

Tuscarawas ies

NEWSLETTER OF THE TUSCARAWAS DISTRICT - UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

VOL. 17 NO. 1

February 2019

FROM THE DS...2019 SPECIAL SESSION OF GENERAL CONFERENCE

As each of us pray and discern for the upcoming 2019 Special Session of General Conference I would like to share with you some resources from the East Ohio Conference website to review.

At this link <http://www.eocumc.com/gc/> you will find a video message from Bishop Tracy S. Malone that acknowledges the anxiety and the uncertainty that many people are feeling as we prepare for the 2019 Special Session of General Conference.

You will also find:

A [side-by-side comparison of the three Plans](#)

- The [Mission, Vision, and Scope](#) article that shaped the Commission's work
- The [Final Report from the Commission on a Way Forward](#) that outlines the work of the Commission and contains details on each of three proposed plans
- The [Wespath explanation of the Pension/Economic impacts of the Commission on a Way Forward Plans](#)
- The [Advance Edition of the Daily Christian Advocate \(ADCA\)](#), the official journal of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church
- Learn which [legislative petitions](#) are in harmony with the purpose of the Special Session and which are not, per rulings from the [General Conference Committee on Reference](#)

To assist delegates with the preparations for the Special Session, the Council of Bishops asked the Judicial Council for a declaratory decision regarding the constitutionality of the three plans contained in the report of the Commission on a Way Forward. Below, you can read in their entirety:

- [Judicial Council Decision 1366](#)
- [UMNS article "Court: One Church Plan largely constitutional"](#)
- [A statement from the Council of Bishops](#)
- [A statement from the Moderators of the Commission on a Way Forward](#)

Other recommended reading resources:

- [The Anatomy of Peace](#)
- [Be Strong and of Good Courage](#)
- [Wonder, Love, and Praise - Sharing a Vision of the Church](#)

Blessings, Benita



DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S TENTATIVE CALENDAR



1	Offsite Meetings
3	Church Visit
4	Office
5	Office
6	Offsite Meetings
7	Offsite Meetings
8	Out of Office
9	Urban Pastor Meeting
10	Church Visit
11-14	Cabinet
15	Out of Office
17	Church Visit
18	Office
19	Office
20	Offsite Meetings
21	DCOM Meeting, 8:30 AM, District Office
22	Offsite Meetings
23	Offsite Meetings
24	Church Visit
25	Office
26-28	2019 Special General Conference



[Moving Forward in Mission ...](#)

January 17, 2019

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

This new year is filled with new and fresh opportunities to share the immeasurable and gratuitous love of God in a fractured, hurting Church and world. In this season of Epiphany, I am reminded of the biblical story of the three magi who sojourned together with humility and courage to an unknown place in search for Christ, so they could worship him. They came bringing their best gifts as an offering to honor Christ – and an unwavering trust in the promise that Jesus Christ is God’s gift of love, light, hope and salvation for the world.

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

As the people called United Methodist, like the magi, we have been sojourning together, engaging in prayer, going deeper in dialogue, and exploring new possibilities of how to strengthen and maintain the unity and mission of the Church and maximize our witness in the world. We have dared to go into unfamiliar places and consider unknown paths, with humility and courage, in search of God’s wisdom and revelation in fulfilling God’s mission ... our mission, To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

And like the magi, as we prepare for the Special Session of General Conference and the days after, may we be committed to bring our best gifts ... a praying spirit, a humble spirit, and a steadfast spirit ... as an offering to honor Christ and the Church. May we have an unwavering trust in the power of the Holy Spirit to help us discover the gift of God’s grace to help us do what we are incapable of doing, to see what we cannot see, to hope where there is no hope, and to honor the Christ in each other!

Our journey continues after the February 23-26 Special Session of General Conference as we move forward with the mission of making disciples!

My office will provide a prayer that I am asking to be shared in every congregation during worship on Sunday, March 3. This prayer will be available the week of February 25.

I am calling all lay and clergy of East Ohio to attend one of the following informational gatherings led by me and members of the General Conference delegation. Specific locations will be announced soon.

- Saturday, March 9 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Southern Region of the Conference
- Saturday, March 9 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. Central Region of the Conference
- Sunday, March 10 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Northern Region of the Conference

We will present the facts of what happened at the Special Session (what decisions were made) and I will share how we move forward – what comes next – as we live into the mission of the Church which is, and will be, still yet alive!

I ask you to join me in prayer for the mission of our beloved Church and our way forward together. We know that through Christ all things are possible! I offer this prayer of Jesus as a word of hope and blessing!

“I pray they will be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. I pray that they also will be in us, so that the world will believe that you sent me. I’ve given them the glory that you gave me so that they can be one just as we are one. I’m in them and you are in me so that they will be made perfectly one. Then the world will know that you sent me and that you have loved them just as you loved me.” John 17:21-23

With Love,

Bishop Tracy S. Malone

Tuscarawas District of The United Methodist Church

SPRING DISTRICT CONFERENCE

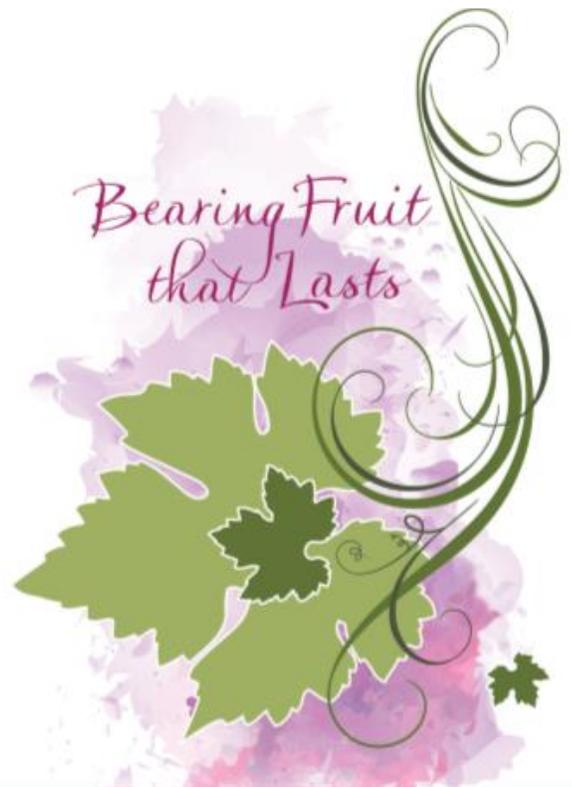
Theme: Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Committed

MARCH 2, 2019 - 9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

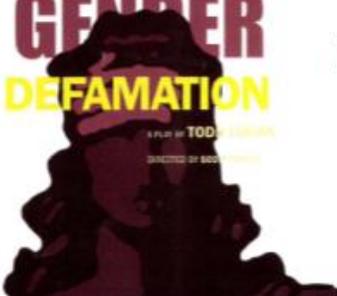
Business Session will be followed by Leadership Training, which is a LIVE COURTROOM EXPERIENCE.

The training is from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. All are invited.

Cost: \$5 per person; \$10 at the door



**RACE
CLASS
RELIGION
GENDER**
DEFAMATION



**LOCATION: NEW PHILADELPHIA FIRST UMC
201 W HIGH ST, NEW PHILADELPHIA, OH**

AN INTERACTIVE DIVERSITY OPPORTUNITY

All are welcome to participate in an interactive drama where a female business owner sues a wealthy real estate developer for defamation after she is accused of stealing a family heirloom...The Twist...**YOU** are the jury.

How the Experience Unfolds:

Riveting live courtroom drama • Interactive audience deliberation • Audience post-show discussion

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 20, 2019

<https://TuscSpringConference19.eventbrite.com>

Reaching New People



- What growing, fruitful churches are doing today
- Reintroducing your church to your community
- How pastors lead into the mission field
- How laity grow relationships that introduce new people to the church
- Leave the workshop with a six month action plan

Topics include:

- ⇒ How 1955 strategies no longer work
- ⇒ A discussion about where your church is right now
- ⇒ How to re-introduce the church to the community
- ⇒ How to re-arrange the pastor's work week and get him/her out into the community meeting new people
- ⇒ How to develop a culture of invitation in the congregation

March 29-30, 2019

Presented by: Paul Nickerson

*Sponsored by: Tuscarawas District
& the East Ohio UMC Conference.*

**Location: Broadway UMC
120 Church Ave SE
New Philadelphia, OH 44663**

Friday: 6:00-9:00 PM
Saturday: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Cost: \$15.00 per church
(register below by January 11th)

Teams of at least 3 laity along
with the pastor must attend.

OUTCOMES

Do you know what this is? Are you doing it?



SPECIAL DATES

- February - Black History Month
- February 3, 4th Sunday after the Epiphany - Green
- February 10, 5th Sunday after the Epiphany - Green
- February 10, Scouting Ministries Sunday
- February 17, 6th Sunday after the Epiphany - Green
- February 18, Presidents Day
- February 24, 7th Sunday after the Epiphany - Green

Upcoming Events

- February 4 Coffee & Conversation, 10 AM, Four Kids Coffee
 February 21 DCOM Meeting, 8:30 AM, District Office
 February 22 Momentum Youth 30-Hour Famine for Hunger
 February 26-28 Special General Conference

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- **Pastors: Annual church reports were due online (enter into EZRA/Statistical Tab) by January 21, 2019**
All churches are required to file these reports - NO EXCEPTIONS.
- **Written Reports for Spring District Conference are due February 8, 2019**
Email your print-ready report to the District Office.
- **Ministries and Missions applications due to District Office by February 15, 2019.**
- **Spring District Conference/Leadership Training Registration ends on February 20, 2019.**
Register: <https://tuscspringconference19.eventbrite.com>
- **2018 Church Audits are due March 31, 2019.**
All Churches required to submit an audit to the District Office.

JOB POSTINGS

There are multiple positions available throughout Tuscarawas District. Please remember to check the classifieds on our website at www.eocumc.com/tuscarawas/classifieds

District Youth

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Coffee and Conversation

Samantha's Restaurant

6307 Whipple Ave NW, North Canton OH 44720

Attention Youth Leaders! Coffee and Conversation is held the first Friday of the month at Samantha's from 10-11:30 a.m.

Come for conversation that encourages and equips those working in the local church with teens as well as hearing about district, conference, and national youth leader opportunities.

Have questions?

Call Char Messenger at (330) 268-4853

Or email char@dueber.org



EAST OHIO HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

For a list of Higher Ed Scholarships available and application instructions, visit:

<http://www.eocumc.com/scholarships/index.html>

YOUTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2019



Registration now open!

Speaker

[Stephanie Caro](#)

Artists

[A1 Chops](#)

[Egypt Speaks](#)

[Jacob Finn](#)

Visit www.eocumc.com/yac

For flyer and details!



TRUE NORTH

March 15, 7 p.m. • March 16, 5 p.m.

Cambria Hotel 1787 Thorn Dr., Uniontown, OH 44685

Starts at \$40 up to \$100 per person • Commuter cost \$25

* Cost includes all meals and snacks.

Come enjoy 24 hours of fellowship, worship and learning with other youth ministry leaders. Spend time exploring how we ground ourselves in finding our true north and how we help teens, dealing with stress and anxiety, do the same.

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/YPMRetreat19> from 12/3 - 3/1

CHURCHES HOST FOOD DRIVE TO HELP TSA WORKERS IN NEED



By Brett Hetherington, Communications Specialist for the East Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church

The government shutdown affected many people around the country. Some of those are people that the average American citizen may not realize have been impacted. At the Akron-Canton Airport there are over 90 people who have been working since the shutdown began and have not yet received a paycheck. This is the story of Tuscarawas District churches responding to the need of people in their community.

At the end of the second day of collection for the Transportation Safety Administration (TSA), Air Traffic Controllers (ATC) and other technicians at the Akron-Canton Airport who have been working without pay, there was an abundance of food, toiletries and gift cards. Agent after agent was able

to collect what their family needed, and each was humbled and blessed by the 14 churches who contributed. Exclamations ranging from "Oh my gosh" to "I am overwhelmed" hung in the air as people were able to see the church share the love of God without strings attached.

One agent even asked "Which church is doing this?" When told it was The United Methodist Church, his response was simply, "It figures."

View the article and video at <https://eocumcnews.com/2019/01/30/churches-host-food-drive-to-help-tsa-workers-in-need/>

From Dave & Sharon Kowaleski ~ Our deep appreciation goes out to the churches of the Tuscarawas District that were able to participate in the food drive for those affected by the recent Government Shutdown. Despite a weekend snow storm and below zero temperatures on our scheduled delivery day, the outpouring of generosity was beyond what words can express. Your response touched the lives of the 90 workers and their families in a deep and moving way. It was heartwarming to watch as workers would head home with smiles of appreciation on their faces and bags of food for their families to help them get to their first pay check after the Shutdown. This is an example of our connectional church working at its best.

Below is a list of churches that were able to donate to our drive. If your church donated and is not listed below, please let us know so you can be recognized and receive thanks for your contribution. You can contact David and Sharon Kowaleski at 330-206-4789.

Bolton • Canal Fulton • Christ Church (Alliance) • Church of the Lakes • Crosspoint • East Ohio Conference Center Fairhope • Faith (North Canton) • Grace (North Canton) • Greentown • North Industry • Simpson • Union Ave • Vine Street

TO THE TUSCARAWAS DISTRICT

thank
you!

The Tuscarawas District Churches gave 94.5% of our District Apportionments for 2018!

There were 449 Charge Conference participants this year.

Rev. Benita & Shawndelle thank you all for your gifts and cards during the holiday season.

Thank you and congratulations to our district!

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

The Tuscarawas District is now on Facebook. If you or your church is on Facebook, please like the district's page at www.facebook.com/TuscarawasDistrict1/ to receive current events, news and more!



Tuscarawas Ties

Official Publication of the Tuscarawas District
East Ohio Conference — The United Methodist Church

Tuscarawas District Office

3500 Cleveland Avenue NW, Canton, OH 44709

Phone: (330) 492-7817 Fax: (330) 492-7818

tuscdistoffice@gmail.com

Website: www.eocumc.com/tuscarawas

Send articles to Shawndelle Chester, Editor

tuscdistoffice@gmail.com

The Tuscarawas Ties is published monthly.
Newsletter deadline is the 20th of the month.

If you would like to be added to our e-mailing list, please send your name and e-mail to tuscdistoffice@gmail.com.

Please send copies of your church newsletter to:
3500 Cleveland Avenue NW, Canton, OH 44709

Send items for the Tuscarawas District website to Shawndelle Chester, tuscdistoffice@gmail.com.

NEW TAX APPLIES TO NONPROFIT EMPLOYEE PARKING

Do your church employees/contractors park on a lot owned/rented/leased by the church? If the answer is "yes," then your church may need to pay the new IRS nonprofit parking tax.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (December 2017) states, in part, that tax-exempt employers (such as churches) may need to treat the cost of providing parking to their employees as unrelated business taxable income (UBTI). The provisions are effective starting with the tax year 2018.

Churches can legally avoid this new tax if – by March 31, 2019:

- its parking facilities do NOT have any spots designated by signs, gates, attendants, etc. as being only for employees/contractors; AND
- its parking facilities are NOT used *primarily* for employees/contractors.

[Get guidance on the parking issue from the General Council on Finance and Administration \(GCFA\).](#)

LAY SERVANT TRAININGS

The Basic Course: Fri, Mar 15, 6:30 PM – Sat, Mar 16, 5:00 PM

This course is foundational for all courses in lay servant ministries. Participants are encouraged to discover and employ personal gifts as God intended and to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders, remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices, and being part of a group that holds members accountable in their discipleship. Register [HERE](#)

Heritage - Living Our UM Beliefs: Sat, March 16, 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Advanced Course. "Heritage" - Living Our United Methodist Beliefs. This course will explore the special gifts of theology, witness, and organization that The United Methodist Church brings to the church universal, how we got where we are today, and how our distinctive emphases are still needed in the 21st-century church. Register [HERE](#) (<http://www.eocumc.com/tuscarawas/LayServants>)

Momentum Youth

MOMENTUM YOUTH TO HOLD 30-HOUR FAMINE FOR FUNDRAISER

The Momentum Youth group from Newcomer's Chapel of Pigeon Run United Methodist Church (11789 Sarbaugh St SW, Massillon) will conduct a thirty-hour famine beginning Friday, February 22nd at 7:00 AM and ending Saturday, February 23rd at 1:00 PM. The Youth is using this time as a fundraiser to support World Vision, which helps raise money and awareness to world hunger.



Lent in a Box is designed to be a spiritual formation *and* an outreach tool. Create one for each family in your church. Challenge families to give boxes to their friends and neighbors. Encourage grandparents to give boxes to their grandchildren, and if your church has a preschool or day-care, create one for each family. *This is an opportunity to send the good news of Easter into your community in the shape of a box!*

It's easy to order your **Advent in a Box** download at FamilyMinistryTools.org. Because our desire is to support the local church, our price is based on a sliding scale based on the size of your church, and we've kept the cost of the activity contents of around **\$3.70 per box**, since supplies are purchased in bulk prices will vary depending on how many boxes you create. If you have any questions, please contact us at info@familyministrytools.org

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in. Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers or sisters of mine, you did for me."

What is Club 500?

Club 500 was begun to help Canton Calvary Mission meet the expenses needed to operate the building that provides a safe haven and a healthy environment for its ministry and services.

How does Club 500 work?

Simply make a commitment to support Canton Calvary Mission financially by filling out the membership form and sending it to the Mission office.

How will my donation help?

Backpack food expenses, hot meal food, non-food meal supplies, food pantry expenses, after-school expenses, summer kids' expenses, staff salaries, van gas, van insurance, van expenses, trash removal, water, sewer, electricity, gas for heating and cooking, equipment maintenance and repair, building insurance, building repairs, custodial supplies, security system, fire extinguisher inspection, pest control, boiler inspections, telephone, internet, printing, postage, office supplies, newsletter, a warm place to be on a cold day, a cool drink of water on a hot day, a place to get a coat for the winter or a blanket for the bed, food for the weekend for a hungry child, an afterschool snack that is really dinner, a place at the dinner table.

www.cantoncalvarymission.net
calvarymission@ameritech.net
 Facebook: Canton Calvary Mission
 Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (Fridays by appointment). Canton Calvary Mission is a non-profit, faith-based, 501©3 organization. Your gifts are tax-deductible.

Canton Calvary Mission

Club 500



"serving Christ in the heart of the community..."

Canton Calvary Mission
 1345 Gibbs Ave. NE • Canton, OH 44 705
 Phone: (330) 454-8610

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February is Black History Month

~ Rev. Debra Tyree

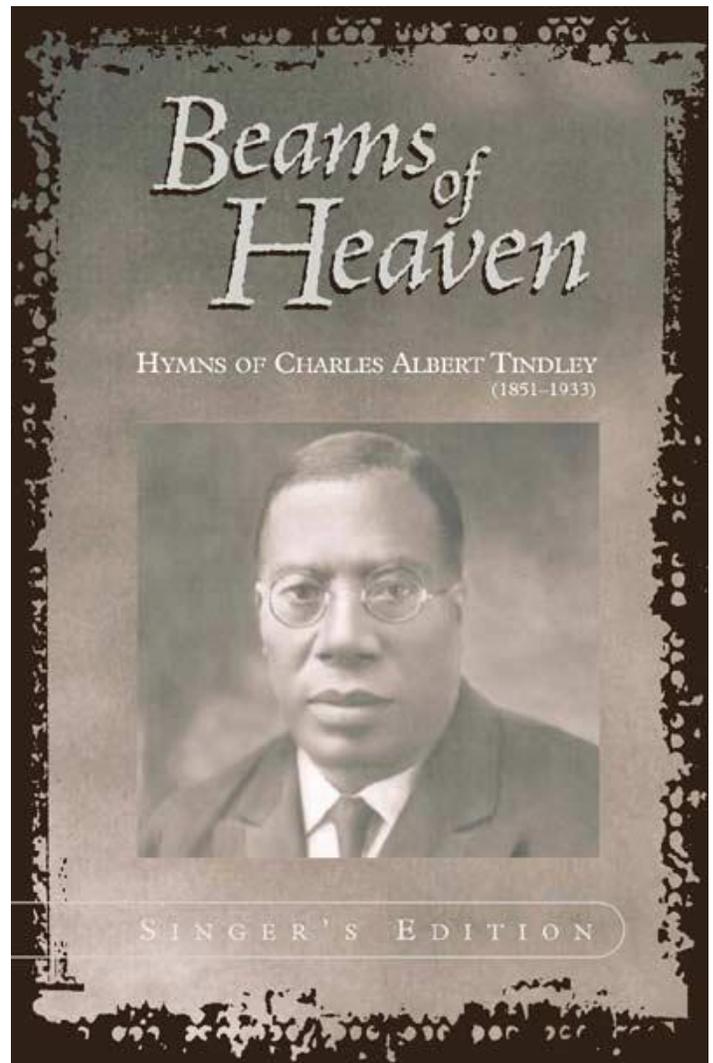
African Americans have played important roles in the development of the United States; the recognition of their roles in growth and development from a historical perspective is an important step in celebrating the contributions of individuals and the collective changes the African American community has brought about.

Celebrate Black History Month: Ideas for Worship

Celebrate **Black History Month** in your worship services by exploring the rich diversity of hymnody and song that has been born out of the African American experience. The collection, *Beams of Heaven*, containing 46 hymns of Charles Tindley, is a treasure for you to share with your congregation as a part of Black History Month.

You may want to share with your congregation the life story of Charles Tindley in your newsletter or worship bulletins. James Abbingtion, D.M.A., has written an excellent introduction to the collection *Beams of Heaven* that can be used as a reference to create the article for your publications.

Churches who want to offer solos or duets as part of their celebration of Black History Month may want to consider some of the spirituals found in *Steal Away to Jesus*. Companion CDs are available for both collections.



Beams of Heaven

These suggestions from the Global Praise resource, [Beams of Heaven](#), incorporate the Revised Common Lectionary for Year A weeks.

Year A: Transfiguration Sunday

Matthew 17:1-9

Consider using Charles Tindley's hymn "Christ Is the Way" (*Beams of Heaven*, #16) as a theme song this Lent. The text of stanza 1 will certainly enhance worship on Transfiguration Sunday. Consider singing the refrain as a response to the reading of the Gospel lesson each week in Lent.

Year A: First Sunday in Lent

Matthew 4:1-11

Continue teaching your congregation the hymn "Christ Is the Way" (*Beams of Heaven*, #16) as they sing stanza 2. This stanza closely matches the gospel lesson today. Another hymn from this collection, "Ye Pilgrims Through This Vale of Tears" (#1), reminds us "our way is dark and hard, temptations all around us." Consider using this hymn as a response to the word proclaimed or as a hymn of dedication.

Year A: Second Sunday in Lent

John 3:1-17

"If Your Life In Days Gone By," #30 from *Beams of Heaven*, has a wonderful phrase that appears at the end of each stanza and the refrain. On the Sunday we hear the well known scripture John 3:16-17, we can sing that with faith that "he will fix it for you." Use the refrain as a response to your time of prayer.

Read the full article and get more suggestions for worship at

<https://www.umcmmission.org/Find-Resources/Calendar/Black-History-Month>

NORTH EAST OHIO VISION DAY

MARCH 23, 2019

9:30AM - 3:30PM

GIRARD FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

22 N. MARKET STREET

GIRARD, OHIO 44420

A Vision Day is a one-day training event that provides an opportunity to discover what it means to be the Church in new and creative ways, hear from Fresh Expressions practitioners, learn how to renew existing congregations through fresh expressions of church, and discern what this could mean for your region, community, or neighborhood. There is active discussion as well as opportunity to build networks and relationships among those in your area.

REGISTER TODAY

FreshExpressionsUS.org/event/VisionDayNorthEastOhio

\$25/person East Ohio Conference of UMC Affiliates

\$35/person General Admission



**EAST OHIO CONFERENCE
of the United Methodist Church**

Faith Formation with Children

Our February Course begins in 3 weeks!



Learn a new approach for developing the faith of

The *Faith Formation with Children* course will engage you in:

- exploring the unique life tasks, needs, interests, and spiritual journeys of Gen Z children and young adolescents
- applying effective practices and approaches for faith formation with children and young adolescents
- designing faith formation plans with programs, activities, and strategies

The instructor for the course is **Dr. Tanya Eustace Campen**, United Methodist Deacon, and Assistant Director of Intergenerational Discipleship for the Texas Rio Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.



Register Today