

New this week: Bishop Palmer seeks our prayers this coming week for a Way Forward. District Leadership Training Day is February 3 – registration is now open! 24 workshops mean that there is something for everyone! Please share information about the training widely within your congregations! Reservations for the District Epiphany Party Thursday, January 11 will be accepted through Monday morning, January 8. Emergency Response Training offered in the CAN District at North Broadway UMC on Saturday, January 27. Volunteers in Mission Training offered in the CAN District at Marion Epworth UMC on Saturday, February 17. New IRS mileage reimbursement rate. UM Historical Society spring meeting is April 21. Clergy Day Apart on March 8 - registration is now open.

Remember that the 2017 apportionment payment deadline is next Friday, January 12.

Prayer Requests

District Prayer Requests *Prayer Requests for the Week of January 7:*

Walnut Grove UMC – Rev. David Moore

Church of the Redeemer – Rev. Rick Birk

Church of the Saviour – Rev. John Wallace

Prayers are requested so “that we would find the opportunities in the challenges we face.”

[Here is a link to the weekly prayer list.](#)

Praying for a Way Forward – a Prayer Request from Bishop Gregory V. Palmer

For nearly a year now, week by week, one of our United Methodist Annual Conferences has focused its prayer energy on **Praying Our Way Forward**. Each Annual Conference was assigned a week to focus in this way. The week for West Ohio to lead the way in prayer, especially in light of the work of the Commission on A Way Forward and the called session of the General Conference, is **January 7-13, 2018**. So, on Sunday January 7, we will dig in as a conference and breathe together for a week of praying that God will shine a light on the way forward for The United Methodist Church to embrace unity and the enormous mission that God has asked us to share in.

We all have different rhythms and practices in prayer. However, I am asking that to the extent possible we devote 12:00 Noon – 12:15 PM for **Praying Our Way Forward**. Please know that you are invited to pray whenever you can and as much as you can each day the week of **January 7-13, 2018**. Please follow this link for [a prayer for the week and a prayer for each day that offers a specific focus](#). Please share these prayers with your congregations and prayer partners. You will also be able to post your own prayers on the Prayer Wall on the conference website.

Thank you in advance for joining this holy conspiracy.

As always, I am,

Your servant in Christ Jesus,

+Bishop Gregory V. Palmer

2017 Apportionment Deadline January 12

All 2017 apportionments must be received by January 12, 2018 at the District office and West Ohio Conference Center in order to be counted towards your 2017 apportionment giving.

IRS Mileage Rate for 2018

The IRS rate for mileage reimbursement for 2018 is \$0.545/mile.

Year-end Reports

Be on the look-out for a mailing this week from the West Ohio Conference around year-end reporting. Those reports are due no later than **February 9, 2018**. <https://www.westohioumc.org/conference/end-year-reports>. Contact Jack Frost with any questions, jfrost@wocumc.org.



CAN Epiphany Party January 11

The Capitol Area North District Epiphany Party for clergy (active, retired, extension ministers) and their families will be held on Thursday, January 11, 2018 at Der Dutchman Restaurant in Plain City. Doors open at 5:30, and dinner will be served at 6:00 pm. Cost is \$10/adult meal, payable at the door. To register contact the district office, capitolareanorth@wocumc.org, 614-222-0602 by **January 8 at noon**.

Trainings



2018 CAN and CAS District Leadership Training Day

Saturday, February 3, 2018, 9:00 am – 12:30 pm at

Powell UMC, 825 E. Olentangy St., Powell, OH

This year we are offering **24 WORKSHOPS** and **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!** Every year we have 350 – 400 people attend this training. You don't want to miss it!

Who should attend?

Clergy, Church Staff, Trustees, Finance Committee Members, S/PPRC Members, Children's Ministry teams, Youth Leaders, Lay Leaders, Church Treasurers, Church Leadership, Visioning Teams, Usher Teams, Church Safety Committees, Worship Teams, Technology Teams, Visitation Teams, Stephen Ministers, Missions and Outreach Committees, anyone interested in Lay Servant Ministry, Health and Wellness Teams, and church laity. Did we forget anyone?? Invite them, too!

Workshops include:

Session 1 9:15 – 10:45 am - Trustees, Church Lifecycles, Church Safety, Finance, Making Prison and Jail Ministry Personal, Multimedia for the Regular Church, Pension and Health Insurance, S/PPRC, Safe Sanctuaries, End of Life Conversations, Grant Writing, and Youth Leaders

Session 2 11:00 am – 12:30 pm – A Primer in Active Listening, Children's Ministry, Clergy Taxes, Community Ministries, Discipleship-making Pathways, Global Mission Partnerships, 'It Worked for Us' in a Rural Setting, Harnessing the Power of Social Media, Lay Servant Ministries, Leading through Prayer, the Opiate Epidemic, and Questions for the District Superintendent

Pre-registration is requested so that we can plan for adequate space and materials. [Register HERE](#)

Mission and Vision Webinar Training with Rev. Roger Grace January 9

The United Methodist Rural Advocates presents four workshops to help your church grow in the areas of mission, leadership, vision and evangelism. Workshop leaders are effective leaders, understand the small membership church, and will help your local church leaders develop and lead both church and community. [REGISTER HERE](#)

Vision and Mission – how to develop Vision and guide your church into the future Tuesday, January 9 at 7:00 pm EST Led by Rev. Roger Grace

Evangelism – See All the People: Intentional Discipleship in a Rural Setting Thursday, April 12 at 7:30 pm led by Rev. Junius Dotson and Jodi Cataldo

For more information & registration contact: Carl Ellis Email: cellis@larcm.org or call: 785-445-2595

Nonviolent Communication Workshops Offered Jan 9

Free Workshops: "Speaking Honestly without Judging" Building a South Side Compassionate Community

Working Together, with Respect for All Nonviolent Communication (NVC) Workshops

Tuesday, January 9, 2017, 9:00 am – 10:30 am "Transforming Reactive Judgments to Empowered Response" The Ohio State University College of Social Work, Office of Continuing Education 1.5 CEU/clock hours for each workshop Participants may register for 1 workshop at a time, or the 4-part series (NO COST TO ATTEND) To Register, contact Tom Carlisi: carlisiandassociates@gmail.com

Strategic Planning for Faith-based Community Programs January 20

The United Way of Central Ohio is offering a Neighborhood Partnership Center Workshop on Strategic Planning for faith-based community programs on Saturday, January 20, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, at Centenary UMC, 2048 Denune Ave., Columbus. Lunch is provided. Participants will learn asset mapping of your community, identifying your target audience and recruitment, developing a sustainability plan and a budget, building partnerships, scaling projects for success and measuring success, and foundations of grant writing. For additional information contact Sharon Ware, Sharon.ware@uwcentralohio.org. Registration is required as space is limited: <https://uwco.wufoo.com/forms/sum1qkc1143mju/>

ERT Training January 27

Emergency Response Training at North Broadway UMC. [Click here](#) for information and to register.

VIM Training February 17

Volunteers in Mission Training at Marion Epworth UMC. [Click here](#) for information and to register

Events

Be the Dream! Don't Let Nobody Turn You Around: An Artistic Celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. January 21

Join us on January 21, 2018, at 3:00 pm at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 1150 W. 5th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43212. Dr. Carren Moham, Director/Organizer and Michael Lester, piano. Join us as professional and amateur artists come together to present a program of living history vignettes and music from several genres to honor the legacy of Dr. King. This program is a presentation of the Music at St. Luke's concert series and is free and open to the public.

Clergy Day Apart – Thursday, March 8, 2018. [Register here.](#)

UM Historical Society Spring Meeting April 21

The United Methodist Historical Society of Ohio (UMHSO) will meet at the Canal Lewisville UMC (198 E. Church St., Coshocton 43812) on Saturday, April 21, 2018, with the theme, "Crossroads of Ohio United Methodism." The Annual Meeting and Convocation, usually alternating between East and West Ohio Conference sites, brings together UMHSO members (local church historians, pastors, and others) to share historical preservation and exhibition resources, ministry ideas for local church anniversary celebrations, and good Christian fellowship. This year's event, in the Three Rivers District, also includes optional Friday PM visits to local historical sites, with a block of rooms available for those staying in Coshocton Friday night. Further information and a full schedule for the Convocation will be out in March in the official UMHSO semi-annual newsletter. Historians and others who are interested in membership may contact Ed Duling as listed below or visit www.umhso.org/MembershipForm

Classifieds

Help Wanted

- [Part-time Worship Musician, Prospect UMC](#)
- [Children's Ministry Coordinator, Marysville First UMC](#)
- [Website Designer, Worthington UMC](#)
- [Administrative Assistant, Indian Run UMC](#)
- [Worship and Youth Leader, Bellefontaine First UMC](#)
- [Choir Director, Trinity UMC](#)