News for Church Leaders
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Perspective

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www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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

Time is running out to register for ACA
Last call: Have you registered for Annual Conference Assembly (ACA) yet? ACA will take place March 13-14 at Martins Creek Mennonite Church in Millersburg. The registration fee is now $45 per person. To register, go to www.ohiomennoniteconference.org and click on “Register.” If you wish to purchase meals at ACA, you must register no later than this Friday, March 6. Everyone who registers after that date will be unable to buy meals on site. If you have questions about ACA registration, please contact Judy King at (330) 857-5421 or ohmc@zoominternet.net.

Five workshops planned for youth leaders
Dr. Randy Keeler, professor of youth ministry at Bluffton University, who is serving as an Ohio Conference youth ministry resource person while on sabbatical, will be offering workshops around Ohio Conference for all youth leaders and pastors this spring. These workshops will be a time for youth workers to come together to be renewed and re-energized for ministry with youth by sharing with youth sponsors from other nearby churches.

Participants will hear input on how to think about youth ministry in the Anabaptist context in which they find themselves. Workshops will begin at 2 p.m. and last approximately two hours. Please join Randy and other youth sponsors at the nearest location for this time of connecting with other youth workers. Workshop locations include the following:

• April 12 — Orrville Mennonite
• April 19 — Oak Grove Mennonite in West Liberty
• April 26 — Central Mennonite in Archbold
• May 16 — Midway Mennonite in Columbiana
• May 17 — Berlin Mennonite

A brochure with more information is included with this issue of Perspective. If you plan to attend one of these workshops, please contact Judy King at ohmc@zoominternet.net or (330) 857-5421 no later than one week prior to the workshop.

MCC calls for donations of blankets
Freezing temperatures and snow are adding another layer of deprivation to Syrians and Iraqis who have been forced from their homes to escape violence from the Islamic State group and battling armies in Syria. Mennonite Central Committee is calling for financial do-
nations as it provides heating fuel and blankets this winter and continues to address basic needs of food, shelter and education throughout the year. In addition, MCC welcomes contributions of blankets and comforters to replenish the more than 18,500 that were sent to Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria for the winter months. You can donate to the Syria and Iraq crisis response or learn how to contribute blankets at mcc.org.

**Peace gathering planned in Chicago**
MCC Peace Gathering in Chicago: You are invited to join Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Great Lakes for an informative day of workshops, worship and dialogue on Saturday, March 28. In the morning, pastors are invited to a conversation with MCC staff and board. Beginning at 1 p.m., MCC U.S. staff will lead public workshops on immigration, military enlistment, gun violence and anti-oppression. Following the seminars, there will be a short worship service before the opportunity to engage in additional conversation over a light supper. The peace gathering will take place at Living Water Community Church, 6808 N. Ashland Blvd., Chicago. More details, including a full schedule and workshop descriptions, can be found at mcc.org/gl-peace. Please RSVP to Jorge Vielman, Peace & Justice Coordinator, at JorgeVielman@mcc.org or (574) 534-4133. A poster promoting this event is included with this issue of Perspective.

**Learning tour planned at US-Mexico border**
MCC Borderlands Learning Tour: You are invited to join Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) on a learning tour designed to bring awareness to the issues caused by the border wall along the Mexico/U.S. border. Participants will increase their understanding and knowledge of the social, economic, political and theological significance of migration in border communities, including advocacy tools and capacity building to engage others on borderlands and migration issues. The learning tour will take place May 20-24 in Arizona and will include crossing the border into Mexico. Attendees will also have the option to participate in the Migrant Trail walk following the tour. For more information, including a tentative schedule and online registration, visit mcc.org/borderlands-tour.

**Health workers to gather in Pennsylvania**
Healthcare workers — past, present, and future: Don’t miss this event immediately prior to Mennonite World Conference Global Assembly! Bring the whole family to the Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF) Annual Gathering, July 19-21, 2015, in Harrisburg, Pa. The theme is “Walking Together for Healthy Communities.” Plenary presenters include Ted & Company, Shane Claiborne, and Dr. Ann Thyle from India. Grants are available for students, volunteers, and those from outside the U.S. and Canada. A children’s and youth program for ages 0-18 will be provided. For more information, go to www.mennohealth.org/gathering, email info@mennohealth.org, or call (888) 406-3643. A flier with more information is included with this issue of Perspective.

**Flat Menno perspective**
Have you been following the adventures of Flat Menno? He had a busy month in February, visiting Lockport Mennonite in Stryker, North Lima Mennonite, Zion Mennonite in Archbold and LifeBridge North in Strasburg. To see what congregational ministries and activities Flat Menno encountered during his recent travels, go to the Flat Menno blog: flatmenno.blogspot.com. If your congregation would like to host Flat Menno, please contact Judy King at (330) 857-5421.

**Service perspective**
Service doesn’t have to wait! Join Youth Venture this summer to serve and learn with Mennonite youth from Lithuania, Ecuador, Japan, and France. Apply by April 1 for international locations. Ages 16-22 can apply at MennoniteMission.net/Serve.

**Perspective deadlines**
March 16 for March 19 issue
March 30 for April 2 issue
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