



CENTRAL VALLEY DISTRICT WEST

EAST OHIO CONFERENCE LAY SERVANT MINISTRY COURSE

The Central Valley West District will be offering the following course:

SACRED PATHWAYS: NINE WAYS TO CONNECT WITH GOD

"If you have grown up in the church, you might have been led to believe there is only one "right" way of connecting with God and experiencing his presence. Perhaps this one-size-fits-all mentality has left you feeling frustrated and a bit distant from your heavenly Father. But the truth is, not every person will engage with God in the same way. For this reason, it is important to discover the particular pathway that will best help you to grow in your faith. Through this course, you will be encouraged to investigate the ways that you most naturally express yourself in your relationship with God. You will discover the traits, strengths, and tendencies in your own relationship with God. And you will also learn and understand how to relate to others who have different spiritual temperaments from your own.

When: Saturday, October 17, 2026 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Where: Church of the Cross UMC, 5100 Cleveland Road, Wooster, OH 44691

*** Check-In, pastries, and fellowship will be from 7:30 – 7:55 a.m.

Cost: \$30, includes lunch and refreshments. **PLEASE NOTE:** If you have a special diet, please contact Steve Gilson, Central Valley West District Director at gilsonsd@aol.com.

Book Required: *Sacred Pathways: Nine Ways to Connect with God* by Gary Thomas

PLEASE NOTE: You are responsible for purchasing your own course book.

Your course book may be purchased through the following:

Amazon.com (free shipping if you have Amazon Prime)

ChristianBook.com

Cokesbury.org/store

You will also be using a Free Study Guide which can be found at <https://garythomas.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/sacredpathways.pdf>

PLEASE ALSO NOTE: You are responsible for completing the following assignments before class.

- Read Part One (Chapters 1 and 2 of the book).
- Read the "Description" portion of every pathway in the study guide (all 9 pathways). Very quick and easy readings.
- Choose one Pathway you connect with/like and one Pathway you DO NOT connect with/like. Then read the full study guide sections and chapters in the book on those two selected Pathways.

Anyone can take any of this course for spiritual growth, you do not have to be a member of a United Methodist Church. Upon completion of this course you will receive a certificate.

It is our sincere hope that you will join us for this opportunity of education and fellowship.

The last day to register is October 14th, 2026.

Questions? Contact Steve Gilson at gilsonsd@aol.com or (330) 264-7203.

Online registration & payment can be made here: <https://eastohio-reg.brtapp.com/CVOct1726>

Course selection.

___ Sacred Pathways: Nine Ways to Connect with God

FIRST NAME _____

LAST NAME _____

ADDRESS 1 _____

ADDRESS 2 _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

CHURCH _____