

Perspective



www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

Editor: Ann H. Leaman 5854 Sunland St. N.E., Louisville OH 44641 Phone: 330-453-0150 Email: ohioevangel@gmail.com

Pastor meeting features fellowship and dialogue

On Aug. 5 congregational pastors from across Ohio Conference gathered at the Upper Sandusky Community Library for a time of fellowship, worship and discernment together. It was the first time they were able to gather in person in a year and a half.

While fellowship was the highlight for the 28 ministers present, time was also spent discussing a proposed new Code of Ethics and Common Commitments for credentialed ministers of Ohio Conference. Also discussed was a proposal by the Leadership Team seeking feedback about how best to move forward as a conference over the next year with Mennonite Church USA's pending resolution to retire its Membership Guidelines in May of 2022. As with their recent gatherings, there was a very good sense of collegiality and the Holy Spirit's presence, which was especially uplifting after a prolonged time of challenge and isolation due to the pandemic.

To see photos from this meeting, go to <https://bit.ly/Fall2021Pastors>.

Next MEA executive director chosen

The Board of Directors of Mennonite Education Agency (MEA) has named Rev. Dr. Michael Danner as executive director of MEA. The appointment is part of a collaborative staffing agreement with the **Mennonite Church USA (MC USA)** Executive Board. Danner currently serves as associate executive director of Church Vitality for MC USA.

Beginning Sept. 1, 2021, Danner will split his time between the MC USA Executive Board and MEA. For more information, see the news release from MEA and MC USA: <https://bit.ly/2021MEAExecDirector>.

Camp Luz seeks program director

Camp Luz is accepting applications for the position of program director. This full-time position is a key member of the year-round team and carries primary responsibility for planning and carrying out all retreat and summer camp programs at Camp Luz.

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.

Prayer perspective

Summer activities hopefully have been re-creational for us. It is good to change our routines from time to time. But perhaps we are anticipating a return to a more orderly daily life this fall. A new or renewed practice of prayer will be important in that daily order. Maybe a review of Jesus' prayer practice and teaching would be helpful. Let's nurture our connection to the Vine.

—Dan Hooley, Ohio Conference Prayer Coordinator

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

The full job description is available at www.campluz.com. Resumes should be sent to Andrew Michaels, Camp Director, at andrew@campluz.com or mailed to the camp office.

Giving to Conference drops in July

Giving to Ohio Conference dropped during July, according to figures supplied by Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth. Receipts for the month of July totaled just \$21,768, compared to the \$25,467 given during June.

Expenses for July totaled \$28,896, resulting in a deficit of \$7,128 for the month. As of the end of July, the Conference's operating balance stood at -\$3,124 for the 2021-22 fiscal year. The Ohio Conference's fiscal year ends March 31, 2022.

New Pastor Orientation held Aug. 15-16

Ohio Conference held a New Pastor Orientation Aug. 15-16 in Holmes County and Wayne County. Thirteen people participated, including Ohio Conference pastoral staff members. The orientation helped pastors new to the Ohio Conference learn to know each other and learn about resources available to them.

In addition to visiting the Ohio Conference office in Kidron, participants spent time at MCC Connections in Kidron, the Amish and Mennonite Heritage Center in Berlin, and Heini's Cheese Chalet in Berlin. They also had lunch at Mrs. Yoder's Kitchen in Mt. Hope. To see photos from this event, go to <https://bit.ly/2021NewPastorOrientation>.

MennoMedia offers new resources for pastors

MennoMedia is offering the "What Now?" series designed specifically for pastors as they navigate the challenges and opportunities that have emerged as a result of the global pandemic. In August, September, and October subscribers will receive an email every other week with links to practical resources, worship helps, downloadable PDFs, shareable images, a mini-series of [-ing podcasts](#), and more.

There will be monthly practical resources in each of the following areas: Worship, Connection, Faith Formation, Sustaining Leaders, Community Engagement, and Navigating Polarization. Go to <https://bit.ly/WhatNowSignup> to sign up to receive these free resources.

Rooted and Grounded returns to AMBS

Registration is open for the fifth **Rooted and Grounded Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship**, which will be held Oct. 14-16 at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana. The theme of this conference will be "Land: Loss, Connection and Imagination." The event will be offered in a hybrid format; some elements will be available only to in-person participants, and some will be available to participants joining via livestream. [See https://bit.ly/2021RootedandGrounded](https://bit.ly/2021RootedandGrounded) for details.

Event perspective

Online registration is open for five different events sponsored by the Ohio Conference:

- Sept. 30 — **Prepare/Enrich Training**, Salem Mennonite, Kidron
- Oct. 15-17 — **Youth Worker Retreat**, Camp Luz
- Oct. 19 — **Prepare/Enrich Training**, West Clinton Mennonite, Wauseon
- Nov. 6 — **Believe and Be Baptized Workshop**, Columbus Mennonite
- Nov. 12-14 — **Pastor-Spouse Retreat**, Mills Park Hotel, Yellow Springs

To register for any of these events, go to <https://bit.ly/OhioConferenceEvents>.

Leadership perspective

Ohio Conference will hold a Women in Leadership Retreat Feb. 18-19, 2022. Please see the enclosed event flier for details.

Celebration perspective

Sonnenberg Mennonite Church is celebrating its 200th anniversary Sept. 24-26 with a variety of events which are free and open to the public. Please see the enclosed flier for details.

Perspective deadlines

Aug. 31 for Sept. 2 issue

Sept. 14 for Sept. 16 issue
