

Perspective



Ohio Conference
of Mennonite
Church USA

www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Retreat provides time for rejuvenation

Twenty-four couples attended the Ohio Conference Pastor-Spouse Retreat Nov. 12-14 at the Mills Park Hotel in Yellow Springs. In keeping with the retreat theme, “Live and Laugh,” Christian comedian Ron Sweet performed on Friday night. The retreat offered pastors and their spouses a chance to relax and to connect with other pastoral couples from around the Ohio Conference. To see photos from this retreat, go to <https://bit.ly/2021Pastor-SpousePhotos>.



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.

OC Winter Read to offer space for discussion

You're invited: Please join us for the Ohio Conference Winter Read.

This winter Ohio Conference is trying something new, a Conference-wide book study offered via Zoom. This year we will be discussing Latasha Morrison's book *Be the Bridge: Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation*.



Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation.

Discussion leaders will be Pastor Vikki Pruitte-Sorrells of Lee Heights Community Church in Cleveland and Pastor Kevin Himes of Salem Mennonite Church in Kidron. These pastors led their congregations in a joint study of the book last winter.

The discussion will take place from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. on five Thursdays — Jan. 6, 13, and 20, and Feb. 3 and 17. The book is available as a paperback or on Kindle on the Amazon website: <https://bit.ly/BeTheBridgeBook>.

To register for these online discussions, go to <https://bit.ly/2022OCWinterRead>.

Prayer perspective

Ohio Conference invites you to remember its Gifts Discernment Ministry Team, chaired by Alvis Pettker, in your prayers. Composed of 11 members, the team is currently working on finding volunteers to fill vacancies for the next Conference year. Please pray for wisdom and discernment as they continue their work.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

Deficit increases during October

Ohio Conference's deficit increased during October, according to figures provided by Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth. Receipts for the month totaled \$24,986, including \$24,663 in giving from Ohio Conference congregations. Expenses for the month totaled \$29,615, resulting in a deficit of \$4,629 for the month.

As of the end of October, the Conference's operating balance for the 2021-22 fiscal year was -\$24,859. The Conference fiscal year ends March 31, 2022.

Central Christian seeks superintendent

Central Christian School in Kidron, Ohio, is seeking a superintendent for the K-12 school beginning July 1, 2022. Ideal candidates will know Jesus as Lord and Savior, share a clear commitment to the Anabaptist tradition, and have excellent communication skills. They will administer the school while exercising leadership skills to fulfill the spiritual vision of Central Christian School. Interested parties may send a resume and inquiry to searchcommittee@centralchristianschool.org.

MMN seeks staff for multiple departments

Full-time job opportunities are available in various departments at Mennonite Mission Network: human resources, finance, global partnerships, and training and resources. See full job descriptions and apply at [MennoniteMission.net/Employment](https://www.mennonitemission.net/Employment) or direct questions to StaffRecruitment@mennonitemission.net.

Health plan open enrollment continues

Health insurance reminder: The open enrollment period for the Corinthian Plan, the health plan of Mennonite Church USA (MC USA), will continue through 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.

SpringHaven seeks new executive director

Mark Leinbach is stepping down as executive director of SpringHaven Counseling Center, effective Dec. 31. He has served SpringHaven as executive director for seven years.

The SpringHaven board has begun a search process for the next executive director. Qualified candidates are encouraged to submit resumes and make any inquiries via email to board@springhaven.us.

To learn more, please see the news release from SpringHaven included with this issue of *Perspective*.

Musical perspective

Girl Named Tom, the sibling trio from Zion Mennonite Church, has had continued success in two live rounds of competition on NBC's *The Voice*. The trio is one of 11 remaining finalists and will perform again during the live shows next week. To see one of their most recent performances on *The Voice*, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AjE37v3SpG0>.

Financial perspective

Liz Hand, of Pleasant Finance LLC, based in Canton, Ohio, will join Mennonite Women USA at 7 p.m. **this evening, Nov. 18**, for an online conversation about women and finances.

This conversation will focus on some of the trickier parts of financial planning, such as how your financial advisor is getting paid, and products you might choose or avoid (term life insurance vs. whole life, long-term care insurance, annuities, target date funds, etc.)

To register for this Zoom conversation, go to <https://bit.ly/MWConversation>.

Perspective deadlines

Nov. 30 for Dec. 2 issue
Dec. 14 for Dec 16 issue
