

Ohio Valley District United Methodist Church



Remember Who You Are

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” (Matthew 28:19-20)

Dear Fellow Travelers on the Discipleship Journey,

In his message at our Spring District Rally and Conference, Dr. Paul Chilcote told of his father’s reminder every time he left the house on a date or to be with his friends on a weekend night: “Paul, remember who you are.” In other words, “Paul, you are a Chilcote and we want you to be honorable in all you say and do.” Would that not be a good question for us as followers of Jesus as we go about our day to day living? “Remember who you are. You are a Christian. You are a disciple of Jesus.”

Dr. Chilcote pointed out that a better translation of Matthew 28:19 could be, “Therefore, *as you are going on your way*, make disciples ...” The point is that Jesus is not telling us we have to GO *somewhere else* to make disciples; we are to MAKE DISCIPLES right here where we are, right here as in our day to day lives. As the United Methodist denomination, we have forgotten how to make disciples! We are good at making church members; we are not so good at making disciples with a living, growing, loving, dynamic relationship with Jesus.

Phil Maynard’s book, *Shift*, focuses in a big way on discipleship in the local church. Discipleship is more than membership. Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. But if we are honest, we have to admit as members that we do not really know how to do this very well.

For many of us, we may not really know how to describe a disciple of Jesus much less how disciples are made. If someone asked you what a disciple is, what would you say? Maynard has a good definition that can help us “see” what a disciple looks like:

A disciple is a follower of Jesus Christ who is committed to

- Being part of the body of Christ
 - A life of worship
 - A life of hospitality
- Becoming more like Jesus
 - A life of opening to Jesus
 - A life of obeying Jesus
- Joining Jesus in ministry
 - A life of service
 - A life of generosity



If someone asked you how to become a disciple, what would you say? Maynard describes a process of discipleship that is dynamic and life-changing. It includes:

- Searching for meaning
- Exploring Christ’s way
- Beginning new life in Christ
- Deepening our walk in Christ
- Centering all our life in Christ

How can we once again become a movement centered on discipleship? More than membership, our movement is about discipleship!

But we cannot do it alone. With the Great Commission given by Jesus comes this promise: “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” I believe and intend to live that truth.

Best of All Is God Is with Us,



District UMW Spring Meeting

I'm looking forward to spring and our Annual Spring Meeting. It will be held at Mt Pleasant UMC on Thursday, April 20. Social time will begin at 9:30 a.m. with coffee, juice, and pastries with the program beginning at 10.

Rev. Donald Kuntz will be the featured speaker. The women who attended Mission U last year spoke of his lively ways to increase knowledge on the issue of climate justice. The program will also include: Devotions, Special Music, Memorial Service, Two Cents & A Prayer Offering, Reports from the 2106 Mt. Union Mission U Scholarship Recipients, and Awards presented for the Reading Program, Mission Today Goals, Five-Star Units and Women, and Rainbow Units.

Mt. Pleasant, our host church, would like those attending to bring flour, sugar or coffee for the Carrollton Food Pantry called Loaves and Fishes.

Reservation may be sent to Linda Groves, 1135 Lake Shore N.W., Carrollton, OH 44615 or phone 330-627-4564 by April 13. Nursery will be available upon advance notice. The \$6.00 fee will be given to the church for providing a delicious lunch and early morning treats.

Your attendance will be greatly appreciated. Invite your friends to come and become motivated to join the United Methodist Women. We do great things!

Alive with the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
Dorothy Turner, Ohio Valley District UMW Vice-President

Clergy Spouse Breakfast & Fellowship

Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2017
Time: 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Where: Wesley Lodge, Lakeside
 No need to RSVP, just show up!



Make new friends and spend time with old friends!



Marketplace Shopping:
During breakfast and after short greeting and singing time!
Don't forget to bring your checkbook!

New Menu for Breakfast:
scrambled eggs, meat, biscuits, danish, muffins, whole fruit, dry cereal, yogurt, orange juice, milk, coffee and tea.

Childcare for children 18 months to 4th grade is available at Lakeside UMC. The cost is a donation. All clergy have received a Child Care Registration Form. To guarantee a spot for your child, register by 5-15. Please register online: <http://tinyurl.com/ChildCare17>

The Marketplace: For every clergy spouse who loves to craft, sew, and bake, we invite you to bring your items to sell at our Lakeside Breakfast/Fellowship! Tables will encircle our venue so don't delay reserving a space. Ten tables/spaces will be available. Contact Elsa Court at elsacourt@twc.com or by calling 234-401-9454. For those who reserve a table, set-up begins at 8:30 a.m. Deadline for a table reservation is June 1. Handmade and homemade items are valued because of their quality and price and we hope many of you will either sell items and/or shop. The proceeds will belong to the seller... this is not a fundraiser.

Sponsored by the East Ohio Conference, District Offices, and Cabinet Spouses

Reminder: Please RSVP by June 2! Note: We are meeting on Monday night!!!!

District Clergy Family Fellowship

Monday June 12 6:00 to 7:30 PM

**Otterbein North Shore Retirement Center
(Outside Lakeside's West Gate)**

* Menu *

- Chicken Salad Wrap
- Club Sandwich (ham, turkey, bacon)
- Fresh Fruit Display with Dip
- Mixed Greens Salad Bar with Toppings
- Assorted Cold Pasta Salads
- Assorted Desserts (pies and cookies)
- Coffee, Tea, Lemonade




All current, retired and incoming Ohio Valley District Clergy and Clergy families are invited.

To insure that we have enough food for everyone, please contact Gay at 740-264-1601 or email her at ovoffice@ovdumc.com by June 2 with the number of persons from your family that will be in attendance.

District Conference Wrap-Up

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Discipleship Rally and District Conference on March 18 at the Scott Memorial UMC. We really appreciated Dr. Paul Chilcote, Ashland Seminary, for sharing and teaching us about "Revival - What to Do". Thanks also to the Rev. Dr. Tom Snodgrass and the Scott Memorial UMC for their gracious hospitality.

Thanks to all the individuals and churches who gave to the offering for Camperships. We received \$752. If any persons or churches still want to give, just send a check made payable to Ohio Valley District and mail to the office.

Part of the business of the District Conference was the election of persons to attend Annual Conference 2017. This was necessary due to our not having enough persons to fill the slate of 26 delegates at large. The persons elected were Linda Baker (Pleasant Grove, Carroll); Avis Henry (Mt Zion, Bergholz); Dolly Kidwell (Pleasant Valley); Roxann Kovacik (Riverview); Carla Hively (Carrollton First); J. D. Hively (Carrollton First); Barb Gifford (Mt Pleasant, Carroll); Bert Labuda (Harmony); Nancy Morris (Harmony); Ehtel Kerwood (Harmony); Marsha Bullock (Mt Zion, Carroll). Alternates are Michael Bullock (Mt Zion, Carroll) and Greg Bush (Richmond).

We also elected the Delegates at Large for 2018. They are listed in the order of the votes received: Gay Warren (Richmond); Kathleen Snodgrass (Scott Memorial); Sue Rogers (Scio); Betty Wilson (Hammondsville); Gary Cain (Christ); Jerry Rinehart (Mt Pleasant); Peggy Beard (Leesville); Donald Devore (Christ); Avis Henry (Mt Zion); Kathy Mallarnee (Deersville); dolly Kidwell (Pleasant Valley); Walt Miller (Dellroy); Elizabeth West (Bellaire South); Ann Wiley (Amsterdam); Richard Beatty (New Rumley); Bob Wagner (Harsh Memorial); Mikayla Kovacik (Riverview); Jean Holstein (Flushing); Cathy Salsberry (Christ); Ron Smith (Sycamore Tree); Linda Ragsdale (Sugar Grove); Candy Weaver (Lincoln Avenue); Kenneth Workley (Flushing); Richard Rice (Mt Zion); Janice Fullwood (Simpson); Jeff Mangun (Mt Zion); Jo Ann Johnson (Amsterdam)



YSF District Coin Challenge: Bring your coins! Bring bills to counteract the other district's coins. Each dollar will take away one ounce of a competing district's coins. **They are once again having a coin challenge at YAC to benefit YSF (Youth Service Fund). The past 2 years Ohio Valley has come in 2nd place next to Tuscarawas District and we want to WIN this year. Please start collecting your change now (paper \$ counts also). Change can be dropped at the District Office until June 6th or taken with you to YAC.**

YAC and YSF information can be found at www.eocumc.com/youth

Congratulations



Congratulations to Pastor Al Hoder (Maynard, Flushing, Bannock) and Margaret "Maggie" Burkhart, who

were married at the Flushing UMC on Sunday, March 12.

Congratulations to Jeff Proya and Jamie Sweeney who were married on Saturday, March 18. Jeff is the son of Rev. Jeff and Kathy Proya (Bell Chapel UMC).

Camperships

The District has very limited funds to provide assistance with summer camp. If you have any students wanting to attend camp, please notify the district office ASAP (deadline is May 1 or until funds are depleted). The district does not send monies to the campers—all funds are sent to the church for distribution.

Any church or individual who would like to help with campership monies, please send a check payable to Ohio Valley District with Camperships in the memo.

Prayer Concerns

Deaths

Diane Metzger, surviving spouse of Rev. Keith Metzger, died March 1.

Rev. Merriel R. Burkhead, retired elder, died March 11.

April Birthdays

- 1 Rev. Kenneth Gifford (Thoburn)
- 3 Pastor Daniel Holt (Tiltonsville)
- 8 Rev. Jerry Ernst (Finley)
- 9 Carolyn Mehl (Bloomington/Unionport)
- 17 Rev. Dr. Tom Snodgrass (Scott Memorial)
- 17 Darlene Iden (Bergholz/ Chestnut Ridge)
- 20 Pastor Rodney Bowers (Bethel)
- 23 Kathy Proya (Bell Chapel)
- 26 Pastor Jerralyn Myers (Leesville)
- 28 Connie Carpenter (Pleasant Grove/ Mt Zion)

2016 Audits are due into the District Office ASAP. All churches are required to complete a yearly audit.

Women's Retreat

Sweet Life Café! Come and savor time with God!! Yes, this café themed getaway is as relaxing as it sounds! Get away from the busyness of life as you relax with friends, share laughter and stories and spend time with God. Join us at our suite life café retreat to experience this and more! **Saturday, April 29, 9 AM to 5 PM;** Registration at 8:15 AM (light breakfast provided). **Tiltonsville UMC**, 106 Grandview Ave., Tiltonsville, 43963. **Cost \$20/ lunch provided.** Financial Aid Available!! **RSVP** to mjanestan@gmail.com **by April 13.** Questions, call Rosie at 740-769-7291.

*Ohio Valley District
United Methodist
Church*

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Steubenville, Ohio 43952

Electronic Service Requested



Office closed Good Friday, April 14.

This and That!

The United Methodist Historical Society of Ohio will hold its spring, 2017, Convocation and Annual Meeting on April 22 at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 200 N. Summit St., Bowling Green, Ohio. The theme will be “Celebrating Women of Courage, Character, and Commitment in the United Methodist Church” and will include sessions of interest to local church historians. The Society encourages church historians, pastors, local churches, and other interested persons to join and attend this annual event. The UMHSO spring 2017 newsletter which includes a membership/registration form and a detailed schedule is at <http://www.umhso.org/Newsletter-Winter>

Community Prayer Stations, downtown Steubenville, March 2 thru April 15. Contact Urban Mission at 740-282-8010 or go to their website www.urbanmission.org for more information.

Racial Justice Training – April 29, 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM at Christ Woodland UMC, 444 N Hawkins Ave., Akron, OH 44313

Program Objective: There is greater awareness of racism and white privilege in the last few years, primarily as a result of killing unarmed, African-American people. As this new awareness develops, the objective is to better understand the racism in our nation and how it can be addressed.

Program Goals: At the end of this session participants will be able to:

1. Define the Doctrine of Discovery, a summary of The History of White People, explaining the origin of the attitude of white supremacy in history
2. Understand definitions of racism, white skin privilege and white culture
3. Be equipped with ideas to address racial justice in our community

Where is the DS in April?

April

1	CCOM at Conference Office
1	Lay Servant Training
4 –6	Cabinet
21-23	Chicago
25 –27	Cabinet
30 10:30 AM	Preach at Ontario UMC

Free Evening Concert, April 9, 7:00 PM at Brentwood UMC, 148 Stephens St., Wintersville, featuring the Ron Retzer Trio. Love Offering and free refreshments to follow in the Fellowship Hall.

THE MISSION

The Mission of the United Methodist Church is to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

THE OHIO VALLEY STRATEGY

FROM REVIVAL TO DISCIPLESHIP TO MISSION:

To align resources, develop leaders and inspire growth to increase the number of vital congregations in the Ohio Valley District.

THE GENERAL RULE OF DISCIPLESHIP

To witness to Jesus Christ in the world and to follow his teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship, and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Deadline for submissions to the May newsletter is April 19.