

Perspective



Ohio Conference
of Mennonite
Church USA

www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Ohio Conference Cast: Brad Roth talks about prayer

How essential is prayer for renewal? The latest episode of the Ohio Conference Cast features discussion of this question with Brad Roth, the featured speaker at Ohio Conference's recent missional conference. Listen to this episode to learn how Brad has seen the fruits of prayer in his own ministry. You can also hear some suggestions for incorporating prayer and fasting into your own life.

You can listen to this podcast on [iTunes](#) (search for "Ohio Conference Cast") or find it on the Ohio Conference website: <http://bit.ly/OhioConferenceCast>.

Virtual Delegate Assembly set for July 10

To: Area Conferences, MC USA member congregations, Racial/Ethnic Groups:

It has been an interesting two years to say the least. 2020 was a year filled with pain and uncertainty for many in our nation and across the globe. Usually at this time I would be drafting a letter encouraging you to prepare for our biennial Delegate Assembly. While we will still host our Delegate Assembly July 10, 1-3:30 p.m. EDT, how we gather will be much different. Our 2021 gathering will be virtual as the global pandemic has changed if not hindered our ability to connect and discuss the issue of faith and life that impact the people of MC USA.

The 2021 Delegate Assembly will be a shortened virtual event with a limited agenda. Whether you travel to Cincinnati or connect from the comfort of your own home, we hope to see you participate in the delegate process.

The Delegate Assembly is your opportunity to not only speak to the establishment of general policies and the development of programs to carry out those policies, but it is also an opportunity for you to connect with and listen to the various members in our great and diverse denomination.

Check out the Delegate Assembly FAQ page (included with this issue of *Perspective*) to see how many delegates you are allowed

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.

Mission perspective

“MissionWary?” takes a deep dive into examining mission in a Mennonite context. This new podcast from Mennonite Mission Network is now available on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), [YouTube](#), or wherever you listen to podcasts.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

- Pastor(s)
 - Church chairperson
 - Youth sponsor(s)
 - Delegates
 - Duplicate for other church leaders
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as well as the registration process. Stay tuned for more details posted on the delegate tab of the convention website: <https://convention.mennoniteusa.org/>.

May God's Spirit continue to lead and guide our denomination.

Glen Guyton
Executive Director
Mennonite Church USA

Newsletter includes convention details

Wondering about this summer's denominational convention? The latest *MennoCon21 Newsletter* includes information about this year's convention, which will be a hybrid event with an in-person gathering in Cincinnati as well as an online option. The online experience will use a virtual event platform called Pheedloop, which is specially designed for conferences. Registration for MennoCon21 opens April 6. This newsletter is included with this issue of *Perspective*.

MEA needs your help with Youth Census

Annually, the Mennonite Education Agency (MEA) requests Youth Census information from congregations to help connect students with educational and service opportunities within Mennonite Church USA. These schools and programs rely on the Youth Census data to share about formational opportunities within the denomination.

Many of you are alumni of Mennonite schools and/or service programs and know firsthand how critical these opportunities can be in shaping a person's faith and spiritual growth. Please make sure your congregation has completed this year's Youth Census form. If you have questions about the Youth Census, please contact Jolene VonGunten at jolenev@mennoniteeducation.org.

AMBS creates worship materials for congregations

Recognizing the toll that COVID-19 has had on pastors and worship planners over the last year, members of the community at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana, have prepared worship materials for congregational use for two separate worship services.

The first set of worship materials is designed for the Sunday after Easter (April 11). The resources, which are based on the **John 20:19-31** lectionary reading, include a prelude, a call to worship, an opening prayer, two hymns, a Scripture presentation, a sermon, two student testimonies, an Amharic song, intercessory prayer, the Lord's Prayer in three languages, a benediction and a postlude.

Planning materials for a separate worship service based on the story of Jesus in the temple as a boy (**Luke 2:41-52**) are also available for congregational use. To view these planning materials, go to <http://bit.ly/AMBSWorshipMaterials>.

Resource perspective

CommonWord now has season and event calendars with links to related resources. To explore these handy references to lectionary resources and materials for other events in the church and calendar years, go to <https://www.commonword.ca/Content/worship-calendar>.

MDS perspective

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) volunteers have been helping to restore water in Texas homes damaged by a major February ice storm. More volunteers are needed for plumbing repairs. Read the March edition of *On the Level*, the MDS newsletter, for details: <http://bit.ly/OnTheLevel3-21>.

Workshop perspective

Ohio Conference is offering free workshops during March and April. Three workshops remain. See <https://bit.ly/2021OnlineWorkshops> for details.

Prayer perspective

This issue of *Perspective* includes the April issue of *Prayer Vine* from Mennonite Mission Network.

Perspective deadlines

April 6 for April 8 issue

April 20 for April 22 issue
