

OHIO MENNONITE EVANGEL

News & Views of Ohio Conference

JUL/AUG 2022



ohiomennoniteconference.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 2 Resource Corner
- 3 Ohio MCC Bike Ride to raise relief funds
- 4 Dwelling in the Word
- 5 Adriel golf event
- 6 Pastors meet for fellowship, discussion
Webinar to explore 'What now?'
- 7 Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale schedule
Conference financial report
- 8 About people
- 12 Back page briefings

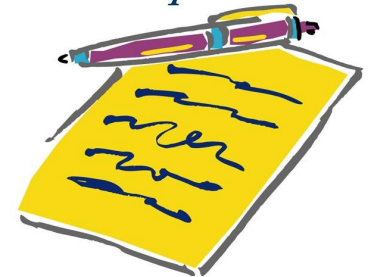
Staying the Course

With affirmation from our delegates at our Annual Conference Assembly on March 4-5, 2022, at Zion Mennonite Church in Archbold, Ohio Conference embarked on a review/discernment process looking at our vision based on our new mission statement¹, our structure, and our future affiliation with Mennonite Church USA (MC USA). Also with affirmation from our delegates, we contracted with a process consultant, Jeanne

Zimmerly Jantzi, from Design Group International to facilitate our work in the months ahead. We embarked on the review with the understanding that decisions made at MC USA's special delegate assembly on May 27-30, 2022, in Kansas City, Missouri, could impact the discernment process.

Since MC USA's special delegate assembly, we have received communication from

*From the
Leadership Team*



several of our pastors and congregations expressing concern about both their congregation and Ohio Conference's continued affiliation with MC USA. While the

Continued on page 3

Fund your local mission with a Ministry Grant

Do you have an idea for a ministry that could impact your community? Why not apply for a Ministry Grant?

The Ohio Conference Ministry Development Team (MDT) is accepting proposals from Conference congregations and related organizations for projects and mission initiatives. The MDT

has \$15,225 available for grants in 2022. The deadline to submit a grant proposal is **Monday, Aug. 1**. The MDT will consider all grant proposals at its August meeting.

Each summer since 2012, the Ministry Development Team has awarded Ministry Grants for a wide variety of local missions. For more infor-



mation or to apply for a grant, please see the Ohio Conference website: <http://bit.ly/MinistryGrants>. ■

RESOURCE CORNER

Explore these webinar offerings

By Ann Leaman
Ohio Conference
Resource Advocate

This month I would like to highlight a variety of webinars being offered by various church-related agencies. The first is an upcoming webinar, and the other three are recordings of previously offered webinars.

HOUSING

Mennonite Central Committee will host “Creative Housing Solutions for Refugees and Asylum Seekers” on Tuesday, July 26, at 2 p.m. EDT. When refugees and asylum seekers first arrive in the United States, the first thing they need is a safe place to call home. Unfortunately, the ongoing affordable housing crisis has greatly impacted families’ ability to lay down roots. Participants in this webinar will learn about different ways the faith community

has partnered with refugees, asylum seekers and organizations that serve them to offer creative housing solutions. Go to <https://bit.ly/CreativeHousing> to register.

WORSHIP

How can we best engage all life stages in worship? What can we learn from alternative expressions like Messy Church and Forest Church? During June, Anabaptist Worship Network and Mennonite Education Agency presented a webinar about intergenerational worship which explored these questions. To view a recording of the webinar, go to <https://bit.ly/IntergenerationalWorship>.

DEMENTIA

Also in June, Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADN) co-hosted “Dementia and Congregational Care,” a webinar led

by Heddie Sumner. This webinar explored some of the basics of dementia and offered communication tips and practical ways to stay connected with congregational members who are experiencing dementia, as well as their families. To view a recording of this webinar, go to <https://bit.ly/DementiaandCongregationalCare>.

PEACE

As an accompaniment to the *Stir Up Peace* video series, Mennonite Mission Network has also offered a *Stir Up Peace* webinar featuring Jonathan and Sarah Nahar. This webinar explores creating change through nonviolent direct action. A recording is available at <https://bit.ly/WebinarStirUpPeace>. To view the *Stir Up Peace* videos, go to <https://bit.ly/StirUpPeace>. ■

VOL. LXXVI, NO. 4

JUL/AUG 2022

Editor: Ann H. Leaman

Ohio Mennonite Evangel is published six times per year by the Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA, Box 210, Kidron OH 44636, telephone (330) 857-5421.

All material for publication should be submitted to the editor at 5854 Sunland St. NE, Louisville OH 44641, or via telephone: 330-453-0150, or e-mail: ohioevangel@gmail.com, one month prior to desired publication date.

Ohio Mennonite Evangel is distributed to all households of Ohio Conference congregations, other interested individuals and church agencies.

Send subscription information and email address changes to the editor at ohioevangel@gmail.com.

Personnel of the Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA

Moderator: Ken Sims — simsken6@gmail.com
Assistant Moderator: Paula Snyder Belousek — pastor@salemmennonite.com
Credentialing Ministry Chair: Myron Weaver — myronjweaver62@gmail.com
Gifts Discernment Ministry Chair: Jared Chase — jchase2882@gmail.com
Stewardship Ministry Chair: Andrew Blount — blountandrew@hotmail.com
Conference Minister: Dick Barrett — ohioconferenceminister@gmail.com
Regional Pastor: Sherah-Leigh Gerber — ocrpeast@gmail.com
Regional Pastor: Tony Doehrmann — ocrpwest@gmail.com
Administrative Secretary: Judy King — ohmc@zoominternet.net
Finance Coordinator: Stan Helmuth — cboh1@zoominternet.net
Conference Editor: Ann Leaman — ohioevangel@gmail.com
Coordinator of Volunteers: Alys Short — alysashort@gmail.com

Staying the Course

Continued from page 1

view of sexual ethics and marriage included in MC USA's recently adopted "Repentance and Transformation" resolution is one of the concerns, other concerns have been expressed as well. We thank you for your feedback and want to encourage all our pastors, delegates and congregational leaders to communicate with our pastoral staff (Dick Barrett, Sherah-Leigh Gerber and Tony Doehrmann) as well as anyone from the Leadership Team².

The Leadership Team of Ohio Conference believes it is important to stay faithful to the review/discernment process that we started on April 1. On April 28, our process consultant, Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi, facilitated an all-day retreat with the Leadership Team in Upper Sandusky. On June 15 we hosted a luncheon for our congregational pastors at Der Dutchman Restaurant in Plain City to debrief following MC USA's special delegate assembly and to

encourage one another. On Aug. 23 Jeanne will be facilitating a day for all of our active credentialed ministers. We are in the process of scheduling regional cluster meetings for our congregational delegates for the end of September and/or early October. By the end of the year, we should have a good sense of where our pastors and congregations are at and what options there will be for both the Conference and our congregations. In the beginning of the new year, we will continue discernment with our credentialed ministers and delegates as we prepare for decision making at our 2023 Annual Conference Assembly on March 3-4, 2023, in Kidron.

Christian spiritual discernment is not easy, and it takes commitment from all the people involved. As Anabaptists and Mennonites, discernment and decision making does not just include people in leadership positions, or pastors, but all the

people from all our congregations. It must be done with solid biblical understanding and the Holy Spirit. It will take much prayer and fasting to discern God's leading, both for us as a conference and for each of our congregations. In the coming weeks we will be providing resources to help us engage in spiritual practices as we seek to discern God's will together.

¹ *The mission of Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA is to Gather, Equip and Send our congregations by the power of the Holy Spirit to live out God's Greatest Commandments (Mark 12:29-31) and Jesus's Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20).*

²Ohio Conference Leadership Team: Ken Sims, Moderator; Paula Snyder Belousek, Assistant Moderator; Dick Barrett, Conference Minister; Andrew Blount, Stewardship Ministry Chair; Myron Weaver, Credentialing Ministry Chair; and Jared Chase, Gifts Discernment Ministry Chair. ■

"As Anabaptists and Mennonites, discernment and decision making does not just include people in leadership positions, or pastors, but all the people from all our congregations."

Ohio MCC Bike Ride to raise relief funds

This July a group of bike riders in Ohio will be raising funds for Mennonite Central Committee's emergency response in Ukraine.

Participants in the Ohio MCC Bike Ride will be riding on July 23 and 24. The group of riders will leave Summit Mennonite Church in Barberton and ride 100 miles over two days

(approximately 50 miles each day) to help support MCC's emergency response in Ukraine. Summit Mennonite Church will be the staging ground and overnight camping location for this event. Riders are also free to make other arrangements for overnight lodging.

Please see <https://bit.ly/2022OhioMCCBikeRide> to register to ride or to donate. For more information, contact



Ethan Horst at (330) 201-1983 or ekhorst@gmail.com. ■

CONFERENCE MINISTER MUSINGS

Dwelling in the Word

By Dick Barrett
Conference Minister

As we are early in this season of trying to discern God’s will for us together as a conference of Mennonite churches across Ohio and our neighboring states, it is very important to make sure that each of our hearts, minds and souls is prepared for the process. Even as individual Christians, discerning God’s will for our lives is not always easy. As congregations, discernment becomes exponentially more difficult, and even more so for a conference and/or denomination of churches.

Christian biblical spiritual discernment is not easy and takes commitment from all the people involved. Anabaptists and Mennonites have traditionally included all of our people in discernment processes, especially as we seek God’s will on important decisions. In order for us to discern God’s will as best we can, it is important for us to engage in spiritual disciplines. While many of us engage in specific spiritual disciplines most of the time, there are seasons in the life of a church when it is appropriate for us to engage in some spiritual disciplines together. In the current season of our congregations and conference this seems to

be one of those times. At Ohio Conference’s Annual Conference Assembly on March 4-5, 2022 there were four spiritual disciplines that were recommended several times by our delegates to engage in together during our year of review: 1) Dwelling in the Word; 2) Communal Discernment; 3) Prayer; and 4) Fasting.

What if most of us in Ohio Conference were able to commit together to reading the New Testament over the course of the next six months, learning more about and engaging in communal discernment, setting a time each day/week for prayer, and fasting for one meal each week? Would we be able to see God’s will for our future together more clearly? I believe that the answer to that question is yes. Over the course of the next several months I and several others are going to be spending time through written communication and in podcasts inviting and encouraging as many people as possible from Ohio Conference to actively participate in each of these four spiritual disciplines, starting with “Dwelling in the Word.”

“Since the beginning of the Anabaptist reformation, Mennonites have sought to be a biblical people in ways that both borrowed from the Protestant reformation and differed from it. Mennonites have shared the traditional Protestant emphasis



on the authority of Scripture for doctrine. In addition, Mennonites have underscored the following emphases:

- the authority of Scripture for ethics, for the relation of the church to society, and for church polity.
- the interpretation of Scripture in harmony with Jesus Christ, in the sense that his life, teachings, death and resurrection are essential to understanding the Bible as a whole.
- the congregation of believers as the place where individual understandings and interpretations of Scripture are to be tested.” — *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective*, Article 4

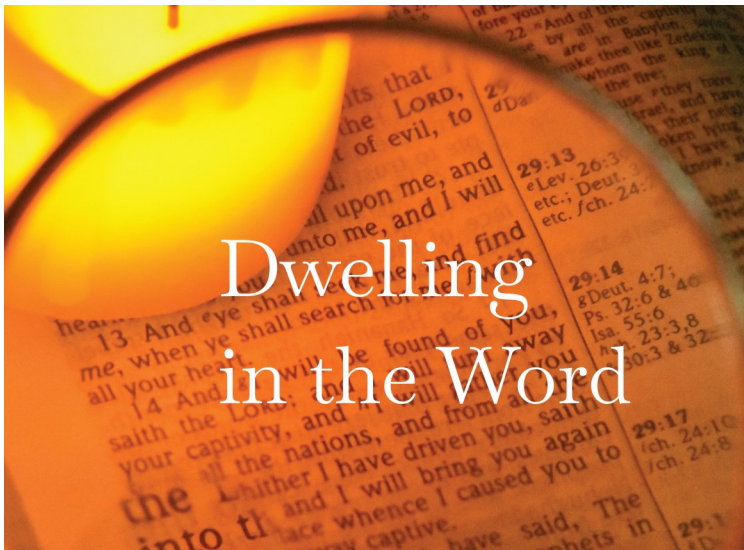
All of us are guilty at times of “proof texting” – picking certain passages of Scripture to sup-

Continued on page 5

“While many of us engage in specific spiritual disciplines most of the time, there are seasons in the life of a church when it is appropriate for us to engage in some spiritual disciplines together.”

Musings

Continued from page 4



Dwelling in the Word

port what we already believe or what we want to focus on. One of the ways to avoid proof texting is to read through a larger amount of scripture, allowing God to speak to us through his written word. Historically, Anabaptists have given emphasis to Jesus' *Sermon on the Mount* (Matthew 5 – 7), the four gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) and the entire New Testament.

Beginning this month I am inviting all of us in Ohio Conference to read through the entire New Testament by the end of the year. For those who are currently following a Bible reading schedule, especially if it is one that your congregation is encouraging, please continue to follow that schedule. Feel free to add the six-month schedule if you so desire. Reading

through the entire New Testament in less than six months requires reading only two chapters per day. On our Ohio Conference website, you can find a suggested reading schedule beginning the week of July 17, with readings Monday through Saturday, and Sunday to take off or to catch up. (See <https://ohiomenoniteconference.org/resources/dwelling-in-the-word>.)

Over the course of the next six months, whenever we gather together, in whatever setting it may be (conference/ congregational meetings, delegate cluster meetings, Sunday school, small group, etc.) may we take some time to share how we hear God speaking to us, our church, and/or our conference through his Word.

To download a copy of the daily reading schedule, go to <https://bit.ly/OCDwellingintheWord>. ■

“Beginning this month I am inviting all of us in Ohio Conference to read through the entire New Testament by the end of the year.”

Golf event to benefit Adriel

Adriel will hold a benefit golf scramble Monday, Sept. 12, at 12:30 p.m. at the Eagle Rock Golf Club in Defiance. Proceeds benefit children in Northwest Ohio and throughout the state through Adriel's foster care and adoption, clinical services, family preservation, and training programs. For more information, see <https://www.adriel.org/adriel-golf-outings>. ■

Adriel
Benefit Golf Scramble

Monday
September 12, 2022
12:30 PM

Eagle Rock Golf Club
211 Carpenter Road
Defiance, Ohio

Join us for a fun day of golf for a great cause!

Pastors meet for fellowship, discussion

Congregational pastors from around the Ohio Conference gathered at Der Dutchman Restaurant in Plain City on June 15 for a time of fellowship and discussion. Photo by Sherah-Leigh Gerber.

On June 15, 2022, Ohio Conference hosted a gathering for congregational pastors at Der Dutchman Restaurant in Plain City. It was a time of fellowship and a chance to debrief after Mennonite Church USA's special delegate assembly in Kansas City, Missouri, which was held May 27-30. There were 30 pastors present, representing 24 congregations. Ohio Conference was represented by our pastoral staff (Dick Barrett, Sherah-Leigh Gerber and Tony Doehrmann) and Conference Moderator Ken Sims.

While this gathering was a time for informal dialogue with our



congregational pastors, a full-day retreat is scheduled for all active credentialed ministers of Ohio Conference on Tuesday, Aug. 23, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Upper Sandusky Public Library. The day will be

facilitated by our consultant, Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi, as part of our review and discernment process. We encourage all of our active credentialed ministers to take the time to attend that day. ■

MC USA webinar to discuss 'What now?'

What do the decisions made at the Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) Special Delegate Assembly mean for conferences, congregations and indi-

viduals? MC USA will hold a webinar titled "Special Session of the Delegate Assembly: What now?" on July 18 at 7 p.m. on Zoom. This webinar will be hosted by MC USA Ex-

ecutive Director Glen Guyton, assisted by Linda Dibble, MC USA moderator; and John Carlson, MC USA moderator-elect. To register, go to <https://bit.ly/Webinar6-18-22>. ■

Special Session of the Delegate Assembly: What now?

July 18, 2022 at 7 p.m. ET / 4 p.m. PT on Zoom

A webinar hosted by Glen Guyton, with Linda Dibble, Jon Carlson and Michael Danner.

Intérprete al español disponible.



57th *Ohio Mennonite*
Relief Sale & Auction

AUGUST 5 & 6, 2022
WOOSTER, OHIO

Schedule of Events

All events in the fairground's air-conditioned Event Center!

Friday Evening, August 5

- 4pm Silent Auction, Food Stands, Artisan's Market
Quilter's Corner & Auction Displays Open
- 6:30pm Music by 4:12 Collective
- 6pm Volleyball Tournament contact Jodi, 330-466-0236

Saturday, All Day, August 6

- 7am Pancake Breakfast, Fresh Sausage, Eggs and More!
- 7:30am 1K Kid's Fun Run; 5K Run and Walk for Relief to follow at 8am
- 8am Artisan's Market, Quilter's Corner, Auction Displays & Food Stands Open
- 9am **LiveOnline Auction**
Quilts, wallhangings, locally-made quality furniture, tools, toys and "Experiences" will sell to the highest bidders!
NEW! Thousands of Dollars of Gift Cards donated by Ohio's Amish Country businesses will sell live and online!
- 10:30am **Children's Auction** - Toys for children 12 and under

REGISTER TO BID ONLINE

Secure Online Bidding via Proxibid Please visit ohiomccreliefsale.org to sign up for online bidding. Some larger items are not shippable. Please read item descriptions for details.

Featured Items



Traeger Timberline 1300 Grill



GE 23.6 Cu. Ft. French Door Refrigerator



Toro Zero Turn Mower Titan My Ride 54 Model 75315



Toro Commercial Mower Grandstand 60 Model 72513

More Auction Items — Garage Door & Installation, Hotel & Vacation Packages, Tickets to "Girl Named Tom," Handmade Doll House

Funds raised at the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale are donated to Mennonite Central Committee, the disaster relief organization of the Mennonite Church. To learn more about MCC and its activities and projects, visit mcc.org.



Mennonite Central Committee

For more information: President—Brenda LaTulippe, 330-933-6372 Auctioneer—Steve Chupp, 330-465-4725 Quilts—Susan Hofstetter, 330-465-5814 Large Items—Paul Bontrager, 330-957-9925 5K Run/Walk—Register at ohiomccreliefsale.org



FINANCIAL REPORT

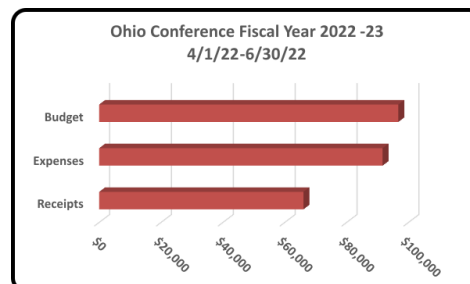
Conference deficit continues

Ohio Conference's financial deficit increased during the month of June, according to figures provided by Financial Coordinator Stan Helmuth.

Receipts during June totaled \$32,307, including \$27,238 in giving from congregations. Expenses during June totaled

\$32,870, resulting in a deficit of \$563 for the month.

As of June 30, the Conference's operating balance for the 2022-23 fiscal year was -\$25,538. The fiscal year ends March 31, 2023.



ABOUT PEOPLE

Pastoral notes

Regional Pastor Tony Doerhmann (left) leads the installation ceremony for Dan Miller, who has joined the pastoral team at Zion Mennonite Church in Archbold as an intentional interim pastor.



On May 8 Dan Miller was installed as an intentional interim pastor at Zion Mennonite

Church in Archbold. He is serving on the collaborative ministry team at Zion. At the time of

Dan's installation, the ministry team included Sue Short, who is continuing in her role as a collaborative minister, and Corben Weaver Boshart, who completed his service with Zion at the end of June.

Regional Pastor Tony Doerhmann led the installation ceremony. The morning's sermon was a front-porch style discussion between Corben and Dan as they sat in chairs on the platform in front of the congregation.

Dan recently retired from his role as the conference minister for the Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference. ■

Regional Pastor Tony Doerhmann and Sue Short display Sue's certificate of ordination. She was ordained June 5 at Zion Mennonite Church in Archbold.



Sue Short, collaborative minister at Zion Mennonite Church in Archbold, was ordained for Christian ministry on Sunday, June 5, during the morning worship service.

The worship service also included a celebration of Pentecost. Sue's academic advisor, Rachel Miller Jacobs, preached the morning sermon, which was based on Acts 2:1-13.

Regional Pastor Tony Doerhmann led the ordination ceremony, and he told the congregation that part of the ordination process includes an interview with the Ohio Conference Credentialing Ministry. One of the questions asked in that interview is this: "Comment on your understanding of ordination - what does it mean to you; how will it make a difference in your ministry?"

Tony shared Sue's response to that question with the congregation:

"My understanding is that ordination is a covenantal relationship between a congregation, the licensed candidate, and ultimately, God. During the licensing period, the congregation

Continued on page 9

ABOUT PEOPLE Continued from page 8

discerns the calling and gifts of the pastor, while the pastor also engages in discernment. While licensing is similar to a 'trial period,' once ordained, it is intended to be a lifetime commitment to ministry and to the church. Ordination is an affirmation of the pastor for ministry leadership by the congregation, the conference, and the denomination.

"Personally, I view ordination as a sacred trust offered to the pastor by the congregation. It is a gift of good faith. An ordained

pastor is ideally a person of the utmost character, committed to humbly leading the congregation, faithfully preaching and serving, and desiring to grow in discipleship and spiritual maturity, even as the pastor discipled others. It is not a commitment nor a trust that I ever want to take lightly. I am both thrilled and terrified to think about it.

"As it relates to my ministry at Zion Mennonite Church, I believe ordination communicates my commitment to use my gifts to serve this body of believers.

It is my promise to fully live into the role to which God and the congregation have called me. It is my covenant of love to my brothers and sisters."

As a congregational response, Bonnie Stuckey, Mark Nafziger, Barb Yoder, and Mike Zimmerman shared blessings for Sue from the congregation.

Following the worship service, the congregation celebrated Sue's ordination with a baked potato bar, complete with cookies and ice cream. ■

Bluffton University

Anneliese Horner of Apple Creek earned a bachelor's degree in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) with minors in honors studies and writing from Bluffton University. She received her degree during the

university's May 7 commencement ceremony. Horner was named the Distinguished Scholar in TESOL. She was also a C. Henry Smith Scholar, a Pi Delta Society member and a graduate of Bluffton's Honors Program. Horner attends Salem Mennonite Church in Kidron.

More than 150 students received degrees during Bluffton University's commencement ceremony. Speaker for the event was Peter Strange, chairman emeritus of Messer Inc. ■

Goshen College

Seven students from Ohio Conference congregations recently earned bachelor's degrees from Goshen. Two hundred fourteen individuals received their degrees during the college's commencement ceremony on May 1. The commencement speaker was retiring Professor of History John Roth, who spoke on the theme "What is the Good Life?"

Denver Beck of Archbold earned a bachelor's degree in

Sustainability Studies. His home congregation is Zion Mennonite Church in Archbold.

Leah Kauffman of West Liberty earned a bachelor's degree in Graphic Design. Her home congregation is Oak Grove Mennonite Church in West Liberty.

Eric Miller of Garfield Heights earned a bachelor's degree in Film Production. His home congregation is Friendship Mennonite Church in Bedford Heights.

Landon Roth of Archbold earned a bachelor's degree in Biology. His home congregation is West Clinton Mennonite Church in Wauseon.

Benjamin Troyer of Dalton earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology. His home congregation is First Mennonite Church in Canton.

Continued on page 10

ABOUT PEOPLE Continued from page 9

Connor Wyse of Archbold earned a bachelor's degree in Accounting. His home congregation is Zion Mennonite Church in Archbold.

Benjamin Zimmerman of Archbold earned a bachelor's degree in Sustainability Management. His home congregation is

Zion Mennonite Church in Archbold. ■

Hesston College

Two students from Ohio Conference congregations graduated from Hesston College in 2022. **Isaac Troyer** of Berlin Mennonite Church and **Kelly Miller** of West Clinton Men-

nonite Church received their associate of arts degrees from Hesston College during the college's May 14 commencement ceremony.

Commencement speaker Sue Park-Hur, director of racial engagement for Mennonite Church USA, spoke on the topic "It Takes All of Us." ■

Eastern Mennonite University

Four students from Ohio Conference congregations earned degrees from Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and one earned a degree from Eastern Mennonite Seminary. EMU held its commencement ceremony on May 8. Four hundred eight people earned degrees. Commencement speaker Bryan Stevenson, a human rights lawyer and founder of the Equal Justice Initiative, received an honorary doctorate from EMU.

Jacob Yoder Myers earned a bachelor of science degree in

Environmental Sustainability, environmental science concentration, with minors in Bible, Religion and Theology and Honors, Summa Cum Laude. His home congregation is Tedrow Mennonite Church in Wauseon.

Jacob Martin Bontrager earned a bachelor of arts degree in Sociology, Magna Cum Laude. His home congregation is Crown Hill Mennonite Church in Rittman.

Laura Elizabeth Troyer earned a bachelor of science degree in Engineering, with mi-

nors in Mathematics and Honors, Summa Cum Laude. Her home congregation is Berlin Mennonite Church.

Drew Nussbaum earned a master of arts degree in Counseling. His home congregation is Sonnenberg Mennonite Church in Kidron.

Barbara Anne Bowman, now of Harrisonburg, Virginia, earned a master of divinity degree from Eastern Mennonite Seminary. Her home congregation is Zion Mennonite Church in Archbold. ■

Central Christian School

The Central Christian School Board of Trustees has hired Nate Holton to serve as the superintendent of Central Christian School in Kidron, beginning July 1. Holton has served in various roles at Cen-

tral Christian since 2008 and has been Central's director of operations for the past four and half years. For more information, see <https://bit.ly/2022CCSSuperintendent>. ■



ABOUT PEOPLE Continued from page 10

Everence

KIDRON, Ohio — The Everence team serving Northeast Ohio was recognized with the Market Growth Award at the 2022 Everence National Conference in downtown Cincinnati.

This year's event was the first in-person National Conference since 2019. The last two took place remotely because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The award, accepted by Managing Director Bruce Breckbill, is given to the market with the strongest growth in sales over the past year. Everence sales in Northeast Ohio were up 26%. Everence serves Northeast



The Everence Northeast Ohio team receives the 2022 sales growth award at Everence National Conference in Cincinnati.

Ohio from offices in Kidron and Hartville.

“We’re honored to receive this award” said Breckbill. “It’s a result of our outstanding finan-

cial and charitable consultants as well as our indispensable support staff. We are grateful for the confidence our clients have placed in us.” ■

Vanita Tadeo

Vanita Mae Tadeo, age 86, of Orrville, died Sunday, June 26, at LifeCare Hospice in Wooster, following a period of declining health. She and her husband, Raul, were instrumental in the founding of Open Arms Hispanic Ministries.

Vanita was born on Aug. 22, 1935, in Dalton, Ohio, to the late Ray and Rhoda (Burkhart) Horst. She earned her degree as a registered nurse from Salem City Hospital in 1956. In 1957 she moved to Mathis, Texas to serve for a year in the Voluntary Service (VS) program of the Mennonite church. She worked in the maternity clinic that served Hispanic migrants. While in Texas she met Raul Tadeo, who was also serving in

the VS program. In 1959 she married Raul, who survives.

In 1969 Vanita and Raul moved to the mission field of Sinaloa, Mexico.

In 1991 after serving 23 years in the mission field the Tadeos returned from Mexico and purchased a home in Dalton. During the following years Vanita worked at the Mount Eaton Care Center, retiring in 2013. She also served as a translator with Open Arms Ministries, translating for Hispanic women arriving in Wayne County from Mexico and Central American countries.

Surviving are a daughter, Jeanette M. (Paul) Weaver of Pandora; a son, Ken A. (Dawn)

Tadeo of Middlebury, Indiana; two brothers, Willis (June) Horst, Mervin Horst; sister, Emma (Paul) Kauffman; sister-in-law, Eva Jane Horst; six grandchildren, Elizabeth Weaver, Alex Weaver, Ben Weaver, Brennah (Caleb) Yoder, Braden Tadeo, Brienne Tadeo; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held on July 2 at Sonnenberg Mennonite Church in Kidron.

Memorials may be made to Open Arms Hispanic Ministry, 1305 W Market St., Orrville OH 44667, <http://www.openarmshispanicministry.org>. To see a full obituary, go to <https://bit.ly/VanitaTadeo>. ■

Conference Calendar

JUL

20 Leadership Team Meeting, online

AUG

5-6 Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale, Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster

18 Ministry Development Team Meeting, online

23 Consultant Meeting with Credentialed Pastors, Upper Sandusky Library

25 Leadership Team Meeting, online

SEPT

6 Mentor/Mentee Retreat for Pastors, St. Francis Spirituality Center, Tiffin

NOV

4-6 Pastors' Wives Retreat, St. Francis Spirituality Center, Tiffin

Back page briefings...

Lombard Mennonite Peace Center will hold a Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders (MSTI) Aug. 1-5 in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. The fee for five full days of instruction and a printed copy of the MSTI manual is \$750. See the program brochure at <https://bit.ly/2022MSTI>.

Invite AMBS! Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary faculty members are available to interact

with congregations and organizations in person or via videoconference on topics such as nonviolent communication, women in the Bible, confessional Bible study, Anabaptism today, anti-racist and intercultural pastoral care, and more. Speakers can be requested online at ambs.edu/invite.

Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) is seeking applicants for its Justice Fund grants. The Justice Fund supports MC USA

congregations that are working to combat poverty, dismantle racism, address immigration reform or reimagine policing. For more information, see the MC USA website: <https://bit.ly/2022JusticeFundGrants>.

Rosedale Bible College in Irwin, Ohio, is offering a leadership formation retreat Aug. 18 - 20, 2022. The theme for this event is "God's Mission and Church." The guest presenter for the retreat is Karl Vaters, who has been encouraging pastors and helping churches thrive for more than 20 years. His calling is to help churches with sizes of 250 people and fewer. For more information or to register, go to <https://rosedale.edu/tim/retreat>.

Brad Roth, the featured speaker for Ohio Conference's 2021 missional conference, has written a new book about communion, *The Hunger Inside: How the Meal Jesus Gave Transforms Lives*. See <https://paracletepress.com/products/the-hunger-inside> for details. ■

OHIO MENNONITE
EVANGEL
News & Views of Ohio Conference

For more Ohio Conference news, visit the Ohio Conference website: ohiomennoniteconference.org