

# Perspective



[www.ohiomennoniteconference.org](http://www.ohiomennoniteconference.org)

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The Winter Cluster Meetings are happening now. Meetings will be held on January 16, 21, 23, and 27 at 6:30pm.

Winter  
Cluster  
Meetings



**January 16** at Salem Church in Waldron, Michigan

**January 21** at Crown Hill Mennonite Church in Rittman

**January 23** at Lee Heights Community Church in Cleveland

**January 27**- Virtual

If your congregation would like to host a cluster meeting in fall 2025, please let Sháqñez know at [shaquez@ohiomennoniteconference.org](mailto:shaquez@ohiomennoniteconference.org).

[Register Here](#)

**Did you know that ACA is for EVERYONE in your congregation? As you are making your preparations to attend, please be sure to share this event with the members in your congregation.**

ACA will take place on March 7-8 at Berlin Mennonite Church.

Our theme verse is 1 Corinthians 3:11.

FOUNDATION  
to Future

The theme is **Foundation to Future**.

In looking at Anabaptism at 500, we look at the firm foundation that has been built in the

past and how that foundation will pave the way to strengthen our faith for the future.

Ohio Mennonite Conference has secured Shannon Dycus, Jonathan Swartz, and John Roth as speakers for ACA. John Roth will kick off the gathering with speaking to how the past has created a firm foundation for Anabaptist faith over the last 500 years. Shannon will be speaking to how the foundation built in the past will impact the future spiritual and social practices of Anabaptism. Connecting to our future, Jonathan will provide elements of how restorative justice plays a role in the Anabaptist faith in the present and future. [Register Here](#)

*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.*

## Upcoming Events Perspective

- Winter Book Study: January 2025
- Winter Cluster Meetings: January 14, 16, 21, 23, 27
- ACA: March 7-8, 2025

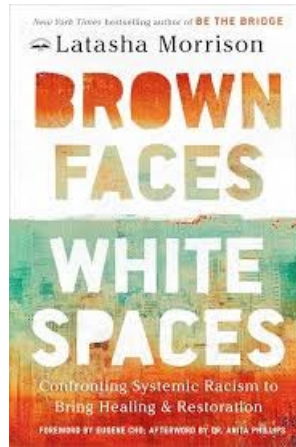
## Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

## Winter Book Study

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 [Brown Faces, White Spaces](#), a book by Latasha Morrison. Discussion leaders will be Greg Battle and Greg Bowman.



Winter Read discussion sessions will take place on Zoom on Thursday evenings, beginning January 30 and concluding on March 6. Sessions will begin at 7:00 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m. As another opportunity to connect, there will be an in-person session available for participants to join during ACA. If you would like to join the reflection session in person, you are invited to do so (even if you haven't read the book by the time ACA comes around). Everyone is welcome.

**Registration is free.**

Participants need to purchase their own copy of the book. It is available on [Amazon](#) or any other purchasing platform the reader chooses. Audio and kindle versions are also available.

[Register Here](#)



Grace & Groundings is creating a platform surrounding race, culture, and building community with one another. We welcome you to join in discussions, share thoughts, and ask questions along the way. This platform will be live in February in conjunction with Black History Month. In the meantime, here are a few questions to get you thinking about the work we need to do to bring unity amongst ourselves.

**When was the last time you sat down and broke bread with a person of color? If you have, how did it go? If you can't remember, why is that?**

If you have any questions or thoughts of conversations to have, please reach out to the committee at [graceandgroundings@gmail.com](mailto:graceandgroundings@gmail.com).

## Committee Serving Perspective

There are a few events on the horizon that need to be planned. If you are gifted with creativity and many ideas, please consider serving on one of the planning committees. If you are interested, please reach out to Sháqūez.

## MCC Perspective

**Join MCC for a free webinar exploring Peaceful Practices curriculum:** Conflict is a normal part of life. It arises in our workplaces, in our churches and with our families. *Peaceful Practices: A guide to healthy communication in conflict* invites churchgoers to follow Jesus' call to peacemaking through dialogue with each other. On Friday, January 31, from 9-11:30 am. EST, this webinar will introduce this curriculum and give examples of how it might benefit congregations. **Learn more and register at [mcc.org/peaceful-practices-webinar](https://mcc.org/peaceful-practices-webinar)**

## Giving Perspective

To donate to Ohio Mennonite Conference, please visit:

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=MB8TSXDB5AVVG&ssrt=1727727932094](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=MB8TSXDB5AVVG&ssrt=1727727932094)

## Perspective deadlines

Feb 4 for Feb 6 issue

Feb 18 for Feb 20 issue