

Perspective



www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Cluster meetings start tonight

Fall cluster meetings for delegates to Annual Conference Assembly get underway tonight. Four meetings are scheduled:

- Oct. 21 — Bethel Mennonite Church, West Liberty
- Oct. 28 — Lockport Mennonite Church, Stryker
- Nov. 2 — Orrville Mennonite Church, Orrville
- Nov. 4 — Online meeting via Zoom



Cluster
Meetings

All meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m. and last about 90 minutes. To assist in preparation for these meetings, all delegates should register in advance. Please register online at <https://bit.ly/Fall2021ClusterMeetings>.

Women in Leadership Retreat set for Feb. 18-19

Registration is now open for Ohio Conference's Women in Leadership Retreat, which will take place Feb. 18-19 at the St. Francis Spirituality Center in Tiffin. The theme of the retreat is "Empowered by the Holy Spirit to lead like yourself."



The speaker for this retreat will be Rebecca Slough, academic dean emerita and professor emerita of worship and the arts at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. **Retreat planners are encouraging every Ohio Conference congregation to send at least one woman to this retreat.**

Cost of the retreat is \$75 per person. For more information, please see the enclosed retreat brochure. To register, go to <https://bit.ly/WomenInLeadershipRetreat>.

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.

Financial perspective

Ohio Conference's financial deficit increased during September. Receipts for the month were only \$18,509, lower than in any other month in the current fiscal year. Expenses for September totaled \$28,682, resulting in a \$10,173 deficit for the month. As of the end of September, the Conference's operating balance for 2021-22 was -\$20,230.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

Retreat registration deadline is extended

The registration deadline for the Ohio Conference Pastor-Spouse Retreat has been extended to **Oct. 28**. There is still room for two more couples to attend this retreat, which will take place Nov. 12-14 at the Mills Park Hotel in Yellow Springs. To register or to learn more, go to <https://bit.ly/2021Pastor-Spouse>.

Webinar to focus on reason for immigration

If you are interested in learning more about the reasons why some people are migrating to Ohio, consider participating in a webinar on Nov. 4. This webinar, titled “Terror and Loss — War in Guatemala,” will feature **Maria Garcia** from Eastern Michigan University. She will discuss the civil war in Guatemala and how it started the migration of Mayan refugees to the U.S. and Tuscarawas County. This free webinar will take place on Nov. 4 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. To register online, please go to <https://bit.ly/Nov4ImmigrationWebinar>.

Dan King of the Immigration Resource Team says, “Having heard Maria Garcia in person twice, I know this will be a very informative time! She has visited Guatemala numerous times and has done considerable research to discover the dynamics behind the many Guatemalans moving into our area.”

Register for Believe and Be Baptized by Oct. 25

Ohio Conference and Central District Conference are co-hosting a workshop about baptism, ***Believe and Be Baptized: Conversations on a 500-year-old Tradition***. Led by historian John D. Roth, this workshop will take place Saturday, Nov. 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Columbus Mennonite Church.

The workshop will include a time of conversation with local Catholic and Lutheran clergy, and will explore a number of questions about baptism.

Lunch will be served. There is no charge for this workshop, but registration is required. Register online at <https://bit.ly/Believe-BeBaptized> by **Oct. 25**.

Health plan open enrollment begins Nov. 1

The Corinthian Plan, the health plan of Mennonite Church USA (MC USA), provides affordable group health coverage for pastors and staff of eligible congregations.

Open enrollment for 2022 is from Nov. 1-Dec. 31, 2021. All MC USA-affiliated congregations can enroll their eligible staff for health coverage, life and disability insurance, and/or optional dental and vision coverage. For more information, please visit The Corinthian Plan website at <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/ministry/the-corinthian-plan/> or contact Duncan Smith (director) at duncans@mennoniteusa.org or Denise Henke (Everence, administrator) at denise.henke@everence.com.

Prayer perspective

Please pray for the safe release of 17 Christian aid workers who were kidnapped in Haiti on Saturday, Oct. 16. The group, representing Christian Aid Ministries, located in Berlin and Millersburg, Ohio, consists of 12 adults (six men and six women) and five children (8 months - 15 years). For more information, see <https://christianaidministries.org/updates/haiti-staff-abduction/>.

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This Sunday, Oct. 24, is Pastor Steve Heatwole’s last Sunday at Lockport Mennonite Church, as he is retiring. Please pray for Steve and his wife, Bonnie; Pastor Matt Weaver, who is continuing at Lockport; and the entire Lockport Mennonite Church during this time of transition.

Perspective inserts

This issue of *Perspective* includes the November-December issue of *Prayer Prompter* and the November issue of *Prayer Vine* from Mennonite Mission Network.

Perspective deadlines

Nov. 2 for Nov. 4 issue
Nov. 16 for Nov. 18 issue
