

IN TOUCH

Thank you notes!

From Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale—My Coins Count: We want to thank you for your contribution to the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale. It is your continued support that makes our sale a success. On behalf of the needy around the world who be help by Mennonite Central Committee, we thank you.

~ Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale Committee

From Mennonite Central Committee—Sarah Geiser: It was wonderful to put together hygiene kits with your BreakAway Youth Group. Thanks for the many other ways you support the work of MCC!

From Mennonite Central Committee—Virgil Troyer: Thank you for donating Material Resources to Mennonite Central Committee through MCC Connections (17 comforters and 67 hygiene kits). Your donations make a difference in the lives of others around the world. They enable MCC to provide supplies to displace families due to disaster or conflict, to enable a child to attend school, to provide warmth at night to someone who would otherwise sleep in the cold...

From Mennonite Mission Network—Karla J. Minter: Thank you for your contribution of \$1,250.00. Total giving to MMN as of 11/22/17 is \$7,788.84.

From MennoMedia—Russ Eanes, Executive Director: Thank you for your contribution of \$50.00. Your financial and prayer support greatly assists our ministry as we seek "to engage and shape church and society with resources for living the Christian faith from an Anabaptist perspective." It is much needed and appreciated.

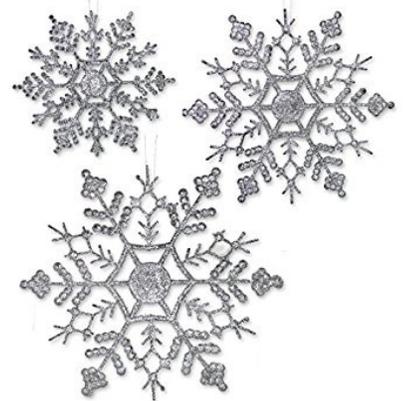
From Mennonite Disaster Service—Kevin King, Executive Director: Thank you for your contribution of \$150.00 (11/28/17). Thank you so much for entrusting MDS with this gift to help those affected by disaster. Because of donors like you, hardworking volunteers have responded to hurricanes Harvey and Irma by cleaning up debris, tarping roofs or performing minor repairs on more than 260 properties in Texas and more than 100 homes in Florida. Your gift is enabling MDS to set up four long-term recovery projects in Texas and another in Florida where volunteers will do major home repairs and building...

From Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary—Missy Kauffman Schrock, Director of Advancement: Thank you for your gift (of \$100.00) to AMBS. Your support is vital in helping us to carry out our mission to educate leaders with hearts on fire for God's reconciling mission in the world.

Following is a note from Esther Muhagachi, a Master of Arts in Christian Formation student from Dodoma, Tanzania: *It is my great joy to be here for this study since it was my long-term dream to study at seminary. My hope is to work for the Church Ministry in Tanzania when I complete my studies. I will be the voice for women in the church, longing for the ordination—perhaps the first ordained pastor after the constitution amendment. My scholarship has made it possible for me to be here along with my husband, Amos, who is also a student here, and my daughter, Peace, who is studying at Bethany Christian Schools.*

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www.ohiomennoniteconference.org



Update! Orrville Mennonite Church's trip to visit Tanzania is taking shape! The participants are Mark, Jen, Amos and Josiah Bixler, Natalie Fisher, Bill Seymour, Mel Wenger and Lidia Zehr. The dates of the trip are June 6–19, 2018. This is an official visit from OMC, part of Ohio Conference and MCUSA, to Upanga Mennonite Church, part of the Eastern Diocese of the Tanzanian Mennonite Church (KMT) with the basic gist being that the participants are Christians travelling to visit other Christians who are eager to hear how we experience Christ and how we live for Christ in our context. They are equally eager to share Christ in and through them and this particular church has an ambitious vision that they are happy to share. Please keep these participants in your prayers as they make preparations for their visit and for the Upanga Mennonite Church as they prepare to receive their visitors!

Membership Transfer—Tony and Judy Estrada have transferred their membership to Smithville Mennonite Church. We pray God's blessing on Tony and Judy as they continue to join in fellowship and service with Christ and God's people at Smithville Mennonite Church and beyond. Following is a note from Tony and Judy: *We thank you all for the many years of love, support and growth in our walk with Christ and raising of our family. We cherish the friendships we have with each of you. Thank you and may God richly bless you!* ~Tony and Judy Estrada

Central Christian School Announcements

Central Christian School Singing Valentines, Wednesday, February 14th—Surprise your loved one at home or their place of work with a one-of-a-kind Singing Valentine! Central Christian Varsity Singers have delivered over 300 Valentines to loved ones in Wayne, Holmes and Stark counties over the past 16 years. You may order a Singing Valentine by calling Karla McMullen at [330.857.7311](tel:330.857.7311) or KarlaM@CentralChristianSchool.org. Cost is \$25.

The Frohliche Dorf Show, Saturday, February 17th at 7 p.m.—Join us for an evening of fantastic music and fun-filled skits celebrating small-town life in Ohio and our “cheerful village”! The Frohliche Dorf Show is produced by Tim Shue and Brenda Troyer. Proceeds from the show help subsidize the 44-member Concert Choir's spring tour and participation in Mennonite School Council's annual choir festival. Tickets are \$14 – \$17 and may be purchased by visiting www.ccscomets.org/events

Schedule a visit and experience a day Central Christian—Are you interested in experiencing the difference of Christ-centered education? At Central, we are committed to preparing our students to walk with Christ in all of life. We believe an education that develops the whole person; academically, spiritually, emotionally and physically, will create future leaders for our churches, local communities and beyond. We invite your child to spend a day with us on any school day. Your child will have a designated student mentor to walk through the school day with them, experience chapel, meet our creative and caring faculty and staff, and lunch is on us! To schedule your visit, please contact Christina Lowe at [330.857.7311](tel:330.857.7311) or ChristinaL@CentralChristianSchool.org

Annual Auction: Saturday, March 3rd, Breakfast at 7 a.m. and Auction at 9 a.m.—Mark your calendars and bring your friends. With a match of 200 percent, we guarantee this auction to be fun and successful. All dollars raised go toward Central's annual operating budget and mission of growing leaders and building the church. We are seeking creative and quality item donations from you! Print the Item Donation Form found on our website, www.CCSComets.org and return it to Joel Otto, Business Manager.

Gathered and Sent—a missional conference focusing on DISCIPLESHIP and EVANGELISM

Meghan Good—Teaching Pastor at Trinity Mennonite Church, Glendale, Arizona; **Marvin Lorenzana**—Discipleship Initiatives Director at Mennonite Mission Network

March 8-9, 2018 at Bluffton University, Bluffton, Ohio

Ohio Conference invites you to a conference focused on **growing as a good news community**. Join us as we grow in our culture of mission, receive practical training (in evangelism and discipleship) and cultivate partnership and relationship. All who are passionate about growing as disciples or are frustrated with the status quo of maintenance ministry are encouraged to attend. This conference is **NOT** just for pastors and delegates. Meghan Good and Marvin Lorenzana are the resource persons. Fees: \$25 for those also attending ACA; \$45 for those not attending ACA; \$20 for all young adults (under age 30). Registration cost includes the conference, snacks and resources. Register online at www.ohiomennoniteconference.org.

Gathered and Sent (from 1 Peter 2:9-10 and Luke 10:1-12) is also the theme for the upcoming **Ohio Annual Conference Assembly** which will take place following the missional conference, March 9-10, 2018 at Bluffton University, Bluffton, Ohio. The worship sessions for ACA will feature a continuation of the missional conference with speakers, Meghan Good and Marvin Lorenzana. ACA is including more time for business sessions, storytelling and workshops this year so that we don't feel so rushed. Our mission is to be a people dedicated to the worship of faith in and witness for Jesus Christ. We look forward to celebrating God's goodness together. We hope that you will be encouraged in your faith through our worshipful work in delegate sessions, a variety of workshops, dynamic worship times, and connecting with others from across the Conference. Please note, you do not need to be a delegate to attend ACA. Registration and up-to-date information is available online: www.ohiomennoniteconference.org.