

# Perspective



[www.ohiomennoniteconference.org](http://www.ohiomennoniteconference.org)

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## Apply for a grant by Aug. 6

Is your congregation looking for ways to fund a ministry that impacts your community? **Aug. 6** 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 **\$19,630** available for grants in 2021.

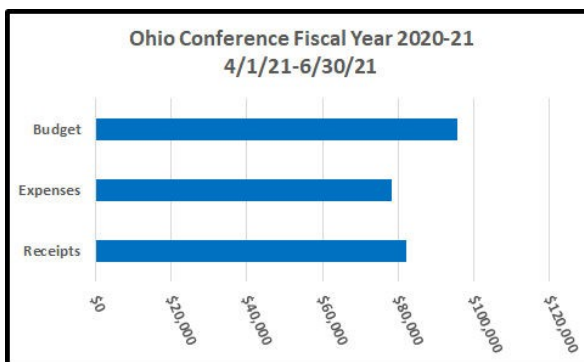


Since 2012 the MDT has awarded grants each summer, providing funds for a wide variety of projects and mission initiatives. Please note that this is a one-time grant. Grant monies are not intended to be used for staffing. Grant proposals are due by **Aug 6, 2021**. The Ministry Development Team will consider all grant proposals at its **Aug. 24** meeting.

More information and an online application are on the Ohio Conference website: <http://bit.ly/OCMinistryGrants>.

## Conference remains in the black

Giving to Ohio Conference increased during June compared to the previous month, according to figures provided by Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth. Receipts for June totaled \$25,467, up from the \$20,720 received in May.



Expenses for June totaled \$26,878, which led to a deficit of \$1,411 for the month. Even so, the Conference ended the first quarter of the 2021-22 fiscal year with a positive operating bal-

*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

From Mennonite Mission Network: Check out the brand new *Stir Up Peace* video series! Learn the tools to seek positive change in nonviolent ways. All nine video episodes are less than six minutes long. See the videos at <https://bit.ly/StirUpPeace>.

## Please distribute Perspective copies to:

- Pastor(s)
- Church chairperson
- Youth sponsor(s)
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ance. As of June 30, the year-to-date operating balance was \$4,004. The 2021-22 fiscal year ends March 31, 2022.

## Scripture resource focuses on immigration

The Ohio Conference Immigration Resource Team has compiled a list of scriptures related to immigration for personal and congregational use. “A Biblical Guide to Immigration” includes scriptures grouped by topic. It is intended for use in sermons and in Sunday school classes or for personal reflection. A copy of this guide is included with this issue of *Perspective*.



**Pastors, please note that this guide is an updated version of the document you received earlier this week.**

## Resource offers conflict transformation tools

Conflict is a normal part of life. It arises in our workplaces, in our churches and with our families.

To help people learn to work through divisive issues, Mennonite Central Committee U.S. has produced a new adult Sunday school curriculum, *Peaceful Practices: A guide to healthy communication in conflict*. It invites churchgoers to follow Jesus' call to peacemaking through dialogue with each other.



This curriculum includes nine sessions. Each session contains a peaceful practice, a biblical reflection, a conflict transformation tool, at-home reflection questions, a group activity, a closing blessing and resources to go deeper. More information is available at <https://bit.ly/MCCPeacefulPractices>. You may download a free copy of this curriculum at this site.

## Peace Sunday is Sept. 19

Mennonite World Conference (MWC) invites all Mennonite congregations to observe Peace Sunday together with brothers and sisters in the global Anabaptist church family on Sept. 19, 2021.

The theme for this year's Peace Sunday is: “**Finding hope and healing in crisis.**” The MWC Peace Commission has created worship resources for celebrating Peace Sunday. A copy of these materials is included with this issue of *Perspective*.

## Workshop looks at pastor-congregation relations

Lombard Mennonite Peace Center is offering an online workshop, “Facilitating Healthy Pastor-Congregation Relations” on Tuesday, Oct. 5, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. ET. Held on the Zoom videoconferencing platform, this workshop will offer strategies for church leaders who want to help their congregation function in healthier ways. Attention will be given both to structural changes and emotional processes. See the workshop brochure included with this issue of *Perspective* for details.

## Quilting perspective

**G**rowing up in northeast Ohio, Paul Seling always admired beautiful quilts and hoped to learn how to make them someday. Stuck at home during the pandemic this past year, he decided to tackle that goal. A 34-year-old father of two young children, he doesn't fit the stereotypical mold of a traditional Mennonite quilter. But he uses this perspective to create modern and thought-provoking quilts, including one he recently donated to the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale. Seling is a member of Wooster Mennonite Church. Read more at <https://bit.ly/BreakingSterotypesQuilting>.

## Musical perspective

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

## Perspective deadlines

Aug. 3 for Aug. 5 issue

Aug. 17 for Aug. 19 issue