

Conference Calendar

JAN 2023

- 10 Ohio Conference Winter Read, online
- 17 Ohio Conference Winter Read, online
- 17 Winter Cluster Meeting, Maple Grove Mennonite, Hartville
- 19 Winter Cluster Meeting, Toledo Mennonite
- 24 Ohio Conference Winter Read, online
- 24 Winter Cluster Meeting, Sharon Mennonite, Plain City
- 26 Winter Cluster Meeting, Orrville Mennonite
- 30 Winter Cluster Meeting, online
- 31 Ohio Conference Winter Read, online

FEB

- 3-5 Mennonite Arts Weekend, Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian Church, Cincinnati
- 3-5 Youth Retreat, Camp Luz, Kidron
- 7 Ohio Conference Winter Read, online
- 14 Ohio Conference Winter Read, online
- 17-19 Jr. High Retreat, Camp Luz, Kidron
- 21 Ohio Conference Winter Read, online
- 28 Ohio Conference Winter Read, online

MAR

- 3-4 Annual Conference Assembly, Central Christian School, Kidron

APR

- 15 Missional Workshop, St. Francis Spirituality Center, Tiffin

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
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Ohio Conference Winter Read returns

Coming in January: The Ohio Conference Winter Read. This winter Ohio Conference will once again hold a Conference-wide book study using the Zoom videoconferencing platform. This year we will be studying [Just Mercy](#), a book by Bryan Stevenson.

Bryan Stevenson was the speaker at Eastern Mennonite University's spring 2022 commencement ceremony. He is the executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama, and a professor of law at New York University Law School.

Discussion leaders for the Ohio Conference Winter Read will be Nathan Beachy and the Rev. Rosalind Young.

Winter Read discussion sessions will take place on Zoom on Tuesday eve-

nings, beginning Jan. 10 and concluding Feb. 28. Sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. and end at 7:45 p.m.

This book is available as a paperback or on Kindle on the Amazon website: <https://bit.ly/WinterReadJustMercy>.

Please register online at <https://bit.ly/2023WinterRead>. A reading schedule is available online at <https://bit.ly/2023WinterReadSchedule>.



Supporting
healthy, growing
congregations

Remembering MLK's work toward racial justice

Monday, Jan. 16, 2023, is Martin Luther King Jr. Day. This is a day that remembers the nonviolent approach to racial justice that was led by minister and activist Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "Grace & Groundings," Ohio Conference's racial reconciliation resource team, invites you to use the previous Sunday – Jan. 15, 2023 – to remember the work that has been done and continues to be done toward achieving true equality and human rights for African Americans and other people of color.

Consider shaping your worship service around a theme of reconciliation or equality for all God's people. Highlight past accomplishments, hon-



or current efforts, and recognize the work that still needs to be done. As Christians we know that all humans are created in God's image and are called to live with dignity in peace, love, and unity. Let's promote these moral values as we worship together. There is a place for everyone at God's table.

Podcast: Seeing a need and responding

International service can have long-term effects on those serving. In the case of Bill Schumacher, his voluntary service term in Bangladesh in the 1980s left him with an enduring interest in the welfare of the people there.

In the latest episode of the Ohio Conference Cast, hosts Jared Chase and Jacob Dodson talk with Bill and Carole Schumacher of Sharon Men-

nonite Church in Plain City about the crisis of arsenic in drinking water in southern Bangladesh. The Schumachers are seeking to work with partners in Bangladesh to address this problem.

You can listen to this podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#) or [Google Podcasts](#) or find it on the Ohio Conference website: <http://bit.ly/OhioConferenceCast>.

Missional Workshop to focus on local mission ideas and programs

Do you have ideas for ministering to your community, but need motivation to begin making those ideas come to life? Plan now to attend Ohio Conference's 2023 Missional Workshop at the St. Francis Spirituality Center in Tiffin on Saturday, April 15.

The theme of this interactive workshop is "Outward Church: Mobilizing the church wherever you are." During this one-day workshop, teams from Ohio Conference congregations will work on plans for projects designed to reach out to their individual communities.

Mauricio Chenlo, minister for church planting at Mennonite Mission Network, will facilitate the workshop. This event will include significant time for congregational teams to work on a project and receive feedback about the project from others.

A brochure with more information is available at <https://bit.ly/2023MissionalWorkshop> [Brochure](#). Register online at <https://bit.ly/2023MissionalWorkshop>.

A vertical graphic with a teal and white color scheme. At the top, the words "Outward Church" are written in a large, elegant, black cursive font. Below this, the text "Mobilizing the church wherever you are" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Underneath, the word "with" is in a smaller font, followed by "Mauricio Chenlo" in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the date "April 15, 2023" is written in a white, sans-serif font inside a teal circle. Below the date, the location "St. Francis Spirituality Center Tiffin, Ohio" is written in a white, sans-serif font. The background features abstract teal and white shapes, including a large white arrow pointing right and a smaller white arrow pointing down.