



# Western Lakes District

*News from The United Methodist Church*

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## WLD Important Information Volume 30- August 30, 2024

### Installation Service For Bishop Hee-Soo Jung Oct 12th at 4:00pm (**note the time change**)

Please join us as we welcome Bishop Hee-Soo Jung and his spouse, Rev. Im-Hyon, to the West Ohio Annual Conference at his installation service on October 12 at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1581 Cambridge Blvd, Columbus. The service will begin at **4:00 pm**. Bishop Hee-Soo Jung has been assigned to The Ohio Episcopal Area, which includes the East and West Ohio Conferences. His assignment will begin September 1, 2024.



### 2025 Go Grants

Need help brainstorming your Go Grant ideas? Have questions about your Go Grant ideas? Join us for a WhiteBoard Zoom sessions over your lunch hour at one of the following dates:

Wednesdays at noon. Click on the date to register:

**9.4.24**

Feel free to check out our **Q&A page**. We offer answers to our most frequently asked questions about Go Grants.

For a list of the ideas, please click **here** to see the 2024 Go Grant recipients.

**2025 Go Grant Applications go live on  
September 1, 2024 and are due in by October 15, 2024!**



### Engage with UMC Leaders in Upcoming Well-Being Webinars

Wespath and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) are partnering together to engage leaders and changemakers in the UMC to address systemic issues affecting clergy well-being.

This fall, you are invited to three webinars on clergy well-being. Learn more about each of the five dimensions of well-being, the current state of each dimension based on the 2023 Clergy Well-Being Survey results and various resources available to you.

Clergy input on well-being is essential. Register now for any or all of these sessions:

- September 19, 1-2pm Central – Financial Well-Being [Register Now](#)
- October 24, 1-2pm Central – Physical and Emotional Well-Being [Register Now](#)

- November 7, 1-2pm Central – Spiritual and Social Well-Being [Register Now](#)

### ***Your Feedback is Important***

How does the UMC impact clergy well-being? What steps could we take to create a work environment more conducive to clergy well-being? [Complete this short form](#) to share how the church can be more supportive of clergy well-being.

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## **It's Stewardship Season!**

With mid-August upon us, many pastors and church leaders are beginning to think about annual stewardship campaigns. Many are finding themselves in the same place they were last year: unsure what to do, unsure what to say, and generally feeling like it's time for the annual doctor's checkup: *everyone knows it's good for them, but no one wants to go!*

Don't be that church! The United Methodist Foundation of West Ohio is YOUR go-to resource for stewardship education information. If you need help with this year's campaign, give us a call and we will discuss it with you.

If you just want to get through this year but know that changes are needed, our program, ***Generosity Abounds!*** is free to any church to use. It is NOT a plug and play one-size fits all annual campaign package. It's a step-by-step guide to help you increase discipleship and engagement and start on a path to creating a culture of generosity in your church. ***The best time to start this program is about a year in advance of when you want to start seeing results.*** So start now for next year! We can walk you through it or you can do it on your own. Find out more at <https://umfwestohio.org/services-for-churches/stewardship-education-resources/> or give us a call.

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## **Conference Trustees Announce Group Utilities Purchasing Plan with Integrity Energy**

West Ohio Conference Trustees are pleased to introduce your church to Integrity Energy. Integrity Energy is a broker that will help minimize your utility expenses by comparing your current rates and contracts with the best available in the market. With demand for energy increasing quickly because of the expansion of data centers and other economic development, rates are forecast to increase significantly in 2025.

While there is no obligation to work with Integrity Energy, it makes sense if they can reduce utility expenses so you have more resources for your mission. **Click here** to learn more about Integrity Energy. **Click here** to read about what will drive energy prices in 2025.

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## **Here are some other great learning opportunities that have shown up in our in-boxes recently:**

**[Saving Grace: A Guide to Financial Well-Being](#)** – we're excited that Wespath is providing an online version of this course open to anyone this fall, **starting soon on September 9**. Financial literacy is one of our stewardship standards, so we highly recommend this for any church leader who wants to provide the class in their church next year.

**[Financial Leadership for Churches](#)** – this comprehensive course with content similar to our Generosity Abounds program is offered through Garrett Theological Seminary. It is pricey but you can get 2 CEUs and take another person. Call us if you want to attend and we can discuss scholarships. There is also a \$500 incentive program for attendees who qualify.

**[Cultivating the Craft of Asking](#)** - develop your skills and confidence in asking donors for financial support. Through the five online sessions, you will learn techniques to help you deepen donor relationships to connect vision to mission while actively making progress on your own ministry goals – from a capital campaign to funding mission work. Provided

through Myte Ministries.

The Foundation has lots of other resources we can share with you. Just give us a call to discuss your needs so we can make tailored recommendations.  
[sblack@wocumc.org](mailto:sblack@wocumc.org) 380-223-9257

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## Apportionment E-Statements Now Available

The Conference is now offering apportionment statements by e-mail.

- Service begins 11/1/24.
  - To receive your first e-statement in October, **sign up by 10/18/24**.
  - After the initial 10/18/24 deadline, registration will remain open indefinitely; however, your first emailed statement will not begin until the following month after you've signed up.
- Once registered:
- Paper statements are no longer sent to your church by mail.
  - Treasurers as well as lead pastors are automatically added to the e-statement distribution list.
  - Additional email addresses may be added by emailing Rhonda Tyree at [rtree@wocumc.org](mailto:rtree@wocumc.org).
  - If a treasurer is not named for your church, please reach out to your district to set one up. This is needed to receive e-statements.
  - This service is optional. If you prefer mailed statements, you do not need to do anything further.



Treasurers: To sign-up, register or sign on to our website at [Homepage | West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church \(westohioumc.org\)](#). Then go to MyChurch in the upper righthand corner > Choose Apportionments from the red menu > Choose Apportionment Statements.

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## Upcoming Classes

- Public Prayer - September 8, 10, 11, 15, 17, 2024 - zoom  
GMR - [Register Here](#)
- Basic Course - October 4 & 5, 2024 zoom and in person  
HRD - [Register Here](#)
- Justice in Everyday Life - October 12 & 19, 2024 - zoom  
WLD - [Register Here](#)
- Leading Worship - October 18-19, 2024 zoom and in person  
ORD - [Register Here](#) - **(Registration Opens 8/30/24)**



## Job Posting - Administrative Assistant

First United Methodist Church of Van Wert, Ohio is hiring an Administrative Assistant for the church office. Skills required include proficiency in MS Office/Google Suite and office equipment, plus competency in keeping accurate records of church data. This is a ministry position. We're looking for someone with a heart for serving God's people and confidence working with others to create a welcoming environment. Catch a vision of First United Methodist by visiting our website at [www.vanwertfirst.net](http://www.vanwertfirst.net). You can also find this position description at our website. To explore this part-time opportunity, send your cover letter and resume to the attention of Pastor Christian Taylor at [christian.taylor@vanwertfirst.net](mailto:christian.taylor@vanwertfirst.net).

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# Job Posting - Contemporary Worship Leader

Christ Church United Methodist – a campus of the Gem City Church Collective

## About Christ Church:

Christ Church is a church with a diverse culture of contemporary and traditional worship experiences that reach across many generations. We have three worship services, two traditional and one contemporary. The contemporary service makes up 50% of the worshipping congregation. Christ Church is in Kettering, the largest southern suburb of Dayton, Ohio. Christ Church is a multiplier that has planted 4 campus churches over the last 13 years. It has a rich past and a bright future. In 2026, we will celebrate 75 years of ministry in our community. We are positioned in the heart of Kettering next to the Kettering Government Center, Frazee Pavilion- that hosts many summer concerts, and is across the street from the high school and nearby middle school.

## About The Gem City Church Collective:

The Gem City Church Collective is currently a family of 5 unique campuses whose mission is to build healthy congregations that transform lives and communities. The vision of the Collective is to intentionally plant, adopt and engage churches to connect the community to God. Each campus lives out ministry within their own church but enjoys the benefit of being a part of a larger family of churches that harnesses the collective power of multiple campuses.

## Job Title: Contemporary Worship Leader

### Qualifications needed for the position:

Personal:

- Have a thriving spiritual life
- Open to learning from those around you
- Be a self-starter who completes tasks on time

Worship Leading:

- Being an authentic worship leader who connects with people and connects them with God
- Current in worship styles and worship technology
- Experienced in ProPresenter, Planning Center Online, and production
- Utilize time management and organizational skills to set your team up for success
- A team player who collaborates in designing services with pastors and staff
- Continues to develop additional worship leading abilities for in-person and online services

### Education & Experience:

- At least two years of hands-on experience in contemporary worship planning and leading
- Experience in recruiting, training and leading volunteers

Please email your resume to [laura@christumc.org](mailto:laura@christumc.org) and upload a video that represents your worship leading ability to <https://driveuploader.com/upload/FtKr9wyOdY/>

Resumes will be accepted through Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>.

[Full Job Description Information Here](#)

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## All In Community - Fall Offerings

Please see the attached flyers for information on events that the All in Community Team will be hosting this fall.

[Lunch, Learn & Live Well Workshops](#)

[Resilience Clergy Retreats](#)

[Trauma Resilience Worship Arts Workshops](#)

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## Avoid a Higher HealthFlex Deductible in 2025

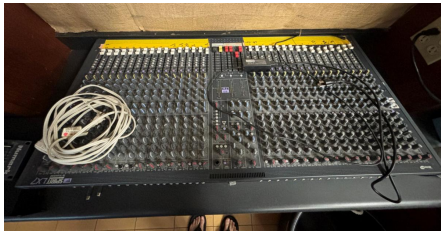
Are you covered by the HealthFlex active (non-retired) healthcare program? If so, you will want to complete the Health Check Questionnaire **by August 31** to avoid a higher plan deductible in 2025.

To get started, join VIRGIN PULSE by [clicking here](#). This is a quick, easy, and confidential way to complete the Health Check Questionnaire and boost your overall well-being.

Once you're in, you'll gain access to a range of wellness resources, including the opportunity to:

- Earn up to \$410 per year by participating in HealthFlex well-being programs.
- \$100 by taking your annual/Biometric Exam with Quest Blueprint for Wellness Screening.
- 8 free counseling sessions per concern through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) with Optum.
- Free Telemedicine and Behavioral Health Service offered by MDLive.
- Access to Chronic Disease Prevention and Diabetes Management offered by Omada.
- Discounts on Weight Watchers membership.

### Sound Boards For Discounted Sale



Urbana UMC has two sound boards that they are selling for a discounted price. Reach out to Macie at [uumcfamilyministry@gmail.com](mailto:uumcfamilyministry@gmail.com) for more information.



## The New Zenler Platform

The West Ohio Conference provides an on-demand learning platform for local church leaders to engage in training to help them lead successfully. The New Zenler platform includes courses on pastoral transitions and *Leadership Labs* for justice involved ministries.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## New Free Bible Study Available

In September of 2017, Hurricane Maria devastated the island of Puerto Rico, causing \$90 billion of damage. The powerful Category 4 storm destroyed 80% of the island's crops, started the longest blackout in U.S. history, and led to over 3,000 deaths. Yet, it was just one of three major hurricanes to hit Puerto Rico in the last seven years, and climate scientists expect more to come.

The Methodist Church in Puerto Rico was quick to respond to the disaster, and the worldwide United Methodist Church supported the work with both financial contributions and volunteers. ***Job & the Great Whirlwind***, a four-session Bible study, invites you to read Job's story through the lens of a real whirlwind; to examine the United Methodist Church's teachings on Global Climate Stewardship; to come face to face with the human toll of climate disasters; to celebrate people who are creating new and innovative ways to

build local resilience to the global crisis of climate change; and, just like Job, to recognize that the time has come for us all to “gird up our loins” and change our perspective. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the videos and free Bible study.

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## Festival of Sharing 2024

The Festival of Sharing is a yearly service opportunity for United Methodists to prepare kits for hygiene, school, and cleanup to be delivered to those in need.

Kit collection is taking place at a new location this year - First Community Church--North Campus (3777 Dublin Rd, Columbus) on Friday, September 27th from 3-5 pm and Saturday, September 28th from 9-11 am.

We will once again be collecting kits at churches in our district so you don't have to make the drive to Columbus with your donation. [Visit the FOS website](#) to find the list of kits needed and the packaging instructions for each one.

Drop-off location near our district:

- Van Wert First United Methodist Church - 113 W Central Ave, Van Wert, OH 45891  
Sept 3-Sept 20; Mon-Thurs; 8:30am-1:30pm, Fri 8:30am-12noon. Please call 419-238-0631
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## Let us remember in prayer those grieving the loss of their loved one, and remember in thanksgiving the life and ministry of:

**Rev. Dr. James H. Price** passed away August 8, 2024 at the age of 94.

Rev. Price was born August 4, 1930 in Latrobe, PA. He joined the Navy for four years after high school graduation. James then moved to Ohio where he aquired his Bachelors of History at Findlay College. He then attended Oberlin School of Theology where he met love of his life Susan Woodruff. He was ordained by the United Methodist Church and served at Saint Andrews UMC in Findlay, OH. A couple years later they moved to Syracuse, New York, where he earned his Doctorate in Theology and remained their throughout the rest of his career.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, 2 daughters Kathy and Carolyn, grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held on August 13, 2024. Condolences may be sent to his daughter Kathy at [krtweidt@gmail.com](mailto:krtweidt@gmail.com)

## 2024-2025 Appointments



### 2024 Appointments

The list of pastoral appointments beginning January 1, 2024, can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

Please refer back to these lists as they are updated frequently.



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