

East, Ohio Conference



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MISSION u

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Greetings From Your President

Dear Sisters in the Faith!

I would ask that we all keep working with the faith of true believers as we take the actions asked of us from Jesus, "go into the world telling the story of God's love."

Judy Kidder, EOC President

Judy lives in East Liverpool in the Central Valley District, and can be reached at judyeri0127@gmail.com.

Annual Celebration—October 26—Faith UMC

in North Canton. The speaker will be the Rev. Tammy Kuntz who is the Coordinator of United Methodist Volunteers in Mission for the North Central Jurisdiction. Our theme verse is "...let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." 1 John 3:18

From Vice President, Susan Huston. Susan lives in the Central Valley District and can be reached at susanhuston178@yahoo.com

Follow UWF at General Conference April 23-May 3

- Pray for all delegates
- Read *response* magazine
- Follow the latest news and blogs on the website: https://uwfaith.org/general-conference/2024/

Mission u 2024

Are you planning to join us? Do you have Mission u marked on your calendar? July 19 – 21, 2024 – University of Mount Union

Let's get the kids and youth from our communities to Mission u this year! It's a great, great opportunity for them and for adults as well. Perhaps your Unit could sponsor one registration, or even one half.

If you have questions, suggestions or concerns, please contact: Cynthia Rose, Dean, rosecyn52@aol.com. Registration information coming soon.





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<u>Contentment – the Peace of Living LIFE</u> Reflection shared by Sandy Marek, Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Another gift that escapes most of humanity on the *Spiritual Journey* is "peace." Like happiness, peace seems to be elusive and imperceptible, especially when the stresses of daily living continue to escalate and dominate. Like happiness, peace is a given, a part of the Life that the Divine created humanity to be about and enjoy as an abiding blessing. Peace is the heart of Oneness, and contentment, serenity, and rest are the fruit of peace.

So how is it that peace and its spiritual benefits are seemingly intangible and obscure to so vast a number of persons? The soul has a deep hunger for peace since it was created for peace in its one-on-one intimate relationship with the Divine. And because of this hunger, one's soul longs after peace. It is the striving and trying harder that is counterproductive to receiving and enjoying peace. In an environment that consistently determines one's worth and value based on productivity, the carry-over to searching for peace is delusional and self-emptying. One becomes caught up in a downward spiral as one's soul hungers all the more.

So how does one come to receive and enjoy peace and its fruits? Silence. Solitude. Simplicity. (The complete reverse of striving, trying, and working harder.) It is only in slowing down and stopping, spending more and more time alone with the Divine is one able to let go of all that is and be enabled to receive and enjoy peace (a tranquil, inner harmony). Having more and more of these moments of silence and solitude throughout the day, week, month, and year fulfills one's soul's hunger and peace and its fruits become pervasive in one's whole being. One becomes centered and grounded in the PEACE of the Divine.

Out of this centeredness and groundedness, one lives and interrelates with others and life with a sense of being home (with the Divine) wherever one may be, regardless of the situation or circumstance. One is living more and more out of a flow and simplicity with the Spirit in daily interactions and encounters. One still feels and suffers with those who are struggling and in distress, but does so calmly, in humility, with strength, and of hope. One's presence and demeanor is reflective of the Divine's presence and is open to what the Divinity is about for that person, moment, or state of affairs. This is how one fully pursues and fulfills one's destiny and Life for others. One comes into and has a deeper trust of the Divine and a clearer understanding of participating with Divinity for the releasing of Oneness and Life as Reality.

James Mitchell, D. Min., BCC Clinical Coordinator of Spiritual Care Services

WAYS TO GIVE

Keep this information handy for when your District, Unit or an individual is ready to donate.

Online at: uwfaith.org/dayofgiving

By phone: 800-278-7771 (8 am-5 pm EST, M-F)

Text: "FUTURE" to 20503

By check to: United Women in Faith, Attn: Legacy 777 United Nations Plaza, 11th Floor; Church Center

for the United Nations; New York, NY 10017

North Central UWF Jurisdictional Event
Indianapolis IN May 30-June 2

Suggestions always welcome! Email Elizabeth Feldman, EOC UWF Communications, eoc.uwf.news@gmail.com