

# Perspective



Ohio Conference  
of Mennonite  
Church USA

[www.ohiomennoniteconference.org](http://www.ohiomennoniteconference.org)

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## ***Pastors to gather in Plain City June 15***

**Attention, pastors:** Ohio Conference is hosting a Congregational Pastors' Gathering at Der Dutchman Restaurant in Plain City on Wednesday, June 15, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This gathering will be a time to pastorally process the MC USA Special Delegate Assembly experience. If you are able to attend, please reserve your complimentary lunch with Judy King at the Conference office by calling 330-857-5421 or emailing her at [ohmc@zoominternet.net](mailto:ohmc@zoominternet.net).

We are planning a more formal credentialed ministers' gathering in late summer or early fall to be led by our consultant, Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi, as we discern God's vision for the future of Ohio Conference.

## ***Many work together at MCC Comforter Bash***

Many people came together to support Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) at the Ohio MCC Comforter Bash on April 22-23.

A total of 129 comforters were knotted during the two-day event at the Kidron Community Park Building, with 150 volunteers participating in the work on Friday and 75 volunteers on Saturday. MCC will distribute these comforters to people in need around the world. For a gallery of photos from this event, please see <https://bit.ly/2022ComforterBash>. All photos by Jennifer Steiner of MCC Great Lakes.

## ***Immigration Resource Team completes its work***

Ohio Conference would like to express its appreciation for the work completed by the Immigration Resource Team (IRT) from 2018-2022. This resource team was convened to investigate, evaluate and help congregations implement the resolution on immigration which delegates affirmed in 2019. This group created a list of immigration resources as well as a biblical guide to immigration. In addition, they worked at highlighting various aspects of immigration to the Conference through articles, online posts and a giving project to San Antonio Mennonite's Casa de Maria y Marta. Special thanks goes out to all previous members of the IRT: Megan Bettelon, Greg Bowman, Dan King, Krishna

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***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.***

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## ***Prayer perspective***

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**P**lease remember Ohio Conference congregations, pastors and related ministries in your prayers. The May-June issue of *Prayer Prompter* is included with this issue of *Perspective*. *Prayer Prompter* is compiled by Dan Hooley, prayer coordinator for the Ohio Conference.

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## ***Please distribute Perspective copies to:***

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- Pastor(s)
  - Church chairperson
  - Youth sponsor(s)
  - Delegates
  - Duplicate for other church leaders
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Pagniano, Alysa Short, Hannah Troyer, Kelsey Troyer, and Mara Weaver Boshart.

### **Conference ends fiscal year with deficit**

Ohio Conference ended its 2021-22 fiscal year with a deficit of \$12,504, according to figures provided by Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth. The fiscal year ended March 31, 2022.

The Conference began March with a small positive operating balance of \$245. Receipts for March totaled \$29,465, including \$28,676 in giving from congregations. Expenses for the month totaled \$42,214, resulting in a deficit of \$12,749 for the month.

### **AMBS to hold webinar about Christian nationalism**

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) is hosting a free webinar about Christian nationalism on Wednesday, May 4, from 2 to 3 p.m. Drew Strait, Ph.D., assistant professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at AMBS, will provide an overview of the destructive force of White Christian nationalism. All registrants will receive access to a recording of the webinar. Learn more and register at <https://bit.ly/AMBSMay4Webinar>.

### **Collaboration seeks to counter military recruitment**

Mennonites Against Militarism – a collaboration of **Mennonite Central Committee, U.S.** (MCC) and **Mennonite Church USA** (MC USA) – is seeking to launch an initiative to counter military recruitment of U.S. youth. The vision for the project, Alternatives to Military Enlistment Network (AMEN), is to connect young people with volunteer advisors who can help them find non-military career, service and training opportunities. To learn more, please see <https://bit.ly/MilitaryRecruitmentAlternatives>.

### **Holy Land tour planned for 2023**

Have you ever dreamed of walking where Jesus walked? Of seeing where Jesus died? Of sailing the Sea of Galilee like Jesus and His disciples? Now you have the opportunity! In partnership with Friendship Tours ([friendshiptours.com](http://friendshiptours.com)), Pastor Ryan Harker (West Clinton Mennonite) will be leading a group on a 10-day tour of Israel on April 18-27, 2023.

A flier with trip information is available at <https://bit.ly/April2023HolyLandTrip>. If you are interested in learning more, please plan to attend an informational meeting on Thursday, May 5, at 7 p.m. at West Clinton. If you live at a distance but are interested in learning more, contact Pastor Ryan at [pastor.ryan@westclinton.church](mailto:pastor.ryan@westclinton.church).

### **Anabaptist Disabilities Network receives grant**

Anabaptist Disabilities Network has received Mennonite Health Services' Innovation Grant. Grant funds will be used for the development of an Anabaptist membership curriculum for youth and adults with intellectual disabilities. See <https://bit.ly/ADNIInnovationGrant> for details.

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## **MC USA perspective**

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**A** reminder for congregations: Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) is holding a Special Session of the Delegate Assembly May 27-30 in Kansas City, Missouri. Have your congregation's delegates registered? To ensure that delegates have a room at the hotel, they must register by **next Wednesday, May 4**.

To register, go to <https://bit.ly/2022AssemblyRegistration>. More information for delegates is available on the MC USA website: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/special-delegate-session-22>.

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**M**ennonite Church USA is hosting an online call to prayer and fasting for the upcoming special delegate session. This online gathering will take place May 2 at 7 p.m. For more information and to register, go to <https://bit.ly/May2CalltoPrayer>.

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**A** new video from Mennonite Church USA explores the theme "We are Better Together." See it at <https://bit.ly/MCUSAVideo>.

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## **Perspective deadlines**

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May 10 for May 12 issue  
May 24 for May 26 issue

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