

Perspective



www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Register for New Pastor Orientation by July 12

Ohio Conference will hold a New Pastor Orientation Aug. 15-16 at the Sleep Inn & Suites in Mt. Hope. **This free event is designed for all pastors new to the Ohio Conference within the past several years.** Spouses are also invited.



In addition to being introduced to Conference resources, participants will have the opportunity to get to know other pastors new to the Ohio Conference. There also will be a time devoted to answering questions participants may have related to their new positions.

Registration is due by **July 12**. For more information, please see the event flier included with this issue of *Perspective*.

Ohio Conference Cast podcast explores 'Military service from a Mennonite perspective'

Picture this scene: Three Mennonite pastors, two of whom are military veterans, sit down for a discussion of Mennonites and the military. This scenario may sound unlikely, but it's actually a description of the latest episode of the Ohio Conference Cast podcast.



In this podcast episode, hosts Corben Weaver Boshart and Ramon Lianez talk with Lucas Johnson, pastor of Valley View Mennonite Church in Spanglersburg, Pennsylvania.

Lucas and Ramon are both military veterans who moved from serving in the military to joining the Mennonite Church and eventually becoming pastors.

In this podcast, Lucas talks about how he came to embrace the peace position of the Mennonite Church. He also discusses the challenges that veterans face, both in dealing with their military experiences and in fitting into society following their military service.

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.

Musical perspective

Oak Grove Mennonite Church in Smithville will host a concert featuring Anthony Brown on Saturday, Aug. 14, at 7 p.m. The theme of this concert will be "Songs and Stories of Peace, Hope and Justice." Please see the flier included with this issue of *Perspective* for more details.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

Listen to this podcast to hear Lucas advocate for Mennonite congregations to reach out to military veterans.

You can listen to this podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#) or [Google Podcasts](#) or find it on the Ohio Conference website: <http://bit.ly/OhioConferenceCast>.

Editor's note: The resource from Mennonite Mission Network that Lucas mentions in this podcast, "Returning Veterans, Returning Hope: Seeking Peace Together" is available online at <https://www.pjsn.org/resources>.

Resource has guidelines for in-person worship

An ecumenical group of theologians, scientists, physicians and pastors has released a guide titled "Care-Filled Worship and Sacramental Life in a Linger- ing Pandemic." This resource, which deals with questions about best practices for in-person worship services, can be found online at <http://bit.ly/Care-FilledWorship>. The resource was released in early June, a year after the group's initial guidance document. This updated document incorporates the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Relief sale to be in-person event

The Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale will be an in-person event this year. The sale, which raises funds for Mennonite Central Committee, will take place Aug. 6-7 at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Wooster.

Major items, including quilts, furniture, tools, and other large items, will be sold at auction on Saturday, Aug. 7, starting at 9 a.m. The auction will have live in-person bidding as well as secure online remote bidding via Proxibid.

The sale will open Friday, Aug. 6, at 4 p.m. with a silent auction, artisan's market, quilter's corner and auction displays. At 6:30 p.m. there will be a music program featuring the brother-sister trio Girl Named Tom.

For more information, please see the sale brochure included with this issue of *Perspective*.

Everence to hold development conference

Registration is open for the Everence Development Conference, which helps charitable organization leaders stimulate and nurture generosity to strengthen their missions.

The event, *Invest in What Lasts*, is scheduled for Sept. 28-30 at the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. You can register now at everence.com/devcon21. The event is offered every two years.

Service perspective

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) welcomes active, constituent pastors and their spouses to a hands-on MDS experience at an MDS project site in the U.S. or Canada. To encourage pastor participation, the Pastors to Projects program offers travel reimbursement. To learn more, see <https://mds.mennonite.net/pastors-to-projects>.

Retreat perspective

There is still room for three more couples to attend the Ohio Conference Pastor-Spouse Retreat. This event will take place Nov. 12-14 at the Mills Park Hotel in Yellow Springs. To register, go to <https://bit.ly/2021Pastor-Spouse>.

Hearing perspective

The Summer 2021 e-newsletter from Anabaptist Disabilities Network focuses on inclusion of those who are deaf or who have hearing loss. The newsletter includes information about technology for making audio during worship services more accessible for people with hearing loss. Go to <https://bit.ly/ADNSummer2021> to read this newsletter.

Perspective deadlines

July 13 for July 15 issue

Aug. 3 for Aug. 5 issue
