



# Western Lakes District

*News from The United Methodist Church*

WLD Office (937) 739-4445 Email: [westernlakes@wocumc.org](mailto:westernlakes@wocumc.org)

## WLD Important Information Volume 31- September 13, 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 began September 1, 2024.



### 2025 Go Grants Now Available

West Ohio Go! Grants are open to resource new innovative ministry ideas that help West Ohio churches develop relationships beyond the walls of our buildings and within our communities.

If you or your church are eager to explore a fresh perspective of ministry, you are encouraged to apply. Applications will be available September 1, 2024, to submit online by October 15, 2024.



For more information and application, [click here](#)

### Speaker Fest September 14th

Shawnee United Methodist Church in Lima invites you to Speaker Fest. There is a great lineup of speakers set for Saturday, September 14th from 9:00am - Noon, with doors opening at 8:30am.

**9:10am Julianne Burke** - Executive Director, Guiding Light Ministries

**9:50am Bliss Hairston** - Director, Freedom School at Bradfield Center

**10:30am Aaron McLaurin** - Founder, Soldiers of Honor

**11:15am Rev. John Edgar** - Founder of the UMC Church For All People and Community Development For All People and author of A Front Porch For All People

[Click here for a flyer with more information](#)

## Regional Missional Specialists

Did you know that three Regional Missional Specialists (RMS) are available to help resource your local church? The title "Regional Missional Specialist" was chosen with specific goals in mind:

- Regional - The strengths, needs, and culture of each district are different.
- Missional - The primary task of this team is to inspire and resource the local church to live out the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.
- Specialist - Each of these pastors brings specialized gifts and training to the role.

Your RMS Team includes these staff members:

- Rev. Dr. Jimelvia Martin - [jpmartin@wocumc.org](mailto:jpmartin@wocumc.org)

-Specializes in Cross-Cultural Cross-Racial Ministry & Urban Ministry  
-Relates to the Great Miami River District

- **Rev. Mary Sullivan** - [msullivan@wocumc.org](mailto:msullivan@wocumc.org)

-Specializes in Conflict Transformation & Church Administrative Structure Support  
-Relates to Maumee River & Western Lakes districts

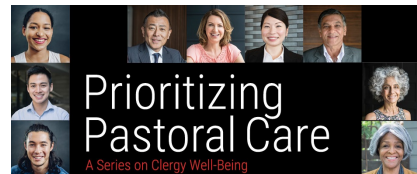
- Rev. Dr. Sara Thomas - [sarathomas@wocumc.org](mailto:sarathomas@wocumc.org)

-Specializes in West Ohio Learning Platform, District Training (Leadership Training Day, Starting Well & Ending Well, SPRC Training), & Circuit Ministry  
-Relates to Olentangy River, Hocking River, & Scioto River districts

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## 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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## September Ministry Monday

All In Community's *Ministry Monday* information session in September will feature Jonathan Platt, Executive Director of Storychain. Join us for a conversation on how Storychain is transforming families by helping parents read bedtime stories to their children to nurture them and care for them . . . even



from inside prison walls.

Monday, September 23, beginning at 7:00pm on ZOOM.

**ADVANCED REGISTRATION REQUIRED** here: <https://qrco.de/bfK0Dv>

Cost: FREE

Questions and requests for the ZOOM link can be directed to Jami Nathan, AIC Ministries Coordinator, by email ([jami.nathan.22@gmail.com](mailto:jami.nathan.22@gmail.com)) or by phone (419-591-9717).

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## Fall 2024 UMCOR Kit Collection

After another year of natural disasters occurring in the U.S. and around the world, Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC) needs our help replenishing their stock of UMCOR Hygiene and Menstrual Hygiene kits. From October 1-31, 2024, hygiene and menstrual hygiene kits - as well as other supplies - can be dropped off at the following locations:

- Hocking River District Office (South/Southeast)
  - 47 Johnson Rd, The Plains, OH
  - Drop-off hours: Mon-Thurs, 9:00am-5:00pm
  - Contact Barbara Conover at 740-677-0136 or [hockingriver@wocumc.org](mailto:hockingriver@wocumc.org) for questions
- Brecon UMC/Great Miami River District Office (West/Southwest)
  - 7388 E Kemper Rd, Cincinnati, OH
  - Drop-off hours: Mon-Thurs, 9:00am-4:00pm
  - Contact Nancy Newton at 513-421-2057 or [nnewton@wocumc.org](mailto:nnewton@wocumc.org) for questions
- Maumee River District Office (West/Northwest)
  - 1729 Indian Wood Circle, Maumee, OH
  - Drop-off hours: Mon-Thurs, 10:00am-4:00pm
  - Contact Michelle Robinson at 419-897-9770 or [maumeeriver@wocumc.org](mailto:maumeeriver@wocumc.org) for questions
- West Ohio Conference Center (Central)
  - 32 Wesley Blvd, Worthington, OH
  - Drop-off hours: Mon, Weds, & Thurs, 10:00am-4:00pm
  - Contact Mariellyn Grace at 380-223-9212 or [mgrace@wocumc.org](mailto:mgrace@wocumc.org) for questions

[Click here](#) for instructions on how to make hygiene and menstrual hygiene kits. Other items that will be accepted include dish soap (42-64 oz.), liquid laundry detergent (100-150 oz.), and rakes, shovels, or brooms (new or gently used). For more information, contact Mariellyn Grace at [mgrace@wocumc.org](mailto:mgrace@wocumc.org).

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## Volunteers in Mission (VIM) Team Leader Training

Are you planning a mission journey in 2025 or beyond? Join West Ohio for a Volunteers in Mission (VIM) Team Leader Training! With an experienced team leader as instructor, you will learn how to plan and lead a mission experience in Ohio, the United States, or around the world. You will also be provided with checklists, timelines, team forms, and practical resources for nurturing the spiritual life of your team. A background check is required.



Cost: \$35 (training, materials & lunch) Sat, 11/02/2024 - 09:00 - 1:00pm  
Stonybrook UMC 485 Cherry Bottom Rd, Gahanna, OH 43230  
Contact Mariellyn Grace at [mgrace@wocumc.org](mailto:mgrace@wocumc.org)  
Price \$35.00 Deadline to register: October 28

[Register Now!](#)

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## 2024 United Women in Faith Fall Celebration

Saturday, October 19, 2024, 10AM-12PM

Zanesfield United Methodist Church

2880 Main Street, Zanesfield, OH 43360 (Logan County)



United  
Women  
in Faith

“Harmonizing with the Invisible” - Speaker: Jami Nathan, All  
In Community Ministries Coordinator

- Morning refreshments will be served (Freewill donations accepted)
- All women are invited to this FREE event!

Please call Brenda Coleman at 937-335-6071 or email [clmnbrenda@aol.com](mailto:clmnbrenda@aol.com) for reservations by October 14th. Please provide your name, your contact info and your church name.

Building harmonious communities and embracing the invisible to restore hope and support healing in communities within Ohio.

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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:

[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

**Introduction to Lay Servant Ministries (Basic Course):** Friday, October 4 from 6-8pm (Zoom) & Saturday, October 5 from 9am-5pm (either in person at the Hocking River District office or by Zoom). [Registration](#)



**Justice in Everyday Life:** October 12 & 19, 2024 - Sponsored by Western Lakes District - [Registration](#)

**Leading Worship:** October 18-19, 2024 – Sponsored by Olentangy River District - [Registration](#)

**Living Our United Methodist Beliefs (United Methodist Heritage):** November 3,5,7,10,14, 2024 – Sponsored by Olentangy River District. Registration opens 9/27/24

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## 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, Fraze 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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### **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](#)**

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## 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:

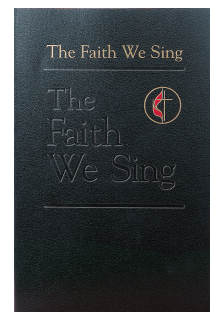
- Van Wert First United Methodist Church - 113 W Central Ave, Van Wert, OH 45891

Sept 3-Sept 20; Mon-Thurs; 8:30am-1:30pm, Fri 8:30am-12noon. Please call 419-238-0631

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## The Faith We Sing

Do you have extra copies of The Faith We Sing? The Faith We Sing is a hymnal supplement to The United Methodist Hymnal. We have a church in our district that is in need of some copies. Please reach out to Cortney at [creed@wocumc.org](mailto:creed@wocumc.org) if you would like to donate your extra copies.



## Let us remember in prayer those grieving the loss of their loved one, and remember in thanksgiving the life and ministry of:

**Rev. Danny Lee Dahl**, age 75, went to be with the Lord on Sunday, August 18, 2024. Danny was born on September 28, 1948 in Clinton, Iowa to the late Robert and Beverly Dahl. He graduated with a Master of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky. He worked for Franklin County Children's Services and retired after 30 years of service. He served as a Methodist Minister in the West Ohio Conference. Danny attended Livingston Avenue United Methodist Church. You could find him out on the golf course in his younger years. He was a world traveler and most recently visited France.

However, he loved being with his family and friends most of all.

He is survived by his wife of almost 35 years, Beatrice Bartram; son, Sean (Daniell) Dahl; grandchildren, Raymond Riffle, Taylor Woods and Sean Dahl Jr; great-grandson, Avery Woods; sister, Linda Puckett; sister-in-law, Glenna Bartram; other relatives and friends.

Per Danny's wishes, he will be cremated and a service to honor his life will be held at Livingston Avenue United Methodist Church, 200 E Livingston Avenue, Columbus, OH on Saturday, September 28, 2024 at 1:30 PM conducted by Reverend Angie Cox.

[Danny Dahl Obituary - Columbus, OH \(dignitymemorial.com\)](https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/danny-dahl)

**Patricia Edwards**, 78 passed away Monday, September 2, 2024, after a lingering illness. Patricia supported her husband Rev. John Edwards, in his career of ministry in West Ohio, serving the following communities: Miller EUB, Newark 1967; Lancaster U Brethern 1970; Emmanuel UB In Christ 1973; Faith UB In Christ 1983; Coburn Associate (N) 1987; Baltimore Market Street (N) 1991; Pleasant Hill (N) 1994; Hanover-Pleasant Chapel (N) 1996; Hopewell/Perry (N) 1999; Hopewell/Perry (FTH) 2010

Pat will be dearly missed by her husband, Pastor John E. Edwards; daughter, Darci Joy Edwards for whom she showed deep love and dedication; and two adopted children, Daniel and Dina; four grandchildren, Anica, Bella, Howard Robert, and Margot Suzette; siblings, Silas Woodrow Hall II, Barbara Jean Hall Hightower, Charlotte Emily Hall (David) Blair, Betty Leigh Hall (Robert) Johnson, Richard Lynn (Lori) Hall, Kathryn Denise Hall (Bruce) Rarick, Gary Allen (Teri) Hall. She was preceded in death by her parents, Silas W. Hall (1918-1997) and Anna Louise (Fanning) Hall (1923-2006); one sister, Evelyn Louise (Hall) Smith (1944-2013) and one brother, Keith Edward Hall (1954-2024).

Friends may call from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Friday, September 6, 2024, at Hopewell United Methodist Church, 11742 Gower Rd., Glenford, Ohio where services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Friday with the Rev. Doug Lynn officiating.

[Obituary Link Here](#)

**Margaret "Susan" Cottrill** (81) passed away September 5, 2024

Susan (nee Bozarth) Cottrill, beloved wife for 36 years of the late Rev. Dr. David Cottrill. Loving mother of Kathleen Susan Holcomb, Karen Diane (Robert D.) Pierson. Devoted grandmother of Danial Joseph Holcomb, William David Holcomb, Robert David Pierson, Lee Joseph Herzner Jr. and Hailey Rose Pierson. Dear sister of the late John L. (Marge) Bozarth and Cheryl (Charles) Hewitt. Daughter of the late Marguaret Alberta (Sleesman) Bozarth and John Pierpont Bozarth. Susan was a school teacher for 32 years, most of those years spent teaching first grade in the Lakota Local School District.

Services were Tuesday, September 10th. Memorials may be directed to Monfort Heights United Methodist Church, 3682 W. Fork Rd. Cincinnati, Ohio 45247.

**Rev. Kenneth Laverne Jenkins** passed away on Sept. 2, 2024 near Houston, TX.

He was born in Eldorado, OH on Jan. 16, 1935 to Rev. Ivan and Morna (Smith) Jenkins. Ken graduated from Xenia High School in 1953, attended Wilmington College and graduated from Otterbein College in 1957. He went on to seminary at United Theological in Dayton and graduated in 1961. He served the following churches: Riverside (DN) 1957; Columbus Ave (S) 1960; New Lebanon (DS) 1963; Napoleon Christ (D) 1971; Friendship Oldtown (P) 1977; Marion First (F) 1986

He retired in 1996. He loved serving people through helping a youth baseball team, visiting shut-ins and helping the needy.

Kenneth was preceded in death by his siblings: Marietta Jenkins Winemiller, Donald and Jerald Jenkins and his parents. He is survived by his wife, Barbara (Molitor); Children: Daniel, Judith SanSocie, and Steven; sisters: Darleen Jenkins Long and Phyllis Jenkins Heitz as well as many cousins, nieces, nephews and other family and friends.

The Memorial Service will be at Parkview Church of Miamisburg, 3713 Benner Rd., Miamisburg, OH on Saturday, September 14, 2024 at 2:00 P.M. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](#), P.O. Box 50, Memphis, TN 38101-9929 or call 800-822-6344. Please mark your check or envelope "in memory of Kenneth Jenkins".



# 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.

West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church | 32 Wesley Boulevard | Worthington,  
OH 43085 US

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