



Valley Vision

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Ohio Valley District
United Methodist Church

Volume 14, Issue 1
July/ August 2017



Bearing Fruit That Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected

Dear Ohio Valley Friends,

On my desk is a folded business card that reminds us of who we are as United Methodists. For many, many reasons I am proud to be a follower of Jesus in the United Methodist tradition. This is who we are!

We are the people of **THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

We believe in – making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We live by two kinds of holiness –

Personal
Social

We follow three simple rules –

Do no harm.
Do good.
Stay in love with God.

We work in four areas of focus –

Developing principled Christian leaders.
Creating places for new people.
Eliminating poverty.
Improving health globally.



With great clarity and vision in her Episcopal Address, Bishop Tracy S. Malone reminded us of who we are as United Methodists here in East Ohio. Our bishop asked all of us to connect with these Four Areas of Focus. What if every church in the Ohio Valley District chose to do something significant in each of these four areas to impact the church and community in the next year? The testimonies flowing from our work would greatly encourage and inspire all of us.

In particular, our bishop asked each congregation to **do something bold** in the next ministry year. It will be exciting to see what bold things we can do right here in the Ohio Valley as we pray, seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and then step out in faith to do that bold thing God is leading us to do – that bold thing that will make a difference right in each community as we make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world, starting right here in the Ohio Valley.

In addition, our bishop asked each congregation to do these three things as we prepare for the special session of General Conference in February of 2019:

Pray for the Commission on A Way Forward,

Participate in the A Way Forward conversations that will take place in our conference beginning this fall and continuing through the spring of 2018, and

Stay encouraged and focused on the mission of Christ and his Church.

Friends, I feel renewed for the year ahead. With the bishop I am *hope full* as we look to the future, bold and faithful and courageous with Holy Spirit power as we begin to see what impact we can have as we live into the full, God-given potential available to us. Paul reminds us of this great truth in Ephesians 3:20: “Now to him who is able to do immeasurable more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever.” Yes! Amen!

With you bearing fruit that lasts,

Jim

2017 Ohio Valley News from the Annual Conference

The Ohio Valley District was very proud of :

- **Rev. Eric Kluth** (Harsh Memorial and Kilgore) who was commissioned as a Provisional Elder
- Ordination Anniversaries were celebrated for: **Rev. Gerald Carl** (Retired) 40 years; **Rev. Dr. Clinton Quillen** (Wintersville) 20 years; **Rev. Adam Davis** (Thoburn) 5 years
- Local Pastors Anniversaries were celebrated for: **Pastor Lee Iden** (Bergholz & Chestnut Ridge) 10 years; **Pastor Jerralyn Myers** (Leesville) 10 years; **Pastor Robert Welch** (E. S. Christ) 10 years; **Pastor James Woods** (George's Run & New Alexandria) 10 years; **Pastor Bob Carson** (Brilliant & Bridgeport First) 5 years
- The Ohio Valley Youth who participated in the Youth Annual Conference. The Ohio Valley District came in second in the Coin Challenge!
- **Doug Arbaugh, District Co-Lay Leader**, who led the body in prayer.
- **Mikayla Kovacik** was recognized as recipient of a scholarship to Seminary and also as a summer intern at the Westlake UMC through the EOC Young Clergy Internship Program.
- **Thanks to:** **Ann Wiley** and **Beverly Pethtel** for serving as our District Pages.
- **Betty Wilson** and all those who met daily to lift persons in prayer.
- **Candy Weaver** who served as the District Hospitality Person
- **Holly Brindley, Sylvia Deaton, Ruth Hanson, Al Hoder, Maggie Hoder, Bob Wagner, Cheryl Wells, and Elizabeth West** who served as ushers at various services.
- **Ruth Hanson, Kathy Kuhn, Kathy Palmer, Sue Rogers, Gay Warren and Elizabeth West** who helped with the registration of delegates.
- **Kim Baxter, Sylvia Deaton, David Quillen, Jim and Lynelle Winkler** who served as communion stewards.
- **Paige Arbaugh, Robert Husted, McKenzie Cunningham, Owen Davis, Gabriel Ernst, Harper Ernst and Josiah Ernst** who participated in the Commemoration Service as candle bearers.
- **Bill Carpenter and Robert Husted** who served as youth delegates to the Annual Conference
- **To the many youth and adults who participated in YAC.**

Simpson UMC was recognized for their years of service in Steubenville during the tribute to the churches that closed in this conference year.

A complete summary of the 2017 Annual Conference can be found on the conference website at www.eocumc.com

Charge Conference Information

Schedules for the SPPR meetings, Ministry Consultations, and Charge Conferences will be mailed to the pastors and SPPR chairs in the upcoming weeks.

All the forms should be on the District website www.eocumc.com/ohiovalley by the end of July (probably sooner). If you want the forms mailed, please call Gay, otherwise we will assume you are downloading them from the website. If you have trouble downloading and/or working on the PDF versions that is the default program from the conference, call Gay and Word versions can be emailed to you.

To help Rev. Winkler be prepared for your consultations, pastors should have their CPA and CPL and SPPR chairs should have the LCPA and LCPL to our office one week before your meetings.

Note to pastors: With a few exceptions, your ministry consultations are being held at the District Office. Please make note of this when marking your calendars.



RELIGIOUS FREEDOM SEMINAR AND LUNCH: SHEPHERDING MINISTRIES IN A CHANGING LANDSCAPE

ARE YOU PREPARED TO UPHOLD YOUR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN A TIME OF CULTURAL CHANGE?

American society and culture are changing rapidly. Many ministry leaders rightfully are concerned that these changes will place their churches and ministries in the grip of negative publicity, governmental scrutiny, and litigation.

We'll discuss:

- How your ministry can prepare for gender identity issues (restroom use, youth events, etc.).
- What steps your ministry leaders can take to prepare for legal threats to their beliefs.
- How ministry leaders can address employment and volunteer issues.
- How targeted governmental actions are affecting Christian ministries.
- Whether insurance coverage is available if your ministry is sued for maintaining its beliefs.

CHOOSE AN UPCOMING SEMINAR NEAR YOU:

Monday, July 24, 2017
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Registration and fellowship
begin at 9:00 a.m.

Faith United Methodist Church
300 Ninth Street NW
North Canton, OH 44720

Wednesday, July 26, 2017
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Registration and fellowship
begin at 9:00 a.m.

Towne Boulevard Church of God
3722 Towne Blvd.
Franklin, OH 45005

REGISTER TODAY

Call Gill Grant at 330-668-2300
or email ggrant@waltersandhannains.com.

Please register by July 18.

Presented by:

Steve Case, JD
Assistant Vice President
Senior Corporate Counsel

Kyle Johnson, JD
Associate Attorney

Hosted by:

John Hanna
Agency Principal

Phil Yoder
Agency Producer





Changes on the District

- Pastor Chuck Mehl is concluding his ministry. He has been serving the Bloomingdale/ Unionport churches.
- Pastor David Quillen will begin serving the Bloomingdale UMC as of July 9 and will continue serving the Hopedale UMC where he has served since 2015 as well as visitation pastor at the Wintersville UMC.
- Pastor Steve Browning will begin serving the Unionport UMC as of July 9 and will continue serving the Buena Vista UMC where he has served since 2015.
- Pastor Ed Hale who has been serving the Perrysville/ Pleasant Hill charge since 2014 has concluded his ministry as of June 30.
- Lay Servant, Bob Blanke, will be filling the pulpit for the summer months at the Perrysville/ Pleasant Hill churches.
- Rev. Gene Miller has concluded his ministry at the Lloydsville UMC where he has been serving since 1998.
- Pastor Andrew Thompson will begin serving the Lloydsville UMC as of July 1.
- Pastor Jim Willson has concluded his ministry. He has served the Pine Grove UMC since 2013.

Live Journey Production

“Live Journey Production: An eye-Witness Account” will be performed on Sunday, October 15, 2017 at 3 PM on the wooded grounds of Pleasant Grove UMC, 5230 Arrow Road, Minerva, 44657. Church members will dress in costume and portray characters from the Bible. Come and experience a unique recreation of the Gospel message. Communion will be served in the Outdoor Chapel. Groups of any size are welcome. Donations are also welcome. For more information, contact Beth Zbasnek at 330-495-7265 or zbasnibe@mountunion.edu

Urban Mission is Hiring

If you're a people person, and enjoy working with your hands, the Urban Mission is looking to hire a Warehouse Director to oversee our food pick-ups and distributions, as well as some exciting new initiatives on the horizon.

To learn more, please consider checking out our position description, available on our website at www.urbanmission.org. If you, or someone you know, is interested in applying for this exciting position, please visit our website or call 740.282.8010 soon. We'll be conducting interviews the second week of July.

Happy Birthday

July

- 8 Rev. Kevin Rinkes, Toronto First
- 10 Rev. Jim Taggart, Asbury Greater Parish
- 18 Pam Dawson, Bowerston First & Trinity
- 28 Pastor Lee Iden, Bergholz & Chestnut Ridge
- 31 Pastor Mike Cunningham, Deersville & Pleasant Valley

August

- 8 Sharon Ogg, Dellroy & Sherrodsville Calvary
- 9 Pastor Lori Jones, Sugar Grove
- 11 Rev. Ashley Steele, Urban Mission Ministries
- 15 Pastor Bill Westling, Brentwood
- 20 Pastor Georgette Gaston, Richmond
- 20 Pastor Deborah Kellar, Scio & Hanover
- 23 Kelly Rice, Powhatan Pt & Amity
- 26 Pastor Larry Helms, Old Wegee & Neffs
- 27 Barb Loomis, Carrollton First

Deadline for the submission of articles to the September newsletter must be received by August 23.

Fall For All Clergy Retreat 2017, November 13,14,15 at the Carlisle Inn at Sugarcreek, OH. All clergy invited. 2 CEU's for attending all sessions. Brochures available thru the district office.

Prayer Concerns

- Cory Gardner
- Lee Iden's son and daughter and mother who were in separate accidents

Deaths

Ruth Anne Smith, surviving spouse of John Pursell, died May 19.

Faye Shank, spouse of Rev. Donald Shank, died May 22.

Pastor Richard Wilson, retired local pastor, died May 25.

Rev. Robert Henthorn, retired elder and director of the Mill Men's Hostel that was precursor to the Steubenville Urban Mission, died May 26.

Jacilyn Cardosy-Fisher, spouse of Rev. Van Fisher, who served the Martins Ferry UMC for 16 years, died May 30.

Ruth Wagner Krueck, surviving spouse of D. Wagner Krueck, died June 8.

Rev. Carl Gray, retired elder, died June 11.

Rev. Marshall H. Peterson, retired elder, died June 13.

Pastor James Fernihough, retired local pastor, died January 22..

**Ohio Valley District United
Methodist Church**

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Upcoming Events

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, Friday, July 21 from 4:30 to 7 PM at the Scio UMC, 117 Maple St., Scio. Air Conditioned Social room; Freewill donation with proceeds to help defray expenses for Pastor Deborah Kellar's mission trip to Africa.

Annual Retreat for Local Pastors and Associate Members, August 21 -23 at Lakeside Chautauqua. (More information will be sent)

Fun Fest, August 5 from 10 to 3 at Bethel UMC, 45925 Jewett Hopedale Road, Jewett, OH 43986. Music, Rummage Sale, Bake Sale, Lunch Stand. For more information contact 740-937-2864

Pool Party Ohio Valley District Youth
Back to School Pool Party
August 13, 4:00 to 6:30 PM at the
Warren Township Pool, Tiltonsville, OH

Cost is \$3 if you plan on using the pool area.
Food, drinks and music will be provided.

Everyone is encouraged to bring their favorite yard game or a basketball. RSVP by August 7 by calling Rev. Kimberly Arbaugh at 740-491-0514

Where is the DS in July/ August?

July

- 3 & 4 Office Closed for Independence Day
- 9 Preach at Powhatan Pt and Amity Churches
- 11 Meeting with Bishop Malone
- 13 - 16 Vacation
- 30 Preach at Tri-County Trinity Charge combined service

August

- July 31 - August 6 Vacation
- 20 Guest Preacher at Lakeside Chautauqua
- 21-23 Preacher for the Retreat for Local Pastors and Associate Members
- 27 - September 5 Vacation (son, Nathan's wedding)

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.