



OHIO EPISCOPAL AREA

East & West Ohio Conferences

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*"See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland."
Isaiah 43:19 (NIV)*

2026 OHIO VISION STATEMENT

In 2026, the Ohio Episcopal Area moves forward in collaboration, discipleship, multiplication, leadership development, and global mission – building a unified, Spirit-led movement rooted in abundance, trust, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We commit ourselves to prayer, partnership, and courageous action as we form "One Ohio" for the sake of God's mission in the world.

FIVE STRATEGIC PILLARS

PILLAR 1: BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Our Ohio Area must continue healing from past divisions while living into a renewed missional identity. In 2026, we will proceed in building relationships, fostering trust, and strengthening local and global mission partnerships.

PILLAR 2: SHARED MISSION

In 2026, we commit to living into a unified identity – East and West – becoming "One Ohio" in spirit, purpose, mission, and prayer.

PILLAR 3: DISCIPLESHIP

In 2026, we will deepen discipleship across the Ohio Episcopal Area. SEED (Seek, Engage, Equip, Deploy) is a shared, Wesleyan framework for forming disciples who follow Jesus Christ in daily life and join God's mission in the world. SEED is rooted in our baptismal identity and the priesthood of all believers. SEED affirms that every disciple is called into ministry. It is not a program to be added; SEED is a common discipleship language that shapes how congregations listen, learn, lead, and serve.

PILLAR 4: MULTIPLICATION

In forming 100 new faith communities by 2030, we will live out a movement rooted in the theology of abundance. We reaffirm our commitment to a culture of real discipleship: planting, multiplying, and nurturing new communities of faith for all people – from emerging house-churches to multiethnic ministries and digital expressions.

PILLAR 5: EMERGING LEADERS

A renewed, Spirit-filled church requires bold investment in youth, young adults, next-generation clergy, and equipped lay leadership. In 2026, we will deepen our commitment to mentoring, leadership pipelines, campus ministry, and equipping laity.