

Perspective



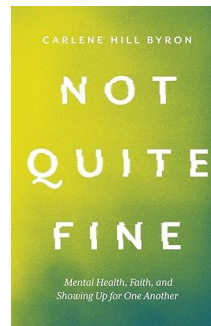
Loving God, Loving Others,
Making Disciples of Jesus Christ

www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Winter Read to focus on mental health

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 [*Not Quite Fine: Mental Health, Faith and Showing Up for One Another*](#), a book by Carlene Hill Byron. Discussion leaders will be Emiley Shenk and Darin Nissley.



Winter Read discussion sessions will take place on Zoom on Thursday evenings, beginning Jan. 11 and concluding Feb. 15. Sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. and end at 8 p.m. **Please note: There will be NO discussion on Jan. 25.**

Registration is free, but participants need to purchase their own copy of the book. It is available on the MennoMedia website: <https://bit.ly/NotQuiteFine>. To register, go to <https://bit.ly/OhioConferenceEventRegistration>. Please share the Winter Read flyer included with this issue of *Perspective* with your congregation.

Winter cluster meetings scheduled

Five winter cluster meetings have been scheduled for Ohio Conference delegates to Annual Conference Assembly. Each meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and last about two hours.



Locations are as follows:

- Jan. 9 — Tedrow Mennonite Church, Wauseon
- Jan. 11 — Beech Mennonite Church, Louisville
- Jan. 16 — Crown Hill Mennonite Church, Rittman
- Jan. 18 — Oak Grove Mennonite Church, West Liberty
- Jan. 22 — Online meeting via Zoom

Please register for the cluster meeting that you plan to attend. Register online at <https://bit.ly/2024WinterClusterMeetings>.

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.

Health insurance perspective

The Corinthian Plan is open for enrollment from Nov. 1 through Dec. 31, 2023, for a Jan. 1, 2024, start date. The Corinthian Plan is a self-funded health care plan for pastors and church workers, sponsored and owned by Mennonite Church USA (MC USA). Please see the MC USA news release for more details: <https://bit.ly/2024CorinthianPlan>.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

Deficit increases during October

Ohio Conference's expenses outpaced giving during October. Receipts for the month totaled \$18,589, including \$18,462 in giving from congregations. Expenses for October totaled \$26,130, resulting in a deficit of \$7,541 for the month.

As of Oct. 31, the Conference's year-to-date operating balance was -\$41,747. The Conference fiscal year ends March 31, 2024.

ADN webinar to focus on baptism

Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADN) is offering a webinar, "Believing and Belonging: a panel discussion about baptism and membership for adults with intellectual disabilities," **today, Nov. 9**, at 7 p.m.

This webinar is the second in a series of conversations about theoretical and practical approaches to membership and baptism for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Special education professionals Bonnie Miller and Denise Reesor will join Jeanne Davies to discuss inclusive classrooms and personal study, strategies for engaging and learning, and how to use ADN's new accessible curriculum. Register at <https://bit.ly/BelieveAndBelongWebinar>.

Advent at Home guide coming soon

ELKHART, Indiana (Mennonite Education Agency) — Mennonite Education Agency (MEA) announces the upcoming publication of *Advent at Home 2023*. Taken from *Leader* magazine's Advent theme, "How will we know?" this worship guide accompanies individuals and families through the days and weeks of Advent through Epiphany with scriptures, prayers, worship rituals, suggested activities, and contextual information. The guide is expected to be available around Nov. 13 for free download in English and Spanish from the MEA website: <https://bit.ly/AdventatHome>.



MC USA to relaunch Equipping

ELKHART, Indiana (Mennonite Church USA) — After a two-year hiatus, the Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) Executive Board communications department is relaunching *Equipping*, a resource e-newsletter for leaders across MC USA.

MC USA will reintroduce *Equipping* as a quarterly email newsletter featuring resources on leadership, peacebuilding, worship, faith formation and more from MC USA and its conferences, congregations, agencies, ministry partners, constituency groups and affiliated schools and colleges. The first issue will be distributed on Nov. 14, 2023.

Equipping is emailed to all conferences and congregations in MC USA as well as to subscribers. To subscribe, go to <https://bit.ly/MCUSAPublications>.

Prayer perspective

Ohio Conference asks you to continue to remember the Leadership Team and consultant Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi in prayer as they work together on strategic planning for Conference. Pray that their leadership, along with the guidance of the delegates, will be Spirit led.

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Mennonite World Conference invites you to join the Anabaptist-Mennonite family at Online Prayer Hour, a Zoom prayer call, on **Friday, Nov. 17, at 9 a.m. EST**. There will be breakout rooms with a prayer leader in several languages. Please register in advance at <https://bit.ly/MWOnlinePrayerNov23>.

Youth ministry perspective

Mennonite Church USA's Constituency Leaders Council brainstormed strategies for strengthening youth engagement at its first meeting of the 2023-2025 biennium via Zoom on Oct. 27, 2023. To read a full report of this meeting, including comments from Ohio Conference Moderator Ken Sims, see the MC USA news release: <https://bit.ly/CLC-YouthEngagement>.

Perspective deadlines

Nov. 21 for Nov. 24 issue
Dec. 5 for Dec. 7 issue
