News for Church Leaders

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Perspective



Editor: Ann H. Leaman 5854 Sunland St. N.E., Louisville OH 44641 Phone: 330-453-0150 Email: ohioevangel@gmail.com

Register for retreat by Oct. 7

Last call for registrations: Ohio Conference will hold a retreat for wives of Ohio Conference pastors on Nov. 4-6, 2022, at the St. Francis Spirituality Center in Tiffin, Ohio. The deadline to register for this retreat is **tomorrow**, **Oct. 7**.

Miriam Zehr, associate pastor of Oak Grove Mennonite Church in Smithville, will be the speaker for this retreat, which will explore the theme "Joy in the Journey." Using the Psalms, participants will reflect on the ups and downs of life and how to glean joy along the way. For more details, please see the retreat brochure: <u>https://bit.ly/2022JoyintheJourneyBrochure</u>. Online registration is available at <u>https://bit.ly/OCPastorsWives2022</u>.

Please join us in prayer on Wednesdays

Please join us each Wednesday at noon for a time of communal prayer on Zoom. We are using <u>Take Our Moments and Our</u> <u>Days: An Anabaptist Prayer Book</u> as the resource for our time together. To participate, you can use either the prayer book or the <u>app of the same name</u>. The login link for these prayer sessions is <u>https://bit.ly/OhioConferenceAtPrayer</u>.

Everence stewardship event planned

More than a dozen Mennonite churches in central Ohio will join Everence Financial[®] to host a special stewardship event: *Weaving a Legacy – Finances God's Way*. The event will take place at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, at Sharon Mennonite Church in Plain City.

The afternoon will include workshops on topics such as teaching children about money, how investments can reflect one's faith values, and estate planning. There also will be time for participants to share stories of how their faith shapes their financial decisions. Participants are invited to stay for fellowship and a pork barbecue supper starting at 5 p.m.

"Our church is thrilled to host this special event," said Pastor Jared Chase of Sharon Mennonite. "We believe it's important for individuals and families to consider their faith values as they make decisions about money, and we're pleased to help provide this important information to our community." Perspective: 1) The interrelation in which a subject or its parts are mentally viewed. 2) Point of view; capacity to view things in their relative importance.

Leadership perspective

*M*yron Weaver, CEO of OrrVilla Retirement Community and chair of Ohio Conference's Credentialing Ministry, is the featured guest on the most recent episode of "On Leading," a video podcast from Mennonite Health Services. See this brief (five minute) interview at <u>https://bit.ly/</u> <u>MHSPodcast-MyronWeaver</u>.

Please distribute Perspective *copies to:*

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

Those interested in attending should reserve a spot by Oct. 23 by contacting their Everence stewardship advocate or Melissa Short at 800-348-7468 ext. 3392 or <u>melissa.short@everence.com</u>. More information is available at <u>https://bit.ly/WeavingaLegacy</u>.

Foundations for Justice webinar series planned

As part of Ohio Conference's continuing education regarding anti-racism and intercultural competency, we are offering a threepart "Foundations for Justice Series," to be held virtually from 7 to 8:15 p.m. on three Thursdays — Oct. 20, Nov. 3, and Nov. 17.

This training series will be led by Nekeisha Alayna Alexis, Intercultural Competence and Undoing Racism Coordinator at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. The training is required for all Ohio Conference staff and those holding volunteer positions with the Conference. We strongly recommend the training for all our credentialed ministers, and it is open to anyone from an Ohio Conference congregation.

While we encourage you to participate live on the three Thursday evenings, we also realize that these scheduled times may not work for everyone. Consequently, the three sessions will be recorded so they also can be viewed at a later time. There will also be some brief pre-session work to help prepare for each of the sessions. Please register online for this training series at <u>https://bit.ly/FoundationsforJustice</u>.

Anabaptism at 500 seeks 500 study groups

HARRISONBURG, VA — The Anabaptism at 500 project is looking for 500 study groups from a broad spectrum of Anabaptist communities to participate in creating the first-ever Anabaptist Bible. People from all Anabaptist traditions, including Mennonites, Amish, the Church of the Brethren, Brethren in Christ, Hutterites, and the Bruderhof, are invited to form study groups and submit their insights for this once-in-a-generation project.

Participating is easy. Volunteers can form their study group and register at <u>https://www.mennomedia.org/reading-scripture-together</u>. Each group will be assigned three passages and asked to meet four times to read and study together, following a simple format. The reflections and questions generated by these groups, supplemented by insights from biblical scholars, will appear as marginal notes in the Bible. All groups are asked to register by March 2023. Anabaptism at 500 is a project of MennoMedia. Learn more at <u>https://anabaptismat500.com</u>.

Initiative focuses on mass incarceration

Elkhart, Indiana — Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) has launched "Learn, Pray, Join: Mass Incarceration," an initiative to raise awareness about the injustices in our criminal legal system that cause pain and suffering, especially for poor people and people of color. For more information, see <u>https://bit.ly/</u> LPJMassIncarceration.

Service perspective

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) is currently assessing the damage caused by Hurricane Ian. To donate toward relief efforts or to join a volunteer waitlist, see the MDS website: https://bit.ly/MDSHurricaneIan.

Fundraiser perspective

Open Arms Hispanic Ministries invites you to Songs & Salsa at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 16, at Salem Mennonite Church in Kidron. This event will feature music by Honeytown. Tortilla chips will be served with a variety of salsas and dips. A freewill offering will be taken.

Anabaptist perspective

Mennonite World Conference representatives from Africa have prepared worship materials for the 2023 Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday. "Jesus Christ: Our Hope" is the theme for 2023. A copy of these materials is included with this issue of *Perspective*.

Perspective insert

This issue of *Perspective* includes bulletin announcements for October from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary.

Perspective *deadlines*

Oct. 18 for Oct. 20 issue Nov. 1 for Nov. 3 issue