

Conference Calendar

JAN 2022

- 6 *Be the Bridge* online book study, via Zoom
- 13 *Be the Bridge* online book study, via Zoom
- 13 Ministry Development Team Meeting, online meeting
- 18 Cluster Meeting, Bethel Mennonite, West Liberty
- 20 *Be the Bridge* online book study, via Zoom
- 27 Cluster Meeting, Salem Mennonite, Kidron

FEB

- 1 Cluster Meeting, Tedrow Mennonite, Wauseon
- 3 *Be the Bridge* online book study, via Zoom
- 10 Cluster Meeting, Maple Grove Mennonite, Hartville
- 15 Online Cluster Meeting via Zoom
- 17 *Be the Bridge* online book study, via Zoom
- 18-19 Women in Leadership Retreat, St. Francis Spirituality Center, Tiffin

MAR

- 3-4 Missional Conference, Zion Mennonite Church, Archbold
- 4-5 Annual Conference Assembly, Zion Mennonite Church, Archbold

APR

- 22-23 Ohio MCC Comforter Bash, Kidron Community Park Recreation Building, Kidron

MAY

- 27-30 Mennonite Church USA Special Delegate Assembly, Kansas City, Missouri

Ohio Conference bulletin inserts are published six times per year by Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA.

For more information about the Ohio Conference, see the

Conference website: www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

Ann Leaman, editor: ohioevangel@gmail.com



DECEMBER 2021

Ohio Conference 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*.

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>.

Supporting
healthy, growing
congregations

Women in Leadership Retreat to feature Rebecca Slough

Ohio Conference will hold a Women in Leadership Retreat 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."

Rebecca Slough, academic dean emerita and professor emerita of worship and the arts at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, will be the retreat speaker. She is passionate about supporting women to become confident, trustworthy, but not perfect, leaders.

Retreat planners are encouraging every Ohio Conference congregation to send at least one woman to this retreat.



Rebecca Slough

Cost of the retreat is \$75 per person. Registration is due by **Jan. 28**. For more information, please see the enclosed retreat brochure. To register, go to <https://bit.ly/WomenInLeadershipRetreat>.

Ohio MCC Comforter Bash planned

Save the date for the Ohio MCC Comforter Bash on April 22-23! A handmade comforter provides not only warmth, but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten. Join others of all ages for this two-day event in Kidron to knot comforters that Mennonite Central Committee will distribute around the world.



We invite you to make comforter tops and backs (60"x80") for use at the Comforter Bash. Comforter backs and tops should be dropped off at the MCC Material Resources Center in Kidron (4080 Kidron Road) between Jan. 1 and March 1. For more information, visit mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash.

Pastor-Spouse Retreat offers 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>.

MDS plans tornado response

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) has Early Response Teams investigating several of the sites of last week's tornadoes to help determine how and where MDS will respond. Many of their partners via the National Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) which specialize in search and rescue, damage assessment and cleanup are

already responding. Together with their NVOAD partners and local officials, MDS will determine when and where volunteers will be needed most. If you are interested in being added to a volunteer waitlist, please fill out the form on the MDS website: <https://mcs.volunteermatrix.com/e/113>