

Perspective



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

Sunday school teacher training planned

Norma Duerksen, Ohio Conference Resource Advocate, will present a teacher training workshop for children's Sunday school teachers at Lockport Mennonite Church Sept. 26 from 9 to 11 a.m. She will be demonstrating how to use the Gather 'Round materials to teach God's Word with joy and purpose. Everyone interested in learning more about Gather 'Round is invited to attend. If you have questions about the workshop, contact Norma Duerksen at pnduerksen@aol.com.

Thank you for your prayer support

Health update: Jean Schmitt is making favorable progress from her "brain bleed" suffered in church on July 26. She was a patient in the Mt. Carmel West Rehab Unit for several weeks after spending part of four days in Riverside Methodist Hospital. Significant movement is returning to her right arm and leg, and her speech is much improved. She has been discharged from the hospital but will continue to receive outpatient therapy at Mt. Carmel for the foreseeable future. Future correspondence should be sent to her home address at 1003 Willow Creek Drive, Plain City OH 43064. Jean and I want to thank our many friends for their prayers on her behalf.

• Howard Schmitt

Plan for youth ministry advocates approved

The Ohio Conference Ministry Development Team has approved a proposal to have two volunteers serve as youth ministry advocates in the Conference.

The proposal calls for youth ministry advocates to perform three main tasks:

- Walk with youth pastors as they relate to their lead pastors, elders and others they work with, particularly at times of disagreement and tension.
- Work with congregations and regional pastors in the youth pastor search process. Gain an understanding of what the congregational expectations are of a youth pastor and help to "decode" the job description.
- Support youth ministry within the Conference.

Randy Keeler, assistant professor of religion at Bluffton University, has agreed to serve as youth ministry advocate for congregations 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.

Perspective inserts

This issue of *Perspective* includes the September issue of *The Parish Paper*, the September-October issue of *Prayer Prompter* and a mailing from *The Mennonite*.

Please distribute Perspective copies to:

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

the western part of the state. The Conference is still seeking a volunteer to serve as youth ministry advocate for congregations in the eastern part of the state.

Seminary workshop to focus on addiction

What would you do if a member of your congregation, a trusted friend, or even one of your family members suddenly confessed to you that they were battling an addiction? Would you know where to turn for help? What type of support system would you build around them to aid in their recovery process and encourage their sobriety?

With prescription drugs now ranking second among the most abused drugs in teenagers and a growing demographic of adult educated professionals now regularly entering rehab, the face of addiction over the last decade has changed. Addiction can be sitting next to you in the workplace, the church pew or even at the family dinner table. Where do you go for help if God puts an addict front and center in your life?

Join Winebrenner Seminary in Findlay on Thursday, Oct. 15, from 1 to 5 p.m. for “Addicted to more than Christ,” presented by D. Chris Hart.

“Addicted to more than Christ” bloomed out of Chris Hart’s personal and professional struggles with addiction. As a member of the pharmaceutical community and a recovering addict, Chris has seen first-hand the growing need for awareness, acceptance, and support for addicts and their families within the greater Christian community. It is Chris’ hope that through his professional knowledge and testimony he can begin to help churches and other professional organizations recognize and develop a plan for continued support for the victims of this disease.

Cost of the event is \$29 per person. Registration deadline is Monday, Oct. 5, 2009. To register by phone call Jerome Glick at (800) 992-4987, or to register online visit the Winebrenner Web site at www.winebrenner.edu/AVP/Online_Giving/default.aspx. (Please make sure to select “Special Event Fee” in the “My Gift is For” box.)

To read Chris Hart’s full biography visit the Winebrenner Web site at www.winebrenner.edu/?id=177.

Young adult retreat to be held in Alberta

The 2009 North American Young Adult Fellowship retreat will be held Oct. 23–25 at Menno Simons Christian School in Calgary, Alberta. The retreat is intended for young adults in Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church USA. The planning committee is encouraging each conference send a representative to this retreat. The theme of the retreat is “And When They Shall Ask.” Planners are hoping to hear and be inspired by a variety of stories from young adults from across both denominations. A brochure with more information is included with this issue of *Perspective*.

Workshop perspective

SpringHaven Counseling Center and the Pier, a community center, are sponsoring the workshop “Sexual Integrity in a World of Brokenness.” This workshop is for men and women who desire to learn more about sexual wholeness. The resource person is Jason Martinkus, who is a national speaker for Every Man’s Battle, a sexual purity ministry based on Steve Arterburn’s best-selling book. This event will be held Nov. 13-14 at the Pier, 10470 Winesburg Road, Mount Eaton. For more details or to register confidentially contact SpringHaven at (330) 359-6100. Space is limited, and preregistration is encouraged.

Sunday school perspective

First Mennonite Church in Fort Wayne, Ind., has adult Sunday school resources from Mennonite Publishing Network available for anyone interested. The church has eight copies of Spring/Summer/Fall/Winter 2008-09, as well as eight copies of the Summer 2009 materials. If you would be interested in these materials, please contact Pastor Peter Janzen at mennofw@juno.com.

Perspective deadlines

Sept. 24	for Sept. 28 issue
Oct. 8	for Oct. 13 issue

www.ohio.mennonite.net