



*Bearing Fruit
that Lasts*

COMMITTED

2019 EAST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Tracy S. Malone

Resident Bishop

Tracy S. Malone, Presiding Bishop • Cynthia Patterson, Secretary

Brenda Vaccaro, Workbook Editor



**OHIO EAST AREA
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

8800 Cleveland Avenue NW, P.O. Box 2800 • North Canton, Ohio 44720
Telephone: (800) 831-3972, ext. 112 • Fax: (330) 497-4911

Dear Members of the East Ohio Annual Conference,

Grace and peace to you from God our Creator, and our Lord Jesus Christ. I look forward to seeing each of you at the 50th Session of the East Ohio Annual Conference which will be held Monday, June 10 through Thursday, June 13, 2019 at Lakeside Chautauqua. We continue to embrace our quadrennium theme:

Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected. During our four days together, we will center on what it means to be Committed (John 15:9-15) (CEB).

In this season within the life of the Church and in the world, where there is great division and discord, how do we draw on our faith, pulling together in love and continue to share the gospel of love and hope? Together we will journey together to explore and renew our commitment to grow more in love with Jesus, grow more in love with each other, and grow more in love with our neighbors. We will be called to: commit to being disciples, making disciples and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ; commit to being God's agents of transformation in your communities and throughout the world; and commit to being bold and courageous in reaching new people, younger people, and a more diverse people.

My Episcopal Address will share the state of the Conference, the state of the connection, and where God is calling us in the next chapter of our life together as we live into our vision and make disciples of Jesus Christ. I will preach the sermon in the Service of Commemoration and Holy Communion on Monday, June 10 at 10:30 a.m. and Bishop Gregory V. Palmer, resident bishop of the West Ohio Conference, will preach the sermon in the Service of Commissioning and Ordination on Tuesday, June 11 at 4:30 p.m. Our morning worship preachers are the Rev. Andy Call, the Rev. Karen Graham, and the Rev. Dogba Bass.

We will be led in a time of learning and reflection on discipleship, evangelism, and transformational leadership by the Rev. Dr. F. Douglas Powe, Jr., director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership and the James C. Logan Professor of Evangelism and Urban Ministry at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. These sessions will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

The Episcopal Address and all worship services and learning sessions will be live streamed on the Conference website.

Plan to attend all of the worship services and plenary sessions so that together we can worship and pray, make faithful decisions, learn and experience how we are living into our mission and vision, and engage in Christian fellowship. Come prepared to contribute to the Conference offering, encouraging your local church to give generously to support: the Urban Mission in Steubenville, Africa University, and the Bishop's Discretionary Fund. As we meet at Lakeside Chautauqua, on the shores of Lake Erie, let us pray this will be a time of revival and renewal. Let us pray that every decision, every presentation, and every gathering bear witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ and our ongoing commitment to "Bearing Fruit that Lasts."

Please visit www.eocumc.com/eoac19 for all matters related to the 2019 Annual Conference.

Your Partner in Ministry,

Bishop Tracy S. Malone



Dear Bishop Malone and Friends of the East Ohio Conference,

It is our great pleasure to have you join us at Lakeside Chautauqua once again for the East Ohio Annual Conference. As we embark upon our 146th Chautauqua season, we celebrate our strong and lasting connection with The United Methodist Church and the rich history of worship and renewal taking place on the grounds.

We invite you and your family to return to Lakeside this summer to experience the full measure of our 2019 Chautauqua program from June 15-September 2. Each lay or clergy member of Conference has the opportunity to receive two complimentary (one-day) Daily Chautauqua Passes. These passes allow admission to Lakeside for one day and last until 7 p.m. the following day; admission to Hoover Auditorium entertainment on the day of arrival; and access to Lakeside's many religious, educational, cultural and recreational opportunities, as well as the Grindley Aquatic & Wellness Campus.

To obtain two complimentary (one-day) Daily Chautauqua Passes, including auto, please email Mary Ann Hirsch at mahirsch@lakesideohio.com. Include the phrase "Complimentary Member Passes" in the subject line of the email, and within the email, state the exact day you want to use the passes.

We offer a number of religious life opportunities, including Sunday worship services, Preachers of the Week, Faith for Living Hour, Vespers by the Lake and children's, teen and college ministries. Lakeside invites thought-provoking preachers from across the world to live in residence as part of our Preacher of the Week program. On Sunday mornings during the summer, you can obtain a complimentary Church Pass to attend our worship services. To view our 2019 Preacher of the Week schedule, visit www.lakesideohio.com/preachers.

Entertainers performing in Hoover Auditorium this summer include Next Generation Leahy (6/15), Gary Lewis & the Playboys (6/21), Amy Grant (6/22), Michael Stanley & Friends (6/29), Three Dog Night (7/12), The Texas Tenors (7/13), Wynonna & The Big Noise (7/27), Sandi Patty (8/2), comedian Brian Regan (8/10), OSU Alumni Band (8/24) and Rockapella (8/31).

This year, the Chautauqua Lecture Series will focus on several themes, such as The Little Free Library Movement; Lake Erie Insights: Impairment & Restoration; Artificial Intelligence; Guns, Kids & the Media; Diversity & Community Engagement; The Appalachian Trail; and Religion & Culture in 1800s Rural America.

When you return for a time of renewal at Lakeside, you're also encouraged to participate in some of our recreational opportunities, including swimming, sailing, tennis, shuffleboard, and miniature golf. You may also take advantage of our new Pickleball Center and newly-renovated sports courts in Bettinger Park.

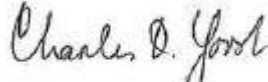
Our 3rd annual Prayer Breakfast will feature Ohio State University's head basketball coach Chris Holtmann on Friday, Aug. 2, when he will speak on his unique faith journey. Visit www.lakesideohio.com/prayerbreakfast to purchase tickets.

As always, Lakeside is extending a 15% discount to active and retired clergy for overnight accommodations (Sunday-Thursday) at either Hotel Lakeside or the Fountain Inn, subject to availability and blackout dates. To make a reservation, contact (419) 798-4461, ext. 230 and mention the 'Clergy Retreat.' We look forward to having Annual Conference lay and clergy members return this summer to share in the Lakeside Chautauqua experience.

Yours in the Spirit of Lakeside Renewal,



Kevin Sibbring, President/CEO
Lakeside Chautauqua



Rev. Dr. Charles D. Yoost, Director of Religious Life
Lakeside Chautauqua

ATTENTION LAY MEMBERS:

If you are **not to be a lay member** of Conference this year, please pass this material to your successor and notify Conference Registrar Brenda Vaccaro at 1-800-831-3972 ext. 153.

PURPOSE OF THE PRE-CONFERENCE WORKBOOK

This workbook contains proposals submitted by the March 15 deadline, for consideration and action by the East Ohio Annual Conference Session, to be held June 10-13, 2019 at Lakeside Chautauqua, Ohio. (Other proposals will be distributed as they become available.) None of the proposals contained on these pages are the official positions of the East Ohio Conference until they are perfected and adopted by the East Ohio Annual Conference. If adopted, they will be published as part of the official record of the Annual Conference in the *2019 East Ohio Conference Journal*.

BRING THIS WORKBOOK WITH YOU TO ALL CONFERENCE SESSIONS**Instructions for making larger print copies of this workbook:**

Every effort has been made to conserve Conference resources and to print this workbook in as few pages as possible in a readable typeface. If you are vision-impaired and need enlarged pages, and if you have access to a copy machine with enlargement capability, you can use the 120% setting and 8 ½ x 14" paper. If your local church is not able to do this, you may complete the form below and return it before **May 29, 2019** to: Cheryl Duell, 8800 Cleveland Ave., NW, North Canton, OH 44720, and enlarged pages will be mailed to you before June 8, 2019.

Please send Large Print pages of the 2019 Pre-Conference Workbook to:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Return this form **before** May 29 to:

Cheryl Duell, Workroom Supervisor
East Ohio Conference UMC
8800 Cleveland Ave., NW
North Canton, OH 44720-4567

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50th SESSION
EAST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE
HOOVER AUDITORIUM – LAKESIDE, OHIO
Sunday, June 9 through Thursday, June 13, 2019

AGENDA

SUNDAY EVENING
June 9, 2019

- 4:00 p.m. *Choir Rehearsal in Hoover Auditorium.*
 (During all rehearsals, please clear Hoover Auditorium.)
- 6:00 p.m. *Rehearsal for Ushers in Hoover Auditorium.*
- 6:45 p.m. **PRAYER AND PRAISE SERVICE IN ORCHESTRA HALL**
 All clergy, laity, and families invited to participate.
- 7:30 p.m. *Rehearsal in Hoover Auditorium for Monday's Service of Commemoration and Holy Communion.*

MONDAY MORNING
June 10, 2019

- 7:30 a.m. *Production Meeting in Hoover Auditorium*
- 8:30 a.m. **LAITY SESSION**
- 9:30 a.m. Continental breakfast in Lakeside UMC with Bishop Malone and Cabinet for families of those being commemorated during the Service of Commemoration and Holy Communion.
- 9:30 a.m. *Choir Sound Check in Hoover Auditorium.*
- 9:30 a.m. *Teller Meeting in Hoover Auditorium.*
- 10:30 a.m. **CALLING THE CONFERENCE TO ORDER**
 SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION AND HOLY COMMUNION
 Preacher: Bishop Tracy S. Malone
- 12:00 p.m. **RECESS**
- 1:00 p.m. *Choir Rehearsal in Orchestra Hall.*

MONDAY AFTERNOON**June 10, 2019**

- 2:00 p.m. **OPENING BUSINESS SESSION**
 Opening Prayer
 Opening Motions & Matters of Privilege
 Program Committee
 Greetings from Lakeside Chautauqua
 Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process
 Voting Instructions
GENERAL/JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE
LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 1
- 3:10 p.m. **BREAK**
- 3:20 p.m. **CONFERENCE SINGING**
- 3:25 p.m. **BUSINESS SESSION**
 Prayer
 Stewardship Moment – Credit Union
 General Conference 2019 Delegation Report
- 3:45 p.m. **EPISCOPAL ADDRESS**
REPORT OF LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 1
LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 2
- 5:00 p.m. **COURTESIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 5:15 p.m. **PRAYER AND RECESS**
- 6:15 p.m. *Rehearsal in Hoover Auditorium for the Celebration of Retirement.*
- 6:45 p.m. *Choir Rehearsal in Hoover Auditorium.*
- 7:30 p.m. **CELEBRATION OF RETIREMENT (Doors open at 7:00 p.m.)**
 Reflections: Bishop Tracy S. Malone
- 9:00 p.m. *Rehearsal in Hoover Auditorium for Service of Commissioning and Ordination.*
- 9:30 p.m. *Sound Check in Hoover Auditorium for Tuesday Morning Worship.*

TUESDAY MORNING**June 11, 2019**

- 7:30 a.m. *Production Meeting in Hoover Auditorium.*
- 8:00 a.m. **MORNING WORSHIP**
 Preacher: Rev. Andy Call

TUESDAY AFTERNOON
June 11, 2019

1:00 p.m.	<i>Choir Rehearsal in Orchestra Hall.</i>	
2:00 p.m.	BUSINESS SESSION Opening Prayer REPORT OF LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 4 LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 5	
2:30 p.m.	Living into Our East Ohio Conference Vision: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Being Disciples, Making Disciples, and Maturing Disciples of Jesus Christ	Dr. F. Douglas Powe, Jr.
3:30 p.m.	PRAYER AND RECESS	
3:30 p.m.	<i>Choir Sound Check in Hoover Auditorium.</i>	
4:30 p.m.	SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING AND ORDINATION (Doors open at 4:00 p.m.) Preacher: Bishop Gregory V. Palmer	
8:00 p.m.	<i>Sound Check in Hoover Auditorium for Wednesday Morning Worship.</i>	

Offering: Fund #

1/3 Bishop's Discretionary Fund

1/3 Africa University

1/3 Steubenville Urban Mission

3:20 p.m. **BREAK**

3:30 p.m. **CONFERENCE SINGING**

3:35 p.m. **BUSINESS SESSION**

Opening Prayer

REPORT OF LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 8

LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 9

4:00 p.m. **Living into Our East Ohio Conference Vision:** Dr. F. Douglas Powe, Jr.

- **Being God's Agents of Transformation in
Our Communities and Throughout the World**

5:05 p.m. **COURTESIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Ivy Smith

5:15 p.m. **PRAYER & RECESS**

WEDNESDAY EVENING

June 12, 2019

6:30 p.m. **MINISTRY FAIR: Connecting through Mission and Conversation in
Wesley Lodge & South Auditorium.**

8:00 p.m. *Sound Check in Hoover Auditorium for Thursday Morning Worship.*

THURSDAY MORNING

June 13, 2019

7:30 a.m. *Production Meeting in Hoover Auditorium.*

7:30 a.m. *Choir Rehearsal in Hoover Auditorium.*

8:00 a.m. **MORNING WORSHIP**

Preacher: Rev. Dogba Bass

9:00 a.m. **BUSINESS SESSION**

Opening Prayer

REPORT OF LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 9

LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 10

9:30 a.m.	Living into Our East Ohio Conference Vision: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being Bold and Courageous Leaders in Reaching New People, Younger People, and a More Diverse People REPORT OF LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 10 LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 11	Dr. F. Douglas Powe, Jr.
11:00 a.m.	BREAK	
11:10 a.m.	VBS Prayer Stewardship Moment – Wespath Petitions REPORT OF LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 11 LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 12	Toni McKee Steve Stultz Costello
12:00 p.m.	COURTESIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	Ivy Smith
12:10 p.m.	PRAYER & RECESS	

THURSDAY AFTERNOON
June 13, 2019

2:00 p.m.	BUSINESS SESSION Prayer REPORT OF LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 12 LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 13 East Ohio Conference Annual Corporate Meeting – Trustee Report Litany for Closing of Churches Mission Awareness Board of Missions Resolutions	Allen Laferty Cabinet Jerry Krueger Kathy Dickriede Steve Stultz Costello
3:25 p.m.	BREAK	
3:35 p.m.	CONFERENCE SINGING	
3:40 p.m.	BUSINESS SESSION Prayer REPORT OF LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 13 LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 14 Leadership Committee CF&A REPORT OF LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 14 LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 15 Approval of Printed Reports	Gordon Myers David Palmer Cindy Patterson

Suggestion of Episcopal Candidate

Cindy Patterson

Concluding Business

REPORT OF LAY AND CLERGY BALLOT NO. 15

Introduction of Delegation

Closing Motions

Cindy Patterson

Closing Prayer

5:50 p.m.

BENEDICTION & ADJOURNMENT

ORGANIZATION AND INFORMATION

Tracy S. Malone
Resident Bishop, Presiding

District Superintendents & Conference Executive Staff

Ed Peterson	Canal District
Doug Lewis	Firelands District
Abby Auman	Mahoning Valley District
Nestor Nazario	Mid-Ohio District
Steve Bailey	North Coast District
Bruce Hitchcock	Ohio Valley District
Gail Angel	Southern Hills District
Bradley Call	Three Rivers District
Benita Rollins	Tuscarawas District
Sondra Snode	Western Reserve District
Gary George	Assistant to the Bishop
Steve Court	Director of Connectional Ministries
Vera Rebrovich	Director of Financial and Administrative Services
Rick Wolcott	Director of Communications

Annual Conference Program Committee

Ivy Smith	Chairperson
Cynthia Patterson	Conference Secretary
Kimberly Green	Conference Lay Leader
Nathan Howe	Chairperson, Worship Committee
Brenda Vaccaro	Registration
Rhonda Stemmer	Seating and Ushering
Bill Sutherin, Marla Hum	Information Desk
Don and Karen Upson	First Aid Co-Coordination
Toni McKee	Vacation Bible School
Linda Brown & New Leaf UMC Staff	Child Care
Other Program Committee Members:	
Sarah Christophel, Steven Court, Cheryl Duell, Gary George, Shawna Hinkle, Emily Messino, Kathy Palmer, Kristen Patt, Tadd Sponseller, Lucinda Starr, Betty Wilson, Tina Gallaher	

Annual Conference Worship Committee

Nathan Howe, Chairperson; Kimberly Arbaugh, Carolyn Berry, Judith Wismar Claycomb,
 Gary George, Melanie Glazer, Timothy Monteith, Kathy Ramsey, David Rittgers, Rick Wolcott

Ministry of Music

Ron Barkett, Choir Director; Joshua Brodbeck, Organist

SPEAKERS

Bishop Tracy S. Malone
Resident Bishop
East Ohio Conference

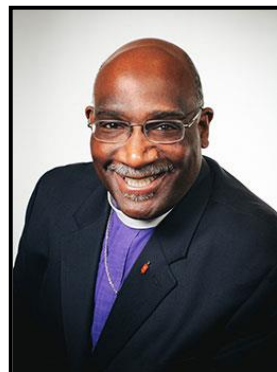
Bishop Tracy S. Malone was assigned to the East Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church effective September 1, 2016.

As resident bishop, she provides spiritual oversight; shares in equipping, teaching and encouraging mission, outreach, witness and service; and serves as a shepherd of the church in providing a prophetic witness of justice, mercy and unity.

Malone serves on the Boards of Trustees at the United Methodist-affiliated colleges, seminaries and organizations in East Ohio. She also is currently the president of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, is a member of the Board of Directors of The Connectional Table of The United Methodist Church, and is a member of the Board of Trustees of Africa University.

During her ministry, she has pastored several churches in the Northern Illinois Conference, represented that conference at four General and Jurisdictional Conferences, served as a district superintendent, and been dean of the Cabinet. She has written chapters for several books, published articles, blogs and book reviews, and taught courses as an adjunct professor at Aurora University and at Northern Baptist Seminary in Lombard, Illinois.

Malone has a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies and Sociology, with a minor in Computer Science, from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, a Master of Divinity from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, and a Doctorate of Ministry from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio.



Bishop Gregory V. Palmer
West Ohio Conference

Bishop Gregory V. Palmer was elected to the episcopacy in 2000, while serving in the East Ohio Conference as senior pastor of the United Methodist Church of Berea. He served eight years as bishop of the Iowa Conference and then four years in the Illinois-Great Rivers Conference before being assigned to the West Ohio Conference in 2012.

Prior to his seven years at UMC Berea, Palmer was superintendent of the Youngstown District, was the organizing pastor of James S. Thomas UMC in Canton and had served Werner and East Glenville UMCs.

Palmer has served The United Methodist Church in many ways: as a member of the Board of Ordained Ministry, the General Council on Ministries, and the Senegal Task Force of the General Board of Global Ministries; as President of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Canton; as a General and Jurisdictional Delegate; and on the Commission on a Way Forward.

He has also served on the Ministry Study Commission, been a study leader for Schools of Christian Mission, a teacher at Pastor's School in the Burundi Annual Conference, and a trustee for Baldwin-Wallace College, Ohio Wesleyan University and United Theological Seminary. He was elected President of the Council of Bishops from 2008-2010.

Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Palmer received his undergraduate degree from George Washington University, and later earned his Master of Divinity from Duke University. In 1999 he received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea.



Rev. Andy Call
East Ohio Conference

Rev. Andy Call is the lead pastor at Church of the Saviour (North Coast District) in Cleveland Heights, where his leadership focus is to equip the Church to live into the Kingdom of God through committed discipleship and dynamic faith-sharing. His ministry gifts include teaching, preaching, organizational leadership, equipping laity, and social justice.

Prior to being appointed to Church of the Saviour in 2015, Call served as pastor at First United Methodist Church of Oberlin (Firelands District) for three years. He was associate for Music and Worship at Westlake United Methodist Church before entering pulpit ministry and was the director of Choral Activities at New Philadelphia High School prior to engaging in full-time church work.

Call was elected a lay delegate to General Conference 2012, was the choir director at Annual Conference 2013, and chaired the AC Worship Committee from 2009-2011.

Call earned a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Miami University, a Master's degree in Choral Conducting from The Ohio State University and a Master of Divinity from the Methodist Theological School in Ohio.



Rev. Karen Burtner Graham

East Ohio Conference

Rev. Karen Burtner Graham is pastor of Lakeside United Methodist Church (Firelands District), to which she was appointed in 2018. Ordained an Elder in 1987, she previously served Tiro UMC (1984-1990), Mogadore UMC (1990-2000), Streetsboro UMC (2000-2005), Church of the Redeemer in Cleveland Heights (2005-2012), and New Concord UMC (2012-2017).

Throughout her pastoral ministry, Graham has served on several boards and committees, including the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, the Conference Episcopacy Committee, District Lay Servant, District Superintendency and Finance Committees, and each district Committee on Ministry. She was named the Canal District Pastor of the Year in 2005, and the North Coast District Pastor of the Year in 2010.

Graham is a member of the 2019 class of Leadership Ottawa County and currently serves as a compass group coordinator and as a trainer in the principles of the Rule of Christ. She is also chairperson of the East Ohio Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships, which received a local initiative grant from the Council of Bishops for the 2018-2019 year to develop information cards about OCUIR to be shared with congregations and annual conferences.

She earned her undergraduate degree from Earlham (IN) College and her Master of Divinity from Vanderbilt University Divinity School.



Rev. Dogba Bass

East Ohio Conference

Rev. Dogba Bass is pastor of Aldersgate United Methodist Church (North Coast District) in Warrensville Heights, a church he has served since 2016. His first appointment in the East Ohio Conference was as pastor of Werner UMC in Cleveland, which he served from 2005-2011 before shepherding the congregation through a merger with Celebration UMC in Euclid. Bass then served as pastor of Celebration UMC until his appointment to Alsdersgate UMC. He served 21 years in Massachusetts as a youth minister and pastor before coming to the East Ohio Conference.

In his 10th year as a certified clergy coach and mentor to new pastors, Bass also serves on the North Coast District Committee on Ordained Ministry, which interviews prospective new clergy, and the East Ohio Conference Committee on Investigation.

A former educator, financial analyst, and entrepreneur, Bass earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Bowling Green State University, a master's degree in Economics from Cleveland State University, a Master of Divinity from Methodist Theological School in Ohio, and has completed coursework toward a Ph.D. in Religious Studies through the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Boston University.



Rev. Dr. F. Douglas Powe, Jr. is director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, and is the James C. Logan Professor of Evangelism (an E. Stanley Jones Professorship) and Professor of Urban Ministry at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.

Powe is an ordained Elder in the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church who is committed to helping urban congregations and congregations in transitional areas flourish through community partnering. His research interests are church revitalization, urban theology, and Methodist theology.

A published author, Powe will share his experiences in evangelism and reaching new people during his time with us at Annual Conference. His most-recent book, co-authored with Henry H. Knight, III, is titled *Transforming Community: The Wesleyan Way to Missional Congregations*. It followed *Not Safe for Church: The Ten Commandments for Reaching New Generations*, co-authored with Jasmine Rose Smothers; *Religio-Political Narratives in America: From Martin Luther King, Jr. through Jeremiah Wright*, co-authored with Johnny Hill and Angela Sims; *New Wine, New Wineskins: How African American Congregations Can Reach New Generations*; *Just-us or Justice: Moving Toward a Pan-Methodist Theology*; and *Transforming Evangelism: The Wesleyan Way of Sharing Faith*, co-authored with Henry H. Knight, III.

Powe earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economic-Management from Ohio Wesleyan University; a Master of Divinity from Candler School of Theology, Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia; and a Doctorate in Systematic Theology from Emory University.

The Conference Directory

ATM Machine.....	Fountain Inn (Lobby)
Child Care	Lakeside United Methodist Church
Cokesbury Book Store.....	Aigler Room (Fountain Inn)
Conference Information.....	Information Desk (Foyer, Hoover Auditorium)
Conference Sessions	Hoover Auditorium
Conference Secretary.....	Hoover Auditorium (Stage Left)
Credit Union.....	Women's Club
(Hours: 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Mon., Tue., & Wed.; 3:00-5:00 p.m., Mon. & Tues.)	
Handicapped-Accessible Restrooms.....	Hotel Lakeside, Fountain Inn, Pavilion, and Hoover Auditorium
Lakeside Chautauqua Information.....	Lakeside Chautauqua Association Offices
Local Accommodations	Lakeside Chautauqua Association Offices
Lost and Found.....	Information Desk (Foyer, Hoover Auditorium) and Lakeside Chautauqua Association Offices
Communications	Trailer next to Hoover Auditorium
Registration	Chautauqua Hall in the Fountain Inn
Vacation Bible School.....	South Auditorium (Classroom Wings)

Information

Information Desk is located in the foyer of Hoover Auditorium.

Lost And Found: Items can be turned in at the Information Desk or the Lakeside Chautauqua Association offices. If you have lost an item, please check both places.

Cokesbury Bookstore: Cokesbury will have a display and books/materials to sell during Annual Conference in the Aigler Room located just inside the front entrance to Fountain Inn.

Registration/Reservations

Registration will be held in the Chautauqua Room located in the Fountain Inn. **Please enter the room from the East side of the Fountain Inn.** Registration will be open on Sun., June 9 from 2:00-8:00 p.m. and on Mon., June 10 from 8:00 - 1:00 p.m. Registration packets are distributed when checking in at the Chautauqua Room. Beginning on Tuesday, registration will be located at the Information Desk in Hoover Auditorium and is available for late registration during the sessions.

Reservations for events: A Lakeside Chautauqua Association policy requires a guaranteed number of reservations by late May. Because of this policy **the deadline for purchasing tickets is May 20.** We have continued the online registration process for special events. Please visit www.eocumc.com/eoac19 to register for a special event.

Vacation Bible School will be available for children 4 years old through 5th grade (completed), in South Auditorium, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Monday through Thursday. Cost will be \$15 per child, or \$40 per family. More information may be obtained by contacting events@eocumc.com or the Conference office (800-831-3972, ext. 133) until May 15. **Pre-registration is required and is limited to 120 children of clergy and lay members ONLY or May 15, whichever comes first.** You are NOT

officially registered until you receive an email letter of confirmation, which will be sent after your reservation form is received online at <https://childcarevbs19.eventbrite.com>. After May 15, you will need to contact Toni McKee at 419-281-6212.

Child Care will be provided for children 18 months through 4th grade (completed) in the Lakeside United Methodist Church. **Pre-registration is required at <https://childcarevbs19.eventbrite.com>.**

Registration cutoff is May 15 or when capacity is reached. Child care hours will be Monday and Wednesday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon; 2:00 – 5:00 p.m., Tuesday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon; 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. and until the end of Ordination service, and Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon and 2:00 p.m. until the conclusion of Conference. The cost is a donation – as you are able to pay. We suggest a minimum of \$5.00 for the first child and \$2.00 for each additional child, per session. More information may be obtained by contacting events@eocumc.com or the Conference office (800-831-3972, ext. 133).

Children's playground in the park will be open daily during the Conference, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with adult supervision, for children 4 years and older.

Annual Conference Online

Wi-Fi in Hoover (NOTE: all words use lowercase letters only):

Network Name: hoover Username: hoover Password: lakeside

Follow Annual Conference 2019 online:

Articles, photo galleries, and live-streaming can be viewed at www.eocumc.com/eoac19.

Join the conversation on Twitter at #eoac19.

Live-stream schedule:

Mon., June 10	10:30 a.m.	Service of Commemoration and Holy Communion
	3:45 p.m.	Episcopal Address
	7:30 p.m.	Celebration of Retirement
Tues., June 11	8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship
	2:30 p.m.	EOC Vision – Being, Making, Maturing Disciples
	4:30 p.m.	Service of Commissioning and Ordination
Wed., June 12	8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship
	4:00 p.m.	EOC Vision – Being Agents of Transformation
Thurs., June 13	8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship
	9:30 a.m.	EOC Vision – Being Bold, Courageous Leaders

Annual Conference 2019 Video Archives: Beginning the week of June 17, all services and business sessions of Annual Conference will be uploaded to www.youtube.com/user/EastOhioUMC.

Prayer & Praise Service: The Board of Laity-led Prayer & Praise Service will take place Sun., June 9 at 6:45 p.m. at Orchestra Hall.

Ministry Fair, Connecting through Mission and Conversation: The ministry fair will be held Wed., June 12, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Wesley Lodge and South Auditorium. The fair will highlight various ministries of our Conference.

Annual Conference Mission Trucks: Trucks from Midwest Mission Distribution Center and Eastbrook Mission will be located in the south gate parking lot. Parking the truck at this location improves sightlines in the southwest intersection outside of Hoover Auditorium and makes available five (5) handicapped parking spaces.

Parking

Parking: Please be considerate and **do not park** in private drives or block anyone's car. Also, for your own safety, please observe the fire lane signs. **Illegally-parked cars will be towed at the owner's expense. The lot on the corner of Fourth and Central will be open for short-term parking.** Also, there will be parking on Maple Street, west of the campground. A shuttle will be available to take persons to Hoover Auditorium.

Handicapped Parking is available. Please respect the signs. **The block around Hoover Auditorium is for handicapped parking ONLY.** A state identification permit for the handicapped will be the requirement for parking in these areas.

Priority Shuttle Passes are available for persons with mobility difficulties. The passes, distributed based on need, may be picked up at registration. Please allow those with passes to board shuttle first.

Facilities for those with handicapping conditions: There are four areas in Hoover Auditorium that can be used by wheelchairs. Please ask about these at the Information Desk.

Hearing Assistance Devices will be available in Hoover Auditorium during Annual Conference sessions. The small headphone devices may be picked up at the sound table in the center of the auditorium before each session. Your driver's license or credit card will serve as a security deposit and will be returned to you at the end of each session upon return of the headphones.

Special Offering Tuesday Morning: The Program Committee has voted to divide the offering as follows:

- 1/3 Bishop's Discretionary Fund
- 1/3 Africa University
- 1/3 Urban Mission

Rehearsals

Worship Service Rehearsal Schedule in Hoover Auditorium:

Sun., June 9	7:30 p.m.	Service of Commemoration and Holy Communion
Mon., June 10	6:15 p.m.	Celebration of Retirement
Mon., June 10	9:00 p.m.	Service of Commissioning and Ordination
Mon., June 10	9:30 p.m.	Tuesday Morning Worship
Tues., June 11	8:00 pm.	Wednesday Morning Worship
Wed., June 12	8:00 p.m.	Thursday Morning Worship

East Ohio Annual Conference Choir Rehearsal Schedule:

Sun., June 9	4:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Hoover Auditorium
Mon., June 10	9:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Hoover Auditorium
Mon., June 10	1:00 – 1:45 p.m.	Orchestra Hall
Mon., June 10	6:45 – 7:15 p.m.	Hoover Auditorium
Tues., June 11	1:00 – 1:45 p.m.	Orchestra Hall
Tues., June 11	3:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Hoover Auditorium
Wed., June 12	7:30 – 8:00 a.m.	Hoover Auditorium
Thurs., June 13	7:30 – 8:00 a.m.	Hoover Auditorium

Announcement Procedures

E-mail Requests: Announcements can be sent to eocannouncements@gmail.com.

In-Person Requests: Forms will be available in two places inside Hoover Auditorium.

1. At the information booth in the lobby near the bathrooms.
2. From AC Program Chairperson Ivy Smith, seated in the first row of chairs by the stage.

To Be Read/Displayed:

1. Requests must be approved by Ivy Smith.
2. Requests must concern the total Annual Conference body.
3. Requests must not appear in print in this workbook, the registration packet, or on the flyers distributed during any of the Annual Conference sessions.

Prayer Concern Procedures

E-mail Requests: Prayer requests can be sent to eocprayerconcerns@gmail.com.

In-Person Requests: Forms will be available in two places inside Hoover Auditorium.

1. At the information booth in the lobby near the bathrooms.
2. From AC Program Chairperson Ivy Smith, seated in the first row of chairs by the stage.

The names will be read from the prayer cards and the cards will be lifted up during prayer. But to protect privacy issues no specifics will be shared as to why those persons are in need of prayer.

After-Session Prayer Gathering: Clergy and laity representing each district will gather for prayer 15 minutes after the recess of each day's afternoon business session. The prayer gathering will be held in the train station on Central Avenue, south of Seventh Street.

Emergency Procedures

Emergency: DIAL 911 help is available 24/7 by local EMS

Magruder Memorial Hospital – 615 Fulton St. Port Clinton 43452

Emergency First Aid Station: Located in Hoover Auditorium, the northwest corner (Walnut and 3rd St.) Medical and emergency-trained persons provide care and monitor the Annual Conference business, worship, and program sessions. The Lakeside Chautauqua Association office provides information and assistance when Annual Conference is not in session.

First Aid Providers: Persons with Emergency, Medical, and/or First Aid training willing to assist others as part of the First Aid ministry team during Annual Conference, please contact or text Pastor Don Upson 330-990-2251 or Pastor Karen Upson 330-990-2250; or email d1k2u3@outlook.com and report to the First Aid Station at the start of Annual Conference.

Emergency Weather Shelter: In the event of a storm that produces high winds, the following Lakeside areas are the "safer places" in which to seek shelter:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Campground shower buildings | Lakeside UMC basement |
| Fountain Inn Aigler Room | Pavilion Annex restrooms |
| Fountain Inn bathrooms | Wesley Lodge restrooms |
| Hoover Auditorium restrooms | Wo-Ho-Mis Lodge lower area stairwells |
| Hoover Auditorium backstage dressing rooms | |

Meeting/Copy/Phone Information

Scheduling of Meetings: Please do not schedule meetings in Hoover Auditorium at any time. Arrange for any such meetings with the Association in one of the other buildings on the grounds or notify Gary George or Ivy Smith.

Photocopies: The Conference office recommends that you make copies of all posters, flyers and handouts prior to departing for Lakeside. If you find that you need last-minute copies they can be ordered at the Lakeside Chautauqua office. Payment for the copies (\$.10/page) is due at the time of the request. Please allow a minimum of five (5) hours turnaround time for any size copy job. You may also utilize Minuteman Press, a printing vendor 7-miles from Lakeside at 3956 E. Harbor Light Landing Drive in Port Clinton.

Fax Service: Also available at the Lakeside Chautauqua office for the same price and turnaround time as the photocopy service.

Telephone: The Lakeside Chautauqua Association telephone number is 419-798-4461. It can be called 24 hours a day in case of emergency.

Lakeside UMC sanctuary will be open for prayer during the week.

Please walk and leave your cars at your cottages if possible. People staying off the grounds must drive in and will need places to park.

Vehicle and Bicycle Safety: All persons are reminded of the need for extreme care and caution at Lakeside Chautauqua! The rules are: alertness, courtesy, slow, and slower! **Bicycles must obey the stop signs.**

Rollerblades and Skateboards are prohibited in the business district and park areas.

PLEASE REMEMBER to bring the following to Annual Conference:

2019 Pre-Conference Workbook; a 3-ring notebook; a tote bag; and a seat cushion.

Since all reports and materials distributed during the Annual Conference sessions are 3-hole punched, a 3-ring notebook will keep your material together. A large tote bag and a soft seat cushion can add to your comfort.

Eating and drinking in Hoover Auditorium are NOT permitted at any time.
Please refrain from bringing food and beverages into the auditorium.

**RESPONSIBILITY OF
THE LAY MEMBERS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

You have the honor of being elected as a lay member of the East Ohio Annual Conference. This is an assignment of great responsibility. By virtue of your office*, you are also a member of your Church Council (§ 252.5.g), Finance Committee (§ 258.4) and the Pastor Parish Relations Committee (§ 258.2a)**, (above § numbers refer to *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016*).

Each member has the responsibility to:

- 1) Attend all sessions of the Annual Conference and leave only under emergency conditions and with the knowledge of his/her district superintendent (See Rule § 2 A. as found in the *East Ohio Conference Journal 2018*, page 8-26).
- 2) Become familiar with the organizational structure and existing programs of the Annual Conference, parliamentary procedure, and the Conference rules as printed in the 2018 Journal, pages 8-24 through 8-35.
- 3) Study Pre-Conference reports and become familiar with specific programs and items that might be presented during the sessions. Consult with the pastor and church lay leader. While the lay member is obligated only to use his/her own best thinking in the Conference, the counsel with others ahead of time should prove helpful.
- 4) Participate vocally at the Annual Conference and help in policy-making decisions.
- 5) Form his/her own opinions on issues and vote his/her convictions.

You should be aware—before you go to Annual Conference—that a report should be made to your local church congregation as an extension of the Annual Conference. This may be done at a Sunday morning worship service and/or through a more detailed report at a meeting of the Church Council. In either case, it should be done as soon after Annual Conference as feasible. It is best if this is an oral report. However, it may be written in the church newsletter. Check with your pastor before Conference about scheduling and time limits for the report.

The Annual Conference website is a good source of information regarding the actions of Annual Conference. Consult it during and after Conference by logging onto www.eocumc.com. In your reporting to your local charge, we suggest that you mention the major issues raised and how they were resolved and how they might affect your local church. You may want to make reference to the inspirational speakers and leaders. We hope you will talk about the positive aspects of the Conference, but it is also important to reflect upon the more controversial aspects of the Conference as well. A variation could be a dialogue with your pastor with Conference explained as both pastor and lay member saw it.

* When a local church has more than one lay member of the Annual Conference, the local church determines which lay member is to be a member of Church Council, the Pastor Parish/Staff Parish Relations Committee and the Finance Committee.

** Exception: *The Book of Discipline 2016*, § 258.2a – “No staff members or immediate family member of a pastor or staff member may serve on the pastor parish/staff parish relations committee.”

**RESPONSIBILITY OF THE
CLERGY MEMBERS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Each clergy member has the responsibility to:

- 1) Attend all sessions of the Annual Conference and leave only under emergency conditions and with the knowledge of his/her district superintendent. (See *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016*, ¶ 602.8 and see Rule ¶ 2 A. as found in the 2018 Journal, page 8-26.)
- 2) Become familiar with the organizational structure and existing programs of the Annual Conference, parliamentary procedure, and the Conference rules as printed in the 2018 Journal pages 8-24 through 8-35.
- 3) Study Pre-Conference reports and become familiar with specific programs and items that might be presented during the sessions.
- 4) Prior to Annual Conference, consult with your lay member(s) so that he/she might understand the various reports and their implication for the life of the church. Keep in mind that the lay member(s) as well as you are obligated to express views and vote as you each feel is best. In no way should you force your view on your lay member(s) or vice versa.
- 5) Participate vocally at the Annual Conference and help in policy-making decisions.
- 6) Form his/her own opinions on issues and vote his/her convictions.
- 7) Assist the lay member(s) to secure housing if necessary and explain what Lakeside Chautauqua is like. This is especially important if the lay member(s) is newly-elected. The pastor should assist the lay member(s) during the week at Lakeside Chautauqua in whatever way they can.

A report following Annual Conference should be made to your local church. This report is an extension of the Annual Conference and should be made to the congregation. This may be done at a Sunday morning worship service or at a meeting of the Church Council. In either case, it should be done as soon after Annual Conference as feasible. Check with your lay member(s) before Conference about scheduling this. Also check with him/her about the time limit for the report.

The East Ohio Annual Conference website is a good source of information regarding the actions of Annual Conference. Consult it during and after Conference by logging onto www.eocumc.com. Encourage lay member(s) to mention the major issues raised and how they were resolved and how they might affect your local church. You may want to encourage lay member(s) to make reference to the inspirational speakers and leaders. We hope lay member(s) will talk about the positive aspects of the Conference, but it is also important to reflect upon the more controversial aspects of the Conference as well. A variation could be a dialogue between the pastor and lay member with Conference explained as both pastor and lay member saw it.

Annual Conference Program Committee*Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected***Recommendations**

1. That the Standing Rule 1d will be enforced: "All motions and resolutions shall be reduced to writing. Motions or resolutions made from the floor, not duplicated in other ways, shall be written on forms provided by the Conference secretary."
2. That we approve the agenda as printed in the Pre-Conference Workbook and that adjustments to the agenda be made by the Agenda, Rules, and Administrative Process Committee (ARAP) as necessary during the Annual Conference session.

Housekeeping and General Reminders

1. Please remember to take everything with you when you leave the auditorium at the end of each day.
2. Including your own seat, please save no more than two seats. This will help ensure adequate seating is available, especially for business sessions during which all delegates must be within the bar.
3. At the end of each day please take a few moments to fill out the evaluation form located in your Pre-Conference Workbook. On Thursday, boxes will be located at each exit into which you can deposit your evaluation. Your feedback is extremely helpful and instructive to the ARAP and Program committees in Annual Conference planning.
4. Please show an extra measure of hospitality toward our first-time attendees, especially if they are from your church or district.

Courtesies, Announcements, Prayer Requests

In addition to the handwritten yellow forms, requests may be submitted as follows:

Prayer Requests: Send to **eocprayerconcerns@gmail.com**

Courtesies and General Announcements: Send to **eocannouncements@gmail.com**

*Upcoming Events: Please include contact information, i.e. name, email address, and phone number.

Sincere appreciation to the members of the Program Committee who work tirelessly to ensure Annual Conference runs smoothly and that your time here is enlightening, affirming and uplifting. Special thanks to the volunteer members of the special work area teams who devote time, in their already busy schedules, throughout the year and during Annual Conference week, to serve you. It's been an honor to serve with you and I pray God's continued blessings upon you and your ministries.

Submitted by the Rev. Ivy Smith, chair.

AGENDA, RULES, AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS COMMITTEE (ARAP)

I. Agenda

The agenda of the Annual Conference has been prepared by the Agenda, Rules, and Administrative Process (ARAP) Committee and will be presented to the Annual Conference session on Monday, June 10.

II. Administrative Process

ARAP met twice during the course of the past conference year. We continued our ongoing evaluation and review of Conference processes and rules (see page 8-24), including vetting the Conference rules against the current version of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016*. On a continuing basis, we recommend proposed changes to Conference rules and administrative processes, which the Annual Conference indicates are important to its purpose and align well with our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Following conversations and consultations with several Conference leaders, Bishop Malone in 2018 appointed and convened a group of 14 persons to study clergy compensation data, trends and implications pertaining to the clergy members of annual conference who are appointed full-time to the local church. The group has met three times and will be prepared to share its findings and any recommendations to the 2020 Annual Conference session.

III. Proposed Rule Changes (East Ohio Conference Standing Rules)

ARAP is recommending the Annual Conference consider one proposed rule change for the conference year beginning July 1, 2018 for the purpose of bringing us into compliance with ¶34 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016* and specifically due to the constitutional amendment approved by the 2016 General Conference, ratified by 2/3 aggregate vote of the lay and clergy members of all the annual conferences of The United Methodist Church and certified by the Council of Bishops in May 2018. The “meaning, application and effect” of the constitutional amendment requires Annual Conferences to elect by “majority” its lay and clergy delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences. The following recommended change would make EOC Rule ¶7.B The Election Process “constitutional” by removing the provision of election by plurality for the lay and clergy delegates East Ohio elects, respectively, to General and Jurisdictional Conferences.

Amend ¶7.B by deletion as follows:

- Deletion of the phrase “on the first ten lay and clergy ballots for General Conference/Jurisdictional Conference” in ¶7.B.1
- Deletion of the entire text of ¶7.B.2-11
- Rule ¶7.B.12 would be renumbered as ¶7.B.2

If approved, amended Rule ¶7.B.1-2 would read as follows:

B. The Election Process

1. To be elected as a delegate to General Conference/Jurisdictional Conference a candidate must receive a majority of the valid ballots cast.
2. In case of a tie at any point in the election process, a special ballot will be taken to determine the order of election prior to resuming the regular balloting process.

IV. Concluding Matters

We encourage each member of Annual Conference to complete the evaluation form found in the packet each Annual Conference member has received. The evaluations provide helpful information and

suggestions to the various Conference groups having responsibility for planning the following year's Annual Conference. Please turn in the evaluation form by or before the conclusion of the Thursday afternoon session.

ARAP expresses grateful appreciation to our Conference Secretary, the Rev. Cindy Patterson, for her leadership and tireless efforts. We also recognize and appreciate the diligent and faithful work of our *Journal* Editor, Brenda Vaccaro, as well as our *Conference Journal* Memoirs Editor, the Rev. Betsy Schenk. Finally, we are grateful for the leadership of Bishop Tracy S. Malone and her support of ARAP's purpose and work.

Submitted by the Rev. Dr. Gary George, chair

Conference Personnel Committee Report to Annual Conference 2019

The Conference Personnel Committee is responsible for working with representatives from the other Conference committees, boards, and agencies to establish executive and professional leadership, to recommend creating or adjusting support staff positions, and to set policies and procedures for the employment, evaluation, and supervision of all employees of the annual conference. These policies are tools for implementing the mission, vision, and strategy of the Conference.

We are currently in the process of reviewing our personnel policies to respond to the evolving benefits, health benefits, and employment procedures of previous years. The Personnel Committee determined that the salaries set for executive staff and for all staff will continue to align with the financial realities faced by our local congregations.

Last year, I asked you to pray for God's assistance to our Conference directors and staff as they adjusted to the wide variety of changes and concerns they confront each day. In 2018, we welcomed six new support staff who succeeded persons with decades of experience. This has opened opportunities for thinking through many things we do with new perspectives and ideas. I am pleased to report that although long-tenured employees will be missed, the new employees have brought many talents to the team.

The 2018 Annual Conference voted to approve creation of the part-time position of Administrative Coordinator for the Board of Ministry. The interview process led to the hiring of an outstanding candidate with depth of experience and commitment to ministry. We are pleased to welcome Cindy Patterson to our staff.

This year we received news of the planned retirement of Howard Humphress, executive director of Pastor Care and Counseling. He has been a significant presence in the life and formation of many people in East Ohio.

Upon receiving this retirement announcement, the Personnel Committee created a task group to discuss needs, options, the job description, and budget implications for this ministry as we look to the future. The task group included Bishop Malone as well as representation from the Commission on Pastoral Care, the Council on Finance & Administration, the Board of Benefits, the Board of Ministry, the Conference Lay Leader, and executive staff.

1 The task group feels strongly that the emotional and spiritual health of our clergy and their families is
2 critical to our Conference mission. Please know that we have had very sensitive, and at times, difficult
3 conversation involving numerous meetings and a great amount of thought and discussion. During this
4 entire process, everyone involved was very sensitive to the needs of our clergy in the East Ohio
5 Conference. We understand that leadership in the church is a challenge. We understand that personal
6 relationships build trust in the director that encourages people to seek help. Your welfare is our top
7 priority.
8

9 The structure of pastoral care needs to adapt to our current insurance environment. In transitioning
10 from self-funded insurance to an insurance provider, we have noted that clinical counseling sessions
11 have used apportioned dollars to pay for services that can now be billed through insurance. Insurance
12 billing by the East Ohio Conference would not be feasible due to legal and licensing requirements.
13

14 The task group recommended that the Office of Pastoral Care and Counseling could best continue
15 services currently provided by transitioning the position of executive director of Pastoral Care and
16 Counseling from an employed position of the East Ohio Conference to a licensed professional contracted
17 by the Conference.
18

19 This will continue to provide the services offered through the Office of Pastoral Care and Counseling, but
20 the mechanism for doing so will have the following changes:
21

- 22 1. The Office of Pastoral Care and Counseling will provide non-clinical services on behalf of the East
23 Ohio Conference.
- 24 2. The contracted director will continue to operate the Office of Pastoral Care on behalf of the East
25 Ohio Conference. The director will provide initial conversations and referral services to licensed
26 counselors. The director will also support the ministry of the Commission on Pastoral Care in
27 providing trusted relationships, networks, education, and advocacy.
- 28 3. The clinical counseling services will be offered through private counselors listed in the insurance
29 networks available to clients. That can include but is not restricted to the private practice of the
30 director of Pastoral Care and Counseling. East Ohio apportionments will not pay for clinical
31 counseling that could be billed through insurance.
- 32 4. The contracted director of Pastoral Care and Counseling will continue to be a valued
33 professional offering resources and consultation with the bishop and Cabinet regarding general
34 needs and concerns for the emotional well-being of clergy.
- 35 5. Apportioned dollars will be budgeted through the Commission on Pastoral Care to provide the
36 Office of Pastoral Care, support staff, and ministry resources to equip pastors and congregations
37 as Pastoral and Spiritual Care providers in the community they provide.
- 38 6. The contract for the director will be administered by the director of Financial and Administrative
39 Services in consultation with the bishop and Commission on Pastoral Care and Counseling. The
40 position of director will no longer relate to the Personnel Committee since the director is a
41 contracted professional rather than an employee. This is similar to that which is done for the
42 Conference chancellor.
43

44 Please continue to be in prayer for God's assistance to our Conference directors and staff as they adjust
45 to the wide variety of changes and concerns that they confront each day. They have been experiencing
46 significant transitions, and they are working to make those transitions as comfortable and smooth as
47 possible.
48

Also, please be in prayer for God's guidance as we step out in faith to fulfill our vision to increase the number of vital congregations by becoming more fully a body of Christ that represents all ages, cultures and kinds of people.

MOTION TO BE APPROVED BY ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

That the position of executive director of Pastoral Care and Counseling be discontinued as an employee of the Conference and that the position be transitioned to a contracted licensed professional. We further move that a licensed professional be contracted as an interim director while the details of this position are evaluated.

As chair of the Conference Personnel Committee, I want to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for the opportunity you have provided me to serve in this position. I want to thank Bishop Malone for her support; Gary George, assistant to the Bishop, for the assistance he has given me; and, in particular, Steve Court, the director of Connectional Ministries, for his ongoing guidance as I grow in leadership through this position.

Submitted by Rock VanFossen, chair

MISSION AWARENESS COMMITTEE

The Advance for Christ is an official program within The United Methodist Church through which donors may designate giving to specific projects and purposes. Advance giving goes the "second mile" in generosity. It is in addition to our covenant promise to support The United Methodist Church through shared ministry funds (budgeted apportionments).

The Advance forwards 100% of your donation to the specific project indicated in your gift. This is possible because apportionments pay for the communication and financial networks that administer the Advance. Other charities must deduct administrative fees to process similar donations.

Advance projects are partners in mission helping us extend the love of Christ into local communities. Through volunteering with and learning about these projects, we find the presence of Christ in ways and in areas beyond that which we experience as individual churches.

A Conference Advance Project directs funds to a mission partner (or purpose) that has been reviewed and approved by the Mission Awareness Committee of the East Ohio Conference.

A General Advance Project directs funds to a mission partner (or purpose) that has been reviewed and approved by the Advance Committee of the General Board of Global Ministries. This can include General Advance Projects in Ohio as well as those around the world.

Please pray for the people and communities these serve. Volunteer and build relationships with these partners. These connections have much to teach us about being "the body of Christ redeemed by His blood."

Recommendation #1: That the following be adopted and promoted as Conference Advance Projects for support by East Ohio United Methodist Churches July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. (NOTE: Grouped by ministry or mission type.)

Extension Ministry appointments, director is clergy or a credentialed member of the East Ohio Conference.

Blue Rose Mission, Mansfield | EOC 9940

To provide opportunities for people to bring Christ to homeowners in need in Richland County through home improvement projects. Our purpose is to use community and church groups to do housing repair for people in need.

Epworth Center, Bethesda | EOC 9140

Epworth Center Work Mission helps our neighbors who apply for assistance during the summer months. Mission teams come to Epworth for 3 to 5 days and work mostly on outdoor projects: ramps, porches, fences, yards, or painting for those who can't physically or financially do the work themselves.

Heart 4 the City, Akron | EOC 9941

Building the front porch to the kingdom of God by prioritizing relationships and establishing programs that address needs in our community.

Nehemiah Mission, Cleveland | EOC 9136

The Nehemiah Mission of Cleveland rebuilds lives and homes of physically- and fiscally-challenged individuals in order to sow seeds of hope.

Urban Mission Ministries, Steubenville | EOC 9107

Provides a holistic ministry approach to ending poverty in the Ohio Valley by providing hunger relief, housing, community development, neighborhood revitalization and spiritual care for individuals and families. Our vision is to end poverty one fresh start at a time.

Health & Welfare agencies historically affiliated with and in a covenant relationship with the EOCUMC.

Copeland Oaks Care Fund, Sebring | EOC 9172

The Life Care Fund is an on-going program that provides financial assistance to aging folks in our care who can no longer afford to pay for housing, meals, prescriptions, and healthcare needs.

Flat Rock Home & Care Center, Flat Rock | EOC 9174

Flat Rock provides health care, day programming, vocational and employment services for adults with significant developmental disabilities and severe behavioral disorders in nine counties in Ohio. This project provides much needed free, charitable care and services not covered by Medicaid or other programs.

OhioGuidestone, Berea | EOC 9173

OhioGuidestone's mission is to provide pathways for growth, achievement, and lifelong success by helping those we serve overcome barriers to success and find the joy that comes with self-sufficiency and accomplishment.

Otterbein Marblehead, Lakeside - Marblehead | EOC 9175

Otterbein values the older person as a child of God. In keeping with our United Methodist tradition, Otterbein seeks to enhance the quality of life and holistic growth of older persons.

Wesleyan Senior Living, Elyria | EOC 9171

Provides charitable care for older adults who have outlived their financial resources.

UMC community ministries, operated primarily by UMC members or local churches.**Canton Calvary Mission, Canton | EOC 9151**

Canton Calvary Mission provides a safe, warm and caring place for children, teens and adults through multiple programs such as: food programs, after-school and summer programs for children and teens, diapers and formula, health education opportunities and connection to healthcare through our partnership with Access Health, school supplies, clothing, bedding, household and other items.

J.I.M.'s Place, New Philadelphia | EOC 9910

The name J.I.M.'s Place stands for Jesus In Ministry, our goal of service to our community in the name of our Lord and Savior. We are a mission space serving the Tuscarawas County community through programming, free space, and social services.

Martha's Cupboard, Fresno | EOC 9964

To follow Jesus' command to love our neighbors as ourselves by helping those who have lost their jobs or are low income. Provides cleaning supplies, personal hygiene supplies, diapers and school supplies that can't be purchased with food stamps.

Nepali Speaking Ministry in Cuyahoga Falls | EOC 9920

Christian education for children and adults who speak English as a second language, specifically those who speak Nepali as a first language.

Starting Point Outreach Center, Willard | EOC 9939

A community mission to provide help and guidance for crisis resolution and the achievement of financial, personal and spiritual well-being. We promote Christ-centered family values while helping low- and moderate- income families overcome financial crises, providing low-cost immigration legal assistance, and giving support for recovering addicts.

UMC-affiliated ecumenical or community ministries relating to EOCUMC district strategy.**ACCESS Ashland Emergency Shelter, Ashland County | EOC 9953**

Provides temporary shelter and meals in a loving Christian environment to homeless women and families with children, while connecting them to resources to become empowered for self-sufficiency and family stability.

Harmony House, Mansfield | EOC 9134

Our mission at Harmony House is to provide the homeless citizens in Richland County with a clear path to housing and hope.

Interchurch Social Services of Knox County, Knox County | EOC 9196

Interchurch Social Services provides emergency assistance to residents of Knox County including rent, utility, and prescription assistance, pantry service, clothing, gasoline vouchers for medical appointments, and Christmas assistance.

Journey's End Ministries, Newcomerstown | EOC 9931

Journey's End operates a food pantry to feed the less fortunate in Newcomerstown and the surrounding area. We also offer used clothing and household items.

McKinley Community Outreach Center, Willoughby | EOC 9966

McKinley Community Outreach Center exists to serve the low-income, under-resourced population of western Lake County by assisting with basic needs that support personal and family stability.

Neighborhood Community Development Center, Steubenville | EOC 9112

The Neighborhood Community Development Center works within urban communities to find and develop new leaders, equipping them to create programming that will benefit the community in the areas of health, education, economic development and spiritual growth.

O.P.E.N. M, Akron | EOC 9102

O.P.E.N. M Community Works Akron (CWA) assists those in poverty to become economically self-sufficient through holistic employment assistance, prioritizing financial literacy, job retention, and mentorship to reduce individual barriers to employment.

Project Hope for the Homeless (Ecumenical Shelter Network of Lake County) | EOC 9143

Project Hope Restoring Hope & Renewing Lives is a 50-bed emergency shelter, which includes a 12-bed family wing with extended hours (Families Moving Forward), as well as comprehensive services and aftercare services upon exit.

South Street Ministries, Inc., Akron | EOC 9195

South Street Ministries assists unemployed adults and addresses the spectrum of youth education and mentoring needs in the South Akron community with its many programs.

West Side Community House (WSCH), Cleveland | EOC 9933

West Side Community House transforms lives in the community through an array of model programs and services that strengthen and stabilize the family, encourage lifelong learning and economic self-sufficiency, promote health and wellness, foster independence and renew the life spirit.

International Missions or General Church partners.**3Cs Missions | EOC 9936**

East Ohio Missions 3Cs (churches, clinics and classrooms) provides support to international mission partners, projects, and UMOVIM team leaders around the world.

Africa University UMOVIM Teams, Zimbabwe | EOC 9704

Funding for team travel, materials, and participant expenses of individuals from East Ohio partnering with Africa University.

East Ohio Russia Initiatives | EOC 9018

East Ohio Russia Initiative funds ministries specifically related to the East Ohio Volunteers in Mission Program in Kursk, Russia. *Please do not use fund 9016 or 9093.*

Farmer to Farmer, Liberia | EOC 9026

Farmer to Farmer supports mission partners in Harrisburg, Liberia, whose work includes providing farm equipment and training to the Liberian farming community.

Masindi Educational Ministries, Uganda | EOC 9192

Funding for construction of additional facilities at Rock Foundation School, a Christian-based school serving students in Masindi, Uganda.

Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC), Illinois | EOC 9944

A facility for collecting, processing, sorting and shipping material goods for disaster response.

North Coast of Haiti Mission, Haiti | EOC 9947

Improve the lives of the people of the Cap Haitian Circuit of Eglise Methodiste du Haiti, with a primary focus on the Methodist School and Church in Dondon.

EOCUMC staff-administered ministries.**Disaster Response in Ohio | EOC 9200**

Provides immediate and long-term recovery for the community and the survivors of a disaster in the East Ohio Conference or neighboring areas.

Disaster Response Leadership Development | EOC 9648

Funding for Early Response Team (ERT UMCOR) training, scholarships, and leadership development sponsored by the East Ohio Disaster Response Committee.

East Ohio Conference Camps | EOC 9899

East Ohio Conference camps provides for camperships and subsidizes other needs at the camp sites to provide a quality Christian camping program.

East Ohio Volunteers in Mission | EOC 9046

Provides funding for training, scholarships, and leadership development of East Ohio Volunteers in Mission. *Please do not use fund 9633.*

East Ohio Volunteers in Mission Teams | EOC 9643

Funding for team travel, materials, and participant expenses of teams planned and organized by an UMVIM-trained Team Leader.

East Ohio Conference Camps - L.O.T. Campership Program | EOC 9186

The L.O.T. (Least Of These) Campership Endowment fund provides camperships for children, youth, young adults and families from poverty situations.

Partners in Mission | EOC 9948

Staff salary and expenses for the East Ohio Missions coordinator to develop networks and share stories of all God is doing through risk-taking mission partnerships.

Young People's Ministries Service Projects | EOC 9701

Funding for large events like Project Feed and other opportunities for East Ohio youth to be in mission.

The following have been discontinued as Advance Projects:

EOC 9163 All God's Children, Mansfield

EOC 9119 Disciple Shop, Morrow County

EOC 9633 East Ohio Volunteers in Mission Network and Leadership (use EOC 9046)

EOC 9042 Hispanic Ministries, East Ohio Conference

EOC 9145 One Way Youth Ministry, Carrollton

EOC 9550 Park United Methodist Church Discipleship Pathway and Outreach Ministry, Akron

EOC 9170 United Methodist Community Center, Warren and Youngstown

RECOMMENDATION #2: That churches and individuals in East Ohio be encouraged to support General Advance Projects. Use <https://www.umcmission.org/Give-to-Mission/Search-for-Projects/Advance-Project-Search> to search for General Advance Projects or to donate directly.

RECOMMENDATION #3: That the Conference Council On Ministries Executive Committee, upon recommendation by the Board of Missions, be authorized to revise this list of Conference Advance Projects between sessions of Annual Conference.

RECOMMENDATION #4: That every church promote the Special Sunday and Conference offerings. The local church may use traditional dates or choose any other time to promote these ministries. <https://www.eocumc.com/finance/special-sundays.html>

Peace with Justice Sunday | UMC Fund 9209 Sunday, June 16, 2019

Historically, Peace with Justice Sunday has been celebrated with an offering on the first Sunday after Pentecost. Half of the offering is disbursed through the General Board of Church and Society and half through the Conference Church and Society Committee. The offering supports programs that advocate for peace and justice at home and around the world. East Ohio Peace With Justice grant applications are available at <http://www.eocumc.com/church-society/pwj.html>.

World Communion Sunday | UMC Fund 9210 Sunday, October 6, 2019

Historically, World Communion Sunday has been celebrated with an offering on the first Sunday of October. The offering supports ethnic students who will be the first generation in their families to attend college and people of color who haven't historically had access to resources that make higher education possible. The offering is disbursed to:

- a) World Communion Scholarships: 50 percent (General Board of Global Ministries), with at least one half of the annual amount for ministries beyond the United States;
- b) Ethnic Scholarship Program: 35 percent (General Board of Higher Education and Ministry); and
- c) Ethnic In-Service Training Program: 15 percent (General Board of Higher Education and Ministry).

United Methodist Student Day | UMC 9211 Sunday, November 24, 2019

Historically, United Methodist Student Day has been celebrated with an offering on the last Sunday in November. The offering supports United Methodist scholarships and the United Methodist Student Loan Fund.

Human Relations Sunday | UMC 9204 Sunday, January 19, 2020

Historically, Human Relations Day has been celebrated with an offering on the Sunday before the observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. Human Relations Day calls the Church to recognize the right of all God's children in realizing their potential as human beings in relationship with each other. The offering is disbursed through:

- a) Community Developers Program: 57 percent (General Board of Global Ministries);
- b) United Methodist Voluntary Services Program: 33 percent (General Board of Global Ministries) and;
- c) Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program: 10 percent (General Board of Church and Society).

UMCOR Sunday (Formerly One Great Hour of Sharing) | UMC 9206 Sunday, March 22, 2020

Previously called "One Great Hour of Sharing," this offering supports the administration and foundational work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). UMCOR is the global humanitarian aid and development organization of The United Methodist Church. UMCOR's work can be categorized into three major areas:

- a) Humanitarian Relief / Disaster Response
- b) Sustainable Development
- c) Global Health (in collaboration with Global Ministries)

Native American Sunday | UMC 9207 Sunday, April 26, 2020 or any date

Historically, Native American Ministries Sunday has been celebrated with an offering on the third Sunday of Easter. This Sunday serves to remind the Church of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society. Half of the offering is disbursed through the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry to provide Scholarships for Native Americans. Half is disbursed through the Conference Native American Awareness Committee to develop and strengthen Native American ministries within the annual conference.

Golden Cross Sunday | UMC 9208 Any date determined by the local church.
The offering is divided among the Health & Welfare covenant ministries.

Disability Awareness Sunday | EOC 9212 Any date determined by the local church.

Disability Awareness Sunday calls the Church to celebrate the gifts and graces of persons with differing abilities and calls the Church and society to full inclusion of persons with differing abilities and health concerns. The offering is administered by the DisAbility Awareness team.

Volunteers in Mission Awareness Sunday | UMC 9643 Any date determined by the local church.

United Methodist Volunteers In Mission Awareness Sunday calls the Church to celebrate those who have served in short-term missions and the work of UMVIM throughout the world. The offering is administered by the Conference UMVIM team to provide training, networks, and scholarships for individuals and mission teams.

For more information:

#MakeADifferenceDay October 26, 2019

Make a Difference Day occurs annually on the fourth Saturday in October. This is a good opportunity to witness to the world and engage other community partners by volunteering in local mission settings. Contact Advance Special Projects for ideas.

#GivingTuesday December 3, 2019

Giving Tuesday is the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving. This provides a good opportunity for churches and organizations to use social media to promote a specific advance. More than \$677,000 was donated to over 450 projects through the 2017 UMC #GivingTuesday campaign.

Churches may give to Conference Advance Projects and to General Advance Projects by taking up an offering and indicating the project number on the church statement/remittance form sent by the local church treasurer to the East Ohio Conference.

Visit <https://www.eocumc.com/finance/advance-special.html> for the current listing of Advance Projects.

Ministries and Missions Funding

<https://www.eocumc.com/missions/funding-forms.html>

Q: How do I request funding when I have a ministry or mission idea?

A: New ideas originate in the local church and should begin as a micro-project involving neighboring churches or compass groups. Design a small test project that involves multiple people, multiple churches and your district superintendent. Ask if you can raise these funds locally. If not, ask if the district has some funding available. Each district receives limited apportioned dollars for new projects.

Q: When does district funding become Conference funding?

A: As a pilot project succeeds and grows, district or Conference funding can help fund growth that multiplies an already successful outcome for other or broader settings. The most important resources our connection provides are the coaching conversations and shared learning that happen when Conference and district staff and committees work with local communities and churches. Conference funding no longer provides speculative or venture grants. Conference funding results from the conversations and learnings that are ongoing. To receive Conference funding, your ministry or mission idea needs to involve district or Conference boards or committees. CCOM staff and district superintendents are good points of initial contact.

Q: How can I support missions?

A: The most important level of support is personal involvement as a volunteer and prayer partner. Financial support begins with paying Conference and district apportionments at 100%. Apportionments provide for the mission of The United Methodist Church. Apportionments provide both funding for administrative/leadership networks and funding directly to ministries and missions.

The second level of support is through donor directed giving to a specific Conference Advance project number. This giving can be paid to the local church then forwarded by the treasurer on the bottom of the Conference remittance form. A list of Conference-recommended Advance Special projects is found <https://www.eocumc.com/finance/advance-special.html>

Q: How can I request recognition/renewal as an Advance Special?

A: The Mission Awareness Committee reviews Advance Special applications. Download and complete the form available at <https://www.eocumc.com/missions/funding-forms.html>. The form needs to be reviewed and supported by the district superintendent for a district mission or the Conference Board of Missions for a Conference mission. Applications to renew an Advance Special project must be received in the Conference Council On Ministries office by January 15. New requests may be processed at any

time but will be delayed until all needed action is taken. Advance Special projects are long term relationships.

Q: How can I request Ministries and Missions Apportionment Funding?

A: Ministries and Missions funding is an annual budget created by the Conference Council On Ministries. CCOM utilizes a Funding Evaluation Team to develop the budget. Each budget area has a district or Conference committee (or team) that receives the application and requests funding in the budget. Application forms must be received by the respective district or Conference committee based on their meeting schedule in February. The requests are then combined and forwarded to the CCOM Funding Evaluation Team. Apportioned funds are prioritized based on alignment with the Conference mission and vision.

Q: Can I request Ministries and Missions Apportionment Funding mid-year?

A: Ministries and Missions funding returns any monies not spent to the Benevolent Reserve Fund. These monies can be accessed using a Contingency Fund Request. A contingency request has specific limitations. Contingency funds may not be used for items that could have been processed through the normal budget cycle.

**TIMELINE FOR FUND I - MINISTRIES AND MISSIONS
CONFERENCE BENEVOLENCE BUDGET
12-MONTH PLANNING PROCESS**

Date	Task or Deadline
June 2019	Annual Conference establishes the 2020 budget for each district, Conference board, council or committee.
October 31, 2019	Deadline for each district, Conference board, council or committee to submit to CCOM requests for adjustments to line item details within the 2020 M&M budget.
November 2019	CCOM requests adjustments by CCF&A of 2020 M&M budget line items included expected payment processes.
November 2019	CCOM distributes 2019 Evaluation Forms, a forecast for the 2021 budget, and 2021 application forms for M&M budget development.
December 2019	December requests for payments in excess of 10% of the 2019 annual budget will require explanation. Vouchers for 2020 payments are submitted to CCOM.
February 2020	Each district, board, council or committee sets its own deadline to receive 2019 evaluations and applications for developing their 2021 M&M budget recommendation.
March 1, 2020	Deadline for each district, Conference board, council or committee to review and submit all 2019 evaluations and 2021 applications with budget recommendations to CCOM.
March 15, 2020	Each district, Conference board, council or committee also submits a report for the Pre-Conference Workbook using information gathered from the 2019 evaluations.

March 15, 2020	Funding Evaluation sub-committee presents a Ministries and Missions report and budget recommendation to CCOM.
April 2020	CCOM requests 2021 M&M budget CCF&A then presents a budget to be approved by the Annual Conference in June.
June 2020	Annual Conference establishes the 2021 budget.

NOTE: The Ministries and Missions budget is a request for shared giving Fund I dollars. Conference Advance Special projects provide approval for mission projects to seek additional giving designated by donors to that specific project. Approval to become an Advance Special is a separate process which is administered by the Missions Awareness Committee. The Conference Advance Special project application deadline is January 15.

Ministries and Missions Funding forms are available on the web at
<https://www.eocumc.com/missions/funding-forms.html>

BOARD OF BENEFITS

This report has been reduced from 18 pages to five pages for the purposes of the 2019 Pre-Conference Workbook. Only sections of the full report that need to be presented to the Conference are in this limited edition.

Note: The Board's report uses an ellipsis which is a series of three dots (...) this indicates an intentional omission of a section from a text without altering its original meaning. Therefore, upon seeing the ellipsis (3 dots ...) understand that a paragraph(s) or a section(s) is not in this year's Board of Benefits workbook report for Annual Conference. The Board of Benefits full report can be found on the conference website and will be published in the *2019 Conference Journal*.

I. Pensions

A. ...

- The following paragraph is presented as an amendment to the action taken by the 1981 Annual Conference (page 237, Volume 2, 1981 Journal) pertaining to the Ministerial Pension Plan and Comprehensive Protection Plan:

The pension rate for retired clergy or local pastors of the Annual Conference for service prior to January 1, 1982 shall be **\$918** for **2020** annuity year. The Past Service Pension Rate (PSPR) for **2020** shall be **1.59%** of the Conference Average Compensation (CAC). The PSPR for **2019** is **\$900** at **1.58%** of the CAC.

...

C. Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP)

1. ...

For **2019** the CAC is **\$56,865**, which is an increase from **2018**. For **2019**, part time local pastors with plan compensation less than **\$28,432.50** are not eligible for CRSP.

For **2020** the CAC is **\$57,696**; therefore for **2020**, part time local pastors with plan compensation less than **\$28,848** are not eligible for CRSP.

...

II. Health Care Program

...

A. Health Care Benefits Enrollment for Members

...

As of January 1, 2018, the Conference partnered with the Center of Health through Wespath Benefits & Investments to provide health benefits under HealthFlex, which offers a wellness-driven group health plan for The United Methodist Church (UMC) annual conferences and employer groups.

B. Health Care Funding

1. As of January 1, 2018, health care coverage will be with HealthFlex, which is a fully-insured medical benefit plan with Blue Cross Blue Shield.

2. The following health care premiums are based on current data and may be changed as needed:

- a) The 2019 monthly premiums for active lay employees are:
- Participant only - \$612 (\$7,344 year).
 - Participant plus one - \$1,402 (\$16,824 year).
 - Participant plus family - \$1,503 (\$18,036 year).

The 2020 monthly premiums for active lay employees are:

Participant only - \$765 (\$9,180 year).
Participant plus one - \$1,454 (\$17,448 year).
Participant plus family - \$1,990 (\$23,000 year).

- b) The 2019 monthly premiums for retirees* are:
- Participant only (less than age 65) - \$612 (\$7,344 year).
 - Participant only (age 65 & over) Medicare required - \$256 (\$3,072 year).

The 2020 monthly premiums for retirees* are:

Participant only (less than age 65) - \$765 (\$9,180 year).
Participant only (age 65 & over) Medicare required - \$300 (\$3,600 year).

*Eligible clergy retirees, their spouses, and surviving spouses, premium-share with the conference based on the clergy retiree's years of pension funded by the East Ohio Conference, as stated in C.6 of this report.

NOTE: Based on the Conference policy stated in C.6; most retirees premium-share at 30% of the above rates (30% is the minimum):

Less than age 65: \$229.50 per month (\$2,754 year)

Age 65 & over: \$90 per month (\$1,080 year).

c) The **2019 clergy flat rate premium is \$1,300 (\$15,600 year).**

The 2020 clergy flat rate premium will be \$1,512 (\$18,144 year).

The clergy flat rate shall be billed for each episcopal appointed clergy (including Deacons where health coverage is not provided from another source) serving a local church full-time or three-quarter time* including the director and associate directors of CCOM, administrative assistant to the Bishop, district superintendents, lay employees of the Area Center, Area Office, and directors of Camps sites. Each pastoral charge shall be billed an amount for health care coverage where applicable. (*Not applicable to part time local pastors at 75%).

...

5. The apportionment for health care benefits (Fund III) for 2019 is \$1,568,024. **The apportionment for benefits (Fund III) for 2020 is \$1,254,847. This change in the apportionment figure from 2019 to 2020 is reflective of the total amount that was paid in for year 2018. Fund III supports retiree health care and benefits administration.**

X. East Ohio Funds With The General Board of Pensions

Per action by the 1994 Annual Conference, the Board of Pensions will include in their report to Annual Conference a report of all funds held, beginning balance, income for the previous year, expenses for same, and ending balances audited or un-audited.

...

Deposit Account - 10018001

...

Beginning Balance 1/1/2018		53,453
2018 Activity		
Income	75,874	
Expenses	-79,268	
Net 2018 change		-3,394
Total Deposit Account at 12/31/2018		\$50,059

Deposit Account-Pension and Health Care Reserve Account (P&HCR)

...

Pension & Health Care Reserve

Beginning Balance 1/1/2018		19,585,567
2018 Activity		
Investment Loss at Wespath	-963,525	
Transfer to local Health Care Reserve to cover Pre 82 claimants		
Pertaining to 2017	-625,000	
Transfer to local Health Care Reserve to cover Pre 82 claimants		
Pertaining to 2018	-876,558	
Net 2018 change		-2,465,083
Total Pension & Health Care Reserve at 12/31/2018		\$17,120,484

Note: After year 2017, \$625,000 was transferred from Pension & Health Care Reserve to the local Health Care Reserve. The amount transferred was the balance of monies needed to support the 2017 health care cost for retirees, spouses, surviving spouses and disabled participants who are Pre-82 pension claimants.

Note: During year 2018, \$876,558 was transferred from Pension & Health Care Reserve to the local Health Care Reserve. The amount transferred was monies needed to support the 2018 health care cost for retirees, spouses, surviving spouses and disabled participants who are Pre-82 pension claimants.

Deposit Account – Health Care Reserve

...

Health Care Reserve

Beginning Balance 1/1/2018		1,127,259
2018 Activity		
Investment Loss at Wespath	41,989	
Income earned locally	29,656	
Transfer from P&HCR	1,501,558	
Transfer from Boyd Trust	90,244	
Health Care Expenses	-1,579,469	
Net 2018 change		-1,127,259
Total Health Care Reserve at 12/31/2018		\$0

Note: After year end 2017, \$90,244 was transferred from Boyd Trust to the local Health Care Reserve. The amount transferred equals the balance of monies needed to support the 2017 financial aid for retirees, spouses, surviving spouses and disabled participants who are not Pre-82 pension claimants.

Note: In 2018, a total of \$1,501,558 was transferred from Pension & Health Care Reserve to the local Health Care Reserve to support health care cost for retirees, spouses, surviving spouses and disabled participants who are Pre-82 pension claimants.

Deposit Account – David Charles Boyd Trust

...

Boyd Trust

Beginning Balance 1/1/2018		1,663,834
2018 Activity		
Deposit	1,006,174	
Investment Loss at Wespath	-151,117	
Transfer to Local Health Care Reserve	-90,244	
Net 2018 change		764,813
Total Boyd Trust at 12/31/2018		\$2,428,647

Note: After year end 2017, \$90,244 was transferred from Boyd Trust to the local Health Care Reserve. The amount transferred equals the balance of monies needed to support the 2017 financial aid for retirees, spouses, surviving spouses and disabled participants who are not Pre-82 pension claimants.

Note: Before year end 2017, \$1,006,174 was received from the David Charles Boyd Trust and deposited at Wespath in 2018.

XI. The Funding Plan

General Conference 2012 approved legislation requiring each conference to annually submit to Wespath Benefits & Investments a comprehensive funding benefit plan (CFBP) for addressing its benefits obligations. **The responding opinion for 2019 written by the Managing Actuary of Wespath Benefits & Investments, in Glenview, Illinois, is presented below:**

East Ohio Conference (180)		
2019 Comprehensive Benefit Funding Plan		
Conference Benefit Officer (or equivalent)	Betsy Stewart	10/15/2018
Conference Treasurer	Vera Rebrovich	10/15/2018
Conference Board of Pension Chair	William Liming	10/15/2018



Opinion on East Ohio Conference 2019 Comprehensive Benefit Funding Plan

The funding plan meets the standards for a Pre-82 funding plan as established by Wespath Benefits and Investments and the favorable opinion requirements for a funding plan. Note: The statement above and any written opinion provided by Wespath do not imply any representation as to the ability or probability of the applicable plan sponsor to fulfill the obligations included in the funding plan.

Wespath Benefits and Investments

Wespath Benefits and Investments
1901 W Chestnut Ave
Glenview, IL 60025

Submitted by the Rev. Bill Liming, chair

COMMISSION ON EQUITABLE COMPENSATION

The overall purpose of the Commission on Equitable Compensation is to support the bishop and Cabinet in fulfilling the mission of our Conference, which is to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This commission provides support by: providing salary support, where the bishop and Cabinet deem necessary; establishing minimum salaries; and by making sustentation grants.

I. PASTORAL COMPENSATION FOR FULL-TIME CLERGY

- A. Total ministerial compensation paid directly to or for the pastor by the charge shall include:
 1. Cash Salary, which should be the maximum possible from the local church, but no less than the minimum standards listed in section V of this report. In cases where equitable salary support is requested churches must pay at least 50% of that listed in section V of this report.
 2. Parsonage provided, or housing allowance when parsonage is not available.
 3. Parsonage/housing utilities, to be paid by the local Charge, including but not limited to:

- a. Electricity
- b. Heating
- c. Water and sewer
- d. One basic telephone line (not including personal long distance), which could be cell phone service
- e. Regular trash collection
- f. Basic cable service or equivalent service where available and desired by the pastor
- g. Basic high-speed internet where readily available, if desired by the pastor
4. Conference health insurance and pension.
5. Travel for local charge business at the IRS mileage rate with substantiation of mileage required (see *Guidelines for Mileage*, Section VII below).
6. Other general operating expenses to consider as reimbursable, such as: continuing education and cellular phone service, including a data package.

II. ELIGIBILITY FOR ALLOWANCES: CHARGES

- A. No minimum salary should be paid to a charge that has not conducted a responsible stewardship campaign each year. Refer to the Conference website for information on stewardship and stewardship programs.
- B. Any change in clergy appointment to a charge on minimum salary support should be reported immediately to the office of the Conference director of Financial and Administrative Services.
- C. No minimum salary support should be made to cover the failure of a local charge to meet the pastor's salary as approved by the Charge Conference.
- D. A local charge is expected to maintain its level of clergy support from previous years and must set a definite salary.
- E. A local charge is expected to provide a comfortable parsonage (or adequate housing allowance) meeting standards adopted by the Conference for parsonages and parsonage furnishings (**8-9, 2018 Journal**).
- F. Any charge receiving minimum salary support will be given a maximum of five years to assume full pastoral support. The charge must project a plan of incremental reductions effective with the second year of support. After five years, minimum salary support may be terminated if substantial progress in reducing dependence on salary support has not been made. Continuation of salary support beyond the five-year limit shall require concurrent action by the Commission and the Cabinet.
- G. The Cabinet representative on the Commission on Equitable Compensation will give an annual report to the Commission regarding the progress each charge is making toward moving off of equitable compensation funding.

III. ELIGIBILITY FOR ALLOWANCES: PASTORS

- A. A pastor who is engaged in business, a profession, or farming, or who is engaged in a non-church activity for remuneration, or who is employed in secular business shall not be eligible for any salary supplementation, except in cases which may qualify for "less than full-time" appointment.

- 1 B. A retired Conference member or retired local pastor who is serving as pastor shall not be
2 eligible for any salary supplementation or any sustentation allowance.
3
4 C. In order for the local church to be eligible for salary supplementation, a pastor shall live on the
5 charge or in the parsonage provided by the charge. Under unusual circumstances the
6 Commission may make an exception.
7
8 D. Minimum salary support is not a contractual right but a consideration of our relationship in
9 Christian ministry.
10

11 IV. APPLICATION AND PROCEDURES FOR MINIMUM SALARY SUPPORT
12

13 Supplementation is not automatic but must be applied for each year or when there is a pastoral
14 change. The deadline for filing applications for the next calendar year is November 1 or
15 immediately following Charge Conference. However, any time there is a change in pastoral
16 appointment or status of the applicant, a new application must be completed. The local charge is
17 responsible for filing the application.
18

- 19 A. The local charge shall obtain the application forms from its district superintendent. The local
20 Staff Parish Relations committee shall complete the forms and send them in duplicate by the
21 deadline to the office of the Conference director of Financial and Administrative Services. The
22 following information is required, in addition to the application:
23

- 24 1. Two copies of the church budget for each church on the charge. A completed budget
25 includes:
26 a. The previous year's approved budget, year end expenditures, and audit report;
27 b. The current approved budget and year-to-date expenditures;
28 c. The proposed budget for the year support is requested.
29
30 2. A one-paragraph description of the program for stewardship education in each church
31 including information such as how members were contacted, use of pledge cards,
32 percentage of members who respond to the program, use of regular financial updates,
33 and any other helpful information.
34
35 3. One copy of the church year-end report that must be returned to the office of the
36 Conference director of Financial and Administrative Services by January 31.
37
38 4. A report with plans for growing the ministry of the charge. Charges beyond the first year
39 of receiving funds shall include in that report how they are progressing on their plans for
40 growing ministry, including anything they have learned from what did not work in the
41 past.
42
43 5. Incomplete applications or applications submitted without required documentation will
44 be returned without consideration by the Commission, and payment may be delayed.
45

- 46 B. When a pastoral change is made during the year:
47

- 48 1. Charges requesting support for the first time shall also submit the items listed above in
49 IV., A., 1. to 4.
50

2. Charges already receiving supplementation with pastoral changes need submit only a new application.

V. MINIMUM CASH SALARY SCHEDULES

The Commission on Equitable Compensation has permanently suspended the 1992 formula. Using the formula will continue to drive minimum salaries downward. Currently, East Ohio Conference has the lowest minimum salary across the United States. In an effort to move our minimum salaries toward a more sustainable wage, the Commission recommends a 5% increase to each of the three minimum salary categories for 2020.

If the above recommendation is approved, the 2020 salary schedule would be as follows:

	2019	2020	
A.	\$35,952	\$37,750	Full members, associate members, provisional members, and ordained persons from other denominations.
B.	\$32,311	\$33,927	Full-time local pastors who <i>have</i> completed the course of study.
C.	\$30,491	\$32,016	Full-time local pastors who <i>have not</i> completed the course of study.

VI. SUSTENTATION AID

Sustentation grants are available in cases of special need or financial emergencies to full-time clergy who are under appointment in the East Ohio Conference. In making its decision, the Commission is guided by a printed set of criteria available from the chairperson. The maximum that can be granted to any one full-time pastor in any one calendar year is \$2,500.

VII. GUIDELINES FOR MILEAGE

- A. In setting the pastor's mileage, the local church(es) shall pay vouchered mileage at the mileage rate set for the current year by the Internal Revenue Service. This figure may be obtained by doing a search for "business mileage rate" on the IRS website, www.irs.gov. Flat fixed rates for mileage are subject to apportionments.
- B. A church or charge may have the option of prepaying an estimated mileage figure on a monthly basis. An accounting of actual miles driven must be reported to the local church treasurer, preferably at month end, but no later than 90 days after prepayment. At this time any excess or unused portion of the prepayment could either be returned to the treasurer or used to reduce the next prepayment (except at year end).
- C. Standard documentation for vouchered miles shall include: date, miles driven, purpose (may exclude specific contact information where confidentiality is an issue), not including commuting between home and the church.
- D. Due to the connectional nature of The United Methodist Church, it is strongly recommended that mileage to district and Conference events and meetings also be paid by the local charge.

- E. When specific pastoral duties are required at a community (non-church) event (e.g., invocation and benediction at Commencement), mileage to and from said event should be paid by the local charge. When an honorarium is given, mileage reimbursement should not be requested unless such honorarium is contributed to a charity or other worthy cause, in which case the local charge may choose to reimburse the pastor for mileage.
- F. Mileage reimbursement for continuing education events should be worked out to the mutual satisfaction of the SPR/PPR committee and the pastor.
- G. When the pastor combines local charge business and personal business on the same trip, the mileage attributed to the personal errands shall not be included in the reimbursable mileage.
- H. Mileage should be paid by the inviting charge when a pastor travels to another charge to perform services at the request of the other charge's pastor.
- I. Multiple church charges should divide travel monies in the same proportion as salary, utilities, and other reimbursable expenses. Multiple travel logs must not be required.
- J. Students who travel to the charge for weekend pastoral duties shall not include travel to and from school as charge mileage. The charge shall reimburse for extra trips necessitated by pastoral emergencies.

Submitted by the Rev. Derek Hickman, chair

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

After a thorough review of financial trends in East Ohio and beyond, the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCFA) concluded in early 2019 that the Conference budget for the five apportioned funds should be reduced in 2020 by 5%. The basic purpose of the budget reduction is to reallocate available dollars so that local churches will have more available for their respective mission fields. CCFA anticipates additional reductions in the Conference budget each year for the next quadrennium.

The last major budget reduction in the East Ohio Conference occurred in the years 2003-2006, when the Conference budget for the five apportioned funds was reduced by a total of 19% over four years. Since that time, for a span of 14 years, the total budget for the five shared ministry funds has not increased. The hope was that if the Conference budget stayed the same, local church budgets over time would increase, so that more churches could pay their apportionments in full, and churches could also put more dollars to work in their communities.

But demographics and cultural trends in East Ohio have prevented this from happening. Many of our communities are experiencing a static or decreasing population of increasing age, while average church attendance in the culture at large is declining. The financial impact of these trends is that local church budgets on average have not increased for 12 years. In the East Ohio Conference, local church expenditures reached a peak in 2007, slid through the Great Recession, rebounded slightly, and then plateaued at a level somewhat lower than the 2007 high. Likewise, pay-in rates toward apportionments declined through the Great Recession, then rebounded, and actually continued to climb through 2014, supporting the hope that churches were finding ways to more-strongly support shared ministry. But since 2014 the pay-in rate toward the five shared ministry funds has steadily declined – from 83.4% in

2014 to 83.2% in 2015 to 82.3% in 2016 to 81.1% in 2017 and to 80.2% in 2018. Clearly, many churches are having difficulty finding the funds for ministry. It is for this reason that CCFA will be proposing a 2020 budget reduction at Annual Conference.

This move in East Ohio corresponds with actions in the general church. The General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA) is expected to propose a significant reduction in general church apportionments for the upcoming quadrennium. Note that this decision to reduce apportionments was made prior to the February Special Session of General Conference and was based purely on demographic trends.

While the shared ministry pay-in rate declined in 2018, there were some bright spots in the overall picture. The number of churches that paid 100% of their shared ministry apportionments increased by seven churches to 482, which means that 68% of Conference churches paid 100% or more. Furthermore, there was a notable increase in the amount paid toward the shared ministry challenge goal. That amount had been declining, falling from \$195,000 in 2014 to \$185,000 in 2015 to \$178,000 in 2016 and to \$174,600 in 2017. But in 2018, the decline was reversed, as churches paid a total of \$181,600 toward the shared ministry challenge goal. At the same time, however, the number of churches contributing declined. In 2018, 316 churches contributed toward the shared ministry challenge goal, compared to 324 in 2017 and 319 in 2016. The shared ministry challenge goal is an important element in Conference finances, as contributions to the challenge goal serve to offset some of the shortfall caused by unpaid apportionments.

There was also an increase in giving to Advance Specials, continuing a major jump in giving that had occurred in 2017. East Ohio Conference churches in 2018 gave \$950,000 to Advance Specials, compared to \$924,500 in 2017, \$760,000 in 2016, and \$754,000 in 2015.

For more than a decade, the East Ohio Conference has reflected the value of paying 100% of shared ministry apportionments by paying 100% of the Conference's General Church apportionments. In 2018, for the 13th year in a row, the East Ohio Conference continued this pattern by paying all General Church apportionments at 100%.

In 2019, the Conference moved to a new budget system in which all line items are budgeted for a 100% payout rate. Anticipated shortfalls in income are now accounted for through budget line items that specify reductions in income due to unpaid shared ministry funds. The 2019 Conference budget totals the same amount as the 2018 budget. The Conference Council on Finance and Administration is closely monitoring trends during 2019 to ascertain whether the "reductions to income for unpaid shared ministry funds" are at the appropriate levels.

Looking beyond apportioned funds to areas of direct billing, the direct billing pay-in rate in 2018 – for pensions and hospitalization – was more than 99%. Although this is good in percentage terms, the actual cash shortfall caused by unpaid direct billings in 2018 was \$96,177, which puts stress on the Conference budget, since health care and pension costs must still be paid. CCFA and the Board of Benefits are in ongoing conversations about how to address the issue of pension and health care arrearages.

Investment returns were unfavorable in 2018, due to a steep drop in the financial markets in the latter part of the year. Combined with the falling pay-in rate toward shared ministry apportionments, this resulted in a decline in Conference reserves.

A long-term project to institute a new financial reporting system for the Conference came to completion in the first quarter of 2019. The new system will facilitate much more user-friendly and transparent financial reports. Utilizing the new system, CCFA expects to present a simple and yet complete balance sheet along with other reports at Annual Conference.

With this foundation, CCFA proposes the following items to the Annual Conference:

I. PAYMENTS AND REPORTING

- A) **Local Church Apportionment Payments** - All payments to Conference budget items shall be made at least monthly to the director of Financial and Administrative Services on supplied remittance forms. Special offerings should be sent only with the regular monthly remittance. Please do not send them separately. Payments should be sent directly to the bank lock box in the envelopes provided. There is also a separate remittance form for the directly billed Health Care & Pension Program. Please follow the directions on the separate remittance forms.
- 1) **Timing** - Items in the Conference budget that are apportionments are expected to be paid in full. One-half of the apportionment should be paid by June 30. To pay less causes hardship for the programs and people of the East Ohio Conference.
- 2) **Reporting** - The district superintendent will receive up-to-date reports on the apportionment giving levels of the local churches and is asked to be an advocate for full fair-share giving by each local congregation.
- 3) **Staying current** in all five apportionment funds is expected. Any church that wishes to support the ministry of any of the funds at greater than 100% is encouraged to do so.
- B) **Annual Church Reports** - Annual church reports (Pastor's Report) shall be mailed to the director of Financial and Administrative Services by **January 20, 2020**, but an extension until **January 31, 2020** may be granted in cases of emergency, provided the request is made in writing and received by the director of Financial and Administrative Services before **January 20, 2020**. This extension is automatically granted to multiple church charges. Money must be received at the bank by **January 3, 2020**. Please make note of this date! Monies received after **January 3, 2020** will not be credited to the **2019** records. When churches do not file a year-end statistical report, those churches' next apportionments will remain at the same level.
- C) **Audit Reports** - ¶ 617.2, *2016 The Book of Discipline*. All agencies receiving financial support from Conference benevolences or from any other authorized Conference-wide appeal shall make audited reports to the Council concerning all such receipts and the disbursements thereof in such detail and at such times as the Council may direct. These audits shall be due on May 15, or 90 days following the closing of the fiscal year and shall be sent to the Funding Evaluation Committee of the CCOM office. Any agency that fails to provide a satisfactory audited report by said deadline will have its current-year funding suspended until the Committee accepts the report. The Council has established minimum guidelines for audits and an Audit Committee has provided a standard form for use by all districts commencing with the 1995 audit using Generally Accepted Accounting Principles or an acceptable comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles and including a listing of property values and all fund balances including investments, restricted and non-restricted funds. All audits are to be duly signed by the person performing the audit. Copies of district audits shall be available to local churches at the district conferences.

- 1 D) **Investment Reports** - The director of Financial and Administrative Services is authorized, in
2 consultation with CCFA, to invest a portion of the Huntington Sweep Account fund in AAA
3 Commercial Paper. Monthly reports of investments shall be made at CCFA meetings.
4

5 II. BUDGET

6

- 7 A) **Time Line** - All program agencies asking for funds shall participate in a one-year budget.
8
- 9 B) **Ministries and Mission Balances** - Carry-over balances in the (Fund I) Conference Connectional
10 Mission Apportionments accounts shall be channeled into a Ministries and Missions
11 Contingency Fund. At year-end, all un-vouchered project/program funds shall be retained in the
12 CCOM Ministries and Missions Contingency Account. Final disbursements of unspent balances
13 will be determined by CCOM at the end of each 12-month period. The Ministries and Missions
14 contingency balance can be accessed by procedures adopted by the CCOM.
15
- 16 C) **Pay-out rates** - All funds are budgeted for a 100% payout rate.
17
- 18 D) **Contingency and Reserve Funds**
19
- 20 1) **Contingency Funds** - By action of the 1976 Annual Conference, two (2) contingency funds
21 were established, Administrative and Ministries and Missions. CCFA and CCOM agreed that
22 unused balances at the end of the year are put into the respective unbudgeted Conference
23 Contingency Funds. CCOM may initiate requests for Ministries and Missions Fund through
24 their established procedure. Non-CCOM-related groups may appeal directly to CCFA for
25 Administrative Contingency Funds. Any such request must stand five tests:
26 a) Does not duplicate budgeted funding
27 b) Has not been turned down in budgeting process
28 c) Does not circumvent budgeting process
29 d) Funds are available
30 e) Where applicable, there are specific bid figures attached to the requests. Ministries and
31 Missions grants are paid only upon submission of a documented voucher, in the same
32 manner as budgeted item grants are made.
33
- 34 2) **Reserve Funds** - These funds consist of interest earnings from short-term investments and
35 restricted funds, and some unspent contingency funds voted to the Unrestricted Reserve
36 Fund by CCFA. This fund is used under the jurisdiction of CCFA primarily as a reserve for
37 capital or administrative expenditures. Since October 18, 1972, CCFA's goal, upon
38 recommendation of the General Council on Finance and Administration, has been to set the
39 Unrestricted Reserve Fund Limit at one and one-half times the average monthly income
40 from the preceding year's Conference apportionment receipts. Current limit for **2018** is
41 **\$1,429,125**. The Unrestricted Reserve Fund had a balance of **\$1,429,125** at **12/31/18**.
42

43 III. COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT

44

- 45 A) **District Superintendent's Salary** - The 2020 salary for district superintendents and executive
46 directors (the director of Connectional Ministries, the assistant to the Bishop, the director of
47 Financial and Administrative Services, and the director of Communications) shall be \$80,309, the
48 same as in 2019. For housing, the district superintendents receive a parsonage, and the
49 executive directors receive a housing allowance adjustment.
50

B) **Travel Allowance** - Effective **January 1, 2019**, the mileage reimbursement rate for annual conference staff shall be the maximum rate allowed by the Internal Revenue Service, currently **\$0.58** per mile.

C) **Housing/Utilities**

- 1) District superintendents shall be provided housing with full utilities and maintenance provided.
- 2) Assistant to the Bishop, the director of Connectional Ministries, the director of Financial and Administrative Services, and the director of Communications shall receive a housing allowance – or if not clergy a salary adjustment – equal to 25% of the salary figure that is established using the formula in part A.
- 3) CCOM associate directors (full-time) shall receive a housing allowance at a rate established by CCFA, plus full utilities, if clergy.

D) **Expenses** - Conference director of Financial and Administrative Services audits all line items and requires substantiation for reimbursable expenses. Outside auditors review the director of Financial and Administrative Services expense account.

E) **Minimum Salary** - Minimum requirements detailed in the Commission on Equitable Salaries report are to be applicable to all charges.

F) **Health Insurance** - Each pastoral charge shall be billed an amount for health care coverage where applicable. For 2020, it is anticipated that the premium will rise by approximately 7.6%. The East Ohio Conference Board of Benefits will set the final premium charges. Employing agencies will be charged the appropriate premium for their participants. Amounts will be remitted on Health Care Forms provided by the director of Financial and Administrative Services.

G) **Pension/Disability CRSP/CPP Direct Billing** - (See worksheet provided with Omnibus Form). Each pastoral charge will be billed an amount for CRSP and/or CPP.

H) **Travel Reimbursement** - The rate for mileage reimbursement for Conference business, for other than Conference staff, shall be paid only in cases of critical need at \$0.14 per mile.

IV. MOVING EXPENSES

The purpose of this policy is to describe how the East Ohio Conference will help defray the costs of household moves related to clergy assignment within the Conference and to clearly state the rules which apply so that local charges and affected individuals may recognize in advance the maximum amount of financial help they might receive from the Conference. Moving expenses, subject to conditions and limitations that follow, are to be shared by the Conference and the charge accepting the minister. The Conference-share reimbursement rate will be determined by CCFA based upon available funding. Moving arrangements are to be made by the individual who will move, and such arrangements are subject to approval by the charge sharing the cost. It is recommended that a professional mover be used. On a non-professional move, the Conference will not reimburse for labor or wages and the Conference will assume no liability for such a move. All exceptions to this move reimbursement policy may be referred to CCFA for resolution.

A) **Conditions and Limitations**

- 1) **Positions Covered** - Situations eligible for reimbursement are those which involve either a parsonage or a housing allowance from a local church or the Conference for clergy under Episcopal appointment. An appointment beyond the local church may be covered only if it is a position in which the East Ohio Conference funds full salary. Also covered would be newly-retired pastors being hired as supply pastors (see also B-1). In negotiating with candidates for Conference professional positions approved in the Conference Journal, this policy should be used as a guideline.
- 2) **Reimbursements** - The charge receiving a pastor is to pay the carrier and submit a documented voucher to the director of Financial and Administrative Services for reimbursement of the Conference share. The Conference will reimburse the local church/charge 50% (subject to limitations) of the moving costs of each pastor under Episcopal appointment. All local churches/charges with a valid moving bill incurred at the usual moving time, at the end of June, must submit that bill to the director of Financial and Administrative Services by August 1 each year. The director of Financial and Administrative Services will subsequently reimburse to the local churches an amount of 50% of the moving bill (subject to limitations). Mid-year moving bills shall be submitted with prior approval of the Cabinet.
- 3) **Apportionment Requirement** - If half-year apportionment payments of Shared Ministry Funds II, III, IV as well as directly billed Pension and Health Care are current as of June 30, a charge will be eligible for moving reimbursement as per established policy. In charges whose current-year apportionments are not paid to date, only churches of said charges which have these apportionments paid will be proportionally reimbursed the Conference share of moving expense.
- 4) **Distance, Packing and Weight Limitation**
 - a) **Distance** - is limited to mileage within the Conference boundaries following the shortest route acceptable to the carrier.
 - b) **Packing** - Conference reimbursement to local churches for packing materials and/or packing charges is limited to \$500.
 - c) **Weight** - Only household goods are included. Specific exclusions include cars, boats, and trailers, as well as storage charges and overtime for movers.
 - d) **Estimate** - As part of exercising stewardship while planning the move, the pastor being moved shall obtain two written estimates of the full cost of the move (including insurance from licensed movers) and shall submit all estimates, as well as the final bill, as attachments to the reimbursement request.
- 5) **New Seminary Graduate Appointments** - Graduates entering the East Ohio Conference to assume their first full-time appointments will be given total moving expense reimbursement from the place of origin of their move to their new appointment in the Conference if they use a self-move method. If using a professional move, the graduates shall be under the conditions and limitations of Section IV.A. If moving from outside the Conference the local church/charge to which the incoming graduate is appointed shall be expected to pay the appropriate moving expense prorated from the nearest Conference boundary to the new residence. The mode of move shall be determined by the district superintendent in consultation with the pastor, church and Cabinet.

- 6) **Out-of-Conference Transfers In** - Churches receiving persons transferring into East Ohio from other annual conferences shall have their related moving expenses reimbursed by the annual conference under the terms specified in A1-4 (except 4a, Distance). The local church/charge will be expected to pay one-half of the actual cost of the move, but not more than half of the cost of the average professional move over the prior two years as listed in this report. The East Ohio Conference will pay the balance subject to payout rates specified in A1-4.

The Average Professional moving expense over the prior two years:
2017 and 2018 average (used in 2019) = \$2,844

B) Retirees and Disability

NOTICE: All benefits described in this section are to be applied for those retiring in the current year. Anyone retiring in a prior year should consult the language in *The Journal* for the year in which they retired. Reimbursed moving expenses for retirees is a taxable transaction and will receive a Form 1099 at year-end, appropriately.

- 1) **Retirees** - Full-time local pastors and clergy under appointment as district superintendents, Conference staff, or on a pastoral charge, serving with pension funded by the Conference, shall be eligible to receive a non-recurring moving expense allowance at the time of their retirement under ¶ 358.1,2.a.,2.b.,2.c of the *2008 Book of Discipline*, provided that such clergy shall not have been re-admitted for the purpose of retirement. Retirees eligible per the previous language that are approved to continue working in retirement will remain eligible for this non-recurring moving expense allowance at such time as they end their work. This allowance must be used within six (6) months of the end of their work unless granted an extension in writing by the director of Financial and Administrative Services, and with prior approval of both Cabinet and CCFA. The development and administration of policy governing the allowance shall be the responsibility of the Conference Board of Benefits.
- 2) **Payment Amount**
 - a) **Inside Conference** - Clergy retiring and moving to a retirement residence within the East Ohio Conference at the time of their retirement shall receive full reimbursement for actual expenses in accord with the conditions and limitations of Section IV.A.1-4.
 - b) **Outside Conference** - Clergy retiring and moving to a retirement residence outside the East Ohio Conference at the time of retirement shall receive actual expenses up to a maximum equal to the average cost of a professional move reimbursed by the annual conference over the two years prior to their actual retirement.
 - c) **Other Than Time of Retirement** - Retired clergy moving to a retirement residency either inside or outside the East Ohio Conference (and who have not already used their non-recurring retirement move reimbursement), shall be reimbursed actual expenses up to a maximum equal to the average cost of a professional move reimbursed by the annual conference over the two years prior to their actual retirement.
- 3) **Disability/Death** - A similar non-recurring moving expense allowance will be granted to eligible members granted disability, full-time local pastors granted disability benefits, and surviving spouse of eligible members or full-time local pastors.

V. APPORTIONMENT PROCESS

- A) **Formula** - CCFA recommends the following formula for determining apportionment of Shared Ministry Funds: Apportionments to local churches will be based on non-benevolent and non-building expenditures (referred to as "total base figure"). A "grade figure" will be derived for each local church so that it may readily figure its share of any conference budgeted item. The "grade figure" shall be computed as follows:

$$\text{Local Church Total Base Figure} / \text{Conference Total Base Figure} = \text{Local Church Grade Figure}$$

- 1) **Total Base Figure** - Total Base Figures are the sum of the Church Program Expenses, Other Current Expenses, Salary Paid Pastor and Associates, and Travel and Utilities paid to pastor and associates by the church for them. The Total Base Figure is listed annually in *The Conference Journal*.
- a) **Travel** - Travel at the Conference-approved rate per vouchered mile for each pastor and/or diaconal minister will not be counted in total base figure. If a flat rate or allowance is used, the total amount is taxable to the recipient, and the total amount will be included in the calculation of the Total Base Figure.
 - b) **Moving Expense** - The moving expense paid by the church is not added to the Total Base Figure, but must be reported by each church as outlined in the Local Church Report to Annual Conference.
 - c) **Health Insurance** - The health insurance premiums for lay and clergy paid directly by the charge shall not be considered in establishing the charge's apportionments.
 - d) **Pension** - Pension provided for lay employees is not considered in establishing the charge's apportionments. Pension charges billed directly to the local church/charge for clergy shall not be considered in establishing the charge's apportionments.
 - e) **Housing Allowance** - Housing allowance for apportionments shall exclude amounts expended on either rent or mortgage and interest payments. Taxes, maintenance, insurance, and utilities will remain a part of the formula.
- B) **Time line** - Preliminary Apportionments for 2020 will be made late in July 2019 and will be based on the report for the year 2018. Final apportionments will be mailed by mid- September 2019.
- C) **New Churches** – A new church will be apportioned by the Conference and the district 10% of its 'full' amount during the first year after the effective charter year. During the second year the apportionments will be at 15%; during the third year 20%; fourth year 40%; fifth year 60%; sixth year 80%, and 100% in the seventh year and thereafter. Existing new churches will be considered as in their first year. The term "apportionments" is meant to include all apportioned funds (Currently five in **2019**).
- D) **New Program Staff Position Salaries**- These salaries will be exempt from Total Base Figure calculation for a period of two years from the date of hire. During this period of time new program staff position salaries will be reported along with the date of hire each year on the Local Church Report to Annual Conference.
- E) **Merged Churches** - As part of the merger process, the congregations involved will create a proposed budget for the merged church which will go into effect on the date the merged church begins worshipping and meeting as one congregation. This budget will be worked out in consultation with, and given approval by, the district superintendent and the district committee on church building and location. This budget will then be forwarded to the office of the director

of Financial and Administrative Services to be used to formulate the current year's apportionment figures for the newly-merged church. A new total base figure will be calculated for the merged church based on the formula outlined in ¶ V.A) above.

This new total base figure will be in effect until the actual financial records of the merged church are reported for the first full year of its existence and can be used to calculate a total base figure based on actual expenditures.

A new classification of merged churches will be "VITAL Mergers." Those mergers fulfilling the VITAL Merger qualifications will be considered as a new church start by the Board of Congregational Development and will consequently be considered a "New Church" for apportionment purposes.

VI. EAST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE CENTRAL TREASURY

- A) All Conference assets, liabilities, and fund balances are to be accounted for by the office of the director of Financial and Administrative Services, who will provide a central treasury for the East Ohio Annual Conference (See *2012 Book of Discipline* ¶613.12). The director of Financial and Administrative Services is charged with the accounting for all financial activity of the Conference, including all boards, agencies, and committees. No group or individual may perform this accounting function in lieu of the director of Financial and Administrative Services, who must account for all receipts, disbursements, and fund balances.
- B) The director of Financial and Administrative Services is not currently expected to perform the accounting function for the district offices, the EOC Credit Union, the EOC Foundation, or the UMW. These bodies perform their own accounting function and are both separately audited and reported to the annual conference.

VII. CONFERENCE LOAN POLICY

CCFA may borrow up to 2% of the Conference Annual Apportioned Budget in any given Conference year for current expense purposes.

Submitted by the Rev. David Palmer, chair

2019 PETITIONS

Petition 2019-01: Jurisdictional and Central Conference Equivalency

Re: ¶27.5, "Jurisdictional Conferences," Article 5.5

General Church Budget Implications: none.

Global Implications: Yes – amends the UMC Constitution.

Petition: Amend ¶27.5 (Constitution, Division 2, Section IV, Article 5.5) by addition:

"To make rules and regulations for the administration of the work of the church within the jurisdiction including such changes and adaptations of the General *Discipline* as the conditions in the respective areas may require, subject to the powers that have been or shall be vested in the General Conference." [Added text borrowed from language in ¶31.5]

Additionally (change of related paragraphs as allowed under ¶507.2) add a new sub-paragraph after ¶525:

"A Jurisdictional Conference shall have the power to make such changes and adaptations to the *Book of Discipline* as the special conditions and the mission of the church in the area require, provided that no action shall be taken that is contrary to the Constitution and the General Rules of The United Methodist Church, and provided that the spirit of connectional relationship is kept between the local and the general church." [text adapted from similar language in ¶543.7]

Rationale: Central Conferences have the authority to adapt the *Discipline* to their cultural contexts. No American body has this power, requiring all America-specific adaptations to be made by a global body. This petition would give Jurisdictional Conferences identical authority to adapt the *Discipline* to address missional realities in their cultural contexts.

March 12, 2019

Jonathan Lane Williams, licensed local pastor, East Ohio Conference

440-915-3020

Jonathan.lane.williams@gmail.com

A Proposal for an Organic American Connectionalism:

Petition 2019-02: Remove Geographic Restrictions on Jurisdictional Conferences

Re: ¶9, "Conferences," Article II.

General Church Budget Implications: none.

Global Implications: Yes – amends the UMC Constitution.

Petition: Amend ¶9 (Constitution, Division 1, Section I, Article 2.) by deletion [example]:

~~"There shall be jurisdictional conferences for the Church in the United States of America, with such powers, duties, and privileges as are hereinafter set forth, provided that in The United Methodist Church there shall be no jurisdictional or central conference based on any ground other than geographical and regional division."~~

As amended, the text would read: "There shall be jurisdictional conferences for the Church in the United States of America, with such powers, duties, and privileges as are hereinafter set forth."

Rationale: Provisions already exist for annual conferences to overlap geographically and for churches to transfer between them. Given the presence of cultural variations between Jurisdictional Conferences, churches who align culturally with a different Jurisdictional Conference other could now transfer into a new annual conference formed by that Jurisdictional Conference.

March 12, 2019

Jonathan Lane Williams, licensed local pastor, East Ohio Conference
440-915-3020
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Petition 2019-03: "Establish Process for Reinstatement of Provisional Membership"

Discipline Paragraph: ¶327

General Church Budget Implications: None

Global Implications: None

Desired Action: Add new sub-paragraph after ¶327.7 to read, "8. *Reinstatement to Provisional Membership* - Provisional Members whose conference relationship has been discontinued shall only be reinstated by the Board of Ordained Ministry of the annual conference in which they were discontinued. When approved by the Board of Ordained Ministry and the clergy session, their provisional member's credentials shall be reissued and they shall be eligible to continue with the full eligibility and rights of a provisional member."

Rationale: Discontinued provisional members who seek to return to the ordination process do not have a clearly-defined process to reenter Conference relationship without re-applying for provisional membership. This new provision defines, similar to the reinstatement of a local pastor, how Conference relationship and matriculation toward full membership may be restored.

Date: 3/15/2019

Signature of the Petitioner: Rev. Jonathan Priebe

Identification of the Petitioner: Registrar of Elders, East Ohio Conference Board of Ministry

Phone: 330-923-5241

Fax Number: N/A

Mailing Address of Petitioner: First United Methodist Church
245 Portage Trail
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

E-mail Address: jonpriebe7@gmail.com

Petition 2019-04: Add Domestic Violence to the List of Chargeable Offenses

Discipline Paragraph: *Book of Discipline / Book of Resolutions* paragraph (¶): ¶ 2702.1

General Church Budget Implications: None

Global Implications: Yes

¶ 162.F of the 2016 *Book of Discipline* states, "We affirm the right of women to live free from violence and abuse..."

According to the U.S. National Domestic Violence Hotline,

Domestic violence (also called intimate partner violence (IPV), domestic abuse, or relationship abuse) is a pattern of behaviors used by one partner to maintain power and control over another partner in an intimate relationship.

Domestic violence does not discriminate. Anyone of any race, age, sexual orientation, religion or gender can be a victim – or a perpetrator – of domestic violence. It can happen to people who are married, living together, or who are dating. It affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels.

Domestic violence includes behaviors that physically harm, arouse fear, prevent a partner from doing what they wish or force them to behave in ways they do not want. It includes the use of physical and sexual violence, threats and intimidation, emotional abuse and economic deprivation. Many of these different forms of domestic violence/abuse can be occurring at any one time within the same intimate relationship.

The following Power and Control Wheel is one method of describing what occurs in an abusive relationship. Although it uses she/her pronouns for the victim and assumes a male perpetrator, abuse can happen to people of any gender in any type of relationship.



DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION PROGRAMS
202 East Superior Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802
218-722-2781
www.theduluthmodel.org

<https://www.theduluthmodel.org/wheels/understanding-power-control-wheel/>

Furthermore, for Christians, domestic/intimate partner violence is a violation of God's will for humanity, a violation of the minimum standard of loving our neighbors (and our families) as ourselves, and a violent attack on the kin-dom of God.

Amend ¶ 2702.1, adding a new subpoint m, as follows:

¶2702.1 A bishop, clergy member of an annual conference (¶ 370), local pastor, clergy on honorable or administrative location, or diaconal minister may be tried when charged (subject to the statute of limitations in ¶ 2702.4) with one or more of the following offenses :...or (l) fiscal malfeasance; or (m) domestic violence.

Rationale: Domestic violence is a stain on humanity.

Date: 3/15/2019

1 **Signature of the Petitioner:**

William Watts

2
3 **Identification of the Petitioner: Member of Uniontown UMC**

4
5 **Phone Number: 330-322-5708**

6
7 **Email: watts.bill46@gmail.com**

8
9 **Supported by:** East Ohio Methodist Federation of Social Action and East Ohio Reconciling Ministries
10 Network

11
12
13 **2019 RESOLUTIONS**

14
15 **Resolution 2019-01: "To Rebuild, Reclaim the Christian Community: 'Church'"**

16 General Church Budget Implications: None

17 East Ohio Conference Implications: Yes

18
19 **WHEREAS**, prophets and religious leaders consistently direct us to live harmoniously instead of putting
20 self-interest above "community":

- 21
 - The harmony of Creation was destroyed by human disobedience;
 - Isaiah chastised warring injustices, urging weapons become tools to plant and prune growth;
 - Micah heralds God's "divine purpose" IS community: mercy, compassion, peace with justice.;

22
23
24
25 **WHEREAS**, Jesus modeled care and compassion for the humble, the poor, the children, the sick, the
26 outcast, the "other"--people often overlooked and marginalized;

27
28 **WHEREAS**, John Wesley directs us to do no harm, to do good, to BE the hands and feet of Jesus Christ,
29 **"for the Transformation OF THE WORLD,"** Not for our own reward, privilege, or power over and
30 excluding others;

31
32 **WHEREAS**, we profess during communion:

33 **Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.**
34 **We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will,**
35 **we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love,**
36 **we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**
37 **Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our**
38 **Lord. Amen**

39
40 **WHEREAS**, last year, over 1,000 hate groups were identified in the U.S. (SPLC 2019). Most promote so-
41 called "white supremacy," whose teachings and beliefs inspire hatred and harm to people who do not
42 look, think, or act as they do. Such divisive arguments and aims are contrary to ALL Biblical writings and
43 teachings. Under the dogma and influence of such groups, discord is intensified; instead of harmony,
44 friction escalates; instead of tolerance, fear and hatred of "other" is promoted, alleging "white" is God's
45 "preferred";

WHEREAS, "community" is destroyed by attitudes that promote bullying, by legalizing killing claimed to be threat without a charge or trial, and by promoting a culture of anger and fear that fuels divisiveness. Christians are called to think and act differently: hate contradicts the teaching that prophets, Disciples, the tenets of Christianity, and our spiritual teachers have preached, modeled, mentored, and prayed us into becoming -- God's inclusive Church;

WHEREAS, though charges brought against former Attorney General Jeff Sessions by 600 clergy and UMC members for enforcing the separate detention of children were subsequently dropped, Former President of the UMC Judicial Council Rev. William B. Lawrence stated, " *I do not follow the logic that grants someone, even the president of the United States, the right to [invoke] 'superior orders' with regard to church law.*" *The Book of Discipline* matter reflects the values and tenets of United Methodist Church upholds for protecting families and welcoming "the stranger," especially the children;

WHEREAS, *The Book of Discipline* (2016) states "We believe the family to be the basic human community through which persons are nurtured and sustained in mutual love, responsibility, respect, and fidelity. We affirm the importance of loving parents for all children." Detaining children separated from their parents violates the most fundamental humane principles and practices of human rights;

WHEREAS, the **General Board of Church and Society** offered this comment:

"The United Methodist Church is resolved 'as followers of Jesus, to work to eliminate racism and violence directed toward newly arriving migrants to the United States.' Further, we 'denounce and oppose the rise of xenophobic, racist, and violent reactions against migrants in the United States, and support all efforts to build relationships among people, instead of building walls among diverse ethnicities and cultures.' (2016 United Methodist Book of Resolutions, ¶3281 "Welcoming the migrant in the US");

WHEREAS, UMW offered this statement following the Special General Conference: "United Methodist Women and its members will continue to stand together, committed to serving women, children and youth. For us, commitment to the Purpose and prayer are the only litmus tests for determining who can belong and who can devote themselves to mission. We have persisted through change before. We could not have been organized for mission for this long if we let our differences divide us." (communications@unitedmethodistwomen.org, March 7);

WHEREAS, we are called to celebrate the joy of difference God created, especially to all who seek "to belong and ... devote themselves to mission." But instead of celebrating all committed relationships, we deny and judge, while tolerating, excusing, protecting, and even justifying sexual intimidation, sexual aggression, and sexual assault perpetrated by powerful individuals over those whose voices are suppressed; and

WHEREAS, in stark contrast to the harmonious community God created and Jesus directed, our neighborhoods remain largely segregated, health care is available mainly as a benefit of full time employment, wealth disparity has widened to such extremes that poverty entraps ever growing proportions of a society alleged to be the wealthiest on earth. Material possessions and the hoarding of privilege, power, and even the earth's resources for the benefit of some have become the accepted norm. God's people are told otherwise: **WE are "community"**: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED the people of East Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church are called to renew our baptismal and confirmation vows to witness and live our faith as People of God. So that we may

embrace an urgent and necessary Call to respect and celebrate our plurality of differences, we commit ourselves to building a true "community" through personal and public activities, including:

- Engage reading, praying, and seeking to discern God's guidance in our individual lives endeavoring to strive towards true discipleship, transforming our communities by our example and participation in relationship with others;
- Engage in our church units through worship, study groups, and similar activities to explore and support one another's growth towards "lived" Christian values in community;
- Engage with others in our wider communities to bear witness to our affirmed Christian principles, seeking to demonstrate attitudes and behaviors of tolerance, inclusiveness, acceptance and celebration of our true "community" built of our many differences.

RATIONALE:

On February 20, when a house fire killed seven children of an immigrant Muslim family in Halifax, Nova Scotia, mayor Tony Mancini stated: "To have a Syrian refugee family leave their country... for a better life – that in itself is so brave.... To lose them all, it has touched everyone." Across the nation, people reached out with compassionate acts of care to mourn with the immigrant parents they had never met.

ODOT worker Brandon Anderson was clearing snowy roads outside Canton when he saw a motorist in distress and pulled over to assist administering CPR. An ODOT spokesperson stated, "We're extremely proud of what he did." Described as "very caring...a fine young man with a fine character," Brandon's quick action was characteristic of him, said those who had known him since he was young. (*Canton Repository* March 7, 2019)

In Toledo, where nooses had been tossed or hung in GM factory restrooms with "whites only" scribbled, 17-year-old Southview High School cheerleader Nia Snelling kneeled during the National Anthem. She had discussed her intention with her father who told her the decision "has to be in your heart," and cautioned she might experience "backlash." Nia said her intention (to "open up dialogue") came from commitment because of the "still-evident discrimination... fear for their lives and ...blatant injustice" that many still face. (www.toledoblade.com/local/politics/2018/12/27/sylvania-southview-cheerleader-nia-snelling-kneeling-national-anthem/stories/20181227166h)

Wesley Branch Rickey lived by Methodist principles instilled by his parents. Distressed by overt racism he had witnessed, he orchestrated Jackie Robinson's integrating major league baseball, committed to a belief that moral principles were the qualities for greatness, saying, "It is not the honor that you take with you, but the heritage you leave behind."

These stories bear witness to "being" the church even if we may have no vested interest in another person's situation, or their life. They model spontaneous acts of compassion, speaking out against injustice, and actively combating social injustices. Each of us may, and often do, encounter needs, simple or profound, throughout East Ohio. ***Hunger, poverty, hopelessness, un/underemployment, the lure of drugs, ill health, disintegration of families, loss of loved ones, discrimination, perceived isolation or unwantedness--These ARE realities around us.***

Submitted by: East Ohio Methodist Federation of Social Action, East Ohio Reconciling Ministries Network, East Ohio Board of Church & Society, and East Ohio United Methodist Women

Resolution 2019-02: “Culture of Call Sunday”

WHEREAS, all Christians are called into ministry. Some Christians have a special call to Ordination, Consecration, Licensed, and Lay Ministry;

WHEREAS, the East Ohio Board of Ministry has a mission/vision to cultivate a Culture of Call to ministry within the East Ohio Annual Conference, (information is available at: <https://www.eocumc.org/pathwaystoministry/index.html>);

WHEREAS, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, and the beginning of the Church on Pentecost and during the season after; and

WHEREAS, Higher Education and Ministry has created a worship and formation resource, “Called”, available for free use, which celebrates God’s Call and encourages discernment, and includes an exploration of how to listen for God’s voice, discern what is heard, and respond faithfully, (available at: <https://www.explorecalling.org/called/>): Now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that all worshipping communities be encouraged to celebrate a Culture of Call Sunday, or series of Sundays, at least once a year, possibly on or around Pentecost, lifting stories of callings to various ministries, including but not limited to, Ordained, Consecrated, Licensed, and Lay Ministry within The United Methodist Church; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that each congregation encourage their members and friends to prayerfully consider how God is calling them to serve in the life of the Church and the wider community.

Submitters’ Names:

East Ohio Conference Spiritual Formation Committee

East Ohio BOM Executive Committee

(Written by the Rev. Carrie Antczak (440-665-8306; cantczak@umcb.org), and the Rev. Mike Grant (330-567-2295; shrevepastor@gmail.com))

Resolution 2019-03 – “Maintain Unity through the Structural Realignment of The United Methodist Church”

Financial Implications: none

Rationale: In light of the 2019 General Conference, it is time to restructure The United Methodist Church.

WHEREAS, enormous cultural and theological gaps remain in our global church;

WHEREAS, the Council of Bishops, The Commission on a Way Forward, and the 2019 General Conference were unable to find a satisfactory resolution to the impasse in The United Methodist Church around LGBTQ+ clergy and same-gender weddings in our churches;

WHEREAS, the Traditional Plan passed at the 2019 General Conference serves as a rejection of compromise and a turning away from a theologically diverse denomination;

WHEREAS, a majority of United States delegates to General Conference 2019 voted in favor of plans that maintained church unity and theological diversity; and

WHEREAS, only structural realignment will allow all annual conferences and local churches to effectively Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World in their context; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that East Ohio Annual Conference 2020 General Conference delegation is encouraged to work in favor of a structural realignment of the United Methodist Church that creates an expression of Wesleyan Methodism that allows both traditional and progressive understandings of LGBTQ+ Clergy and same-gender weddings to co-exist within the Church; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the East Ohio Annual Conference notify the Council of Bishops that the stipulations of the Traditional Plan represent neither the spirit nor the practice of mutual love and shared mission of our annual conference.

Implemented By: Secretary of the Annual Conference, 2020 General Conference Delegation

Submitted By: Rev. Dan Bryant, Rev. Karen Oehl, Tim Beck, Rev. Andrew Call, Rev. Joe Burkhardt, Rev. Kimberly Arbaugh, and The Young Clergy Network.

Resolution 2019-04: “Educate and Inform the Conference Concerning the Need for Reform of Post Release Sexual Offender Laws such as Public Registries and Residency Restrictions”

General Church Budget Implications: None

East Ohio Conference Implications: Yes

WHEREAS, there are 904,000 persons on U.S. sex offender registries;

WHEREAS, there are nearly 20,000 persons on the registry in Ohioⁱⁱ;

WHEREAS, the registry fails to reduce sex crimes because most are committed in the home by someone the victim knows (usually a family member, friend, or other trusted figure), and nearly all have no prior criminal record. The percent of sexual offenses committed by someone who is NOT on a registry is 95%ⁱⁱⁱ;

WHEREAS, the percent of sexual assault victims who know their attacker prior to assault is 90%, stranger danger is largely a myth^{iv};

WHEREAS, the percent of registrants who are re-convicted of another sexual offense within 3 years is 3.5%, while the 3 year recidivism rate for all classes of crime is roughly 67%^v;

WHEREAS, the media and victim advocates make frequent claims of “high recidivism rates” of those forced to register as “sex offenders; actual re-offense rates of registered citizens are far lower than commonly believed. Dozens of recidivism studies (including a 10 year study from the Ohio DRC) have consistently found sexual re-offense rates in the single digits^{vi};

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Ohio DRC study also found that treatment for convicted “sex offenders” reduces re-offense by over half^{vii};

WHEREAS, even in light of a three tiered classification scheme, Sex Offender Registration fails to assist the public in differentiating between a truly violent offender and a person who made a mistake^{viii};

WHEREAS, successful treatment programs (like Circles of Support and Accountability) reduce re-offense by assisting registered citizens with stable housing and employment, providing a support network, and helping to hold registrants accountable as needed^{xi};

WHEREAS, the public registry creates an environment of social ostracism, denial of housing and employment, lack of social support, and vigilante violence against those listed on the public registry, all of which are correlated to an increased risk of recidivism, which is exacerbated for those labeled as “sexual predators.”^x Ohio’s registration scheme is especially confusing and a hindrance to successful reintegration of Registered Citizens;

WHEREAS, the Adam Walsh Act (AWA, aka SB 10) AWA uses an offense-based classification scheme, which places far more registrants in the higher tiers than the pre-AWA risk assessment scheme, tripling the workload of Sheriff’s departments already strapped for limited resources. The AWA also increases unemployment, welfare dependence, and homelessness than non-AWA states^{xii};

WHEREAS, Ohio’s current policy of publicly disclosing employment information leads to higher levels of unemployment and lower levels of “good jobs” (i.e., full-time employment) than states that choose not to disclose registrant employer info publicly^{xiii};

WHEREAS, the number of scientific or scholarly studies conclusively demonstrating that sex offender registries make are communities safer is 0^{xiii};

WHEREAS, persons who originally promoted registries and living restrictions are now questioning how excessive they have become such as Patty Wetterling^{xiv};

WHEREAS, the “frightening and high” recidivism rate ascribed to sex offenders — a rate the court has pegged “as high as 80 percent.” that was the basis of Snyder v. Doe upholding sex offender laws has been proven false^{xv};

WHEREAS, the Ohio Criminal Justice Recodification Committee has proposed several reforms to Ohio’s sexual offender laws^{xvi}; and

WHEREAS, scripture calls for FORGIVENESS such as: Matthew 6:12 “Forgive us the wrongs we have done, as we forgive the wrongs that others have done us”, 2Corinthians 2:7 “Now, however, you should forgive him and encourage him, in order to keep him from becoming so sad as to give up completely”, Luke 17:3 “So watch what you do! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him”: now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the East Ohio Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church encourage the Board of Church and Society to investigate how the conference could best respond to the issue of the need for reform of post release sexual offender laws including: How to best educate United Methodists, whether and how to interact with lawmakers about reforms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any recommendations of the Conferences Board of Church and Society be brought to the 2020 Annual Conference for review and/or action.

Rational: The Social Principles of The United Methodist Church suggest that the excesses of current post release sexual offender laws should be reformed. For example, the Nurturing Community section states *"all persons are important—because they are human beings created by God and loved through and by Jesus Christ and not because they have merited significance. We therefore support social climates in which human communities are maintained and strengthened for the sake of all persons and their growth"*. Furthermore, The Political Community section states *"We support governmental measures designed to reduce and eliminate crime that are consistent with respect for the basic freedom of persons ... We reject all careless, callous, or discriminatory enforcement of law that withholds justice from persons with disabilities ... In the love of Christ, who came to save those who are lost and vulnerable, we urge the creation of a genuinely new system for the care and restoration of victims, offenders, criminal justice officials, and the community as a whole. Restorative justice grows out of biblical authority, which emphasizes a right relationship with God, self, and community. When such relationships are violated or broken through crime, opportunities are created to make things right ... Through God's transforming power, restorative justice seeks to repair the damage, right the wrong, and bring healing to all involved, including the victim, the offender, the families, and the community"*

THE CURRENT POST RELEASE SEXUAL OFFENDER LAWS FLY IN THE FACE OF THESE PRINCIPLES!

Submitted by Dennis P. Brinton

References

ⁱThis number taken from NARSOL handout, A figure of 859,500 in 2016 was taken from the following:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sex_offender_registries_in_the_United_States

ⁱⁱSee "Number of Sex Offenders By State" <https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/state-by-state-numbers-of-registered-sex-offenders-in-the-us.htm>

ⁱⁱⁱSandler et al "Watch Pot," stating, "'95.9% of rape arrests and 94.1% of child molestation arrests were of first time offenders." See: https://www.csaprimaryprevention.org/files/Does_a_Watched_Pot_Boil_A_Time-Series_Analysis_of_.pdf

^{iv}Also from the NARSOL quick reference handout, see also: Inmates in State Correctional Facilities, 1997 (US DoJ), finding when Victims are under 18: Strangers committed 6.7% of crimes; Family Member, 46.5%; Acquaintances/ friends, 46.8%, while for victims over 18: Strangers committed 34.4% of crimes; Family member, 10.6%; Acquaintances/ friends, 55.0%; See also CSOM, "Myths & Facts About Sex Offenders," Aug. 2000 [<http://www.csom.org/pubs/mythsfacts.html>], stating, "Relatives, friends, baby-sitters, persons in positions of authority over the child, or persons who supervise children are more likely than strangers to commit a sexual assault."

^vAlso from NARSOL quick reference handout, see also: Dozens of recidivism studies, including the Ohio study are found at "Recidivism 102—Sexual Recidivism Stats by Various Studies – Compiled by Once Fallen" at <http://www.oncefallen.com/recidivismchart.html>; See also Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, "Ten Year Recidivism Follow-up of 1989 Sex Offender Releases." April 2001. http://www.drc.state.oh.us/web/Reports/Ten_Year_Recidivism.pdf. Rearrest and reconviction rates shown in the chart are consistently below 10% in nearly all studies ranging between one and 12 years.

^{vi}Ibid

^{vii}Ibid

^{viii}See Human Rights Watch, "No Easy Answers: Sex Offender Laws in the US" (2007), Section 6, under Failure to Inform: Inaccurate and Missing Information

^{ix}See also Robin J. Wilson, Janice E. Picheca & Michelle Prinzo. "Circles of Support & Accountability: An Evaluation of the Pilot Project in South Central Ontario." Correctional Service of Canada, May 2005, which states, "Sexual recidivism by COSA Core Members is 70% lower than that of the matched comparison sample, and is less than one-quarter of the actuarial sexual recidivism rates projected by the Hanson and Thornton STATIC-99 survival curves - a statistically significant result."

^xSee Hollida Wakefield, "The Vilification of Sex Offenders: Do Laws Targeting Sex Offenders Increase Recidivism and Sexual Violence?" Journal of Sex Offender Civil Commitment: Science and the Law, 2006, p. 141-149, as it

states, ““As former offenders are denied opportunities to reintegrate into society and stigmatized, they lose hope. Stigmatized offenders are more likely to recidivate than reintegrated offenders, as the resistance to recidivate diminishes among offenders who are ostracized. On the other hand, a ‘pro-social identity,’ including concrete recognition of their reform, is integral to reducing recidivism.” See also Levenson, J. S., & Tewksbury, R. (2009). Collateral Damage: Family members of registered sex offenders. American Journal of Criminal Justice, which states, ““Employment problems experienced by the RSO, and subsequent financial hardships, emerged as the most pressing issue identified by family members. The likelihood of housing disruption was correlated with residential restriction laws; larger buffer distances led to increased frequencies of housing crisis. Family members living with an RSO were more likely to experience threats and harassment by neighbors. Children of RSOs reportedly experienced adverse consequences including stigmatization and differential treatment by teachers and classmates. More than half had experienced ridicule, teasing, depression, anxiety, fear, or anger. Unintended consequences can impact family members’ ability to support RSOs in their efforts to avoid recidivism and successfully reintegrate.” See also Derek Logue, “Once Fallen Job & Welfare Survey,” Once Fallen, 2016, which found those considered “sexual predators” or Tier 3s were most likely to report being unemployed/ not in the labor force, being denied a job, being on welfare at some point, and identifying as an anti-registrant activist, but least likely to report having a full time job.

^{xi}For info on the negative impact of the AWA, refer to the Once Fallen Job & Welfare Survey, which found registrants living in AWA-compliant states were MORE likely than those living in non-AWA states to report being currently homeless (4.05% AWA vs 2.6% non), being unemployed (47.97% AWA vs 36.36% non), being denied a job (61.86% AWA vs 54.61% non), being harassed at work (53.57% AWA vs 47.66% non), and being forced to rely on public assistance (57.43% AWA vs. 50% non).

^{xii}: See Once Fallen Job & Welfare Survey, which found Registrants living in states that post at least some degree of employer information on the public registry are MORE likely than registrants living in states that do not list any employer information publicly to be unemployed (52.85% do vs 34.69% don’t). Registrants living in states that post at least some degree of employer information on the public registry are LESS likely than registrants living in states that do not list any employer information publicly to be employed full-time (26.83% do vs 35.75% don’t) Listing employer information has a significant impact on employment rates and “good job” rates (the US Bureau of Labor term for having a full time job/ 30+ hours per week) of registered citizens.

^{xiii}NARSOL quick reference handout

^{xiv}See: <http://www.citypages.com/news/patty-wetterling-questions-sex-offender-laws-6766534> John Walsh of America’s Most Wanted, though generally in favor of the registry, has acknowledged that in some cases these laws have went too far. I could not find my source for this.

^{xv}See: <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/12/opinion/when-junk-science-about-sex-offenders-infects-the-supreme-court.html> See also: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-watch/wp/2015/08/20/how-a-dubious-statistic-convinced-u-s-courts-to-approve-of-indefinite-detention/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.3bf717e3c940 and <http://reason.com/blog/2017/09/14/im-appalled-says-source-of-pseudo-statis/print> The author of the Psychology Today article that was used as a critical foundation of these court decisions, Robert Longo himself repudiated the estimate in a March 2016 interview with Joshua Vaughn, a reporter at the Carlisle, Pennsylvania, Sentinel, saying it does not accurately reflect recent research and should not be used as a basis for public policy

^{xvi}See : <http://ocjrc.legislature.ohio.gov/Assets/Files/committee-notes.pdf> for a summary of recommendations, particularly section 2907 and 2950

2019 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

BOARD OF CAMPS AND RETREAT MINISTRIES



The Board of Camps and Retreat Ministry wants to highlight being a partner with our local churches in the mission of making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ. We recognize that it is through mature disciples inviting new children, families, and adults to camp, and through the work of the Holy Spirit in these communities, that new disciples can be made.

We pray that in 2019, the East Ohio Conference would take this opportunity to: reach out to children and youth that need to experience God through nature; develop close friendships, with quality mentors; live in loving Christian community; and experience the transforming power of Jesus that can happen from a week at summer camp. **Our camps are a resource to be used for the mission of our church! Reach out into your mission field and be a partner with your Camps and Retreat Ministries to send at least one more child to camp this summer! It is not too late to sign up!**

In 2018, East Ohio Camps helped 1,775 campers mature in their walk with Christ during the summer season. That represents 41 more campers than the previous year. Last year we again went through much of our campership funds that provided grants to campers who may otherwise be unable to attend. We are helping children and youth acquire Christian leadership skills; we are assisting children and youth to mature as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Our camps not only provided an avenue for the Gospel to be shared with children and youth during the summer, they also provided sacred space for healing, wholeness, and renewal to 6,436 guests throughout the last year.

As our board began this year, we sat down with our camp directors to work on and create a vision for our ministry for the future. Yes, the mission is still alive! And our camps are committed to working for the kingdom of God! As we dreamed about camping and retreat ministry, we saw our part of the mission being lived out by “partnering with local churches, to develop safe places of hospitality at our camp and retreat sites, facilitate transformational Christian programs, connect people to God’s creation, and encourage all people to encounter and grow in the power of Christ’s love in Christian community.”

We invite you to be in touch with our site directors and ask them for stories to share with your local congregation. They would LOVE to share the lives that are being transformed through these powerful ministries.

With this variety of programming and use, our facilities require continual upkeep for our guests and staff. The actual cost of keeping up our camps is higher than the market will allow for the cost to campers and retreat groups. Our camps depend on the combination of usage fees, Block Grant funding, Conference Council on Ministries (CCOM) administrative funds to cover salary and benefits for the camps CCOM office staff, Board Administrative funds that cover marketing and administrative costs, Advanced Special funds for camperships, Foundation Funds set up to provide campership funds, the CARE (Camp & Retreat Endowment) Fund that supplies capital monies and camperships, and gifts from alumni and friends from our development efforts at each site. All of these sources together make it possible for us to operate the Camps & Retreat Ministry.

Offering hospitality, recruiting excellent summer staff, sharing stories of disciples being made and matured, and keeping up aging facilities, and so much more is an amazingly challenging job, and our site directors – Dan Bajc, Bill Graham, Julie Lutt – and Conference Director Gary Jones work tirelessly to make this ministry possible. Our board expresses its appreciation for their partnership in the mission of our Conference and say “thank you” for all of their hard work and the lives they are changing for Christ!

Submitted by the Rev. Beth Wilterdink, chair, and the Rev. Gary Jones, director

BOARD OF LAITY

Greetings, grace, and peace to members and friends of the East Ohio Conference. I am honored and pleased to serve as your Conference lay leader. To my brothers and sisters in Christ who are serving in the laity role within the local church, I thank you for your inspirational service to our Lord, to your church, and your community. Your service is essential to help the East Ohio Conference strengthen the role of laity and increase the vitality of our congregations. With God’s help and direction, it is my hope that we continue to build a Conference-wide sense of leadership identification, development, and empowerment.

As the Conference lay leader, I am privileged to serve in several capacities, on multiple committees, where I contribute and learn a great deal. Serving on Extended Cabinet I am able to focus on peer learning with Bishop Malone, executive staff, and district superintendents. We identify clear outcomes in our planning and goal setting, and in our vision, and I can expand my experience and knowledge from the local and district church setting to include the entire Conference.

The Board of Laity has been working on several key initiatives and priorities. I have worked to foster clarity and awareness of the role of laity. The terms lay member, lay leader, lay servant, lay delegate, and lay minister have specific meaning and purpose. Additional priorities include partnering in ministry with clergy, supporting vitality, and strengthening laity across the Conference. In addition, district lay leaders received training around the lay nominating process at Annual Conference for election of delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference in 2020. I created a PowerPoint so that this valuable information could be shared at each Spring District Conference.

As I continue in my Conference lay leader role, I am thankful for your support and faithful service to Christ. God bless you and your work for Him. It is my prayer that every local church will become more vibrant and joyful centers for making and maturing disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Submitted by Kimberly Green, Conference lay leader

CHURCH AND SOCIETY COMMITTEE

The East Ohio Board of Church and Society continued during the annual conference year 2018-2019 to use Micah 6:8 as our guide. The vision is to resource churches in implementing and interpreting the Social Principles as a means of discipleship by: 1) providing education opportunities for clergy and lay persons to be informed of the 2017-2020 United Methodist Social Principles and the *2016 Book of Resolutions*; 2) bringing awareness to the Conference through education events by training and written materials; and 3) increasing connection between local churches, districts, and the Conference Board of Church and Society.

The Board recognizes, acknowledges, and thanks the Rev. Terrie Baker for her leadership of the Board over the past three years. Her dedication to seeking justice ministries in East Ohio has made a lasting impact. The Rev. Ashley Steele has volunteered to fill her role and shoes as Baker continues her Deacon ministries in southern Ohio around areas of food insecurity and poverty.

EOC Church and Society, under the faithful leadership of the Rev. Lorna Westlake, also oversees the Peace with Justice grant program, which provides seed money for educational and advocacy programs celebrating God's call for shalom. Funding for this grant program comes from Peace with Justice Sunday offerings with one-half of the given money staying in the East Ohio Conference. By our Peace with Justice grant program, we are pleased to be able to grant money back to local congregations, groups, and individuals who are responding to God's call in world-transforming ways. We also oversee the Peace with Justice scholarship program.

In the fall of 2018, the Board hosted Social Principles 2020, a forum and feedback session on the proposed re-writing of the Social Principles, on which the 2020 General Conference will vote. Clergy and lay from throughout the Conference represented all districts, theological understandings, and racial and gender diversity. The General Board of Church and Society heard and recorded the feedback via phone conference. This was an opportunity for The East Ohio Conference to engage with the Social Principles.

Throughout the year, Church and Society provided resources such as DVD studies, Social Principle books, and faith and fact cards. The past 12 months brought a renewed focus on how United Methodists respond to immigration and mass incarceration. We partner with other boards and agencies at the General Church level and local level to become better informed around these issues of justice. We encourage all of East Ohio to pray and consider how God may be calling you to join in the work!

We thank you for this opportunity and ask that God bless our collective work and discussions as we strive to make The United Methodist Church, our communities, and the world a just place.

Submitted by Will Jones, director of Multicultural Vitality

COMMISSION ON RELIGION AND RACE

The East Ohio Conference Commission on Religion and Race (CORR) is charged with providing resources and training to enable the work of the districts and local churches in the ministry area of religion and race through the ministry model of intercultural competency, institutional equity, and vital conversations. CORR partners with Conference boards and agencies as they seek to develop vital conversations, programs, and policies of racial/institutional equity and intercultural competency so that

the Conference moves towards total inclusiveness and equity within the Conference staff and on all of the Conference boards, agencies, commissions, and committees.

In the 2018-2019 annual conference year, CORR introduced Perspectives events that are designed to assist Conference clergy and laity to see from another's perspective. The first event was Perspectives: Black Theologian Day in October, that featured keynote speaker the Rev. Dr. Joseph Daniels, Jr. highlighting a Black theological perspective and helping our Conference have vital conversations. The pastor from the Baltimore-Washington Conference of The United Methodist Church had previously helped discuss ways we can be bold and courageous in reaching newer, younger, and more diverse people while transforming communities during his presentation at Annual Conference 2018. The second event we hosted was *Perspectives: Understanding Poverty* in January. Using the Missouri Community Action Network Poverty Simulation, the Conference purchased last fall, clergy and laity came together to learn how to become more empathetic and understanding of those who live in poverty.

The Bishops' Retreat with Black Clergy, jointly sponsored by the East Ohio Conference and the West Ohio Conference, was hosted at Mohican State Park in September. This year's theme was *Clergy Wellness*. Many East Ohio Black clergy attended and were rejuvenated for ministry in cross-racial appointments or in our African-American congregations. CORR has also strengthened relationships with the Cabinet and has begun strategically planning to increase the Conference's support of cross-racial, cross-cultural appointments. Again, this April, Bishop Malone and I will meet with Black pastors in order to build relationship and sense the level of inclusion that exists in East Ohio.

Finally, CORR has continued its intercultural competency training throughout the Conference, conducting the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) in various districts and being involved in district leadership and clergy training. CORR is continuing to make connections across the Conference so that there is representation from every district and welcomes anyone who is interested in being connected in this type of ministry.

Submitted by Will Jones, director of Multicultural Vitality

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Board of Congregational Development exists to empower and encourage congregations to be more vital by aligning resources, growing lay and clergy leadership, and focusing on the local congregation as the primary place of making disciples that belong to the body of Christ; growing in Christ (practicing the means of Wesleyan grace); and joining Jesus in ministry. In 2018, we supported this vision by focusing on leadership development, vital development, and developing new congregations.

Vital development is focused on the Healthy Church Initiative (HCI) and evangelism training. The main outcome of HCI is to help churches be healthier because healthy things grow. During 2018, this process was completed with two churches: Tiffin Harmony UMC and Chagrin Falls UMC. Each church accepted the written reports with prescriptions for better health and has been working with a coach to complete the prescriptions.

In the area of evangelism training we partnered with districts and local churches for "How to Reach New People" workshops, during which teams received two days of intensive, practical, hands-on training on how growing congregations reach new people. Each church team comes out of the workshop with a six-

month plan of action. The workshop is followed by a year of cluster coaching, to implement the action plan. We were able to support the initial cost of the workshop and also share the cost with the districts and churches for coaching through the process. In 2018, 32 churches participated in this training and ongoing coaching.

Throughout the year we continued to work with churches to begin new ministries that help them to reach new and different people. The new church starts that we supported in 2018 had an average worship attendance over 110, more than 30 professions of faith and close to 50 baptisms of people of all ages. As we move forward in this area, we will focus on the Fresh Expressions style of new faith communities. Fresh Expressions encourage people to go where others are and create Fresh Expressions of Christian community. In October, people from 12 churches attended our first Fresh Expressions Vision Day.

For leadership development, we continue to grow leadership through coaching, various training opportunities, and in the specific area of town and rural ministries. This is done through training and deploying coaches in East Ohio to work with leaders, and sponsoring training events that help leaders continue to grow in leadership skills. We continued to develop our coaching network by sponsoring eight people to attend the foundational coach training workshops, which allows them to become International Coach Federation-certified coaches if they complete the remaining requirements.

The funding in this area also supports coaches working with individual pastors and churches. Coaching conversations have become a part of the culture in East Ohio and are happening in many places. We can report that over 50 churches are currently in some kind of coaching relationship. In 2018, we began six leadership learning cohorts. A cohort includes learning best practices, strategic planning, and ongoing coaching. The six cohorts for 2018 were multicultural ministries, lead pastor, leadership coaching circles, reach, shift, and social justice. We are currently, planning 10 leadership cohorts to begin in the fall of 2019. In the specific area of Town and Rural ministries we continue to support the ministries of the Town and Rural Resource Program and the United Methodist Appalachian Ministry Network.

Submitted by the Rev. Kelly Brown, director of Congregational Vitality

NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS COMMITTEE



During the past conference year, the committee has supported or participated in a number of activities intended to facilitate healing relationships with Indigenous people in northeast Ohio. The committee collaborated with the University of Akron and the Vibe Collective to host Navajo activist Mark Charles for a speaking presentation and workshop on October 5-6, 2018 at the Student Union at the University of Akron. His presentation on Friday night examined practices of dispossession and exclusion at the founding of the United States that reverberate into the present day. His Saturday workshop focused on ways that participants could tell the Indigenous story in various contexts.

The committee also awarded a small grant to a Rock Your Mocs event in Cleveland on November 8. The gathering celebrated Indigenous identity and enhanced community. The first months of 2019 were devoted to planning for a Blanket Exercise at Firestone Park UMC on May 4. The Blanket Exercise was developed by the United Church of Canada in collaboration with Indigenous leaders in the wake of the

Canadian government's reconciliation commission to redress forced assimilation through boarding schools. The exercise is a powerful day-long event that tells the Indigenous story in a way that leads participants into an experience of that story. The May 4 event will be led by a team of trained Indigenous facilitators from Winnipeg, Canada, led by Cree elder Delvina Kejick. A version of the Blanket Exercise, adapted to the story of the United States, has recently been developed, and the committee is pleased to host the program. Contingent on the success of the experience, the committee intends to work with Kairos (the facilitating body) to host additional Blanket Experiences in the future, and to support the training of Indigenous people who would like to lead the exercise in Ohio.

Finally, it is worth noting that committee members have been exploring possibilities of collaboration with the Lake Erie Native American Council in Cleveland.

Submitted by the Rev. Dan Hawk, chair

OFFICE OF CHRISTIAN UNITY AND INTERRELIGIOUS RELATIONSHIPS (OCUIR)

Our purpose is threefold:

1. to interpret, advocate, and work for the unity of the Christian church in every aspect of the life of the Conference and its churches;
2. to encourage dialogue and cooperation with persons of other living faiths; and
3. to recommend to the Conference, in cooperation with the Bishop and Cabinet, the development of ecumenical relationships and planning for mission with other judicatories.

Our share of the Ministries and Missions apportioned funds provides financial support for the Ohio Council of Churches. The East Ohio Conference is a member of the governing board of directors. The chairperson of OCUIR attends the Board meetings when East Ohio's resident bishop is unable to attend. In 2018, the Ohio Council of Churches celebrated the retirement of long-time Executive Director the Rev. Rebecca Tollefson, and Public Policy Director Tom Smith. New Executive Director the Rev. Dr. Jack Sullivan, Jr. was hired in the fall and was installed during a service on March 23. Apportioned funds also support the Van Bogard Dunn Award. Two scholarships are made available each year for clergy to attend ecumenical/interfaith training events.

Through our operating budget, we are able to provide financial assistance for the committee chairperson and/or other committee members to attend a national ecumenical training event. The 2018 United Methodist Ecumenical and Interfaith training event and the National Workshop on Christian Unity was held April 16-19 in Silver Spring, Maryland, with Conference staff liaison Will Jones and committee member the Rev. Kyle Gould in attendance.

We were honored and excited to receive a \$1,000 local initiative grant from the Council of Bishops' OCUIR in the fall of 2018. Our project is to create and disseminate OCUIR fact cards, similar to Church and Society's faith and fact cards. The purpose is to make the good information about Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships more accessible to clergy and congregations. When we applied for the grant, our intent was for this to be only an East Ohio Conference project, however the Council of Bishops' OCUIR staff requested that this become a denominational resource! To date, the cards are still a work in progress, and it remains to be seen whether there will be a product available by Annual Conference 2019. Still, the committee is working diligently, and everyone is sharing in the creation and development of these cards. It's become a bigger undertaking than we anticipated, but we are confident in the outcome!

We continue to encourage pastors and local congregations to create opportunities to foster Christian unity and to develop awareness of and cooperation with persons of other faith communities. It is our conviction that such opportunities and awareness are needed even more in this time of increasing divisiveness among and around us. How can a broken body bring healing to a broken world? All that we can do to strengthen the whole body of Christ will go a long way in making God's love for the world all the more visible.

Submitted by the Rev. Karen Burtner Graham, chair

SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Our committee has been actively involved in the ministry of making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by offering two trainings, insight and encouragement through our blog, and working with the Board of Ministry on a resolution around culture of call.

Training Workshops:

Being Disciples, Making Disciples, and Maturing Disciples for the Next Generation: A "how to" discussion for the Small Membership Church – In September, 50 church leaders welcomed Stephanie Caro of Ministry Architects as our guest speaker. She encouraged us to reach younger generations as faith communities. We learned that effective ministry can be done in small communities, and the blessings that come with "small."

Special Needs Across the Ages – In March, partnering with Christians Engaged in Faith Formation, we welcomed 41 church leaders to gather and engage in conversation about how to create more inclusive communities for those experiencing disabilities or unique needs. Five guest speakers provided great insight and encouragement for us as we strive to include all of God's children in the beloved community of Christ.

Smaller Church Cohort:

Gary Jones and Kaye Wolfinger partnered with Ministry Architects to provide training for smaller churches with less than 120 in worship. This training is focused on developing vision and strategy for children and youth ministry for the congregations and communities. Churches were recommended by their district superintendents. In its second year, eight churches chose to participate. The group has met quarterly for extended sessions of training, with two, hour-long phone consultations between each session.

Spiritual Formation Blog:

We created and built up a library of blogs to encourage and equip faith communities in their mission to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ. Each article highlights a particular ministry area, or a specific practice or program that has been successful. Contributors come from our committee, but we welcome other contributors. Contact Gary Jones to find out how your effective ministry story could help others.

Continuing Our Equipping Churches for Safe Sanctuaries:

We sent several trainers to churches this year, equipping and encouraging faith communities to embrace practices of Safe Sanctuaries. This offering continues. Please reach out to our team if you could benefit from an “outside voice” sharing the importance of Safe Sanctuaries and how to implement the policies.

Continuing Our Own Spiritual Formation:

As a committee, we are committed to our own spiritual formation as well. We have studied and reflected together upon *Connect: Creating a Culture of Relationships that Matter*, by Phil Maynard, as well as *Hollow Faith*, by Stephan Ingram. As we have reflected, we decided to share with the Conference, by way of E-News, books we find helpful for building up the Beloved Community, as recommended resources.

With gratitude for her service, Janet Zimmerman completed her service for this committee as chair. It is a joy to have joined this passionate team of church leaders who equip faith communities in spiritual formation!

Submitted by the Rev. Carrie Antczak, chair



YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRIES

Young People's Ministries is always busy connecting young people with one another, equipping those that lead them while living out the East Ohio Conference's vision for ministry. We continue to provide affordable housing options for young people at Annual

Conference and we provided funding to support a youth, two young adults, and an adult to the Global Young People's Convocation in South Africa in July of 2018.

The Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCYM) continues to be a strong leadership team for teens. They come together for a leadership retreat at the end of summer and then meet throughout the year to develop their skills while planning events like Project Feed and Youth Annual Conference. There is representation from each district as well as Ministry Recruitment Institute and the Commission on Religion and Race.

Project Feed in November 2018 was another success. Over 500 teens from all over the Conference gathered either in Newcomerstown or Wadsworth to pack over 75,000 meals for Stop Hunger Now. Those meals will go to developing nations all over the world to feed school children. Teens also brought over 900 canned foods that were donated to those communities.

Over 1,200 teens and their leaders gathered in June 2018 for Youth Annual Conference. The theme for the weekend was *We Are One*. The weekend included worship led by Bonray, with the message brought by the Rev. Jasmine Smothers. Teens were trained in break-out sessions on how to have difficult conversations. We also held our Youth Service Fund tournaments to raise money for our fund.

In the fall of 2017, these five regional coordinators were named to help create and support regional youth leader's networks in their area: Curt Campbell, Rachel Burns, Char Messenger, Tim Beck, and Chasity Opphile.

Submitted by Kaye Wolfinger, director

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND COLLEGIATE CAMPUS MINISTRIES

The Board of Higher Education and Collegiate Campus Ministries has worked hard for the last two years to align our funding with the mission and vision of The United Methodist Church. We have limited funding of campus ministries outside of the East Ohio Conference to help free-up money so that we can partner with local congregations who seek to be in ministry with campuses and college-age students.

In 2018 we funded ministries on the campuses of the University of Toledo, Ohio University, Kent State University, Kent Stark, Lorain County Community College, and in Youngstown, and the Columbus area and the Cleveland area of Ohio.

The Board also granted 13 different scholarships for individuals pursuing their undergraduate degrees.

Submitted by Kaye Wolfinger, director

AFRICA UNIVERSITY REPORT

Africa University thrives in ministry because of the steadfast support of the local congregations of The United Methodist Church. The university community—students, faculty, administrators, trustees and alumni—thank the members of the East Ohio Conference for prioritizing Africa University and its ministry with an investment of 100 percent of the asking to the Africa University Fund (AUF) apportionment in 2018.

Africa University thanks the East Ohio Conference for its generous second-mile giving through scholarships, which open doors and equip young people to be difference-makers. The university community is especially humbled by the sacrifices that are being made to maintain a tradition of 100 percent support for the AUF in the East Ohio Conference.

In sowing so generously and consistently into the Africa University Fund, the East Ohio Conference continues to affirm the university's core mission of nurturing leaders who help communities to know Jesus Christ and to experience peace, sustainable livelihoods, food security, and abundant health.

Institutional Update:

- In 2018, Africa University enrolled more than 700 new students and maintained an overall enrollment of around 2,000 students. There were 25 African countries represented in the student body. Women made up 53 percent of the student population, which is almost twice the average for African higher education institutions.
- Throughout 2018, Africa University weathered the challenges of Zimbabwe's depressed and uncertain socio-economic environment with creativity and prudence. The university delivered teaching, learning and community service activities of high-quality without interruption, while

also renewing and expanding its infrastructure. Key enhancements in 2018 included the refurbishment of three residence halls for women students and the full implementation of an ERP software system to integrate and manage all facets of the university's operations.

- There is new construction on the Africa University campus thanks to a 25th anniversary gift from Highland Park United Methodist Church in Dallas, TX. In December 2018, work began on the foundation for a new residence hall. The university subsequently broke ground for the construction of phase two of its Student Union and Cafeteria building. Both projects are progressing well and are expected to be fully in use by August 2020.
- With conflict, poverty, and the impact of climate change persisting as the key drivers of food insecurity and the rise in internal displacement, migration, and refugeehood in Africa, the university consolidated its position as a trailblazer by offering new graduate training and research opportunities. Africa University has also continued to provide scholarships for refugee women so that their experiences, talents and ideas are integrated into the search for lasting solutions.
- Africa University delivered critical data for reducing malaria deaths in southern Africa and controlling the spread of insect-borne diseases world-wide. AU's insectary—a laboratory for rearing and studying live insects, such as mosquitos—shares its findings through the Southern Africa Centers of Excellence for Malaria Research. This data informs regional policies, practices and malaria control efforts.

Africa University is deeply grateful to the members of the East Ohio Conference for their prayers and support, which continue to grow and sustain its ministry. Thank you, East Ohio United Methodists, for all that you have invested in mission and ministry through Africa University over the past 27 years. Our shared story is one of transformation, hope, and realized dreams. As Africa University and the East Ohio Conference move forward together in missional engagement, we trust in God's unending grace for the increase.

Submitted by:

James H. Salley

Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement

Africa University Development Office

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Boston University School of Theology

Dear Colleagues in Ministry:

Greetings from Boston University School of Theology (BUSTH) as we live together as disciples in uncertain times!

BREAKING NEWS:

- **Faculty:** We welcomed two amazing faculty this year: **Shively Smith** as assistant professor of New Testament, and **Nicolette Manglos-Weber** as assistant professor of Religion and Society.
- **Online Lifelong Learning:** We are launching a new Online Lifelong Learning Program at the School, offering webinars, workshops, and reading groups for professional enrichment.

- **Scholarships:** We continue our offer of free tuition to UMC registered candidates for ordained ministry. New scholarships include the Korean Student and African Student Scholarships, and fellowships for promising leaders: Latinx leaders, leaders in the LGBTQIA+ community, African-American leadership, and Indigenous Studies Fellowships.
- **Faith and Ecological Justice Program:** This new student program undertakes initiatives to increase ecological awareness, education, and activism in ecological justice.
- **Theology and the Arts Initiatives:** Recent exhibits and events include “Moments in Time” and “Transcending Conflict.”
- **Grants:** Henry Luce Foundation has awarded a three-year grant to support the Educating Effective Chaplains Project. The grant supports work with other seminaries to develop models that can better prepare chaplains for effective ministry.
- **Website:** After several years of planning, a new School website will launch in Fall semester 2019.

PARTNERING FOR MINISTRY AND TRANSFORMATION: Preparing students for ministry means meaningful partnerships with the local spiritual community.

- **Creative Callings:** Our vocational project is an exciting partnership with local churches, seeking to create “a culture of call.” It is sponsored through a grant from the Lilly Endowment.
- **Engagement with The UMC:** Many of our students are delegates, project leaders and assistants, and class participants in General Conference 2019.
- **Congregational courses:** The Continuing Scholar program offers current BUSTH courses to alums and local clergy as continuing education credit for a small fee per course.
- **Doctor of Ministry:** The DMin in Transformational Leadership is soaring with lively student cohorts that are broadly ecumenical, culturally diverse, and global. The model includes intensives, online courses, and faculty mentoring.
- **Travel seminars:** Journeys to the Arizona-Mexican border, Israel and Palestine, Argentina, and other sites of ministry.
- **Ecumenical partnerships:** We continue to build robust Communities of Learning with the Episcopal Church and United Church of Christ, and to develop new communities with the Unitarian Universalist and Baptist Churches.
- **Partnership with Hebrew College:** Together we are able to enrich interreligious learning through joint courses and public events, and also co-sponsor *The Journal of Interreligious Studies* and *State of Formation* cohort of emerging leaders.

TAKING ACTION GLOBALLY AND LOCALLY:

- **Campus action:** Work to improve accessibility and sustainability. BUSTH is the first certified Green School in BU, and participates actively in the Green Seminary Initiative. Named as one of the “Seminaries that Change the World” again.
- **Internships in global service and peacemaking:** We provide internships that support students who engage in ministry with churches and service organizations across the world.

COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE: Celebrating differences while joining in action.

- Faculty and students have led and participated in UMCOR; support efforts with victims of hurricanes and fires; protests on behalf of Puerto Rico, Texas, and Florida; protests of white supremacist movements; services with immigrants and DACA young people; and ecumenical and interreligious witnesses for justice in the city of Boston.
- Through student-led town hall meetings, the community has had deep conversations on issues that divide (including theological differences). We seek to foster respectful listening that builds community life and communal action.

OTHER NOTABLE NEWS:

- 2019 marks the 180th year of the School of Theology, originally founded as the Newbury Bible Institute in 1839.
- Our major development campaign for BUSTH will end in September 2019, and we continue working toward grand success for the future of our School and the vitality of your ministries.

As BUSTH looks to the future, we celebrate transformational leaders of The United Methodist Church, who keep the word of Jesus Christ alive. Your living legacy and faithful witness give us hope and courage for the future.

Blessings and gratitude,
Mary Elizabeth Moore, dean



Copeland Oaks and Crandall Medical Center had a fantastic 2018! We are in the best financial position that we have been in decades. We were able to continue to make many campus improvements for the benefit of residents and staff. Renovations were completed in the Lakeview Terrace, our campus cafeteria. We are updating our independent Lakeshore apartments, villas and resident lounges, to stay competitive in the market. Renovations were started in Crandall including our short-term therapy rooms. All of these projects were completed with donated funds and capital dollars previously set aside for improvements.

In April, we opened the Donald R. James Assisted Living Memory Care Wing. It is located in the Assisted Living apartment complex on the Copeland Oaks campus. Here, residents receive care specifically designed for those experiencing the early stages of memory loss.

The Wellness and Activities Programs continue to thrive. Residents and staff participate in aerobics, Pilates, yoga, and strength training led by Susan Bleggi, RN, Copeland Oaks Wellness director. This year Copeland Oaks was awarded the United Methodist Association and EAGLE Best Practice Award for our 'Health and Wellness- Lifestyle Change and the Senior Slimfest Program' in which we partner with University of Mount Union students.

The Activities Programs are led by Jackie Palmer, director of Campus Life. Bus trips are frequently available to Mount Union football games, Mount Union Lecture Series, museums, concerts and historical sites. Many new trips were added in 2018.

At Copeland Oaks and Crandall Medical Center, our vision is to offer affordable housing to aging adults in a loving, Christian environment. Many residents are socially active and engaged throughout the community as well as being involved in off-campus community events.



Would it stir your spirit and excite your imagination to know that **Flat Rock Homes** is demonstrating a transformational model of care that provides excellent services and supports to individuals with disabilities and their families? Not just housing, but restored health, rested souls, and transformed lives. Experiencing the love of Jesus Christ through the talented professional staff and volunteers at Flat Rock, residents are guided toward personalized success outcomes, utilizing customizable tools and services that address varied individual needs and circumstances.

Established in 1866 as an orphanage, Flat Rock Homes is one of Ohio's leading providers of services for adults with significant intellectual/developmental disabilities and severe behavioral disorders. Thanks to strategic partnerships with churches and community organizations as well as the support of our donors, Flat Rock provides health care, residential services, and adult programs to more than 70 adults in our 34-bed intermediate care facility (ICF), our 10 community homes, and our adult programs. Flat Rock is a shining light of Christ's love in northern Ohio, specifically for adults with significant intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Flat Rock Care Center is a loving home for 34 residents with significant intellectual and developmental disabilities. Many of Flat Rock's Care Center residents also have physical, emotional and psychiatric diagnoses and/or severe aggressive behavioral disorders, requiring them to have one-on-one, 24/7 care.

Flat Rock Community Services serves the 33 adults living in 10 community homes located in Seneca, Erie, Huron, and Lorain Counties. These homes offer long-term supports for residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live independently within a neighborhood setting.

Adult Programs:

- Flat Rock's **Adult Day Support Program** provides adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities an opportunity for activities, community integration, the development of life and social skills, and pre-vocational training. We operate sites in Bellevue and Flat Rock, Ohio.
- In April 2017, while working with a collaborating organization, Flat Rock launched the innovative **Vocational Training and Employment Services Program**—the only program of its kind in Ohio employing residents of an intermediate care facility in community-based jobs earning minimum wage or better. In these programs, individuals explore possible job options, plan for their work and receive job coaching and vocational training to help them be successful.
- In 2018, Flat Rock achieved Employment First certification, allowing us to provide **Community Integration, Vocational Training and Employment Services Programs** to any person with an intellectual or developmental disability, including adults who do not currently live in a Flat Rock home. In 2019, we are pursuing CARF accreditation to grow these services to individuals with any type of disability living in our service areas.
- In 2018, we expanded our services from Seneca, Sandusky, Erie, Huron, and Lorain counties to include Crawford, Richland, Wyandot, and Morrow counties.

Flat Rock seeks to engage conference churches to help "...make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world..." Through a partnership in ministry, Flat Rock provides churches a valuable ministry opportunity as part of the discipleship experience. In 2018, we hired an East Ohio Conference Church Engagement coordinator to further our vision of partnership with churches.

Further, Flat Rock provides resources for churches ministering to the needs of individuals with disabilities and their families. We'd love to help your church serve these families. Please contact us to learn more.

Flat Rock is grateful to the churches of the East Ohio Conference for your ongoing, generous support. Your gifts help us to provide transformational programming and services. Visit us on campus at 7353 N. County Road 29, Flat Rock, OH 44828 or online at www.FlatRockHomes.org.

Nurturing Leaders. Changing Lives.



HIGHER EDUCATION & MINISTRY

General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Report for Year 2018

**The United Methodist General Board of Higher Education and Ministry
1001 19th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37212**

As the leadership development agency of The United Methodist Church, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) builds capacity for United Methodist lay and clergy leaders to discover, claim and flourish in Christ's calling in their lives. The agency creates connections and provides resources to aid in recruitment, education, professional development, and spiritual formation. Every Elder, Deacon and licensed local pastor benefits from our training and candidacy programs. Many young adults find help in clarifying God's call in their lives through our discernment opportunities.

Through its Office of Strategic Leadership, GBHEM refined plans for a center for leadership development and spiritual formation. It is drawing on research to plan the expansion of leadership training offerings to churches and communities through a range of means such as face-to-face training, online conferencing, consulting, and recommending resources and experts.

The Division of Ordained Ministry (DOM), using extensive research on the components of effective ministry, introduced a new formation process, Effective Ministry 360 (EM360), which guides pastors and congregations to plan and execute mission and ministry objectives. EM360 also offers assessment modules for candidacy, district superintendents, eight-year clergy assessment and Course of Study. DOM provides introduction and orientation sessions about the process.

The Division of Higher Education (DHE) has initiated research to inform a "leadership pipeline" process for university leaders on United Methodist campuses. Among the books GBHEM published this year, "Missio Dei and the United States: Toward a Faithful United Methodist Witness" (book and study guide) exhibits the best of church and academy collaboration. Contributors explore how the church can reengage its Wesleyan heritage as it participates in God's mission.

The Office of Loans and Scholarships announced an increase in the maximum amount of money United Methodist students can borrow to pursue their education. The annual maximum is \$10,000, with a lifetime maximum of \$40,000. On average, the agency distributes \$5.5 million in scholarships annually.

Partnering with churches and institutions, GBHEM has promoted projects, programs, initiatives, education and leadership development in various cultural contexts within United Methodism and in pan-Methodist relationships. The agency expanded the Methodist Global Education Fund for Leadership Development, supported the work of regional networks with the International Association of Methodist

Schools, Colleges, and Universities, and established Regional Hubs for Leadership, Education and Development. In 2018, hubs were active in nations in Africa, Asia, Europe and England, North America and South America.



Candler School of Theology—2019 UMC Annual Conference Report

For more than 100 years, **Candler School of Theology at Emory University** has prepared *real* people to make a *real* difference in the *real* world. Since our founding in 1914, more than 10,000 students have graduated from Candler, where they have been shaped as thoughtful, principled, and courageous leaders dedicated to transforming the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

This is especially important to note amid the current uncertainty in our denomination. It is an honor and a privilege for Candler to be one of 13 official seminaries of The United Methodist Church. Yet true to the Methodist tradition of ecumenical openness, Candler has enthusiastically welcomed the entire Wesleyan family to our community for generations. Faculty, staff, and students from the AME Church, the AMEZ Church, the CME Church, Free Methodists, Nazarenes, and others have worked, worshiped, learned, and prayed alongside United Methodists, and have been a vital part of shaping Candler and our mission. This diversity has been a wonderful gift and a rich blessing. As we move forward from the Special Session of General Conference, we will continue to invite and welcome wholeheartedly those from all expressions of the Wesleyan tradition. Indeed, we will continue to welcome all those who follow Jesus Christ.

Candler is also privileged to be one of seven graduate professional schools of Emory University in Atlanta. With the resources of a top-tier research institution and the reach of a global city, our students benefit from a rich academic and hands-on learning environment: The General Board of Global Ministries is in Atlanta, as are numerous public health, international development, and social service organizations. Candler's intentional involvement with our surrounding community has contributed to our inclusion on a list of "Seminaries that Change the World" for six years running. In short, there is no better place to prepare for ministry that engages our major denominational priorities: developing leaders, starting and growing churches, ministry with the poor, and improving global health.

In order to keep pace with the needs of the church and the world, Candler offers 16 degrees: six single degrees and 10 dual degrees pairing theology with bioethics, business, international development, law, public health, and social work. Our Doctor of Ministry degree is 90 percent online, so students can remain in their places of ministry and immediately apply to their context what they learn in class. Our Teaching Parish program allows eligible United Methodist students to serve as pastors in local churches while they're enrolled—they earn a salary as they earn course credit and pastoral experience, plus they are mentored by an experienced United Methodist Elder.

Candler's student body continues to reflect the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful, with an enrollment of 453, reflecting 51 percent women, 39 percent people of color (U.S.), and a median age of 27 among MDivs. Students represent 44 denominations, with half coming from the Methodist family.

Candler has a deep commitment to alleviating student debt and promoting financial literacy. In 2018-2019, we awarded \$5.8 million in Candler scholarships, with 100 percent of MDiv students receiving aid.

Plus, our comprehensive “Faith & Finance” program teaches money management skills that serve our students now and will continue to serve them—and the churches they lead—well into the future.

Candler draws considerable strength and inspiration from its relationship with The United Methodist Church. Our ability to fulfill our mission of educating faithful and creative leaders for the church’s ministries throughout the world depends upon your prayers, partnership, and support. Thank you for the countless ways you advance this vital ministry in the life of our denomination. Visit us in person or online at candler.emory.edu to see firsthand how Candler prepares *real* people to make a *real* difference in the *real* world.

—Jan Love

Mary Lee Hardin Willard dean and professor of Christianity and World Politics
Candler School of Theology



Thank you for this opportunity to bring you news from MTSO.

Full-tuition pledge extended to those pursuing United Methodist candidacy

MTSO has announced a groundbreaking full-tuition pledge to every prospective student who is pursuing United Methodist candidacy as an Elder or Deacon. The school’s financial-aid experts will assist the prospective student in locating and applying for scholarships from numerous sources. If scholarships from those sources don’t cover the full tuition, MTSO and its donors will make up the difference, leaving the student with no out-of-pocket tuition expense. This pledge is extended to qualified prospective students who apply by July 1 for the 2019-20 academic year. The MTSO admissions staff is happy to answer questions at 800-333-6876 or admissions@mtso.edu.

Master of Arts in Social Justice program launched

In August of 2019, MTSO will welcome the first students pursuing the school’s new Master of Arts in Social Justice degree. This 39-hour, two-year professional Master’s degree takes full advantage of MTSO’s unique ethos. The MASJ offers an interdisciplinary core curriculum combining ethics, theology, public leadership, sacred texts and spirituality. Students also will choose from among social justice-oriented elective courses to sharpen their focus in areas of interest such as race, immigration, human sexuality, climate, disability and labor exploitation. MASJ core classes include on-campus and online learning. All on-campus core classes will meet on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Coursework includes a cross-cultural immersion trip and a customizable 280-hour internship.

Ohio Northern and MTSO announce 3+3 M.Div. program

Ohio Northern University and MTSO have teamed up to offer incoming college students a unique 3+3 program leading to a Master of Divinity degree. The program is the only one of its kind in Ohio and one of only a few in the country. The typical path to an M.Div. requires seven years of undergrad and graduate study. Through the 3+3 program, students will save time and money by completing the degree in six years. Starting the program at ONU in Ada, they may choose one of three majors: religion, youth ministry, or religion and ecology. The next step is three years of study at MTSO. After their first year at

MTSO, 3+3 students will complete a Bachelor of Arts degree from ONU. After completion of seminary coursework, they will earn an MTSO M.Div.

Respectfully submitted,
Danny Russell, director of Communications



OhioGuidestone is a community solutions organization built on a solid foundation of experience and expertise - rooted in faith and a legacy of serving children and families for 155 years. Founded in 1864 as the German Methodist Orphan Asylum, OhioGuidestone originally served orphans from across the country. Today the agency offers a unique blend of behavioral health treatment services, skill building programs and prevention

opportunities for children and families. At OhioGuidestone, many of our clients struggle with a lack of education and life skills, and don't know how to access personal or community resources to help them improve their situations. We not only help resolve problems that already exist, but teach skills to help individuals become self-sufficient, and prevent future obstacles to success. Our services help individuals not only to survive, but thrive, as we believe God intends for all.

We value our history with The United Methodist Church, and are proud to be a faith-based organization guided by principles of John Wesley. We are the largest of the five Health and Welfare ministries in the East Ohio Conference, serving over 30,000 children and family each year, 90% of whom live at or below the federal poverty level. Our commitment to providing high-quality care is possible through generous individuals who provide continuous support. Whether through a direct monetary gift, attending a fundraising event, or volunteering time and talents, we are grateful to our loyal donors for their continued support.

OhioGuidestone invites all to reach out and support our mission by helping raise awareness regarding the challenges facing those we serve. We also welcome requests from all East Ohio Conference churches to come and provide updates about our work with their congregations and encourage them to share information materials about our agency with their faith communities.

If you would like to learn more about OhioGuidestone, please contact Director of Spiritual Care, the Rev. A. Renee Jacobs, MDIV, BCC at 440-260-8254 or Rev.Andrea.Jacobs@ohioguidestone.org.



459 men and women are being equipped as faithful, fruitful pastors and Christian leaders for the Church:ⁱ

292 Masters Students

167 Doctoral Students

Third-largest United Methodist seminary in the United Statesⁱⁱ

Founded nearly 150 years ago by Bishop Milton Wright, father of famed aviators Wilbur and Orville Wright, United has continued that spirit of innovation through:

Online degrees:

98% of master's students have taken one or more courses online while studying at United.

United students live in 39 different states.

Week-long intensives fulfill UMC residency requirements.

Live Interactive Virtual Education (LIVE):

New grant brings the latest technology in virtual education.

Participate in on-campus courses via webcam and enjoy live lectures and real-time discussion with faculty and peers.

Doctor of Ministry Degree:

Become a doctor for the Church, addressing a real problem or challenge in your church or community.

Study under a mentor who is an expert in their field and learn alongside a small group of dedicated peers. Three-year program that allows you to complete project as you go, leading to a 78% program graduation rate in 2017 (vs. 54% average among other seminaries)ⁱⁱⁱ

Practical education designed to resource the Church:

The majority of United faculty have pastored churches.

91% of entering United students are already serving in ministry, bringing that context to the classroom.

A focus on Church Renewal:

165 Course of Study students^{iv}

42 students in the Hispanic Christian Academy (three-year Spanish online course of ministry program for Hispanic lay pastors and leaders)^{iv}

Certificates in Church Planting, Disability Ministry, and Supervision

Academic AND Spiritual Growth:

95% of students say the United community supports both their academic and spiritual growth.^v

Diverse Christian Views:

Over 30 different denominations

19 international students from 15 different countries

96% of students feel their views are respected in the classroom/seminary community and say they have been taught to respect the views of others.

47% of students who reported are African-American, 43% Caucasian and 10% represent other ethnicities

We thank God for the men and women coming to United because God has called them to serve the least and the lost. We pray as the Lord Jesus instructed his disciples saying, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest” (Luke 10:2).

Dr. Kent Millard
President
United Theological Seminary

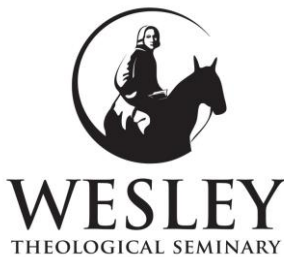
ⁱ Data represents Fall 2018 headcount enrollment, unless otherwise specified.

ⁱⁱ ATS 2017-2018 Annual Data Tables. Data represents Fall 2017 headcount enrollment.

ⁱⁱⁱ ATS 2017-2018 Strategic Information Report for United Theological Seminary. Graduation rates represent the percentage of students who were able to complete their chosen degree within a specified period of time which approximates two times the normal length of the degree.

^{iv} Data represents unduplicated headcount enrollment in the 2017-2018 academic year.

^v United Theological Seminary 2017-2018 Student Satisfaction Survey, in which 30% of students responded.



Wesley Theological Seminary Annual Conference Report 2019

Fostering wisdom and courage

Wesley Theological Seminary, celebrating our 60th year in Washington, DC, has equipped Christian leadership for nearly 150 years. We prepare students to lead innovative ministries while remaining grounded in our biblical and theological traditions.

Highlights of the past year at Wesley:

Expanding our faculty: We welcomed Academic Dean Phil Wingeier-Rayo, Ph.D. plus two new faculty, the Rev. Lorena Parrish, Ph.D., associate professor of Urban Ministries and director of the Community Engagement Institute, and the Rev. Anna Petrin, Ph.D., associate professor of Worship and Chapel Elder. Learn more about all the remarkable scholars on Wesley’s faculty at <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/faculty-2/>

Developing programs that fit your needs, lives and ministry: Wesley offers an 81-hour Master of Divinity, a 36-hour Master of Arts and a 60-hour Master of Theological Studies. **Wesley’s Master of Divinity degree can now be completed via online, weekend, short-term intensive, and weeknight courses in five years**, designed for those with busy ministry, work, and family lives. Check out upcoming flexible course offerings for Summer and Fall 2019 at <http://www.wesleyseminary.edu/admissions/try-a-class-3/>.

Making seminary more affordable: Wesley provides **more than \$2 million dollars annually in scholarships** thanks to the consistent support of graduates, congregations and friends. Our new **Generación Latinx Scholarship** joins our **many merit-based scholarships** that enable **students to afford seminary education**. The **Community Engagement Institute at Wesley** and our **Community Engagement Fellows program** prepares students to **engage in entrepreneurial ministry**. **Generous stipends are available for each Fellow** while they complete their M.Div. degree. Students can focus their

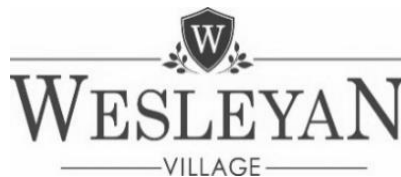
fellowship on Public Theology, Urban Ministry or Missional Church. Meet our current Fellows at <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/admissions/community-engagement-fellows/>

Leading in Doctor of Ministry program development: Our 2020 tracks will include **Church Leadership Excellence**, offered in conjunction with Wesley's internationally respected **Lewis Center for Church Leadership** and **Life Together: Spirituality for Transforming Community**, and a track designed for **military chaplains**. Find out more or apply at www.wesleyseminary.edu/doctorofministry/.

Non-degree options: Courses for the **Certificate in Faith and Public Life**, www.wesleyseminary.edu/ice/programs/public-theology/public-life/ and our **Certificate in Wesleyan Studies** can also be taken for personal education and enrichment. www.beadisciple.com/wesley/.

Our new podcast: *Leading Ideas Talk* from our **Lewis Center for Church Leadership**. Sign up or listen at www.churchleadership.com/. And look for new practical online courses at lewisonlinelearning.org.

Contact us at (202) 885-8659 or admissions@wesleyseminary.edu and stay in touch: www.facebook.com/wesleyseminary, on Instagram at **wesleyseminary**, Twitter @WesleyTheoSem or via our electronic newsletter, *eCalling*, at www.wesleyseminary.edu/ecalling.



Wesleyan has enjoyed over 123 years of Christian service to older adults. Wesleyan Senior Living Foundation seeks to be a good steward of the financial and other resources made available through charitable support.

Our Mission

To provide an environment for older adults to experience the fullness of life, encouraging them to age successfully by growing socially, intellectually, physically, and spiritually with the care and support of a Christian community.

The Wesleyan Village and Wesleyan Meadows campuses allow persons to maintain independence and dignity as they age, with access for all healthcare related needs. We serve approximately 400 older adults annually throughout the continuum. In 2018, WSLF provided for over 200 persons who outlived their financial resources with a community benefit of more than \$2 million, a number that also reflects the growing number of financially-impacted individuals supported through Medicaid.

Our main campus, Wesleyan Village in Elyria, Ohio, provides homes and services for those 55 and older in independent and assisted-living apartments and patio homes, and offers a full continuum of memory support care, skilled rehabilitation services, and long-term care. We are excited to announce that Lighthouse, our new Memory Care Assisted Living community, opened to the public in December 2018. Our Wesleyan Meadows campus is an active 55+ adult residential community located in Sheffield Village, Ohio. The beautiful community center at the Meadows offers amenities as well as lifelong learning opportunities provided by the adjacent community college. As a part of our continuum of care, residents of Wesleyan Meadows have priority access to the Health Center at the Wesleyan Village campus located just six miles away.

Church Support

Gifts received through the East Ohio Conference, including those from the Golden Cross Offering and the Advance, are used to provide charitable care for older adults who cannot afford the cost of services, and for purposes that improve the quality of life for all those we serve, as well as a full spectrum of Spiritual programming led by our full-time chaplain. **Speakers and outreach services are available to churches of the East Ohio Conference.** For more information, contact Alyson Harding, administrator at (440) 284-9335 or aharding@villageliving.org.

RULES OF THE EAST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE**¶1. PARLIAMENTARY RULES**

- A. **Motions not Subject to Debate.** The following motions shall be acted upon without debate:
 1. To adjourn, when unqualified, except to adjourn the conference.
 2. To suspend the rules (two-thirds vote required).
 3. To offer for discussion a motion which was tabled.
 4. To call for a previous question.
 5. To reconsider a motion not subject to debate.
 6. To call for the orders of the day.
- B. **Precedence of Secondary Motions.** If any one or more of the following motions are made when one or more other motions are pending, the order of precedence shall be the same as the order below.
 1. To fix the time to which the conference shall adjourn. (This motion is subject to amendment or it may be tabled)
 2. To adjourn
 3. To take a recess
 4. To table
 5. To limit or extend debate
 6. To postpone to a certain time
 7. To commit or refer
 8. To amend or substitute
 9. To postpone indefinitely
- C. **When A Second is Not Required.** The following do not require a second (numbers in brackets indicate paragraph in *Robert's Rules of Order*).
 1. To raise a question of privilege [19]
 2. To raise a question of order [21]
 3. To object to the consideration of a question [25]
 4. To call for the division of the question [24]
 5. To call for the division of conference in voting [25]
 6. To call up motion to reconsider [36]
 7. To fill blanks [33]
 8. To nominate [33]
 9. Motion for leave to withdraw a motion [27]
- D. **When Motion and Resolution Are to be Written.** The presiding officer of a majority vote of the conference may direct all motions and resolutions to be reduced to writing. Motions or resolutions made from the floor, not duplicated in other ways, shall be written on forms provided by the Conference secretary.

- E. **When Motions or Resolutions are in Possession of the Conference.** When a motion or resolution is made and seconded or stated by the presiding officer, it shall be in the possession of the conference. By conference consent, any motion or resolution may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before it is amended or voted upon.
- F. **Alteration of Reports.** When a committee report has been published in the Conference workbook, it is in possession of the conference.
- G. **Order of Precedence of Subsidiary Motions.** When a question is under debate, any subsidiary motion applying thereto may be made. This includes the following motions listed in order of precedence:
 1. Table
 2. Previous question
 3. Limit or extend of debate
 4. Postpone to a certain time
 5. Commit or refer
 6. Amend
 7. Substitute
 8. Postpone indefinitely

Privileged motions are always in order, limited only by such restrictions as listed in ¶ 19, *Roberts's Rules of Order*. The motion to adjourn cannot be made when a member has the floor or when it interrupts voting or verifying a vote.
- H. **Amendments and Substitutions.** Only one amendment to an amendment shall be in order. However, it is in order to move a substitute which is an alternative for the main motion. In such case the chair shall proceed to perfect the original motion. When the main motion has been perfected, the chair shall proceed to perfect the substitute. When the substitute has been perfected, the chair shall call for a vote on the substitute. If the substitute is carried, it shall replace the original main motion and become the main motion. The chair will then call for a vote on the (new) main motion. The new main motion can be amended only by addition. If the substitute does not carry, without further debate the chair shall call for a vote on the original motion as it has been perfected.
- I. **Division of the Question.** Before a vote is taken, any member may move to divide the question into two or more questions as the mover specifies, so that a separate vote can be taken on any particular point or points. If the conference sustains the motion, the division shall be made.
- J. **Tabling Related Motions.** No motion which adheres to another motion or has another motion adhering to it can be tabled separately. Such motions, if tabled, shall carry with them the motions to which they adhere or which adhere to them.
- K. **Limitations on Debate.** No member shall speak more than once on the same question until all who desire to speak have spoken. No member shall speak more than three minutes at any time without leave of the conference, provided, however, that a committee making a report shall be entitled to three minutes to close the discussion. There may be no more than three persons speaking in favor of any debatable motion and three persons speaking in opposition of the motion. The motion to limit or extend the limits of debate is in order at any time, except when a member has the floor.
- L. **Motions After Speaking on a Pending Question.** A member who has spoken on a pending question may not, at the close of his or her speech, call for the previous question or move to table the motion.
- M. **Who May Vote.** Every member who is seated within the voting area of the conference at the time the question is put may vote. A member who is not within the voting area of the conference at the time the question is put by the chair may not vote, unless his or her absence is necessitated by the work of the conference.

- N. **Previous Question.** When any member moves the previous question (that is, that the vote be taken on the motion or motions pending), the member shall indicate to what the previous questions shall apply if any secondary motion or motions are pending. If the member does not so indicate, the chair may regard the motion as applying to the immediate pending question. This vote shall be taken without debate and, if in the judgment of the chair two-thirds of those who are present vote for its adoption, the vote shall be taken on the motion or motions to which it applies.
- O. **Interrupting the Speaker.** No one shall interrupt a member who has the floor except for:
1. A breach of order
 2. A misrepresentation
 3. To direct the attention of the conference that the time has arrived for a special order of the day
 4. To raise a very urgent question of high privilege
- P. **Reconsideration of a Question.** A motion to reconsider an action of the conference shall be in order at any time, if offered by a member who voted on the prevailing side. If the motion it is proposed to reconsider is non-debatable, the motion to reconsider may not be debatable.
- Q. **Suspension of Rules.** The application of any vote of the provisions of these rules of order may be suspended at any time by a two-thirds vote of the conference.
- R. **Robert's Rules of Order, Supplementary Authority.** In any parliamentary situation not covered in these rules of order, the conference shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, Tenth Ed., 2000.
- S. **Adoption of Business by Consent.** In order to expedite the business of the conference, the Committee on Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process, in consultation with agencies or individuals presenting reports, recommendations or resolutions, may, on the opening day of the conference sessions, present a written list of items which shall be considered as adopted by consent of Annual Conference, unless they are removed from this list at a time set aside for this purpose on the second day of conference. A motion supported by 25 members of the conference shall be required to place an individual item from the consent list on the agenda. The Committee on Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process shall determine where on the agenda such an item or items shall appear.
- T. **Authority of the Presiding Bishop.** The presiding bishop shall be the legal chairperson of the Annual Conference. The chairperson shall decide points of order raised by the members, and shall rule on points of order not raised by the members, as the chair deems necessary to conform to these rules, subject, in both cases, to an appeal to the conference by any member without debate, except that the chairperson and the appellant, in the order here named shall both have three minutes for a statement in support of his or her respective positions. A tie vote in the case of appeal shall sustain the chair. Any member who raises a point of order shall cite the rule adjudged to have been violated. The presiding bishop shall have the right to recess a session of the Annual Conference at any time at his or her discretion and to reconvene at such time as he or she shall announce. The presiding bishop shall also have the right to stipulate that the session shall reconvene with only members, authorized personnel and authorized guests permitted to attend such a session.
- U. **Bishop's Right to Speak on Issues.** The bishop is not, and by church law cannot be, a member of the body over whom he or she is charged to preside. But he or she is head of the area, vitally concerned with the decisions of conference. Therefore, the bishop shall have the right to speak on the issues before the conference, provided that the bishop feels he or she should apprise the conference on matters pertaining to it.
- V. **Amending Rules.** The rules of the Annual Conference shall be those printed in the latest *Conference Journal* until they have been altered or modified by the action of the Annual

Conference. These rules may be amended or changed by a two-thirds vote of the conference, provided the proposed change or amendment for parliamentary rules, rules of procedure, Annual Conference membership, Conference secretary, General and Jurisdictional nominations and election of delegates has originated in the Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process Committee. Proposed changes in the procedures for nominations and elections, organizational procedure for councils, boards, commissions and committees and district organizational matters must be presented to the Leadership, Nurture and Evaluation sub-division of the Leadership Committee. The Leadership Committee, as a whole, must act upon the change and present it to Annual Conference.

¶12. RULES OF PROCEDURE

- A. **Attendance.** It is the duty of every ministerial member and local pastor under appointment of the annual conference to attend conference sessions and to furnish such reports in such form as *The Book of Discipline* may require. Any such person unable to attend shall report by letter to the Conference secretary, setting forth the reason for his or her absence. Should any clergy member in active service absent him or herself from the session of Annual Conference without a satisfactory reason for the absence, the matter shall be referred by the Conference secretary to the Board of Ordained Ministry (*The 2012 Book of Discipline* ¶ 602.8). All members, both lay and clergy, who sign for full-time attendance at the conference are required to fulfill that commitment unless otherwise excused by the district superintendent; excuses, shall be for emergency purposes only.
- B. **Lay Credentials.** The Conference lay leader, a lay assistant Conference secretary, and one other lay person appointed by these two shall constitute a committee to pass on the credentials of all lay members of the conference.
- C. **Agenda.** In fulfillment of *The 2012 Book of Discipline* ¶ 605.2 there shall be a quadrennial standing committee known as the Committee on Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process
 1. Membership shall be constituted as follows:
 - a. Nine members:
 - 1 clergy and 2 laypersons appointed by the Bishop
 - b. Ex-officio with vote:
 - 1.) The Bishop
 - 2.) The assistant to the Bishop (Chairperson)
 - 3.) The Conference secretary (Vice-Chair)
 - 4.) The chairperson of the Conference Program Committee
 - 5.) The Journal editor
 - 6.) The director of Connectional Ministries
 2. Functions of the committee will include:
 - a. To prepare an Annual Conference agenda for recommendation to the Conference Program Committee;
 - b. To propose new rules and rule amendments to the Annual Conference;
 - c. To serve in a supervisory, supportive and advocacy capacity to the Conference secretary, including but not limited to the following:
 - 1) In consultation with the secretary, to recruit and name an editor of the *Journal* and editors of the *Pre-Conference Workbook* and editors of sections, such as memoirs, conference organization and lay directory (who may be the chairperson or secretary of the Leadership Committee), ministerial rolls, lay membership;
 - 2) To advise the secretary on the purchase and maintenance of equipment for the secretary's office;

- 3) To present budget requests to Council on Finance and Administration for the operation of the secretary's office and the printing of the *Conference Journal* and *Pre-Conference Workbook*;
 - d. To provide for the publishing of the *Conference Journal* by:
 - 1) Establishing deadlines for submission of material for the *Journal* and *Pre-Conference Workbook* in cooperation with the editor;
 - 2) Soliciting bids and approving contracts for printing the *Journal* and workbook;
 - 3) Determining policies relative to the distribution of the *Journal* and workbook.
 - e. To keep an overview of progress toward completion of conference business and take such actions as may seem necessary to expedite the business of the conference during the sessions of Annual Conference.
- D. **Voting Area.** Upon recommendation of the Program Committee, the voting area of the conference shall be established. Only properly-identified members of the conference shall be seated within the voting area of the conference.
- E. **Document Distribution.** Printed material for official distribution to the conference shall be submitted to a committee consisting of the Conference secretary, the chairperson of the Conference Program Committee and the assistant to the bishop. Promotional and/or informational material shall be distributed through the conference packet.
- F. **Printed Reports.** Reports to the conference shall be included in the *Pre-Conference Workbook* when they are filed with the *Journal* editor and/or the Conference secretary by the published date for admission of reports to the *Pre-Conference Workbook* as set forth in conference rule 4.C. At the Conference secretary's discretion and after consultation with the chairperson of the board, committee, task force, or agency giving the report, reports prepared after the published deadline may be included in the Annual Conference packet or distributed at the site of Annual Conference. In such instances, the board, committee, task force or agency giving the report is responsible for duplicating costs incurred in presenting its report to the Annual Conference. Further, the board, committee, task force or agency is responsible to provide sufficient quantities of the report to the Conference secretary no later than the session immediately prior to the scheduled time for the presentation of the report as scheduled on the agenda for Annual Conference. (Note: "sufficient quantities" means at least 1,500 copies of a report to be presented to the Annual Conference and 600 copies for reports presented to executive session.) When it is necessary for the Conference secretarial staff to print reports at the site of Annual Conference, one of the following two conditions must be met:
1. The Conference secretary or presiding bishop, in consultation with the presenter of the report, has determined that such publication of the report is necessary;
 2. The Annual Conference has ordered the report's publication and distribution. The presenters of the report shall be responsible for the clarity and accuracy of the content of the report and shall present it to the Conference secretary in a "camera ready" form. The expense of producing the report shall be born by the agency presenting the material to the Annual Conference or, when ordered by the Annual Conference, at the expense of the Annual Conference. In all cases of printed reports, brevity is encouraged and appreciated.
- G. **Formal Reports.** All boards, committees, agencies, task groups, individuals and officers either having official business to be presented to the Annual Conference for action or information pertinent to the Annual Conference, may request time on the agenda of the Annual Conference through the Annual Conference secretary and/or the Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process Committee. The total time allotted to such requests for time on the Annual Conference agenda shall be determined by the Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process Committee, upon recommendation by the Conference secretary or, while in a session of the Annual Conference, the presiding bishop or the Annual Conference itself. Regardless of the time allotted on the

agenda to a board, committee, agency, officer, individual member of the conference or task force, the total formal presentation of a report shall not exceed 30 minutes in length, unless the time for the verbal presentation is extended by simple majority of the Annual Conference members present and voting. The annual Episcopal, laity and cabinet addresses are not subject to the 30 minute maximum presentation length portion of this rule. Brief and carefully-prepared oral presentations of reports coming before the Annual Conference are encouraged and appreciated.

- H. **Courtesies.** Persons introduced to the conference as a matter of courtesy shall refrain from speaking beyond three minutes.

I. **Resolutions.**

1. General Provisions

- a. Resolutions are matters for consideration by the Annual Conference which are not motions for action or proper amendments to reports by conference agencies, but which call for expression of opinion by the annual conference on issues of concern to the membership of the church and the general public. Resolutions may be submitted by any member of a United Methodist Church or an annual conference organization in the East Ohio Conference.
- b. Resolutions shall be presented to the Conference secretary prior to the announced deadline for inclusion in the *Pre-Conference Workbook*. Where the secretary receives two or more substantially identically worded resolutions, the secretary may print one, indicating the total number of petitions received on that subject.
- c. Resolutions on subjects which become timely after the deadline has passed for inclusion in the *Pre-Conference Workbook* may be acted upon by the Annual Conference if submitted to the Conference secretary by 5:00 p.m. on the Sunday of Annual Conference. The resolutions will be distributed in their entirety to the Annual Conference by the close of the Monday afternoon session. To be placed on the Annual Conference agenda, a resolution must receive at least a 2/3 vote without debate or question.

2. Procedures for Processing Resolutions for the Annual Conference Session

- a. The Conference secretary and the *Journal* editor shall receive and edit for clarity the resolutions to be printed and distributed to the Annual Conference. A member or designee of the Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process committee shall present resolutions for action by the Annual Conference at times designated by the Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process Committee.
- b. The person or agency making the resolution may support it with a two-minute presentation. If the person sponsoring the resolution is not a member of the Annual Conference, he or she may designate a member to be the presenter.
- c. Following the presentation by the sponsor, debate on the resolution shall be limited to two speeches in favor and two speeches in opposition of two minutes each. Any amendments to the resolution shall also be limited to two speeches in favor and two speeches in opposition of two minutes each. Resolutions may be amended until the previous question is called. Following debate, the conference shall then vote to approve or disapprove the resolution as amended. A two-thirds affirmative vote shall be necessary for adoption of the resolution as well as any amendments to the resolution.
- d. When the resolution is a petition to the General Conference, the following additional rules shall apply:
 1. No amendments shall be permitted.
 2. Only petitions endorsed by a two-thirds majority vote shall be forwarded by the Conference secretary to the General Conference.

3. If the votes are counted the Conference secretary shall forward the tally to the General Conference with the petition.
3. Reporting back regarding the impact of Annual Conference Resolutions adopted.
 - a. The maker of the resolution has the responsibility of reporting to the Annual Conference the following year regarding who received the resolution, what was the response of the resolution and what if any dialogue was established. This information may be printed in the *Pre-Conference Workbook*.
- J. **Source of Funding.** If action on a motion will require funding not specifically included in the budget, the motion shall include a recommended source of funding.
- K. **New Organization.** All requests and/or motions which would expand the Conference structure by establishing a new program or committee within the annual conference will be referred to the Conference Council on Ministries. The Council on Ministries must approve of the new committee by 2/3 vote before the council recommends it to the Annual Conference for approval. Any new committee proposed or established must include an estimation of how long the committee is to exist. It must also name the existing annual conference body to which it would be accountable. Two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference is required to create new committees recommended by the Conference Council on Ministries.
- L. **Secretary, Statistician, Treasurer, Chancellor.** At the first session following the General Conference, the conference shall elect a secretary and statistician, upon nomination of the Committee on Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process in consultation with the Cabinet and a treasurer upon nomination by the Council on Finance and Administration and a chancellor upon nomination of the Bishop.
- M. **Assistants.** The secretary, treasurer and statistician may appoint such assistants as they deem necessary to carry out the function of their offices.
- N. **Conference Lay Leader/Associate Lay Leader.** At the first session following General Conference, the conference shall elect the Conference lay leader and associate lay leader for the upcoming quadrennium. The Board of Laity shall recommend prospective nominees to the Conference Leadership Committee and the Bishop by January 1 of that year to start the nomination process. Their considerations shall not be restricted to names submitted.
- O. **Per Diem and Travel.** For clergy and lay members that experience significant financial hardships because of the cost of attending Annual Conference, an assistance fund and an application procedure shall be provided through the Office of Financial and Administrative Services (cf. 2003 Conference Journal, p. 4-15).

¶3. ANNUAL CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP

- A. **Lay Members.** Lay members and alternates to the annual conference shall be elected annually.
- B. **Equalization of Lay and Clergy Membership.** The Constitution of The United Methodist Church (*The 2016 Book of Discipline* ¶ 32. Article 1) names the following laypersons as members of Annual Conference:
 - 1.) Lay members elected by each charge
 - 2.) Diaconal ministers
 - 3.) Active deaconesses
 - 4.) Home missionaries under episcopal appointment within the bounds of the annual conference
 - 5.) Conference president of United Methodist Women
 - 6.) Conference president of United Methodist Men
 - 7.) Conference lay leader
 - 8.) District lay leaders
 - 9.) Conference director of Lay Servant Ministries

- 10.) Conference secretary of Global Ministries
- 11.) President or equivalent of the Conference young adult organization
- 12.) President of the Conference youth organization
- 13.) One young person between the ages of 12 and 17 from each district
- 14.) One young person between the ages of 18 and 30 from each district
- 15.) Additional lay members to equalize additional clergy serving in local churches

In addition to those lay members as outlined by *The 2016 Book of Discipline*, Lay membership will include the following:

- 16.) Lay members of the Board of Ministry
- 17.) Lay members of the Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process Committee
- 18.) Lay members of the Annual Conference Daily Proceedings Team
- 19.) Lay members of the Annual Conference Program Committee
- 20.) Lay members of the Annual Conference Worship Committee
- 21.) Lay chairpersons of Conference committees, commissions, boards, and teams
- 22.) Lay delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference
- 23.) Lay executive and director staff
- 24.) CCYM executive team
- 25.) Two youth CCYM members from each district

After the laypersons serving in these positions are counted and the number compared to the total number of clergy members of Annual Conference, the balance needed shall be filled by district lay members at-large.

The balance shall be divided among the districts by dividing one-half of the total needed equally among the districts. The remaining portion of the number needed shall be proportioned among the districts by dividing the total local church membership of the annual conference into the total district local church membership and multiplying the result by the remaining portion of the number needed for equalization.

C. Equalization Process for Districts

1. By January 15 of each year, the Conference secretary shall determine, according to the provisions of this rule, the number of at-large members to be elected by each district conference and communicate this number to the district superintendents. By February 15 each year, the district superintendents shall certify to the Conference secretary, according to the provisions of this rule, the names and addresses of persons elected as at-large members from their respective districts.
2. District conferences shall elect their respective district lay members at-large of Annual Conference. Of the total number set by the Conference secretary for each district, a minimum of two of these members must be between the ages of 18 and 30 at the time of spring district conference immediately preceding their conference of membership. The nominating process by which each district conference develops its candidates for district lay member at-large positions shall be determined by each district conference. Each year each district shall seek eligible nominees in number not less than 1 and ½ times the number of total district members at-large needed to complete the district delegation. In making such nominations, each district is to nominate at least 2 persons between the ages of 18 and 30 to stand for election as a district lay member at-large, or as many as are available or required.

The nomination process in each district shall be determined by the district conference. The election process shall be as follows:

- a. At each spring district conference, the district conference shall elect qualified district members at-large one year before the Annual Conference session in which their representation shall take place.
 - b. After all nominations are received, the district superintendent shall announce to the district conference the number of district lay member at-large positions available as certified by the Annual Conference secretary.
 - c. Ballots shall be distributed to each member of the district conference with the names of all eligible nominees printed or written on the ballot. Eligibility for election as a lay member at-large must be certified by each nominee. The qualifications are:
 - 1) Active participation in The United Methodist church for the four (4) years immediately preceding their election;
 - 2) Membership in The United Methodist Church for the two (2) years immediately preceding their election.
 - 3) Qualifications for lay membership in Annual Conference are set by the Constitution of The United Methodist Church. Neither the district conference nor Annual Conference can modify these qualifications for election.
 - d. Members of district conference shall vote for the exact number of persons needed for the lay member at-large delegation from their respective district. Ballots received with less or more votes than the exact number needed as certified by the Annual Conference secretary shall be declared invalid.
 - e. Ballots shall be counted and vote totals recorded in order of the number of votes received for each nominee down to 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ times the number of persons needed for the lay member at-large delegation. Persons shall be declared elected or elected as alternates to Annual Conference in order of total votes received.
 - f. In the event a person elected as a district lay member at-large to Annual Conference is unable to serve, a replacement shall be named from those elected as alternates in order of the votes received at district conference. In the event that a district has an insufficient number of elected alternates for any given year, the delegates to the spring district conference immediately proceeding the Annual Conference session may elect additional alternates to represent the district.
 - g. If a position designated for a member at-large between the ages of 18 and 30 is vacated or left vacant following the district conference one year before their Annual Conference membership, it must be held open for an eligible and qualified person of the same age group to be elected at the district conference in the following year. If no persons of this age group stand for election at this time, it may be filled by any other elected delegate through normal procedures.
3. In addition to district lay members-at-large, each district shall be represented by at least two youth ages 12-18. In those districts where senior and/or junior high youth members of the Conference Council on Youth Ministries meet the disciplinary qualifications for lay membership in the Annual Conference, said youth member(s) shall serve as the person (s) between the ages of 12 – 18 from that district holding membership in the Annual Conference. In the event that one or both of the CCYM members from the district do not meet the disciplinary qualifications for lay membership in the Annual Conference, the district Council on Ministries, upon recommendation by the district Youth coordinator, shall select the appropriate number of eligible persons between the ages of 12 – 18 for membership in the annual conference.

¶14. CONFERENCE SECRETARY

- A. **Official papers.** The secretary shall take charge of the *Journal* and other official papers of the conference and preserve them with care. No one shall be permitted to take any original paper without the consent of the conference.
- B. **Reports.** The secretary shall be responsible for the recording of all changes in and amendments to reports made after they have been submitted to the conference. The secretary shall edit all matters for the conference minutes.
- C. **Official Record.** The official record of the conference is the *Journal*, containing reports of the conference organizations and reports and information required by *The Book of Discipline*. The editing and publishing of the official record shall be under the supervision of the Conference secretary.
 - 1. Reports and information of the conference, which do not require the legislative action of the conference along with reports from affiliated institutions, are due to the *Journal* Editor by **March 1** for inclusion in the *Journal*.
 - 2. The Pre-Conference Workbook contains reports and resolutions, which require the legislative action of the Annual Conference. Material published in the Pre-Conference Workbook is not the official position of the annual conference. When the material is perfected and approved by the conference, it shall become part of the official record of the Annual Conference and published in the *Journal*. The deadline for submission of resolutions is **March 15**. The deadline for submission of reports for legislative action is **March 15**. The Pre-Conference Workbook shall be distributed by **May 15**.
 - 3. The *Journal* will be distributed by **November 15**.
- D. **Daily Proceedings Review Committee.** The Leadership Committee shall nominate a committee of four people to be elected by the Annual Conference. This committee shall read and correct the record of daily proceedings kept by the conference secretary, and shall report to the Annual Conference near the close of the annual session. The committee's report will constitute the approved record. The committee shall serve for the quadrennium.
- E. **Authority to Print.** The secretary shall have the authority to print the proceedings of the last of the conference sessions without a formal report of the Daily Proceedings Review Committee.
- F. **Standing Rules.** The Conference secretary is authorized to edit the standing rules and regulations annually and to bring them into harmony with any conference actions when no such specific action is taken relative to necessary change. The Conference secretary will also edit the rules to bring them into conformity with the current *Book of Discipline*, once a quadrennia.

¶15. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- A. **General Policies.** The Leadership Committee shall recruit, develop, nurture and evaluate people who have been nominated and elected to serve on annual conference agencies. It is the responsibility of the Leadership Committee to insure that the people who serve in the various volunteer positions throughout the Conference structure represent the diversity of our annual conference. Unless otherwise stated by *The Book of Discipline*, all boards, committees, commissions and agencies of the annual conference shall be composed of one-half laypersons and one-half clergy persons.
- B. **Nominating Process.** The Leadership Committee of the annual conference is responsible for nominating all persons to serve in the Conference structure except where provided for in *The Book of Discipline*, the Conference rules, or the Conference structure. The Leadership Committee shall present its report as early as possible at the annual session. Additional nominations may be made from the floor to the councils, boards, commissions, committees and other agencies unless prohibited by *The Book of Discipline*. If necessary, ballots will be cast at a later session of the

conference. The consent of the nominees shall be secured prior to the presentation of the nomination to the conference from the floor. Nominations from the floor must include the nominee's name, address and eligibility. When the *Discipline* or conference rules specify that a nomination must come from a certain person or agency, a request for an additional nominee to be considered may be made from the floor of Annual Conference. If the request is supported by a majority vote of conference members, the additional nominee shall be considered by the responsible person or agency and reported to the Annual Conference.

- C. **Nominations Deadline.** All nominations originating in offices or groups other than the Leadership Committee must be in the hands of the Leadership Committee by March 1 of the year those nominations are to be presented to the Annual Conference, except for institutional trustees. The deadline for the nomination of institutional trustees is May 1. The Leadership Committee shall review all nominations and may suggest changes to those who made the nominations.
- D. **Tenure Limitation.** Unless otherwise permitted by the annual conference or *The Book of Discipline*, membership on all Conference councils, boards, commissions, or committees elected by the Annual Conference shall be limited to two quadrennia. In the case where a person fills a vacancy in the third or fourth year in a quadrennium, he/she shall be permitted to serve two additional quadrennia. After a person has served the full tenure permitted for the various positions within the annual conference he/she will be ineligible for service on the same agency of the annual conference for four (4) consecutive years.
- E. **Limitation on Membership.** Unless otherwise directed by the annual conference or *The Book of Discipline*, no one shall be elected to more than one council, board, commission or committee of the Conference, except for:
 - 1. Persons who are serving on Conference councils, boards, commissions or committees by virtue of election to a general or jurisdictional agency. (These people are eligible for election to a Conference council, board, commission or committee and also be eligible to serve as an ex-officio member of the Conference agency which carries out the functions on the conference level that are directed by the general or jurisdictional agency to which the person has been elected);
 - 2. Persons who serve on Conference agencies which exist for the sole purpose of facilitating the sessions of Annual Conference. Persons who serve as members of the Annual Conference Program Committee, Worship Committee, and the Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process Committee are eligible for election to one annual conference council, board, commission, or committee;
 - 3. Persons who serve the East Ohio Annual Conference by virtue of their positions on the Committee on Investigation and the Administrative Review Committee are also eligible for election to a Conference council, board, commission, or committee.
- F. **District Superintendent Membership.** *The Book of Discipline* requires that all district superintendents be members of the Conference Council on Ministries. Their assignment to all other Conference agencies, unless otherwise stated in *The Book of Discipline*, shall maximize their function as a connecting link between the congregation and the Conference. Assignments shall be at the discretion of the resident bishop in consultation with the Leadership Committee and the respective organization. Membership will be termed ex-officio with vote.
- G. **Institutional Trustees.** Nominations for trustees elected or confirmed by the Annual Conference to serve on the boards of trustees of hospitals, homes and educational institutions shall be made by the agencies themselves. The Leadership Committee may suggest nominees to the respective agencies. The Leadership Committee shall present the list of trustees to be elected by the Annual Conference on behalf of the various agencies. A person's membership on an agency board of trustees does not negate his or her eligibility for service on a Conference program board or agency.

- H. **Ex-Officio Membership.** Unless otherwise specified by *The Book of Discipline* or Annual Conference rules, an ex-officio member assigned to a board, committee, commission or council may vote. The bishop of the Ohio East Area and the Conference lay leader are ex-officio members with vote on the following conference councils, boards and committees unless specified otherwise in *The Book of Discipline* or by Conference action:

1. The Council on Finance and Administration
2. The Board of Benefits
3. The Board of Trustees
4. The Commission on Archives and History
5. The Commission on Equitable Compensation

At the discretion of the bishop, he or she may designate the assistant to the bishop to serve in his or her place with vote on the Conference council, board, commission or committee named above. For strategic missional concerns, the Episcopal leader shall have direct access to any board, committee, commission, or council of the annual conference.

¶16. ORGANIZATIONAL PROCEDURE FOR COUNCILS, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

- A. **Organizational Structure.** All provisions concerning the size, configuration and responsibility of Conference councils, boards, commissions and committees are delineated in the ANNUAL CONFERENCE STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION section of the current Conference *Journal*. The size of the Conference boards, commissions, committees, councils and agencies shall be limited to the absolute minimum number of persons specifically called for throughout the structure. Each Conference council, board or commission is authorized to perfect its organization by forming divisions, sections and/or committees from its membership, as may be advisable to carry out its function. Proposed changes in the procedures for nominations and elections, organizational procedure for councils, boards, commissions and committees and district organizational matters must be presented to the Leadership Committee. The Leadership Committee must act upon the change and present it to Annual Conference. Task groups for specific tasks may be formed and can include persons who are not members of the agency forming the task group. In such cases though, all expenses of the special task group must be born from the existing budget allocated to the agency forming the task group. The Leadership Committee shall be informed of the need for the task group and shall be told why the task assigned to the special group cannot be carried out by the existing membership of the agency. Each special task group formed by an existing agency shall have a time line which sets forth when the task for which the group has been formed is to be completed and when the group called together for the task is to be dissolved.
- B. **Officers.** Unless otherwise stated by *The Book of Discipline*, all chairpersons of Conference committees, boards, commissions, and agencies shall be nominated by the resident bishop, after consultation with the Leadership Committee and elected by the Annual Conference.
- C. **Task Group or Study Commission Established by the Annual Conference.** Any conference action requesting a study, administrative action, specific task or program emphasis shall be presented to the conference by the close of the Wednesday afternoon session of the Annual Conference and shall require a 2/3 majority vote for approval. Unless the composition of a task group/study commission is specified in the enabling legislation, any conference actions which request a study, administrative action, specific task, or program emphasis shall be referred by the Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process Committee (ARAP) to existing Conference councils, boards, commissions, committees and agencies under whose disciplinary or structural responsibility such an action or study falls. If the ARAP committee should determine that the requested study, administrative action, task, or program emphasis ordered by the conference does not clearly fall under the jurisdiction of an existing agency within the Conference structure, ARAP shall report such findings to the Annual Conference in

the same session which ordered the action, and shall recommend to the Annual Conference a proposed organization to carry out that action, how long the organization is to exist, and to what existing Annual Conference body it is accountable. Furthermore, if the action requires financial support, the request shall be referred to the Council on Finance and Administration for proper funding.

- D. **Vacancies.** Should vacancies occur between sessions of the Annual Conference, the Leadership Committee shall present nominees to fill in the vacancies and his or her assignment will be reported to the next regular session of the Annual Conference.
- E. **Attendance Requirements.** The Leadership Committee shall evaluate the performance of Conference committee, council, board and agency members and chairpersons. The committee, in consultation with the agency chairperson or in the case of a chairperson in consultation with the resident bishop, may declare seats vacant where persons have not fulfilled the responsibilities of their offices.
- F. **Listing in the Conference Journal.** The Leadership Committee shall present the names of persons who will serve the Annual Conference structure. This report shall be presented to the editor of the Conference *Journal* for publication following each session of Annual Conference. The report shall be in a uniform style and format worked out in consultation with the *Journal* editor and Annual Conference secretary.

¶7. ELECTION OF GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL DELEGATES

A. General Provisions

1. The Conference secretary shall conduct the election of General and Jurisdictional Conference delegates under the provisions set forth in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* and in strict compliance with the standing rules of the East Ohio Annual Conference.
2. All voting shall be by ballot. The ballots shall be prepared by and/or authorized by the Annual Conference secretary.
3. Balloting shall begin as early as possible in the regular Annual Conference session immediately preceding the regularly scheduled session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church.
4. Balloting for General and Jurisdictional Conference delegates shall be considered an order of the day whenever called for by the Agenda, Rules and Administrative Process Committee. Results of the balloting shall be reported immediately to the session of the Annual Conference. Another lay or clergy ballot shall be cast immediately if necessary and shall become the current business of the Annual Conference agenda as an order of the day.
5. The number of General Conference lay and clergy delegates authorized by the secretary of the General Conference shall be elected first, followed, through continuing ballots, by the election of the additional number of lay and clergy Jurisdictional Conference delegates.
6. Lay and clergy candidates elected to Jurisdictional Conference shall be reserve delegates to General Conference in order of their election to the Jurisdictional Conference delegation.
7. Reserve lay and clergy delegates in the General Conference delegation who are attending sessions of General Conference may be seated for an elected East Ohio delegate to General Conference in the General Conference session as per the Rules of General Conference.
8. The Annual Conference secretary shall call for sufficient numbers of lay and clergy tellers from each district of the annual conference. The district superintendents shall name the lay and clergy tellers from their districts called for by the conference secretary. The role and functions of the tellers for General and Jurisdictional Conference elections shall be outlined by the Annual Conference secretary.

9. The Annual Conference secretary shall have the authority to name lay and clergy head tellers for the purpose of conducting the election of lay and clergy delegates to General/Jurisdictional Conference.
10. The head tellers, under the direction of the Annual Conference secretary, shall supervise the distribution and collection of ballots cast by their respective orders. The head tellers shall also supervise the counting of the ballots and transmit, in writing, the results thereof to the Annual Conference secretary. The Conference secretary shall present the tabulation of each ballot to the presiding bishop. The results of the balloting shall be kept strictly confidential throughout this process until they are announced by the bishop to the Annual Conference.
11. Candidates who receive 10 or more votes on the first lay and clergy ballot as a General/Jurisdictional Conference delegate shall have their names, charges, districts and vote totals reported to the Annual Conference. At any time in the balloting process, should a candidate, lay or clergy, who has not been previously presented to the Annual Conference receive 10 or more votes, that candidate's name, charge, and district shall be reported to the conference before the conference takes another ballot.
12. After the second and remaining ballots for General/Jurisdictional delegates, the names and vote totals of candidates who receive 25 or more votes shall be reported to the Annual Conference.
13. Upon the election of the General Conference delegates, the names of those so elected shall be reported to the Annual Conference. Upon the election of the total General/Jurisdictional delegates and reserves, those names shall be reported to the Annual Conference.
14. The Annual Conference secretary shall give instructions for the casting of each ballot prior to the marking of the ballot by members of Annual Conference. Ballots shall be declared defective and not counted if, in the opinion of the head tellers, the ballots are marked in a manner inconsistent with the instructions given prior to the casting of the ballot by the conference secretary. Each ballot shall contain votes for up to but no more than as many candidates as are eligible for election on that ballot.
15. Ballots shall be collected by the lay and clergy tellers and only from those members of Annual Conference seated within the voting area of the conference.

B. The Election Process

1. To be elected as a delegate to General Conference/Jurisdictional Conference a candidate must receive a majority of the valid ballots cast on the first ten lay and clergy ballots for General Conference/Jurisdictional Conference.
2. If after presenting to the conference the results of either the 10th lay ballot or the 10th clergy ballot the bishop determines that lay or clergy delegates are still needed to complete the East Ohio delegation to the General/Jurisdictional Conferences, the bishop shall put before the lay or the clergy members of conference, the question as to whether or not their respective 11th ballot for General Conference/Jurisdictional delegates shall be declared a plurality ballot.
3. The lay and/or clergy members of the conference shall vote on the question of a plurality ballot immediately and by a show of hands. If 2/3 of the members vote to sustain the call for a plurality ballot, the 11th ballot shall be a plurality ballot. Candidates who receive the highest number of votes shall be elected to the delegation to fill the General/Jurisdictional Conference lay or clergy delegation. In case of a tie, a special ballot(s) will be cast to determine the order of election of the tied candidates.
4. If 2/3 of the lay or clergy members of Annual Conference do not sustain the question for a plurality ballot, the balloting process shall continue.
5. If after presenting to the conference the results of either the 11th lay ballot or the 11th clergy

- ballot the bishop determines that lay and/or clergy persons are still needed to complete the delegation, the bishop shall put before the lay or the clergy members of conference the question as to whether or not the lay and/or clergy 12th ballot for General Conference and/or Jurisdictional Conference delegates shall be declared a plurality ballot.
6. The lay or clergy members of the conference shall vote on the question of a plurality ballot immediately without debate and by a show of hands. If 2/3 of the members vote to sustain the call for a plurality, the 12th ballot shall be a plurality ballot. Candidates who receive the highest number of votes shall be elected to the delegation to fill the General/Jurisdictional Conference lay or clergy delegation. In case of a tie a special ballot(s) will be cast to determine the order of election of the tied candidates.
 7. If after presenting to the conference the results of either the 12th lay ballot or the 12th clergy ballot the bishop determines that either lay or clergy delegates are still needed to fill the quota authorized by the secretary of the General Conference for the East Ohio General/Jurisdictional Conference delegation, the 13th ballot for either lay delegates to General Conference or clergy delegates to General/Jurisdictional Conference shall become a plurality ballot without vote of either lay or clergy members of Annual Conference. On the 13th ballot the candidates who receive the highest number of valid votes cast shall be declared elected to the General/Jurisdictional Conference delegation to fill the delegation. In case of a tie, a special ballot(s) will be cast to determine the order of election of the tied candidates.
 8. There shall be no plurality ballot before the 11th ballot.
 9. The rule which provides for an automatic plurality ballot on the 13th lay or clergy ballot shall not be suspended. A minimum of 10 and a maximum of 13 ballots shall be cast to elect lay or clergy delegates to the East Ohio General Conference delegation.
 10. Five alternate lay delegates and five alternate clergy delegates to the Jurisdictional Conference delegation shall be elected during the plurality ballot (whenever it occurs) for lay and clergy delegates to Jurisdictional Conference. The five lay and clergy candidates receiving the highest number of votes following the last lay and clergy person elected to the Jurisdictional Conference delegation shall be declared elected as lay and clergy alternate Jurisdictional Conference delegates. In case of a tie, a determining ballot(s) will be cast with the candidate(s) receiving the highest number of votes being elected to complete the delegation.
 11. The seating of alternate lay and clergy delegates to Jurisdictional Conference shall follow the procedures outlined for seating lay and clergy delegates to General Conference in rule # 7 under General Provisions.
 12. In case of a tie at any point in the election process, a special ballot will be taken to determine the order of election prior to resuming the regular balloting process.
- C. Additional Provision for Lay Elections**
1. At the charge conference prior to the year that the Annual Conference elects its General and Jurisdictional delegation, each charge conference may nominate a member of that charge conference or any other charge in the East Ohio conference as a candidate for lay delegate to General Conference. The consent of the person nominated shall be obtained before his/her name is presented to the district conference. Nominees must be willing to attend the full session of the General and/or Jurisdictional Conference, if elected.
 2. Prior to the session of Annual Conference that elects its General/Jurisdictional Conference delegation, each spring district conference shall elect by ballot vote (with a plurality needed for election) their nominees for election as lay delegates to General/Jurisdictional Conference. This shall be a minimum of five and up to the number of nominees as provided under rule 3.b. for district-at-large members of the Annual Conference, as district

nominees for election as lay delegates to General Conference. Districts will set their own number to be elected and are encouraged to be selective at this level where the people are best known. The slate will include the persons nominated by the charge conferences of the district as well as any nominated from the floor of the district conference. This ballot shall be voted on by the lay membership of the district conference. The conference secretary shall provide forms requesting the names and autobiographical data from the selected nominees. Nominees will be asked to include such information as their experience in church leadership, what they see as the key issues for the denomination and what their passion is for the Church. They also will be asked to acknowledge that they are familiar with United Methodist polity (Conference Rule PP7.C.4.b). The district superintendents shall return the forms to the Conference secretary not less than 30 days prior to Annual Conference. Autobiographical data concerning the district nominees shall be mailed to lay members of Annual Conference 15 days prior to Annual Conference.

3. The district nominees shall be introduced at a meeting for lay members on the first day of the Annual Conference session when the General and Jurisdictional delegation is elected. The lay members of Annual Conference may make additional nominations from the floor at this time. When the nominations are closed, those nominated from the floor shall be introduced. No one shall be nominated from the floor without having consented to his or her name being presented. Biographical data on floor nominees shall be submitted by the nominee to the Conference secretary (on forms provided) immediately at the close of the nominating session. Biographical data on these additional nominees shall be reproduced and distributed to lay members prior to the casting of the first lay ballot.

D. Additional Provisions for Clergy Elections

1. At the charge conference prior to the year that the Annual Conference elects its General and Jurisdictional delegation, each clergy will receive a nominating form to complete if he/she wishes to be considered for election to General and Jurisdictional Conference.
2. The forms will be sent to the Conference secretary by January 31 prior to Annual Conference and a voters' guide shall be mailed to clergy members of the Annual Conference no later than 15 days prior to Annual Conference. Because of Disciplinary requirements, all clergy will be assigned a voting number at Annual Conference, but candidate biographical information will be distributed only for those who choose to fill out a nomination form.

E. Organization of the Delegation

1. The bishop is requested to convene a meeting of the General and Jurisdictional Conference delegates within 14 days after the conclusion of the Annual Conference session at which delegates were elected.
2. The delegates thus assembled shall elect a chairperson and other officers as the delegates deem necessary from the General Conference delegates.
3. The first reserve lay and clergy delegates shall attend the sessions of General and Jurisdictional Conference. The Council on Finance and Administration shall provide for their travel and per diem costs at rate equal to that provided by General or Jurisdictional Conference.
4. The delegation is authorized to hold such meetings as they deem advisable in preparation for their work. We request from the Council on Finance and Administration funds adequate to cover the expenses of the delegations in the appropriate years, including the travel and per diem costs for the first reserve lay and clergy delegates at the General and Jurisdictional Conferences. Facilities of the Area Center shall be available for duplicating and mailing service

needed by the delegation.

5. Under the direction of the new chairperson, the delegates shall express their preference for service on legislative committees in the order of election, beginning with the first elected lay person and alternating the first elected clergy person, etc. If the delegation is composed of more delegates than there are legislative committees, persons may have the choice of doubling up on a committee in the number exceeding the number of legislative committees – i.e. If there are 10 committees and 11 elected clergy and lay delegates, one person in the delegation shall be permitted to “double up.” This option may be exercised by each person in order of election until that option is no longer available.

¶18. SUGGESTION AND NOMINATION OF EPISCOPAL CANDIDATES

- A. The Episcopacy Committee of the annual conference may provide information from the Jurisdictional Episcopacy Committee to the spring district conferences prior to the Annual Conference session at which Jurisdictional delegates are elected. Information from the Episcopacy Committee may be shared for the purpose of identifying and discussing the qualities needed for the episcopacy in the jurisdiction. Any ordained Elder in full connection from East Ohio who match the qualities needed for the episcopacy may be discussed. No vote, recommendation or endorsement will be taken by the spring district conferences for Episcopal nominees.
- B. Each Conference member will be given the opportunity to write the name of one ordained Elder in full connection that he or she would like to have considered for the episcopacy during the Annual Conference session at which the Jurisdictional delegation is elected. The names of those who have received 10 or more votes will be read to the Annual Conference and given to the Jurisdictional delegation by the Conference secretary. The Jurisdictional delegation shall then determine its own process by which the delegation will recommend a nominee for the episcopacy. The delegation may also decide not to recommend a nominee for the episcopacy.
- C. At the Annual Conference session prior to the next regular session of the Jurisdictional Conference, the Jurisdictional delegation may present one or more names for nomination to the Annual Conference. The Jurisdictional delegation may also choose to present no names to the Annual Conference. Nominations from the floor shall be in order. The ordained elder in full connection who is being nominated from the floor shall have given his or her consent prior to the making of the nomination. Following the nomination from the floor, the nomination must have the support of at least 50 Conference members, present and voting, to sustain the nomination. This support shall be demonstrated by the show of hands when called for by the bishop.
- D. Once all nominations have been received, the Annual Conference shall proceed to indicate a nominee (or nominees) by ballot vote. Conference members may cast one or more votes up to the number of nominees presented or they may cast a ballot which clearly indicates they desire that no Episcopal nominee be endorsed by the Annual Conference. Nominees receiving a simple majority of valid ballots cast shall be endorsed by the Annual Conference.
- E. The Jurisdictional delegation shall not be bound by any action of the delegation or the Annual Conference regarding the endorsement of nominees when the Jurisdictional delegates cast their votes at Jurisdictional Conference (¶406.1, 2012 *The Book of Discipline*).

¶19 DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

- A. **District Conference.** There shall be a district conference in each district to be presided by the district superintendent. Membership of the district conference shall consist of the following persons from the local churches of the district: the lay leader, chairpersons of Councils on Ministries, Administrative Boards, and Administrative Councils, presidents of the United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Young Adults, and United

Methodist Youth Fellowship, lay members of the Annual Conference, ministerial members of the Annual Conference, part-time local pastors, student local pastors, deaconesses, home missionaries, diaconal ministers, church and community workers assigned by the National Division of the Board of Global Ministries to work in the district and members of Conference boards and agencies affiliated with churches within the district and the following persons from the district leadership: district designated officers including the secretary and treasurer, lay leader and associate lay leaders, chairpersons of all district councils and standing committees, presidents of district United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Young Adult, United Methodist Youth or youth representative, district members-at-large of Annual Conference.

- B. **District Nominating Committee.** In each district there shall be a district Nominating Committee consisting of no fewer than five members, nominated and elected by the district conference. Members of the conference Leadership Committee residing in the district shall be members of the district Nominating Committee.
- C. **District Lay Leaders.** District lay leaders shall be nominated and elected by districts as each district determines and shall be under the conference rule 5. D. on tenure limitation.

¶10. **GUIDELINES FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF CONFERENCE JOURNALS**

The Conference *Journal* will be available digitally on the Conference website, www.eocumc.com. The final version of the Conference *Journal* will be completed by November 1. Print or other digital forms of the *Journal* will be available upon request.

¶11. **GENERAL AGENCY MEMBERSHIP**

Annual Conference nomination for membership on General church agencies shall be determined in accord with the provisions of *The Book of Discipline*.



*Congratulations and Thank You to the following churches
100% Apportionments Paid*

CANAL DISTRICT

Apple Creek
Atwater
Barberton Lakeview
Bethel Valley
Burton City
Charlestown
Clearview
Clinton
Cuyahoga Falls First
East Greenville
Easton
Greensburg
Hudson
Kent
Lakemore
Marshallville
Medina
Mogadore
Montrose Zion
New Pittsburg
N Lawrence Chapel
Of The Cross
Orrville Trinity
Peninsula
Rittman
Sawyerwood
Seville
Sharon Center
Shreve
Sterling
Stow
Tallmadge
Twin Falls
Uniontown
Wadsworth
Wooster
Wooster Church Of The Cross

FIRELANDS DISTRICT

Amherst
Attica
Belden
Bellevue First
Birmingham
Brighton
Burbank Faith
Burbank Trinity
Calvary Green

Clyde First
Collins
Columbus Avenue
Cornerstone
Creston Canaan
Edison Memorial
Elyria Zion
Fitchville
Green Springs
Greenwich
Henrietta
Homerville
Huron
Kelly's Island Zion
La Grange
Lakeside
Lakeview
Leroy
Lodi
Lorain Lighthouse
Melmore
Mount Carmel
New Haven
New London
New Washington
North Fairfield
Norwalk First
Oberlin First
Port Clinton Faith
Republic Trinity
Richmond
Rust
Sandusky Trinity
Seybert
Shiloh
South Amherst
Sycamore
Tiffin Faith
Tiffin Harmony
Tiffin St Paul
Union Pisgah
Union Salem
Vickery
West Salem
Willard Grace

MAHONING VALLEY DISTRICT

Braceville
Brookfield
Bunker Hill
Coalburg
Deerfield
East Fairfield
East Liverpool First
Elkton
Ellsworth
Fowler
Franklin Square
Highlandtown
Howland
Leetonia
Lisbon
McDonald Woodland Park
Negley
Niles New Hope
Ohltown
Palmyra
Pricetown
Riley's
Robbins Memorial
Salineville
Smith Corners
Vienna
Warren Grace
Wellsville
West Austintown
Western Reserve
Winona
Youngstown Trinity

MID-OHIO DISTRICT

Adario
Ashland Christ
Ashley
Black Fork Parish Faith
Blooming Grove
Boundary
Bucyrus
Bucyrus Mount Zion
Canaan
Cardington First
Chesterville
Claridon



*Congratulations and Thank You to the following churches
100% Apportionments Paid*

MID-OHIO DISTRICT CON'T

Crestline First
Delaware Asbury
Denmark
Ebenezer
Edison
Fairview
Fairview
Harmony Chapel
Hayesville
Iberia
Jeromesville
Johnsville Grace
Kilbourne
Lakefork
Lemert
Lexington Ch of the Cross
Liberty
Mansfield Chapel Hill
Mansfield First
Mansfield Trinity
Marengo
Marion Salem
Martel
McZena Hope
Memorial UMC of Caledonia
Mt Gilead Trinity
Nankin Community
Nevada
Olivesburg
Ontario
Paradise Hill
Plankton
Polk
Red Haw
Scioto
Shelby First
Shelby Trinity
Sparta
St Paul
Steam Corners
Tiro
Trinity
Williamsport
Woodlawn

NORTH COAST DISTRICT

Aldersgate
Avon
Bay
Berea
Brecksville
Brook Park
Celebration
Chagrin Falls
Church Of The Redeemer
Church of the Saviour
Cleveland Trinity
Columbia
East Shore
Elyria Community
Fields
Garfield Heights
Garfield Memorial
Hope
Independence
Lake Shore
Mount Pleasant
Mount Pleasant
North Olmsted
Pearl Road
Ridgewood
Rocky River
Solon
Westlake
Willson

OHIO VALLEY DISTRICT

Adena
Amity
Amsterdam
Asbury Chapel
Bannock
Barton
Bellaire South
Bergholz
Bowerston First
Bowerston Trinity
Bray's Chapel
Bridgeport First
Brooks Run
Buena Vista
Carrollton
Chestnut Ridge
Christ

Deersville
Dellroy
E Springfield Ch Of The Cross
Finley
Flushing
George's Run
Hanover
Harmony
Harrisville
Herrington-Bethel
Holloway
Hopedale
Hopewell
Jewett
Kilgore
Lansing
Lloydsville
Maynard
Mt Pleasant
Mt Pleasant
Mt Zion
Mt Zion
Mt Zion Carroll County
New Alexandria
New Athens
Oak Grove
Old Wegee
Perrysville
Piedmont
Pine Grove
Pleasant Grove
Pleasant Grove
Pleasant Hill
Pleasant Valley
Powhatan Point
Rankin
Rayland
Richmond
Scio
Scott Memorial
Sewellsville
Shadyside Lincoln Avenue
Sherrodsville Calvary
Toronto First
Toronto Riverview
Unionport
Wintersville



*Congratulations and Thank You to the following churches
100% Apportionments Paid*

SOUTHERN HILLS DISTRICT

Antrim
Armstrong Mills
Ava
Barnesville First
Barnesville Main
Batesville
Beckett
Belle Valley
Belmont
Bethesda
Bethlehem
Beverly
Bloomfield
Caldwell
Cambridge Christ
Cambridge First
Cambridge Ninth Street
Center
Chalfant's Chapel
Chandlersville
Clarington
Claysville
Cumberland
Derwent
Duncan Falls
Dungannon
Fairview
Gaysport
Greenbrier
Hannibal
Hills
Hirambsburg
Jacobsburg
Jerusalem
Keith
Kennonsburg
Lebanon
Lewisville
Londonderry
Lore City
Lowell
Lower Salem
Mary Reed
Mc Kendree
McConnellsville Grace
Morristown
Mt Ephraim
Mt Olive

New Concord
New Matamoras
Newport
Norwich
Old Washington
Pisgah
Pleasant City
Pleasant Grove
Pleasant Ridge
Quaker City
Ragans Chapel
Reinersville
Rural Dale
Salem
Salem Hall
Salesville
Sand Hill
Sardis
Smith's Chapel
Somerton
Sonora
Stafford

THREE RIVERS DISTRICT

Adamsville
Amity
Batemantown
Berlin
Bethel
Beulah
Bigelow
Birmingham
Blissfield
Brandon
Conesville
Coshocton Grace
Danville
Ebenezer
Fredericktown
Freeport
Fresno
Gambier Epworth
Gay Street
Green Valley Chapel
Holmesville
Hopewell
Howard
Isleta
Jelloway

Keene
Killbuck
Lakeville
Liberty Chapel
Millersburg
Moreland
Mount Hope
Nashville
Nellie Chapel
New Guilford
New Moscow
Newcomerstown Calvary
Orange
Otsego
Perrysville
Plainfield
Pleasant Grove
Prairie Chapel
Prospect
Roscoe
Salem
South Vernon
Tippecanoe
Trinway
Tyndal
Utica
Waterford
Wesley Chapel
West Chester
West Union
Wolf

TUSCARAWAS DISTRICT

Alliance Aldersgate
Alliance Christ
Alliance Lexington
Asbury
Bayard
Bisel
Bolivar
Bolton
Canton Epworth
Centenary
Church of the Lakes
Crooked Run
Crosspoint
Crystal Park
Dover Faith
Dundee



*Congratulations and Thank You to the following churches
100% Apportionments Paid*

TUSCARAWAS DISTRICT CON'T

East Rochester
Gnadenhutten
Holmes
Louisville Peace
Magnolia
Malvern
Massillon Trinity
Midvale
N Canton Faith
New Cumberland
New Franklin
New Life
New Philadelphia Broadway
Newcomers Chapel of
Pigeon Run
Newport
North Industry
Otterbein
Pleasant Valley
Sandyville
Senecaville
Strasburg
Uhrichsville First
Uhrichsville Grace
Union Avenue
Werner
Wilmot
Winfield

WESTERN RESERVE DISTRICT

Amboy
Ashtabula First
Bulah Calvary
Champion Otterbein
Chardon
Cherry Valley
Colebrook
Cortland
Gageville
Geneva
Gustavus Federated
Harpersfield
Hartford
Hope Ridge
Johnston Federated
Kelloggsville
Kinsman
Leon
Madison Chapel
Mayfield
Mentor
Middlefield
Monroe
N Mentor Centenary
Nelson
New Leaf
North Bloomfield
Orangeville
Orwell

Richmond
Saybrook
Shoregate
Southington
Stateline
Thompson
West Farmington
Wildare
Williamsfield
Willoughby
Willoughby Hills
Windham
Windsor

ELECTRONIC BALLOTING INSTRUCTIONS

Look at the written materials you have received to determine the number(s) of the person(s) you wish to vote for. Be sure that you are voting for the correct number of persons and that no one you are voting for has already been elected.

When you receive your ballot card completely mark through the numbers of the persons you wish to vote for.

To make the process go smoothly, please follow these basic steps:

- Completely mark through the number on the ballot that corresponds to your choice.
- **Use a #2 lead pencil or black or blue ink!** If you are prone to making mistakes, use a pencil and erase incorrect responses completely or request a replacement ballot from the teller.
- When finished, turn in your unfolded ballot to the appropriate teller.

DO NOT FOLD THE BALLOT**NOTE! THE FOLLOWING WILL VOID YOUR BALLOT!**

- Voting for too many persons
- Voting for someone already elected
- Voting for too few persons (if so indicated by your Conference rules)

If your ballot is deemed invalid, none of your votes will still be counted.

Completely fill the oval in front answer on the ballot

The image shows a sample ballot card with a large blue 'Sample' watermark in the center. At the top, there are two checkboxes: 'Lay Ballot No.' and 'General Jurisdictional'. Below these are two columns of numbers, each enclosed in a small oval. The left column contains numbers from 001 to 033, and the right column contains numbers from 001 to 033. To the right of the numbers, there is a vertical instruction: 'Match candidate's number from list of candidates with corresponding number. *Mark through the number of your choice with a #2 pencil.' Below this instruction is a small image of a #2 pencil. At the bottom right, there is a small box labeled 'Exam To vote mark'.

HOW TO UNDERSTAND PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

<p>EACH TIME YOU WANT TO DO THIS:¹</p> <p>¹Motions or resolutions made from the floor shall be reduced to writing on forms provided by the Conference secretary</p>	<p>FIRST GIVE YOUR NAME AND YOUR DISTRICT, AND THEN SAY THIS:</p>	Interrupt Speaker?		
		Second Needed?		
		Motion debatable?		
		Amendable?		
		Vote?		

MAIN MOTIONS as tools to introduce new business

Introduce business	"I move that..."	no	yes	yes	yes	majority
Take up matter previously tabled	"I move that we take from the table"	no	yes	no	no	majority
Reconsider matter previously voted	"I move we reconsider..."	no	yes	*	no	majority

SECONDARY MOTIONS in order of preference

Adjourn	"I move to adjourn"	no	yes	no	no	majority
Recess	"I move we recess until..."	no	yes	no	no	majority
Suspend debate without calling for vote	"I move that we table"	no	yes	no	no	majority
End debate	"I move the previous question"	no	yes	no	no	2/3 majority
Limit debate	"I move debate be limited to..."	no	yes	no	no	2/3 majority
Postpone to specific time	"I move to postpone this matter until..."	no	yes	yes	yes	majority
Have matter studied further	"I move we refer this matter to..."	no	yes	yes	yes	majority
Amend a motion or substitute	"I move to amend by..." or "I move to substitute..."	no	yes	yes	yes	majority
Postpone indefinitely	"I move to postpone indefinitely..."	no	yes	yes	yes	majority

INCIDENTAL MOTIONS grow out of the business the Conference is considering

Correct error in parliamentary procedure	"Point of order"	yes	no	no	no	Chair rules
Obtain advice on parliamentary procedure	"I raise a parliamentary inquiry"	yes	no	no	no	Chair rules
Request information	"Point of information"	yes	no	no	no	none

* yes, if the matter was debatable, no, if the matter was not debatable.

**Annual Conference 2019
Notes for Personal Reflection**

This note page is provided so that you may pause at the end of each afternoon to gather thoughts, write down ideas and note possible resources you can use or offer in the coming months. This note page is not intended to be handed in. If there is something from your reflections or resource ideas you would like to share with East Ohio Conference leadership, please email events@eocumc.com. There is a separate evaluation form that is used by Conference leadership to evaluate the effectiveness of the agenda and presentations in fulfilling the mission and vision of this Conference.

Monday, June 10, 2019

What are you taking from today's presentations for your own growth or awareness?

What are you taking from today's presentations that you will share with your congregation or ministry setting?

What resources could you share with others to support these ministry areas?

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

What are you taking from today's presentations for your own growth or awareness?

What are you taking from today's presentations that you will share with your congregation or ministry setting?

What resources could you share with others to support these ministry areas?

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

What are you taking from today's presentations for your own growth or awareness?

What are you taking from today's presentations that you will share with your congregation or ministry setting?

What resources could you share with others to support these ministry areas?

Thursday, June 13, 2019

What are you taking from today's presentations for your own growth or awareness?

What are you taking from today's presentations that you will share with your congregation or ministry setting?

What resources could you share with others to support these ministry areas?

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2019 EVALUATION

To complete this survey online, use the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EOAC2019>

The East Ohio Conference exists to live out its vision to equip and support pastors, congregations, and faith communities to grow in their capacity to bear fruit that lasts:

- being disciples, making disciples, and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ;
- being God's agents of transformation in our communities and throughout the world; and
- being bold and courageous leaders in reaching new people, younger people, and a more diverse people.

Please circle your evaluation of the following:

Sunday Evening Prayer and Praise Service

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Attend	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Monday Morning Laity Session

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Attend	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Monday Morning Service of Commemoration and Holy Communion

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Attend	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Monday Afternoon Episcopal Address

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Attend	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Monday Evening Celebration of Retirement

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Attend	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Tuesday Morning Worship

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Attend	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Tuesday Afternoon Service of Commissioning and Ordination

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Attend	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Wednesday Morning Worship

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Attend	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Wednesday Evening Ministry Fair: Connecting through Mission and Conversation

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Attend	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Thursday Morning Worship

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Attend	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Vision/Learning Segments

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Attend	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Balloting for GC & JC Delegation

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Vote	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Business Sessions of Annual Conference

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Attend	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Online Registration for Annual Conference

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Use	Needs Attention			Very Effective

Registration for VBS, child care, choir, meals, or special events

n/a	1	2	3	4
Did Not Use	Needs Attention			Very Effective

What part of Annual Conference has been the most helpful in equipping you and your church?

What would help us design Annual Conference to better equip you and your church?

The person completing this evaluation is (please circle):

Lay

Clergy

Age (circle):

Youth

Adult

Adult

Adult

Adult

Grades 6-12

Age 18-35

Age 36-50

Age 51-65

Age 66+

Completed evaluations may be turned in at the information booth or mailed to:

East Ohio CCOM PO Box 2800 North Canton, OH 44720

Stage Right

2019

East Ohio Annual Conference
Hoover Auditorium

Stage Left

STAGE

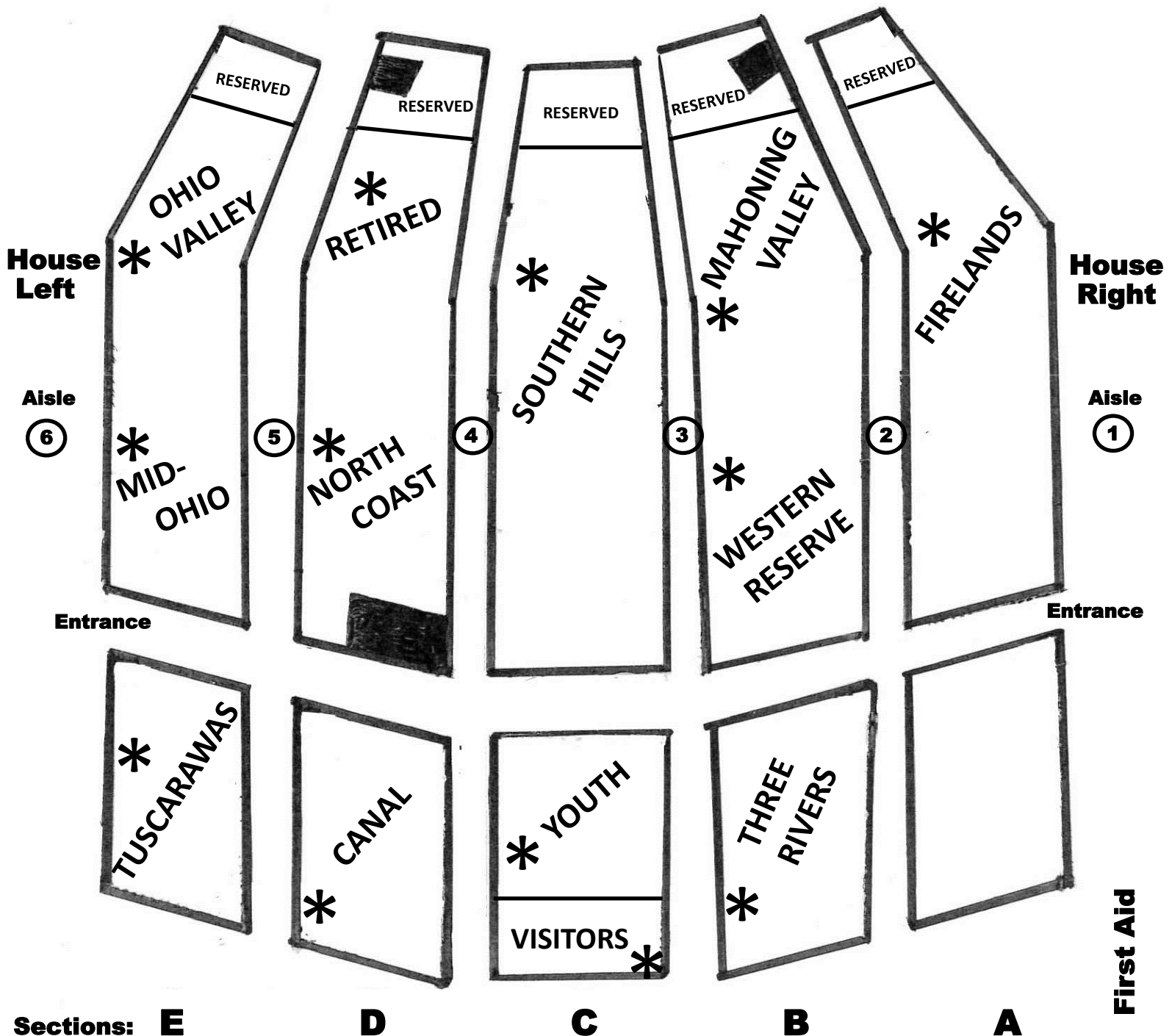
Entrance

EAST

WEST

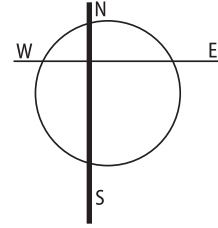
Entrance

RESERVED FOR PROGRAM COMMITTEE A-D





Lakeside CHAUTAUQUA



- 1 - Hoover Auditorium
- 2 - Orchestra Hall
- 3 - Fountain Inn
- 4 - Lakeside Association Office
- 5 - Hotel Lakeside
- 6 - Pavilion
- 7 - Green Gables
- 8 - Heritage Hall
- 9 - Bradley Temple
- 10 - South Auditorium
- 11 - Wesley Lodge
- 12 - Old Schoolhouse
- 13 - Rhein Center for the Arts
- 14 - Wo Ho Mis Lodge
- 15 - Hilltop House and Annex
- 16 - Archives
- 17 - Train Station
- 18 - Youth Cabins
- 19 - Employee Dormitories
- 20 - Lakeside United Methodist Church

- 21 - Business District
- 22 - Central Park
 - ☐ Shuffleboard
 - ☐ Miniature Golf
 - ☐ Steele Bandstand
 - ☐ Basketball/Volleyball
 - ☐ Children's Playground
- 23 - Perry Park
 - ☐ Tennis Courts
- 24 - Cherry Park
- 25 - Lakeside RV Campground
- 26 - Williams Tennis Campus & Swimming Pool
- 27 - Lakeside Dock
- 28 - Chapel in the Woods
- 29 - LWBS Boat Works Workshop
- 30 - South Gate Welcome Center
- G1 - South Gate
- G2 - West Fifth Street Gate
- G3 - East Gate
- G4 - West Second Street Gate

Shuttle Route

S (Shuttle Stop)

Mack Mobile Route

(driver follows inbetween calls)