



Connected in Christ

THE CONNECTOR

...The Canal District United Methodist Church Newsletter...

Rev. Ed Peterson, District Superintendent, Canal District

The mission of the Canal District UMC is to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

OCTOBER/
NOVEMBER 2020

www.eocumc.com/canal - Canal District - United Methodist Church - East Ohio Conference

God Help Us To Be Faithful

Greetings Friends!

I was born in the midst of the Civil Rights movement in the 60s. I was too young to remember it as it was happening. So, I learned about it mostly through seeing pictures of people like Dr. Martin Luther King linking arms and marching in peaceful demonstrations. Over the years, I learned that many of those who linked arms in those days were clergy people. And then I learned that many of those clergy people were from denominations in the Methodist tradition. When I went on a school field trip in the 6th grade, as we were walking on the street corner near the Supreme Court and U.S. Capitol buildings, I looked across the street and saw The United Methodist Building. I was so proud to be a United Methodist; and to see that we had a physical presence on perhaps the most powerful street corner in the world. The United Methodist building in Washington DC is a powerful reminder of the place of faith in the public arena.

Later in life I read MLK's "Letter from the Birmingham Jail." MLK's letter was written in response to clergy who were saying, "Don't force the issue. Change will come in its due time." I was shocked to learn that it was a letter written to clergy. While I had thought and believed that the Church was always at the forefront of leading the moral/ethical way, I discovered the reality that instead of being the first to lead, the Church is often the last to follow. While the Church was indeed a leader in the Civil Rights Movement; the Church was also a leader in resistance to the Civil Rights Movement. It is a true and shameful part of our history as people of faith.

As Christians, we often find ourselves in tension between "the State" and "the Church." We have heard about the separation of Church and State, and so we think that this means that as Christians, we ought to stay out of the public arena, not advocate for a social justice cause, not run for office, and not hold our elected officials accountable. The separation of Church and State protects the Church from the State. It is not intended to protect the State from the Church. As churches, we cannot advocate for particular political parties or candidates. Yet, at the same time, as people of faith, it is our obligation to participate in the public arena.

This year, as election day approaches; an encouragement to all of us to be sure that we are registered to vote (there is still time if you're not), and then to vote in November. A further encouragement to all of us to participate in the public arena beyond just voting. Consider whether God is calling you to run for public office. Communicate with your elected officials. Let them know that you are paying attention to the decisions they are making. Stand up for justice when you see a wrong being committed. This is who we are as Christians. This is part of our calling as people of faith. God help us to be faithful.



Love ya'

Ed

Resident Bishop,
East Ohio Conference:
Bishop Tracy S. Malone
Conference website:
www.eocumc.com

2021 Preliminary Apportionment figures will not be processed and mailed until November

In a typical year, preliminary apportionment figures for the next year are sent out in July. The preliminary apportionment figure for next year (2021) is calculated using data in the Local Church Report from the year just ended (2019). Final apportionments are typically mailed to treasurers and pastors by mid-October.

This year has been anything but typical. Please make a note of the following changes to the apportionment timeline:

- Because the vote approving the 2021 East Ohio Conference budget didn't take place until September 26, when Annual Conference met virtually, preliminary apportionment figures will not be processed and mailed until November.
- Church pastors and treasurers will have a much shorter time frame than they have had in prior years to review preliminary apportionments and, if needed, to request corrections.
- ▶ Pastors, treasurers and others with finance responsibility are encouraged to review their 2019 Local Church Reports now to ensure that no changes to them are needed. This will help to ensure that 2021 apportionments can be processed and mailed out in as orderly a fashion as possible.



Voting Results - Canal District At-Large Delegates to Annual Conference for 2021

The Conference Secretary will let us know in January how many District At-Large Delegates the Canal District is entitled to. For 2020 the number was 40. For example if that is the case in 2021, the first 40 people will be our at large delegates and the next 12 alternate delegates. Annual Conference 2021 will take place at the John S. Knight Center in Akron from Wednesday, June 16 until Saturday, June 19. If your name is on this list and you won't be able to attend in 2021, please contact Debbie Bryant at the Canal District Office.

Herr, Doug, Medina UMC	1
Bloom, Linda, Macedonia UMC	2
Bank, Claire, Kent UMC	3
Dyer, Jennifer, Montrose Zion	4
Frambaugh, Mildred, Sharon Center	5
Herr, Lisa, Medina UMC	6
Root, Laura, Stow UMC	7
Winchell, Betty, Rittman UMC	8
Yoak, Kim, Cuyahoga Falls First	9
Barth, Kim, Family of Faith UMC	10
Feldman, Elizabeth, Oak Chapel	11
Gregory, Brian, Cuyahoga Falls First	12
Sloan, Debbie, Twin Falls UMC	13
Acord, Michele, Mogadore UMC	14
Kuhajda, Ronda, Johnson UMC	15
Laux, Don, Rootstown UMC	16
Wheeler, Ruth, Akron First UMC	17
Aten, April, Oak Chapel UMC	18
Buehrle, Bill, Family of Faith UMC	19
Watts, Joy, Uniontown UMC	20
Emerick, Tom, Kent UMC	21
Evans, Jacqueline, Centenary UMC	22
Nedel, Judith, Kent UMC	23
Fisher, Anne, Clearview	24
Hardman, Charlie, Apple Creek UMC	25
Milia, Mark, York UMC	26
Harris, Nancy, Kent UMC	27
Jermy, Charlotte, Atwater UMC	28
Lewis, Randy, Kent UMC	29
McDonald, Jessica, Family of Faith	30
Jesson, Andy, Cuyahoga Falls UMC	31
Kerr, Earl, Doylestown UMC	32
Milam, Amber, Atwater	33
Mitchell, Jonah, Chapel of the Cross	34
Riedthaler, Valerie, Cuyahoga Falls	35
Groh, Carol, Mogadore UMC	36
Rinehart, Ronald, Johnson UMC	37
Green, Sheila, Wedgewood UMC	38
Rittgers, Stan, Northampton UMC	39
Mote, Denise, Kent UMC	40
Shankland, Joanna, Rittman UMC	41
Campbell, Roger, Hope UMC	42
Ciprian, Chere, Twin Falls UMC	43
McClain, Karen, Akron First UMC	44
Osborne, Tom, Lockwood UMC	45
Friebel, Felicia, Shreve UMC	46
Hopton, Irene, Rittman UMC	47
Stiller, Roger, Kent UMC	48
Stiller, Michael, Kent UMC	49
Lane, Lala, Grandview UMC	50
Knepp, Sally, Uniontown UMC	51
Wattles, Jeff, Kent UMC	52

Flat Rock - DisAbility Awareness Resources



“Increasing Access and Opportunity” is the 2020 theme for October’s annual observance of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). This year is the nation’s 75th observance of NDEAM. The observance culminates in the Department’s commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

“Ensuring that America’s workplaces continue to include and accommodate people with disabilities will be an important part of our economic rebound,” said U.S. Secretary of Labor, Eugene Scalia. “People with disabilities are experienced problem solvers with a proven ability to adapt,” said Office of Disability Employment Policy Deputy Assistant Secretary, Jennifer Sheehy. National Disability Employment Awareness Month celebrates the ingenuity people with disabilities bring to America’s workplaces.

(Department of Labor. www.dol.gov)

Our team is here to help you with DisAbility Awareness. We also offer pulpit supply, music supply (Rose), spiritual gifts retreats (Sherri), and other special services/programs.

Please contact the following for additional information:

- Karen Kilgo, President/CEO of Flat Rock Homes, Care Center, and Community Services at kkilgo@flatrockhomes.org
- Deaconess Sherri Buehl, sbuehl@flatrockhomes.org (EOCUMC: Firelands, North Coast, Mid-Ohio, Western Reserve, and Southern Hills districts).
- Rose Darling, rdarling@flatrockhomes.org (EOCUMC: Canal, Mahoning Valley, Ohio Valley, Three Rivers, and Tuscarawas districts).

Congregational Vitality - Learning Cohorts

Registration is Open for 2020-2021 Learning Cohorts

Learning Cohorts are designed for clergy and laity to learn the best practices for establishing systems in congregations for vitality and effectiveness. Each cohort consists of learning best practices, strategic planning, and ongoing coaching. Choose from these excellent offerings: Leading Well in Chronically Anxious Times; Teamwork: Working the Transition Together; Conflict Management in the Midst of Pandemic; Hope; How to Reach New People; Discipleship Pathway Partners; Reach, and Leadership Coaching.

To learn more and register, go to: <https://www.eocumc.com/cong-vitality/index.html>

Canal District Clergy and Families Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays - October

- 7 Rick Bohan
- 8 Camryn Hoverstock
- 10 Noah Liming
- 14 Bob Mitchell
- 15 Becki Verbridge
- 18 David Cheng, Katie Osier
- 19 Emma Kesler
- 20 Lee McGrath, Carol Wallace
- 24 Chloe Mitchell
- 26 Tom Poremba
- 28 Matt Burkhardt



Birthdays – November

- 1 Patricia Gharky
- 4 Joyce Fast
- 7 David Breckner
- 9 Jeanette Burkhardt
- 14 Daryl Sowers
- 19 Vicki Lewis
- 22 David McGrath
- 25 Sue McHale
- 27 Karen McGrath

Anniversaries -October

- 6 Philip and Allyson Raynes
- 9 Jim & Becki Verbridge
- 13 Kenny & Kimmie Kesler
- 25 Dawan and Hawa Buie

Anniversaries – November

- 28 Jim & Patti Pfander
- 29 Don & Susan Ebert

Happy Anniversary

Prayer Concerns

Please keep the following pastors in your prayers as they recover from surgery:

- Rev. Katie Osier - Greensburg UMC
- Rev. Joyce Fast - Redeemer North Hill UMC



Hearth and Home Bazaar

Sponsored by the Clearview United Methodist Women, 1733 Massillon Rd., Akron, OH 44312.
October 24, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Carry-out only lunch served 10-3. Quilts, quilted wall hangings, small hand-crafted items, Christmas items, home-made baked and canned goods, and more.
No Admission fee. Free coffee. Cash, credit cards, and checks accepted.

Proceeds go toward leadership development and missions. For more information, email clearviewumw@gmail.com.



Covered Bridge Ministries

125 East Jefferson Street, Jefferson, Ohio 44047 - 440-576-4561 - Serving Ashtabula County in North East Ohio. Covered Bridge Ministries involves home repairs with other opportunities to serve both city and rural areas. We will be accepting work teams the first and third weeks of June, July and August 2021. Sunday afternoon through Saturday morning. The cost will be \$150.00 per person with no meals provided. We will work with you on your length of stay and meal accommodations if needed. Work sites in Ashtabula County within 20 minutes

travel time.

- Air Conditioning, Beds, 5 stall shower room, Newly renovated kitchen, Large room for meals and fellowship, Access to sanctuary + worship center for devotion and prayer time, Internet access at church with projectors/screens and sound system, Washer and dryer available in church.

Covered Bridge Ministries is sponsored by :Jefferson United Methodist Church & H2O Missions. Contact: lee_deyermant@yahoo.com.

CANAL DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF

District Superintendent: Rev. Ed Peterson - Administrative Assistant: Debbie Bryant - Treasurer, Funding Secretary: Sheryl Reynolds
If you would like to receive our newsletter by mail or email, please contact Debbie. 800 East Market St., Akron 44305 -
Phone: 330-252-0299 - Fax: 330-252-0297 - E-mail: cdistumc@gmail.com - Web Site: www.eocumc.com/canal/