

# OHIO MENNONITE EVANGEL

News & Views of Ohio Conference

JUL-AUG 2021



ohiomennoniteconference.org

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## Showing God's love to immigrants: Will you join us?

By the Immigration  
Resource Team

**The Immigration Resource Team of Ohio Conference is aware of many immigrants seeking asylum at our southern border. We ask: "How can we here in Ohio show them God's welcoming love?"**

We remember the amazing way a dozen or so Ohio Conference churches came together to assemble 175 immigration welcome kits in the fall of 2019. COVID-19 precautions prevent this kind of



Casa de Maria y Marta in San Antonio, Texas, serves refugees seeking asylum.

outpouring at the present time, so we propose another option.

San Antonio Mennonite Church has been in the hospitality ministry for many

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## *'Military service from a Mennonite perspective'*

## Podcast explores how the Church can minister to veterans

**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

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The Ohio  
Conference  
Cast



## Building sale proceeds to fund church planting

The sale of a church which has closed will provide seed money for church planting efforts in the Ohio Conference.

In the first quarter of 2020, University Euclid Christ New Testament Church, an Ohio Conference congregation in Cleveland, closed its doors. The congregation's pastors, Brian

Anderson and Sheila Spencer Anderson, resigned in September 2019. A small group from the congregation continued meeting through February of 2020, when the congregation decided to close.

At the time of the church's closing, the University Euclid congregation decided to donate the church prop-

erty to the Ohio Conference.

The property, which is located at 1869 E. 85th and Chester Avenue in Cleveland, has been sold. The sale proceeds have gone into the Ohio Conference Capacity Building Fund to be used for church planting and other new initiatives. ■

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## Podcast

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View Mennonite Church in Spartansburg, 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 challeng-

es that veterans face, both in dealing with their military experiences and in fitting into society following their military service.

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>. ■*

## Personnel of the Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA

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# Showing God's love

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years, through a refugee house, Casa de María y Marta. Casa de María y Marta provides many services to recent arrivals — temporary lodging, food, clothing, spiritual support — as they travel to be united with family members throughout the country.

We can help! Pastor John Garland recommends:

- Cards... with a greeting (in Spanish, French and English — see the box on this page for sample messages in these languages) along with your personal signature.
- \$50 gifts... to be given as cash to guests at the refugee house so they can buy what they need at a local thrift store.
- 1) Send checks (in \$50 increments) made out to San Antonio Men-



Casa de María y Marta is located in San Antonio, Texas. This hospitality ministry is sponsored by San Antonio Mennonite Church.

nonite Church and card(s) to: 1443 S. St. Mary's St., San Antonio TX 78210.

- 2) Visit the church's website at <https://www.sanantoniomennonite.org/donate> for other payment options. Designate donations to "SAMC General Fund – La Casa."

This is a great way for us to

support the creative ministry of our sisters and brothers in Christ in San Antonio as they "welcome the strangers" seeking safety in our land.

*Editor's note: In 2019 Dan King, a member of the Immigration Resource Team, volunteered at Casa de María y Marta for two weeks along with his wife, Jeanette. To read his reflections on this experience, see <https://bit.ly/CasadeMariayMarta>. ■*

## Sample greetings for card ministry to immigrants

If you would like to send greetings to immigrants at Casa de María y Marta, here is a sample wording shared in three languages:

### Spanish

Estimado amigo/a,

¡Bienvenido a los Estados Unidos! Es posible que haya experimentado muchas dificultades en su viaje, pero oramos para que las cosas le vayan bien aquí.

En el amor de Dios,

### French

Cher ami,

Bienvenue aux États-Unis! Vous avez peut-être rencontré de nombreuses difficultés au cours de votre voyage, mais nous prions pour que les choses se passent bien pour vous ici.

Dans l'amour de Dieu,

### English

Dear friend,

Welcome to the United States! You may have experienced many difficulties on your journey, but we pray that things will go well for you here.

In God's love,



## CONFERENCE MINISTER MUSINGS

# Living the dream!

By Dick Barrett  
Conference Minister

**One of the responses that I seem to get more and more frequently from people whom I encounter, after asking them how they are doing is, “I am (just) living the dream!” Of course, for almost all of them that response is meant to be sarcastic and negative. What they really want me to know is that they are not living the dream.**

Several years ago, one of my closest friends who always used that phrase, “I’m just living the dream,” took his own life. Apparently, he was not living the dream that he had hoped to be living. Recently I have been thinking about challenging people who respond with, “I am living the dream,” with the question, “What is your dream?” Thinking about asking others that question has challenged me to ask myself the same question: “What is my dream?”

Proverbs 29:18 (KJV) says, “Where there is no vision the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.” Other versions use the word “revelation.” Where are our dreams, visions, and/or revelation supposed to come from? Clearly they need to come

from God. The English Standard Version reads, “Where there is no prophetic vision the people cast off restraint, but blessed is he who keeps the law.” Perhaps Eugene Peterson’s translation in *The Message* captures the true meaning of the verse best: “If people can’t see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves; but when they attend to what God reveals, they are most blessed.”

God has revealed himself to us, and the way he wants us to live, in many different forms – in our selves who are created in his image, in nature, in Scripture, and most fully in Jesus Christ. Our dreams and visions for our own lives need to be bigger than ourselves. They need to fulfill God’s primary purposes, not just for us as individuals, but for the world.

When I think of someone who had a dream that was much bigger than himself and one that aligned with God’s dream for a more loving and just world, I think of Martin Luther King Jr. and his “I Have a Dream” speech delivered on Aug. 28, 1963. Unfortunately, Rev. King did not have the opportunity to see his dream being fulfilled, as he was assassinated less than five years after his speech, still pursuing the dream. We can look at King’s dream today, almost 60 years later, and point to many parts of the dream that have been fulfilled, yet others



which have not. A good dream is always beyond us.

When I read Scripture I think particularly of two dreams that are beyond us – Jesus’ *Sermon on the Mount* (Matthew 5-7) and John’s vision in the book of Revelation. Just because a good dream is always beyond us, it doesn’t mean we should not try and live it out. In our own humanness, we cannot live out Jesus’ *Sermon on the Mount*, but with the help of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit, it is possible.

One of the dreams that has attracted my attention over the past several years now is “The Mennonite Dream,” penned by David Augsburg in 1970. But the Mennonite dream did not originate with him. It originated with our Anabaptist forefathers and foremothers some 500 years ago.

Continued on page 5

**“Our dreams and visions for our own lives need to be bigger than ourselves. They need to fulfill God’s primary purposes, not just for us as individuals, but for the world.”**



*Remote online bidding also will be available*

# Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale will be an in-person event this year

Wooster, Ohio — For 56 years, the Mennonite, Brethren, Apostolic and Amish churches of northeastern Ohio have worked together to create a festive event that raises funds for the work of Mennonite Central Committee. After a COVID-limited virtual auction in 2020, the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale will return in person Aug. 6 and 7. The event will take place in the new air-conditioned Event Center at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Wooster.

Activities begin at 4 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 6, when the food stands open. Also starting at 4 p.m. there will be 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. Other activities on Friday night include a volleyball tournament and a cornhole tournament.

On Saturday morning a "Fuel-Up-For-Relief" breakfast will begin at 7 a.m., featuring pancakes, sausage, sausage gravy, biscuits and scrambled eggs.

At 7:30 a.m. there will be a 1K Kid's Fun Run, followed by a 5K Run and Walk for Relief starting at 8 a.m.

Plenty of children's games and activities are planned, featuring the "barrel" train and inflatables. The popular Children's

Continued on page 7

The Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale will take place Aug. 6-7 at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Wooster. A wide variety of quilts will be auctioned, as well as furniture, tools, and other large items.

## Living the dream

Continued from page 4

### "The Mennonite Dream"

From the beginning in 1525 through the present, Mennonites have pursued a dream . . .

- That it is reasonable to follow Jesus Christ daily, radically, totally in life.
- That it is practical to obey the *Sermon on the Mount* (Matthew 5-7), and the whole New Testament, literally, honestly, sacrificially.
- That it is thinkable to practice the way of reconciling love in human conflicts and warfare, nondefensively and nonresistantly.
- That it is possible to confess Jesus as Lord above all nationalism, racism or materialism.
- That it is feasible to build a communal church of brothers and sisters who are voluntarily, disciplined, and mutually committed to each other in Christ.
- That life can be lived simply, following the Jesus way in lifestyle, in possessions, in service.

What might be the result if all of us who call ourselves Mennonite tried living the Mennonite Dream, in both our own personal and congregational lives? Might we get glimpses of the new heaven and the new earth promised in the book of Revelation? ■

# Ministry Grants fund local missions

**Ministry Grants are back! Aug. 6 is the deadline to submit a grant proposal to the Ohio Conference Ministry Development Team (MDT). The MDT is accepting proposals from Ohio Conference congregations and related ministries for projects and mission initiatives. This year the MDT has \$19,630 available for grants.**

Since 2012 the MDT has awarded grants each summer, providing funds for a wide variety of projects and mission initiatives. If your congregation has an idea for a mission initiative, consider applying for a Ministry Grant.

The MDT will use several criteria in reviewing the applications:

— Does this proposal fit with the Conference priorities of Loving God, Loving Others, and Making Disciples of Jesus Christ?

— Does this project respond to the priorities identified by Ministry Development Team?

- Start-up ministries/new initiatives
- Community outreach
- Church planting
- Focus on children or youth ministry that includes an outreach component
- Missional coaching
- Peacemaking education/action
- Immigration education/action

- Antiracism education/action
- Initiatives which cross cultural boundaries

— Is this proposal a collaborative effort among Ohio Conference congregations and/or related organizations?

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**. More information and an online application are on the Ohio Conference website: <http://bit.ly/OCMinistryGrants>. If you prefer, you may download a grant

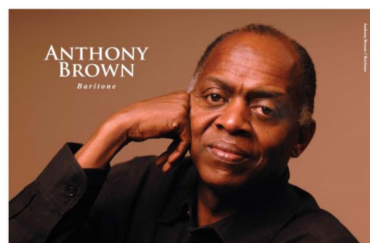


form and mail it to the Ohio Conference office.

The Ministry Development Team will consider all grant proposals at its **Aug. 24** meeting.

In 2020, the Ministry Development Team approved four grants. To learn more about these grants, see <http://bit.ly/OCMinistryGrants>. ■

## Join us for an interactive concert Songs and Stories of Peace, Hope, and Justice



Mr. Brown uses music as a powerful tool for bringing people together. A versatile and dynamic performer, Brown sings in a variety of genres, including American folk songs which he has taken around the world. Brown's work as peacemaker has taken him to global political hot spots, combining singing with ambassadorial peace building. Through his music, he inspires audiences to join the movement for peace, justice and reconciliation.

**Oak Grove Mennonite Church  
7843 Smucker Road, Smithville  
August 14, 2021 7:00PM**

*An offering will be taken to help cover expenses.*

## RESOURCE CORNER

## Resources deal with considerations for in-person worship

By Ann Leaman  
Ohio Conference  
Resource Advocate

As the COVID-19 pandemic enters a new phase and many local health restrictions are lifted, how should our congregations approach in-person worship?

Anabaptist Worship Network has explored this topic in a recent webinar titled “Worship and Reopening Churches.” If you would like to watch a recording of this webinar, you can find it online at <https://bit.ly/WorshipandReopeningChurches>. Slides from this webinar also are available online: <https://bit.ly/WorshipandReopeningSlides>.

Another resource which deals with questions about in-person



worship comes from an ecumenical group of theologians, scientists, physicians and pastors. This group has released a guide called “Care-Filled Worship and Sacramental Life in a Lingering Pandemic,” which can be found online at <http://bit.ly/Care-FilledWorship>. This document was published 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.

Anneli Loepp Thiessen of Anabaptist Worship Network notes, “This is a very helpful new document with clear ideas and practical advice for reopening.” ■

## Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale

Continued from page 5

Auction returns in 2021 with toys for children to bid on. The Children’s Auction begins at 10:30 a.m.

Major items, including quilts, furniture, tools, and other large items, will be sold at auction on Saturday, starting at 9 a.m. In a change from previous years, there will be just one auction instead of two separate auctions. Quilts, furniture, tools, and the large item donations will alternate selling approximately every half hour. The auction will have live in-person

bidding as well as secure online remote bidding via Proxibid.

You may preview auction items online at [www.OhioMCCReliefSale.org](http://www.OhioMCCReliefSale.org).

Selected products will be offered as “Buy It Now” items. These items can be purchased online at a set price from July 26 to Aug. 5. Any “Buy It Now” items that are not purchased will be sold at auction on Aug. 7.

Staffed solely by volunteers, the Relief Sale’s proceeds go to

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). MCC is the relief, service and development agency of North American Mennonite and Brethren in Christ Churches.

Admission and parking are free. ADA parking and wheelchairs are available. This event will be held rain or shine. For more information, see the [relief sale brochure](#) or contact Board Chairperson Brenda LaTulippe at 330-933-6372 or [ohio.reliefsale@gmail.com](mailto:ohio.reliefsale@gmail.com). ■

# Climate Riders seek to raise awareness

Participants in the Climate Ride are riding from Seattle to Washington, D.C. They started their journey May 31.

*“On July 20, the riders will start in Millersburg and end in New Cumberland.”*



The Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions (CSCS) is leading a cross-country bike ride to raise awareness regarding climate change and related issues, as well as to learn and to connect with people along the way. CSCS is a collaborative initiative of Goshen College, Eastern Mennonite University, and Mennonite Central Committee.

The Climate Ride started in Seattle May 31 and will take about two months, ending in Washington, D.C. Sixteen young adult riders plan to complete the entire ride.

One of the riders, [Elizabeth Miller](#), is a member of West Clinton Mennonite Church in Wauseon. She and several oth-

er riders have contributed to a blog about their experiences riding across the country. To read her blog post, “Finding Connections,” see <https://bit.ly/ClimateRideJune4Reflection>.

There are opportunities to sign up to join the riders for a day, including one day in Ohio. On July 20, the riders will start in Millersburg and end in New Cumberland. Several virtual and in-person “community town-hall” meetings are also planned. To follow the progress of this ride, go to <http://bit.ly/2021ClimateRide>. You can also see updates (including a video) on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CenterforSustainableClimateSolutions>. ■

## Registration is open for OC retreats



Online registration is open for three upcoming events sponsored by the Ohio Conference.

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 in the past several years.

Register online at <http://bit.ly/2021NewPastors>.

Glen Guyton, executive director of Mennonite Church USA,

will lead the Ohio Conference **Youth Worker Retreat** Oct. 15-17 at Camp Luz in Kidron. Register online at <https://bit.ly/2021YouthWorkerRetreat>.

The Ohio Conference **Pastor-Spouse Retreat** will take place Nov. 12-14 at the Mills Park Hotel in Yellow Springs. Because of the size of this venue, a limited number of rooms are available. Register online at <https://bit.ly/2021Pastor-Spouse>. ■



## ABOUT PEOPLE

## Eastern Mennonite University

Elizabeth Miller, a 2021 graduate of Eastern Mennonite University (EMU), is one of three women's triathlon athletes from EMU who were named Scholar All-American by the Collegiate Triathlon Coaches Association and USA Triathlon. Her home congregation is West Clinton Mennonite Church in Wauseon.

The Scholar All-American award is presented to student-athletes who have achieved a GPA of 3.5 or higher for the Spring 2021 semester (regardless of competitions completed in that timeframe).

The Eastern Mennonite University women's triathlon program is in its second year of existence. The NCAA named triathlon an Emerging Sport for Women in 2014, a designation that gives the sport a 10-year window to demonstrate sustainability at the NCAA level. Thirty-seven colleges and universities across the country currently sponsor the sport at the varsity level.

This summer Elizabeth Miller is biking across the United States as part of the Climate Ride sponsored by the Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions



**Elizabeth Miller**

(CSCS). CSCS is a collaborative initiative of Goshen College, Eastern Mennonite University, and Mennonite Central Committee. To learn more about the Climate Ride, see the article on page 8. ■

## Pastoral notes

On June 13 Millersburg Mennonite Church held a licensing and installation service for the congregation's interim co-pastors, Rachelle and Keith Lyndaker Schlabach. This special worship service was held outdoors at Raber's 40 Acres.

Regional Pastor Ralph Reinford preached the sermon, "A Spiritual Journey," basing his message on Acts 13:2-3. He also led the licensing and installation ceremony. The worship service also included communion.

Following the worship service, the congregation enjoyed a brown bag picnic lunch. Cupcakes were provided. ■



Keith and Rachelle Lyndaker Schlabach were licensed for ministry and installed as interim co-pastors of Millersburg Mennonite Church on June 13.

## ABOUT PEOPLE Continued from page 9

Regional Pastor Tony Doebrmann (left) presented Matt Weaver with a certificate of his ordination for Christian ministry. Matt was ordained during an outdoor worship service on May 16 at Lockport Mennonite Church in Stryker. Photo by Bob Weaver.



Matt Weaver was ordained for Christian ministry on Sunday, May 16, in an outdoor worship service at Lockport Mennonite

Church in Stryker. He is the associate pastor at Lockport.

Matt's mentor, Doug King, who is pastor of Tedrow Mennonite

Church, preached a message titled "Live a Life Worthy of Your Calling," based on Ephesians 4:1-16.

Words of affirmation for Matt were shared by Steve Heatwole, co-pastor of Lockport Mennonite; Mark Beck, chair of the Leadership Team at Lockport; and Andrew Spotts, chair of the Pastor Congregation Relations Committee at Lockport.

Regional Pastor Tony Doebrmann led the ordination ceremony. ■

Wendell Slagell was ordained for Christian ministry on Sunday, June 13, at Huber Mennonite Church in New Carlisle. The service included a time of prayer for Wendell (pictured at center). Others pictured are (left to right) Anita Stoner, Suzanne Slagell, Andy Stoner, Conference Minister Dick Barrett and Regional Pastor Tony Doebrmann.



Wendell Slagell, the pastor of Huber Mennonite Church in New Carlisle, was ordained for

Christian ministry on Sunday, June 13, at Huber Mennonite.

Suzanne Slagell, Wendell's wife, read the scripture. Andy Stoner, community life pastor at Oak Grove Mennonite Church in West Liberty, delivered the sermon. Andy formerly served as interim pastor at Huber and later served as a co-pastor of Huber with Wendell.

Regional Pastor Tony Doebrmann led the ordination ceremony, which included a time of prayer. ■

## Bluffton University

Two students from Ohio Conference congregations earned degrees from Bluffton University this spring. The university

held its commencement ceremony on May 8.

**Sydney Cobb** of Archbold, Ohio, earned bachelor's de-

grees in chemistry and physics from Bluffton University. Cobb was the recipient of the Distinguished Scholar Awards for

Continued on page 11

## ABOUT PEOPLE Continued from page 10

chemistry and physics and the Esta Lugbill Dye Award for Excellence in Chemical Science by a Woman. She graduated as a member of the C. Henry Smith Scholars and Pi Delta Society. She is a member of

Lockport Mennonite Church in Stryker.

**Lilyana Yoder** of West Liberty, Ohio, earned a bachelor's degree in sport and recreation leadership from Bluffton Uni-

versity. Yoder was the recipient of the sport and recreation leadership Distinguished Scholar Award. She is a member of Oak Grove Mennonite Church in West Liberty. ■

## Hesston College

Five students from Ohio Conference congregations earned degrees from Hesston College in Hesston, Kansas, this spring. The college held a virtual commencement ceremony on May 1, along with several smaller in-person events.

Ohio Conference students graduating in 2021 included the following:

**Bethany Masters**, Sonnenberg Mennonite Church in Kidron; **Kelly Miller**, West Clinton Mennonite Church in Wauseon; **Nicole Swain-**

**Goering**, Tedrow Mennonite Church in Wauseon; **Isaac Troyer**, Berlin Mennonite Church; and **Quinton Yoder**, Friendship Mennonite Church in Bedford Heights. ■

## Elvin Sommers

Elvin Sommers, 92, who was a pastor in the Ohio Conference for many years, died Sunday, May 30, at OrrVilla Maple Terrace, Orrville, after a 12-year struggle with Parkinson's. He served as pastor of Stoner Heights Mennonite Church in Louisville, Sharon Mennonite Church in Plain City, and Pinto Mennonite Church in Pinto, Maryland.

Elvin was born in Louisville, Ohio, on Dec. 18, 1928, to John and Bertha (Taylor) Sommers. He graduated from Louisville High School in 1946 and married Nellie Hostetler on June 5, 1947. They enjoyed 60 years together before her death in 2007. Elvin was a farmer and a third-generation painter. He became a pastor at the age of 35.

Elvin is survived by his children, Clell (Pearl) Sommers of Mans-

field, Arley (Candi) Sommers of Cardington, Nedra (Roger) Steiner of Kidron, Collette (Don) Whitmer of Plain City, and Lambert (Rosetta) Sommers of Nolensville, Tennessee; 14 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild, and one on the way. He is also survived by two sisters, Gladys Gingerich of Lititz, Pennsylvania and Lavera (Paul) Helmuth of Louisville; and two brothers, Owen (Shirley) Sommers of Valparaiso, Indiana, and Merle (Becky) Sommers of Goshen, Indiana; and a sister-in-law, Phyllis Sommers.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Nellie; four sisters, Maxine (Clifford Martin) (Harold) Brooks, Mildred (Elden) Schmucker, Arline (Wilbur) Schmucker, Lucille (Leonard) Schmucker; a brother, Earl Sommers; a brother-in-



Elvin Sommers

law, Ura Gingerich; and a sister-in-law Martha Sommers.

Memorial contributions may be made to OrrVilla Maple Terrace for the new wing at 333 East Sassafras St., Orrville OH 44667.

A celebration of Elvin's life was held at Sharon Mennonite Church on Thursday, June 3.

A full obituary is online at <http://bit.ly/ElvinSommers>. ■



## Conference Calendar

### JUL

- 6-10 MennoCon21, Duke Energy Convention Center, Cincinnati, as well as online
- 10 Mennonite Church USA Delegate Assembly, online meeting
- 17 Open Arms Fellowship Fiesta, Oak Grove Mennonite Church, Smithville
- 27 Leadership Team Meeting, online meeting

### AUG

- 5 All-Ohio Conference Pastor Meeting, Upper Sandusky Community Library
- 6-7 Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale, Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster
- 15-16 New Pastor Orientation, Sleep Inn & Suites, Mt. Hope
- 24 Ministry Development Team Meeting, Mansfield-Richland County Public Library, Mansfield

### OCT

- 15-17 Youth Worker Retreat, Camp Luz, Kidron

### NOV

- 12-14 Pastor-Spouse Retreat, Mills Park Hotel, Yellow Springs

### MAR

### 2022

- 3-4 Missional Conference, location TBD
- 4-5 Annual Conference Assembly, location TBD

cranberry-pecan tossed salad, both with chips, salsa, cookies and drinks. Please RSVP by Tuesday, July 13, with meal choice and number in attendance to [kara@openarmshispanicministry.org](mailto:kara@openarmshispanicministry.org) or 330-765-9955. For more info, call the above number or 614-546-8090.

**Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program.** AMBS's distance-friendly non-degree Journey program supports learners as they explore spiritual leadership in their local churches and communities and deepen their understanding of Anabaptist theology and ministry with a dedicated mentor. Sign up for Fall 2021 by July 13 and save \$100! Learn more at [ambs.edu/journey](http://ambs.edu/journey).

**Anabaptist World** has published an article about women in ministry in the Ohio Conference. You can read it at <http://bit.ly/AWorldWomeninMinistry>.

Schools, colleges and universities affiliated with Mennonite Education Agency have posted job openings at <http://bit.ly/MEAJobListings>. ■

## Back page briefings...

**Open Arms Hispanic Ministries is sponsoring a Summer Fiesta Picnic** on Saturday, July 17, at 4 p.m. at Oak Grove Mennonite Church, located at 7843 Smucker Road, Smithville. After more than a year of COVID-related

restrictions, we will enjoy a safe, enjoyable time in Oak Grove's beautiful picnic area. Activities include live music, a program at 5 p.m., and a boxed meal, with freewill offering. Menu choices include a chicken-bacon wrap or vegetarian

OHIO MENNONITE  
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*News & Views of Ohio Conference*

For more Ohio Conference news, visit the Ohio Conference website: [ohiomennoniteconference.org](http://ohiomennoniteconference.org)