

Perspective



www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Apply for Ministry Grants by Aug. 10

Is your congregation thinking about applying for an Ohio Conference Ministry Grant? **Aug. 10** is the deadline to submit a grant proposal to the Ohio Conference Ministry Development Team (MDT). The MDT is accepting proposals from Conference congregations and related organizations for projects and mission initiatives. The MDT has \$7,000 available for grants in 2020.



This year the MDT is seeking to provide grants for projects that address racial injustice and immigration issues. Please note that this is a one-time grant, and grant monies are not intended to be used for staffing.

You may either submit an online application on the Ohio Conference website at <http://bit.ly/MinistryGrants> or mail a printed application form to Ohio Conference, Box 210, Kidron OH 44636. The MDT will consider all grant proposals at its **Aug. 27** meeting.

Women in Leadership Retreat planned

Save the date: Ohio Conference will hold a Women in Leadership Retreat Feb. 5-6, 2021, at the St. Francis Spirituality Center in Tiffin. The input speaker for this retreat will be Rebecca Slough, academic dean emerita and professor emerita of worship and the arts at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Retreat planners are encouraging every Ohio Conference congregation to send at least one woman to this retreat. Check future issues of *Perspective* for additional details.



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.

Parish Paper perspective

The July issue of *The Parish Paper* explores the theme “Care, Leadership and Self-Renewal in Uncertain Times.” Author Dana Horrell outlines strategies which may help church leaders flourish in times of uncertainty.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

Lighthouse Ministries plans Over The Edge fundraiser

A message from Lighthouse Ministries in Canton: Are you willing to go Over The Edge for kids? On Friday and Saturday, Sept. 4 and 5, people from all over northeast Ohio will be rappelling 14 stories down the side of the Bliss Lofts in downtown Canton. You have to raise \$1,000 for the right to rappel, but all the money goes towards starting a mentoring program, academic supports, and funding scholarships for vocational training or college for students attending the Lighthouse. Visit over-the-edge.cantonlighthouse.org to register. For youth groups wanting to send a team Over The Edge, please contact Darin Nissley directly at director@cantonlighthouse.org for special Youth Ministry Team pricing!



MCC plans centennial livestream celebration

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) will celebrate its centennial year with a virtual event on Sunday, July 26, at 6:30 p.m. EDT. MCC will be broadcasting live from Prairie Street Mennonite Church in Elkhart, Indiana, the site of an important first meeting in the formation of MCC. This livestream event will feature a combination of live and pre-recorded speakers and music. Please use this link to watch the event: mcc.org/gl-centennial-livestream.

MCC U.S. names next executive director

Ann Graber Hershberger has been named the next executive director of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) U.S. She will begin her new role in October 2020 as current executive director J. Ron Byler retires. The shift reflects a leadership plan determined in 2019 and affirmed by the organization's board of directors at their June 20 meeting.

Hershberger began as associate executive director following an open hire process in 2019. To learn more, see <https://bit.ly/MCCLeadershipTransition>.

'Race, Church and Change' is webinar theme

Save the date: Mennonite Church USA is planning a second webinar on the theme "Race, Church and Change." This webinar is scheduled for July 23 at 6:30 p.m. EDT on both Zoom and Facebook Live.

The first "Race, Church and Change" webinar took place on Thursday, June 25, and featured a discussion with panelists Glen Guyton, Felipe Hinojosa, Sue Park-Hur, Erica Littlewolf and Tobin Miller Shearer. Iris de León-Hartshorn served as moderator. Even before the webinar concluded, viewers were asking for a follow-up discussion. If you missed the first webinar, you can watch a recording at <http://mennoniteusa.org/leadership-development/webinars>.

Oak Grove perspective

Oak Grove Mennonite Church in West Liberty has called Andy Stoner to serve as the congregation's community life pastor. Andy began his work with the Oak Grove congregation in January 2019, serving as transitional pastor after the congregation's former lead pastor, Dick Barrett, became the Conference Minister for the Ohio Conference. Prior to calling Andy to his new role, the Oak Grove congregation affirmed Alex Dye as lead pastor, beginning in April 2020. Alex had previously served Oak Grove as associate pastor.

Musical perspective

Vikki Pruitte-Sorrells, pastor of Lee Heights Community Church in Cleveland, wrote an article about her experience with music in worship for the July issue of *The Mennonite*. You can read "This Far by Faith: Music and Worship in a Diverse Congregation" online at <https://bit.ly/MusicLeeHeights>.

Perspective insert

This issue of *Perspective* includes announcements for July from Mennonite Mission Network.

Perspective deadlines

July 13 for July 16 issue

Aug. 3 for Aug. 6 issue
