

Perspective

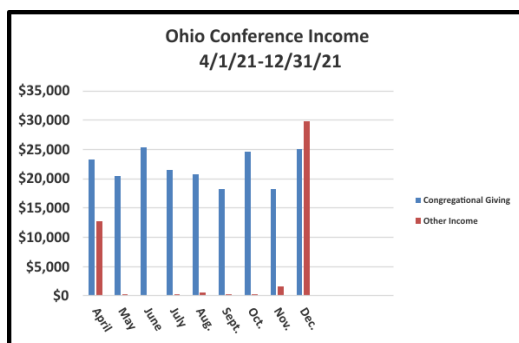


www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Giving increases during December

Giving to the Ohio Conference increased greatly during December, according to figures provided by Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth.



Receipts for December totaled \$54,889. Of that amount, \$25,089 came from congregational giving.

During December giving from individuals also was very strong. In response to a year-end appeal from Conference Minister Dick Barrett, individuals gave a total of \$29,775 to Ohio Conference.

Expenses for the month totaled just \$27,017, resulting in a surplus of \$27,872 for the month. As a result, the Conference operating balance was -\$20,278 at the end of December, a great improvement from the balance at the end of November, which was -\$48,150. Thank you to all who contributed! The Ohio Conference fiscal year ends March 31, 2022.

Register for Women in Leadership by Jan. 28

Last call for registrations: Jan. 28 is the registration deadline for Ohio Conference's Women in Leadership Retreat, which will be held Feb. 18-19 at the St. Francis Spirituality Center in Tiffin.

The theme of the Women in Leadership 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.

Cost of the retreat is \$75 per person. For more information, please see the retreat brochure: <https://bit.ly/2022WomeninLeadershipBrochure>. 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.

Perspective inserts

This issue of *Perspective* includes a statement from the Ohio Conference Leadership Team, as well as announcements from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, information about job opportunities with Mennonite Mission Network and the February issue of *Prayer Vine*.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

Register now for ACA

Online registration is open for the 2022 Annual Conference Assembly (ACA). Zion Mennonite Church in Archbold will host the 2022 ACA March 4-5. The theme of this year's gathering will be "Befriending the Neighborhood: Am I a Good Neighbor?"

For more information about ACA, please see <https://bit.ly/2022ACAInfo>. To register online, go to <https://bit.ly/2022ACARegistration>. Please register for ACA by **Feb. 11**.

Learn the practical side of being a good neighbor

Immediately prior to ACA, Zion Mennonite Church will host a missional conference March 3-4 featuring speakers Howard and Cathy Wagler. The Waglers serve as network directors for South Central Mennonite Conference. In this conference they will focus on the practical side of being a good neighbor, based on Luke 10:25-37.

For more information about the 2022 missional conference, please see the conference brochure: <https://bit.ly/2022MissionalConferenceBrochure>. To register online for the missional conference, go to <https://bit.ly/2022MissionalConference>.

Study to focus on disability and ministry

A note to church leaders from the Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADN):

If you are interested in \$100 in exchange for 60-90 minutes of your time talking about disability in your congregation, then read on.

Erik Carter, professor of special education at Vanderbilt University, and his team are hoping to speak with hundreds of people across the country who are actively involved in leading some form of intentional disability ministry at their church. This is part of a first-of-its-kind National Study of Disability and Ministry. They want to learn about what churches are currently doing in this area, the complexities of this work, the difference it is making, and the resource needs of ministry leaders. Their findings could help advance the work of organizations like ADN — as well as congregations. The interview lasts just 60-90 minutes, takes place at the convenience of the person they are interviewing, and includes a \$100 gift card. For more information or to sign up, visit www.disabilityministry.org.

Seminary scholarships available

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) has several merit-based scholarships for new graduate students from the United States or Canada, whether they pursue studies at a distance or on the AMBS campus. Application deadline is March 15. For more information, please see <https://bit.ly/AMBSScholarships>.

Meeting perspective

Winter cluster meetings for delegates to Annual Conference Assembly have begun. Each meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and last approximately 90 minutes.

Four cluster meetings remain:

- Jan. 27 — Salem Mennonite Church, Kidron
- Feb. 1 — Tedrow Mennonite Church, Wauseon
- Feb. 10 — Maple Grove Mennonite Church, Hartville
- Feb. 15 — Online via Zoom

Please register to attend in advance online at <https://bit.ly/2022WinterClusterMeetings>.

Climate perspective

The Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions (CSCS) has produced a brief documentary video about last year's CSCS Climate Ride across the United States. Climate Rider Loren Friesen recorded footage throughout the ride which he has compiled into a half-hour video. The documentary will premiere Jan. 30 at 8 p.m. EST on Zoom and Facebook Live. Following the showing will be a talkback session with a panel of riders. To see a preview, go to <https://bit.ly/ClimateRideVideo>.

Perspective deadlines

Feb. 1 for Feb. 3 issue
Feb. 15 for Feb. 17 issue
