

Perspective



Ohio Conference
of Mennonite
Church USA

www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Join us for the Ohio Conference Winter Read

Coming in January: 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*.



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>.

Advent at Home guide now available

ELKHART, Indiana (Mennonite Church USA) — Mennonite Church USA's annual Advent at Home worship guide is now available to help individuals and households of all ages prepare for the Advent season. The 2021 guide follows the theme "Dare to Imagine!"



Download it from MC

USA's **Advent at Home 2021** webpage at <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/resource-portal/resource/advent-at-home/>. This resource offers weekly and daily Scriptures, worship rituals, prayers, activities, and background information.

To find out more about this Advent at Home guide, you can join a one-hour webinar with Talashia Keim Yoder, writer of this re-

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.

Musical perspective

Girl Named Tom, the sibling trio from Zion Mennonite Church, has competed successfully in several rounds of competition on NBC's *The Voice*. They will be competing in the live shows, which start next week. To see one of their most recent performances on *The Voice*, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WPUNAY9L_Zs.

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

source, on Sunday, Nov. 14, at 5 p.m. ET. She will share creative ideas about how to slow down and connect with God each day during this season of anticipation. To register for this webinar, go to <https://bit.ly/2021AdventAtHome>.

Discipleship training to be offered

How do we transform individuals into active disciples of Jesus Christ? In the past several years, many Ohio Conference congregations have worked toward this goal by participating in the Missional Discipleship Initiative (MDI). This initiative was first offered by Mennonite Mission Network.

Starting in January Ohio Conference will offer training in MDI to a new cohort of church leaders. This online training, which is open to both pastors and lay leaders, will take place from January through June. Participating church leaders will meet online twice a month.

In addition to training leaders, MDI utilizes Missional Discipleship Groups in the participating congregations. Missional Discipleship Groups are three-person small groups which meet face to face each week.

If you are interested in participating in the upcoming MDI training, please contact Kevin Himes at pastorkevin@salemmennonitekidron.org.

ACA workshop suggestions sought

Ohio Conference is seeking suggestions for workshops for the Ohio Annual Conference Assembly, scheduled for March 4-5, 2022, at Zion Mennonite Church in Archbold, Ohio. This year, our theme will be “Befriending the Neighborhood: Am I a Good Neighbor?” (Luke 10:25-37). We are planning to meet in person, but if it is deemed best to go virtual, we may be asking presenters to present via Zoom as we did this past spring.

Topics should be related to this year’s theme or to other current conference initiatives — leadership development, anti-racism, immigration, church planting or discipleship groups.

If you have a workshop suggestion, please fill out the suggestion form included with this issue of *Perspective* and send it to Judy King at ohmc@zoominternet.net.

Workshop to address congregational anxiety

How do you prevent anxiety from becoming a toxic force in your congregation? “Healthy Congregations,” a workshop presented by Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, can help your church stay focused on its true mission by teaching its leaders how to prevent or minimize destructive conflict. This online workshop will be held Dec. 2 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CT. A group discount is available. For more details, see the workshop flier included with this issue of *Perspective*. To register, go to www.LMPeaceCenter.org/all-events/.

Advent perspective

Looking for Advent resources? CommonWord has compiled a curated list of worship, drama, family, and other resources for Advent. To view these resources, go to www.commonword.ca/go/2190.

Writing perspective

Anabaptist World is seeking articles and visual art on biblical and/or contemporary themes celebrating the birth of Christ. The articles should be about Christmas, not Advent. Most readers will receive the issue less than a week before Christmas. Deadline for submission is Nov. 29. See <https://bit.ly/AnabaptistWorldChristmas2021> for details.

Perspective insert

This issue of *Perspective* includes bulletin announcements for November from Mennonite Mission Network.

Perspective deadlines

Nov. 16 for Nov. 18 issue
Nov. 30 for Dec. 2 issue
