you to share its 2018 year in review video with your congregation. Watch it to learn how the people of MWC worked together for peace and justice in the power of the Holy Spirit during 2018: <http://bit.ly/MWC2018YearInReview>. This video is just slightly under 4 minutes in length.

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### **Mentoring perspective**

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**Do you want to support local immigrants?** Become a mentor! Open Arms Hispanic Ministry and the OHuddle mentoring program are joining forces to support students at Orrville City Schools. Learn more at [ohuddle.org](http://ohuddle.org).

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### **Convention perspective**

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**E**arly registration for MennoCon19 opens on Feb. 6, 2019. Visit [convention.mennoniteusa.org/registration](http://convention.mennoniteusa.org/registration) now to find rates, forms and additional information. MennoCon19 will take place July 2-6, 2019, at the Kansas City (Missouri) Convention Center.

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### **Perspective inserts**

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**T**his issue of *Perspective* includes the January issue of *The Parish Paper* and the January issue of *Prayers for Faith and Learning*. Also included are brochures for three retreats at Camp Luz: Men’s Retreat (April 5-7), Mother-Daughter Retreat (April 12-13), and Father-Son Retreat (April 26-27).

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### **Perspective deadlines**

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Jan. 22 for Jan. 24 issue  
Feb. 4 for Feb. 7 issue

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