

Perspective



Ohio Conference
of Mennonite
Church USA

www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Affiliation resolution at ACA not adopted

At last weekend's Annual Conference Assembly (ACA), a resolution for Ohio Conference to withdraw from Mennonite Church USA and become temporarily independent did not receive enough votes from delegates to be adopted. The Ohio Conference Leadership Team proposed the resolution to delegates on March 4 at ACA after several sessions of group spiritual discernment.

Eighty-one delegates (54.7 %) voted to affirm the resolution, while 67 delegates (45.3 %) voted against the resolution, and three delegates abstained from voting. **Because the resolution did not receive affirmation from at least two thirds of the delegates, it was not adopted.** (The Leadership Team had announced prior to voting that at least two thirds of delegates would need to affirm the resolution for it to be adopted.) A copy of the resolution is included with this issue of *Perspective*.

ACA took place March 3-4 at Central Christian School in Kidron. A total of 190 people participated in ACA, including 153 delegates representing 35 congregations. A more complete report about ACA will appear in the March-April issue of *Ohio Mennonite Evangel*.

ACA delegates adopt resolutions of thanks

Delegates at Annual Conference Assembly adopted two resolutions of thanks during Saturday's last business session. The resolutions are below:

- We thank Ohio Conference Staff, leadership, and Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi for their work and support of Ohio Conference churches and pastors this past year. We appreciate their energy, clarity, and determination to help us live into our new Conference vision and mission statement.
- We would like to acknowledge and express our immense gratitude for Sherah-Leigh Gerber's faithful service as Regional Pastor within Ohio Conference. Her leadership, wisdom, and support were invaluable to our conference, our congregations, and our pastors. We are better because of her service.

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.

Photo perspective

Photos from the 2023 Annual Conference Assembly are posted online at <https://bit.ly/ACAPhotos>. You also can view them on the Ohio Conference Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/OhioConferenceMCUSA>. A brief summary video of ACA 2023 will be available by the end of this week. The video also will be posted on Facebook and at <https://bit.ly/ACAPhotos>.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

Pastor-Spouse Retreat to be held Nov. 10-12

Ohio Conference will hold a 2023 Pastor-Spouse Retreat Nov. 10-12 at Deer Creek State Park Lodge and Conference Center in Mt. Sterling, Ohio, about 32 miles south of Columbus. The theme of this weekend event will be “Fill My Cup.”

Cost for this retreat is \$250 per couple. Registration is due by **Sept. 1, 2023**. For more information or to register, go to <https://bit.ly/2023Pastor-SpouseRetreat>. To view a retreat brochure with a schedule, see <https://bit.ly/2023Pastor-SpouseRetreatBrochure>.

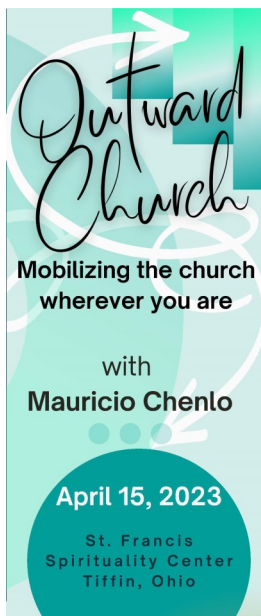
Register by March 31 for missional workshop

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.

Registration is due **March 31**. A brochure with more information is available at <https://bit.ly/2023MissionalWorkshopBrochure>.

Register online at <https://bit.ly/2023MissionalWorkshop>.



MennoCon23 registration has begun

Online registration is open for MennoCon23, Mennonite Church USA’s (MC USA) leading faith formation event, at the Kansas City (Missouri) Convention Center, July 3-6, 2023. Registration is also open for the Youth & Young Adult Climate Summit, July 7, and the Delegate Assembly, July 7-8. Please see the MC USA website for more information and a registration link: <https://bit.ly/MennoCon23Registration>. The MC USA website also has resources for delegates: <https://bit.ly/2023MCUSADelegateResources>.

Development conference set for Oct. 3-5

The 2023 Everence Development Conference will take place Oct. 3-5 at the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. This conference is a biennial event designed to equip fundraisers, development professionals, leaders and board members with the tools they need to fund and care for their organization’s mission and vision.

Registration for this event opens on April 4. For more information, including registration rates and information on the keynote speakers, please see <https://bit.ly/2023EverenceDevConf>.

Social justice perspective

Grace & Groundings, Ohio Conference’s racial reconciliation resource team, is inviting all Ohio Conference churches to set aside Sunday, June 18, as Social Justice Sunday in recognition of Juneteenth the following day. (If June 18 does not work well for your congregation, please consider setting aside a different Sunday as Social Justice Sunday.) The team is preparing worship planning resources to guide you in your planning. The resources will be available in April.

Fundraising perspective

Open Arms Hispanic Ministry will hold its annual Taco Tuesday fundraising dinner March 14 at 6 p.m. at Dutch Kitchen, 14278 Lincoln Way E., Dalton. RSVP by March 10 to kelsey@openarmshispanicministry.org or 330-466-7845 (call or text).

Seminary perspective

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

Perspective deadlines

March 21 for March 23 issue
April 4 for April 6 issue
