

Perspective



Editor: Ann H. Leaman • 5854 Sunland St. N.E., Louisville OH 44641 • Phone/Fax: (330) 453-3793 • E-mail: ohioevangel@earthlink.net

OC Pastor-Spouse Retreat planned

Ohio Conference is planning a pastor-spouse retreat which will be held Nov. 6-8 at the Mohican State Park Lodge in Loudonville. Donations from Ohio Mennonite Women and an anonymous donor will pay for part of the cost of the retreat, allowing the first 30 couples who register to receive a significant price discount.

The Ohio Conference Ministry Development Team and Leadership Team strongly encourage congregations to pay for this weekend as a gift for Pastor Appreciation Month. For more information, see the brochure included with this issue of *Perspective*.

OMW Retreat to feature Marilyn Rossiter

Marilyn Rossiter, minister of music at Kidron Mennonite Church, will be the featured speaker at Ohio Mennonite Women's 40th annual retreat, which will be held Sept. 18-20 at Camp Luz. The theme for the weekend will be "Make Me an Instrument: Tuning in to Jesus Christ."

More information about the retreat will appear in the June issue of *Ohio Evangel*. In addition, brochures will be sent to each Ohio Conference congregation. Registration forms and a \$25 deposit are due Sept. 6.

Would you be willing to share your resources?

After a Sunday school class or small group from your congregation has finished studying a book, what happens to all the copies of that book? Do they sit on a shelf somewhere in the church, gathering dust? If so, would your congregation be willing to share those books with another Ohio Conference congregation?

If your congregation has books you would be willing to share, please contact Ann Leaman at ohioevangel@earthlink.net. Please include the titles of the books, the number of copies available, and contact information (e-mail address and/or phone number).

The Conference would like to develop a list of study books available which could be listed on the Ohio Conference Web site. Once a list is compiled and put on the Web site, people looking for books will be able to check the Web site and then contact the congregation which has the books they have interest in.

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.

DVD perspective

A copy of the new Ohio Conference DVD, "Doing Together What We Cannot Do Apart" is now posted on the Ohio Conference Web site. To see the video, go to www.ohio.mennonite.net.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

OTSE newsletter available by e-mail

Ohioans to Stop Executions (OTSE), a group working to end the use of capital punishment in Ohio, was founded in 1987. If you would like to learn more about this organization, you may request to receive the quarterly OTSE e-newsletter. To be placed on the mailing list, contact OTSE.org@gmail.com and provide your first and last names, as well as your e-mail address.

When requesting the newsletter, you may also indicate whether you wish only to receive the e-newsletter or if you also would like to receive other timely e-mails regarding events in your area. For more information about Ohioans to Stop Executions, see www.otse.org.

LMPC to offer training in family systems theory

Lombard Mennonite Peace Center is offering a leadership training program designed to deepen leaders' grounding in family systems thinking. *Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process* will be held in Lombard, Ill., over three separate three-day sessions. These training sessions are designed to enhance the ability of participants to function as self-differentiated leaders within their own ministry settings. A brochure with more information is included with this issue of *Perspective*.

Bluffton University announces reduction in operations budget for 2009-10

At a campus-wide meeting for faculty and staff on May 14, Bluffton University President Dr. James M. Harder announced a number of actions aimed at achieving a balanced budget for the 2009-10 academic year. Steps taken include reductions in both staffing and programs.

The reductions in employment include the retirement of two staff members in the library and in the building and grounds department, and the resignation of two faculty members in the science department and in the Pathways to Mission and Vocation program. Those positions will not be filled. In addition, one faculty non-tenure track position in the education department and two staff positions in the education department and financial aid office will be eliminated. Several other staff positions have changes in responsibilities, and a grant-funded position will be phased out as the program ends.

To reduce its program budget, the university will eliminate four academic majors which have had low enrollment in recent years. Students currently enrolled in the affected academic majors — computer science, information systems, family and consumer science education and family studies — will be able to complete their degrees at Bluffton, but these majors will no longer be available to new students.

In addition, beginning with the 2009-10 academic year, Bluffton will no longer offer men's and women's tennis as varsity sports.

These coordinated actions will reduce the university's operations budget by more than \$350,000 next year.

Resource

O
r
n
e
r

A church just called and asked if I knew of any books that adult Sunday

school classes could study to learn more about agreeing and disagreeing in love.

After a little research, here are two books which I suggested:

- *Making Peace With Conflict* by Carolyn Schrock Shenk published by Herald Press with 17 chapters. Price — \$14.99.
- *The Little Book of Conflict Transformation* by John Paul Lederach published by Good Books with 10 chapters. Price — \$4.95.

Herald Press and Good Books both have Web sites from which to order:

At www.heraldpress.com click on "Online Store," and then type in the title in the "search" box at the very top of page.

At www.goodbooks.com click on "Browse for Books" and type in the title or author, and from there you can order from amazon.com.

— Norma Duerksen, Ohio Conference Resource Advocate

If you have questions about what resources are available, please contact Norma Duerksen at pnduerksen@aol.com.

Perspective deadlines

May 28 for June 1 issue

June 18 for June 22 issue

www.ohio.mennonite.net

Perspective May 18, 2009