

Perspective



www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Retreat provides rest, rejuvenation

Twenty-eight couples participated in the Ohio Conference Pastor-Spouse Retreat Nov. 15-17 at the Mills Park Hotel in Yellow Springs, Ohio. The weekend was a time for pastors and their spouses to rest, rejuvenate, and reconnect. Retreat planners included Sue Short, Bill Seymour, Jamie Rye and Coordinator of Volunteers Alysa Short. To see photos from the weekend, go to <http://bit.ly/2019Pastor-SpouseRetreatPhotos>.

Looking for new pastoral leaders

Are you feeling called to pastoral leadership? Pastor, is there someone in your congregation that God is calling you to mentor? Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's **Journey Missional Leadership Development Program** offers mentor-mentee partnerships, distance-learning opportunities and community support that can be used to help individuals explore their calling to pastoral ministry.

Ohio Conference is offering financial assistance to those who are interested in participating in this three-year program. If the individual and the sponsoring congregation are willing to pay one third each, Ohio Conference will pay the final third. **Also, save \$100 when you sign up for the Winter 2020 cohort by Dec. 16!** To learn more and register, go to <http://bit.ly/AMBSJourney> or contact Conference Minister Dick Barrett at ohioconferenceminister@gmail.com.

Spiritual direction event is for all pastors

Does your pastor have a spiritual director? Ohio Conference would like all congregations to send their pastors to the Conference's Spiritual Direction Event, which will take place Feb. 4 at Camp Luz. This event, led by Janice Hershberger, Randy Murray and Christine Nafziger, will introduce the concept of spiritual direction to pastors.

Registration cost is \$25. If desired, Camp Luz will provide free lodging the night before, as well as breakfast. Please see the event flier for details: <http://bit.ly/2020SpiritualDirectionFlier>.

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.

Bib Lit perspective

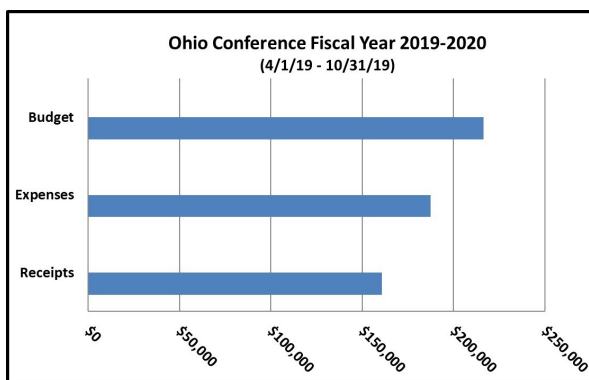
Starting this January, Hesston College is offering its well-known Biblical Literature course as a 16-week online course taught by Bible professor Nick Ladd. To learn more, see <http://bit.ly/HesstonBibLitOnline>.

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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Deficit increases during October

Ohio Conference's deficit increased during the month of October, according to figures provided by Ohio Conference Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth.



Receipts for the month totaled

\$27,274, including \$26,274 in giving from congregations. Expenses in October totaled \$30,795, resulting in an operating balance of -\$3,521 for the month. As of Oct. 31, the Conference's operating balance is -\$26,479 for the 2019-20 fiscal year.

Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday is Jan. 19

Mennonite World Conference (MWC) invites all Anabaptist congregations to celebrate Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday on Jan. 19, 2020. Each year MWC provides worship planning resources for use on Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday. The theme for 2020 is "Jesus Christ: Our Hope." This year the worship resources were prepared by MWC member churches in Canada and the United States. To download these worship planning resources, go to <http://bit.ly/2020AnabaptistWorldFellowship>.

Holiday card campaign supports detainees

If your congregation is looking for a way to connect with immigrants, consider an idea Paula Snyder Belousek shared in the latest issue of *Ohio Mennonite Evangel*: the [Casa Mariposa Visitation Program](http://bit.ly/2019HolidayCardCampaign) in Arizona has a goal of collecting 3,000 cards in time for Christmas so that each person in the immigration detention centers in Eloy and Florence, Arizona, receives a personal greeting. If you or your congregation are interested in hosting a card party, see these instructions from Casa Mariposa: <http://bit.ly/2019HolidayCardCampaign>. The cards should arrive in Arizona by **Dec. 10**. To see Paula's entire report about the immigration learning tour, go to <http://bit.ly/ImmigrationLearningTour>.

School for Leadership Training set for Jan. 13-15

Eastern Mennonite Seminary's annual School for Leadership Training will take place January 13-15, 2020. "Shalom in the Streets: Recapturing God's Vision in Ordinary Places." The biblical narratives beckon us to discover shalom in genuine relationships with the people in our neighborhoods, communities and cities. In the flourishing of the places where we live, we flourish as well (Jeremiah 29:7). Some scholarships are available for pastors to attend. For more information and to register, see <http://bit.ly/2020SLT>. Register before Nov. 26 to take advantage of the early bird special of \$190.

Advent perspective

Beginning Nov. 25 Goshen College will offer online weekday devotions during the season of Advent. Goshen College students, faculty and staff will provide weekday reflections based on the lectionary Scripture passages, focusing on the theme "What are you waiting for?" To learn more, see <http://bit.ly/2019GCAdventDevotions>.

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This Advent, try out the free Anabaptist Prayer app. Let Jesus' words pervade your day through morning and evening prayer services with a distinctive Anabaptist flavor. *Take Our Moments and Our Days: An Anabaptist Prayer App* includes Scripture-saturated prayers and space for communal reflection. The free, easy-to-navigate app covers Advent through Pentecost as well as Ordinary Time. Available for iPhone or Android. To download, go to <http://bit.ly/AnabaptistPrayerApp>.

Men's perspective

Mennonite Men has begun a periodic e-newsletter, *Engage*. To read the first issue, see <http://bit.ly/MennoniteMenEngage>.

Perspective deadlines

Dec. 2 for Dec. 5 issue

Dec. 16 for Dec. 19 issue