

Perspective



www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Leadership Team outlines plans for coming year

The Leadership Team of Ohio Conference met for its annual retreat on April 13 to fellowship with one another, pray, and to discern together God’s leading of Ohio Conference over the next year. Following the retreat, the Leadership Team has outlined plans for the coming year in a letter to pastors, congregations and delegates. A copy of this letter and an updated Ohio Conference statement of identity are included with this issue of *Perspective*.

From the Leadership Team



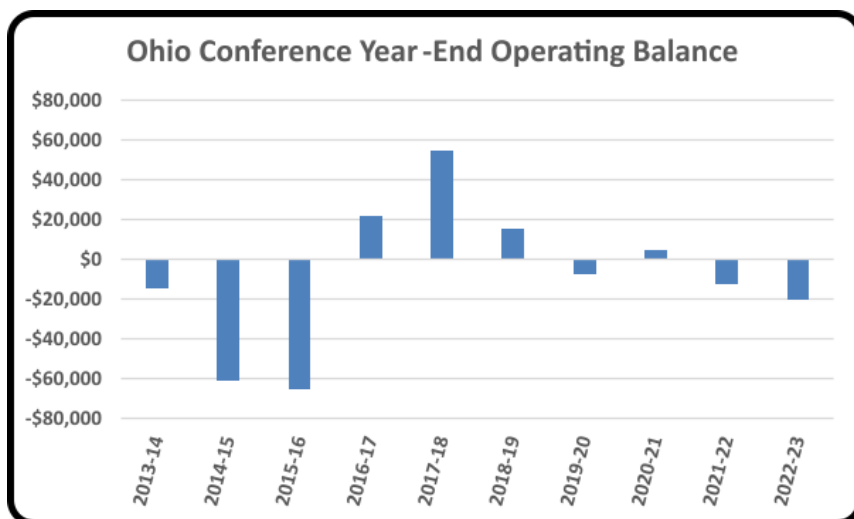
Perspective: 1) The inter-relation in which a subject or its parts are mentally viewed. 2) Point of view; capacity to view things in their relative importance.

Conference ends 2022-23 fiscal year with deficit

Ohio Conference finished the 2022-23 fiscal year with a deficit of \$20,112. The fiscal year ended March 31, 2023.

The Conference ended February with a year-to-date operating balance of -\$18,211. Receipts for the month of March totaled \$19,678, including \$18,545 in giving from congregations. Expenses for the month totaled \$21,579, resulting in a deficit of \$1,901 for the month.

Over the past decade, the Conference has ended its fiscal year with a deficit six times. Please see the accompanying graphic for details.



Perspective inserts

This issue of *Perspective* includes the May-June issue of *Prayer Prompter*, the May issue of Mennonite Mission Network’s *Prayer Vine* and prayer requests for May from Mennonite Education Agency.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

Celebrate Social Justice Sunday June 18

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 theme for this year's Sunday is race as it relates to freedom. The team has prepared worship planning resources to help guide your planning. May these resources be helpful as you and your congregation learn, reflect and act in relation to racial reconciliation. Resources are available at <https://bit.ly/2023SocialJusticeSunday>.

Ohio MCC Bike Ride to raise funds for peace

This July a group of bike riders in Ohio will be raising funds for Mennonite Central Committee's (MCC) peace projects. Participants in the Ohio MCC Bike Ride will be riding 100 miles on the Ohio to Erie Trail July 15-16, using the London, Ohio, trailhead as a starting point on both days. See <https://bit.ly/OhioMCCBikeRideInfo> for more details.

MC USA delegates to consider three resolutions

The Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) Executive Board met in Los Angeles April 13-14, 2023. The board voted to forward three proposed organizational resolutions to the Delegate Assembly, including one that recommends shifting the Delegate Assembly to a three-year, or triennial, cycle. See a full report on the MC USA website: <https://bit.ly/4-23ExecutiveBoardMeeting>.

AMBS offers tuition matching grants

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary offers grants of up to \$2,000 per academic year to match contributions that congregations, conferences and regional churches make toward a full-time graduate student's tuition costs — whether they're studying on campus or at a distance. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/AMBSMatchingGrants>.

April issue of Courier focuses on creation care

The April issue of *Courier*, the publication of Mennonite World Conference, includes several articles from around the world focusing on creation care. Also included are resources for Young Anabaptists Fellowship Week and a profile of the church in France. To download a copy of this issue, go to <https://bit.ly/April2023Courier>.

Prayer perspective

A prayer request: A group from Beech Mennonite Church in Louisville is working toward bringing Kristina Tymoshenko, a Ukrainian refugee currently living in Europe, to the United States. An initial application has been submitted to the U.S. government. Please pray for this process.

Office perspective

Please note: Administrative Assistant Judy King's office hours for answering phone calls and responding to emails will be Monday through Thursday, effective immediately.

Assembly perspective



Perspective deadlines

May 9 for May 11 issue
May 23 for May 25 issue