

Perspective

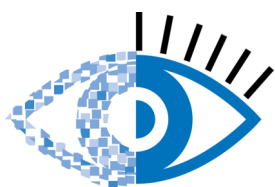


www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Leadership is visioning for the future

The Ohio Conference Leadership Team and the Pastoral Team have begun meeting with consultants Howard and Cathy Wagler from South Hutchinson, Kansas. They are looking at our current mission and purpose statements (introduced in 2006) as we begin discerning together God’s vision for the future of the Conference over the next five to seven years. The Leadership Team and Pastoral Team will be meeting with the Waglers in person on Saturday, July 25. Please keep both the process and the meeting in your prayers.



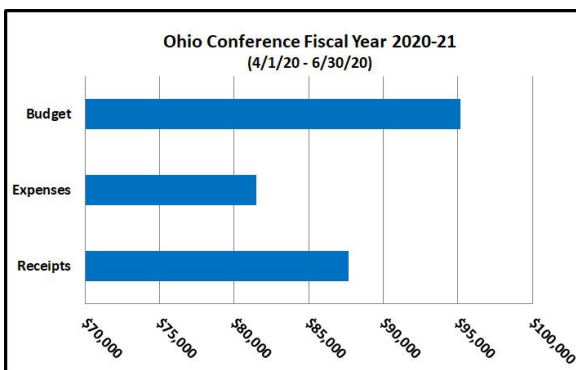
Visioning Process

Pastor gatherings to be held regionally

A note from Conference Minister Dick Barrett: In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we will not be holding one large pastor gathering in the fall as we have during the past several years. In place of the one gathering we are planning on meeting in person in smaller groups. Taking into account social distancing practices, we will gather during the regionally scheduled pastor peer meetings, beginning in August in the Wayne County and northeast regions, and in September in the northwest and west central regions.

Giving to Conference increases during June

Ohio Conference’s financial picture improved during June, with much stronger giving from congregations than in May, according to figures provided by Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth.



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.

Peace perspective

Mennonite World Conference (MWC) has created resource materials for a Peace Sunday worship service on Sept. 20, using the theme “When one member suffers, all members suffer: Peace as accompaniment and solidarity.” These worship resources are included with this issue of *Perspective*.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

Congregational giving in June totaled \$43,884, compared with just \$11,964 during May. During June total income from all sources was \$44,772, and expenses for the month totaled \$28,855, resulting a surplus of \$15,917 for the month.

That surplus was more than enough to put the Conference's year-to-date operating balance back into positive territory. As of the end of June, the Conference's operating balance was \$6,187. The Conference's fiscal year ends March 31, 2021.

Retreat for Pastors' Wives canceled

Please note: The Ohio Conference Retreat for Pastors' Wives has been canceled. This retreat had been scheduled for Nov. 6-8 at the St. Francis Spirituality Center in Tiffin, Ohio. Because of ongoing concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, retreat organizers have decided to cancel this event.

Everence to celebrate 75th anniversary July 19

GOSHEN, Indiana — Everence is not letting social distancing deter plans to commemorate the organization's 75th anniversary.

Instead of an in-person gathering, the faith-based financial services company will celebrate virtually, with a videocast on Sunday, July 19, at 3 p.m. (EDT).

The July 19 videocast will feature comments from John D. Roth, Ph.D., Goshen College Professor of History and author of the new Herald Press book, *Where the People Go: Community, Generosity, and the Story of Everence*. Roth is originally from Killbuck, Ohio, and graduated from Central Christian School in Kidron.

To watch the anniversary videocast and find more information about Everence, visit everence.com/75years.

Planning continues for MWC Assembly in 2021

Mennonite World Conference (MWC) continues to plan for the next MWC Assembly, which is scheduled for July 2021. A statement in the latest issue of *MWC Assembly News* addresses concerns about the upcoming Assembly:

"COVID-19 has had an impact in many areas of our lives. As the Assembly planning team, we are still on target to celebrate with you in Indonesia in July 2021. Should a change become necessary we will move the Assembly to a later date. Place and program will stay the same. If we make a change, it will be posted on the MWC website as soon as it is decided. As long as there is no information about a changed date on the website, the planning continues as before."

A copy of *MWC Assembly News* is included with this issue of *Perspective*.

Grant perspective

Aug. 10 is the deadline to submit a grant proposal to the Ministry Development Team. For more information about Ministry Grants or to submit a proposal, please see <http://bit.ly/MinistryGrants>.

Mourning perspective

AMBS webinar: Mourning Our Losses Together During COVID-19: The Good News of Biblical Lament: Tuesday, July 21, 2–3 p.m. EDT. This free webinar — back by popular demand! — is for those experiencing loss and those journeying with them. Participants will explore the three-act movement of biblical lament as a faithful response to God. Registration is required. See ams.edu/mourningourlosses.

Convention perspective

Convention planners are seeking proposals for equipping seminars at MennoCon21, the Mennonite Church USA biennial convention slated to take place in Cincinnati, Ohio on July 6-10, 2021. The deadline for proposal submissions is Oct. 10, 2020. See <https://bit.ly/MennoCon21SeminarProposals> for more information.

Perspective deadlines

Aug. 3 for Aug. 6 issue

Aug. 17 for Aug. 20 issue
