

***New this week:*** Spring Lay Servant Ministries Courses Announced: Basic Course, Accountable Discipleship, Spiritual Gifts, Leading Prayer; 'Souper' Bowl Sunday fundraiser at Epworth UMC Columbus February 3; Organ Guild presents "February Fanfare" workshop February 16; Ash Wednesday 'drive-up' ashes offered at Epworth UMC Columbus; PAMCS applications due February 15; Living in the Different book on grief by Elaine Sturtz – she is available to lead grief seminars; Remember to register for the CAN/CAS District Leadership Day on Saturday, February 2

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## **District News and Information**

### **We have moved!**

The District Office is now located on the first floor of the West Ohio Conference Center:

**Capitol Area North District Office**  
**32 Wesley Blvd., Suite, 100**  
**Worthington, Ohio 43085**

Phone numbers and emails remain the same.

### **Year End Reports due February 9**

All pastors and church offices should have received their statistical reports and year-end report forms in the mail in December. Each church is **required** to submit statistical reports to the West Ohio Annual Conference annually. This information is submitted online through General Council on Finance and Administration's EZRA database system. Each church can log on to the database, print their 2017 information and instructions for reporting 2018 information. If you need assistance, please contact the district office. DEADLINE FOR REPORTING IS FEBRUARY 9.

### **Apportionment Payments**

All 2019 payments should be mailed to our new address regardless of when mailed: 32 Wesley Blvd., Suite 100, Worthington, OH 43085. District Apportionment checks should still be made out to the *Capitol Area North District.*



**CAS and CAN District Leadership Training Day Saturday, February 2**

## Grove City UMC, 2650 Columbus St., Grove City

Please join us for our annual Leadership Training Day! This year we will offer an opening session for all in attendance on “Making Disciples for the Transformation of the World,” and then *one* additional session of workshops.

Doors open at 8:30 am and the opening session starts at 9:00 am. The individual workshops start at 10:45 am, and the day ends at 12:15 pm.

*Workshop options include:*

- Board of Trustees Basics
- Children and Youth Ministries
- Church Lifecycles
- Community Ministries and Grants
- Finance and Apportionments
- Servant Leadership: The Journey
- Multi and Social Media
- Jail Ministry 101
- Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee and Pension Information
- Men’s Discipleship Today
- Planning for Emergencies in Your Congregation
- Being the Church During the Opiate Epidemic
- Making *Healthy* Disciples to Transform the World

**Detailed workshop information and registration** [can be found here](#). Please share this information with others in your congregation who might be interested in attending!



Lay Servant Ministry is our United Methodist system for lay leadership development and includes lay speaking as one of the certifications. The basic and advanced courses are designed to help develop skills in witnessing to the Christian faith through spoken communication, church and community leadership, and care-giving ministries. Specific coursework is required to become a lay speaker, if desired.

These courses are offered to anyone who has a desire to develop leadership skills and learn more about the United Methodist Church. Registration.

### **Registration Coming Soon!**

#### **Basic Course - March 16th - Saturday Only - Parkview UMC**

This course is foundational for all courses in lay servant ministries. Participants are encouraged to discover and employ personal spiritual gifts as God intended and to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders,

remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices, and being part of a group that holds members accountable in their discipleship.

**Accountable Discipleship - March 15 and 16<sup>th</sup> - Parkview UMC**

This course focuses on the concept of the household of God, Scripture as divine revelation, Wesleyan understandings of grace, and the importance of the class leader in the development of the Methodist movement.

**Spiritual Gifts – April 26 and 27 – Church of the Master, Westerville**

**Leading Prayer – April 26 and 27 – Church of the Master, Westerville**

**It's W-2 Time!**

2018 W-2s are due to all employees by January 31, 2019. Information to help with preparing IRS Form W-2 for clergy, which can be complicated, can be found on the [Conference website](#). Use the worksheet and example [here](#) as a guide for preparing your pastor's W-2. This sample spreadsheet and W-2 is just that, a sample. Your fact set may include more or fewer items to report (for example, moving expenses which are now taxable if paid or reimbursed are not in the sample).

Highlights for 2018 W-2's include:

- Moving expenses paid by churches directly to moving companies or via reimbursement to clergy are taxable and must be reported as income (see the moving expense section of IRS instructions completing W-2's [here](#)).
- If your pastor received health insurance through the Conference Plan (Aetna) they received a contribution to their HSA account that should be reported. Clergy on single plans received \$500 in January and July 2018 for a total of \$1,000. Clergy on 2-person or Family-3 plans received \$1,000 in January and July for a total of \$2,000. If two churches share in the cost of health insurance, adjust accordingly.
- All full-time clergy and some ¾-time clergy receive a \$50,000 death benefit through a conference plan. This is in addition to \$50,000 available through the denominational plan (CPP). The cost of group life insurance over \$50,000 is taxable. The imputed income can be calculated based on the table in [IRS Publication 15-B](#).
- Note: If your pastor is not on the Conference health insurance plan and your church has not established its own qualified plan, direct payments to clergy to offset the cost of health insurance (for example on a spouse or other employer plan) are taxable income.

While the resources referenced here and on the conference website should answer most if not all of your questions, contact your payroll provider, a CPA or tax preparer if you have technical questions.



**2019 Annual Conference**

Sunday, June 2 - Thursday, June 6, 2019  
Hoover Auditorium at Lakeside Chautauqua  
Registration begins March 1, 2019 at 10:00 am

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## **Trainings**

**ERT Training February 9** Basic Class and Recertification held at Journey Community UMC, 11100 Lafayette Plain City Rd., Plain City, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm [Information and registration](#)

**ERT Training February 23** Basic Class and Recertification held at Neal Avenue UMC, 12 Neal Avenue, Newark, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm [Information and registration](#)

**All-In Community Webinars** [Faith-based Mentoring](#) [Jail Ministry 101](#)

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## **Events and Information**

**Hints for your Church Email Strategy** [learn more here](#)

**Email Marketing for Churches Webinar** January 30 at 1:00 pm EST. [Register here.](#)

### **Enneagram Event at Hilliard UMC January 25 and 26**

Held at Hilliard UMC, 5445 Scioto Darby Rd., Hilliard, Ohio.

An Enneagram is a powerful tool to help people determine some of their programmed patterns, responses, and ways of being in the world. (Nine personalities, nine ways of being in the world). We are bringing in a nationally-renowned Enneagram expert Leslie Hershberger to do some work with us, both to introduce folks to the Enneagram (Friday night) and to then take us deeper into it for those who are already familiar (Saturday). It will focus on deepening our understanding of our 3 centers of intelligence: head, heart, and body. It is an effective tool to help teams do that hard work of growing in self-awareness. For those of you who may be interested in using this with other staff or in teams you are a part of it is a GREAT opportunity to pique interest. Leslie is a very skilled facilitator and really opens-up some things around how we see the world, how our patterned responses and reactions typically overuse one of our centers of intelligence (head, heart, body), and how we typically underuse one of them as well. Contact Rev. April Blaine, [aprilblaine914@gmail.com](mailto:aprilblaine914@gmail.com) with your questions. Additional information and registration can be found [here](#).

### **Souper Bowl Sunday Fundraiser at Epworth UMC Columbus February 3**

The soup will be on at Epworth UMC at 5100 Karl Rd. on Sunday, February 3 at 12 noon! Come and participate in a Souper Bowl Sunday fundraiser. Menu will include a variety of soups, breads plus a dessert and a beverage. All this for only \$5.00. A collection of canned goods (especially all kinds of soup) will be held during this event. All proceeds and canned goods collected will be split between the Epworth Food Pantry (served 1,635 individuals in 493 families in 2018) and the Epworth Street Ministry (served 4,502 individuals and distributed 18.9 tons of food items in 2018).

**Martin Luther King Jr. Event at St. Luke's UMC rescheduled for February 10**

We Are the World! The second annual Festival of Spirituals and Songs in Honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on February 10, 2019, 3:00pm, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 1150 W. 5th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43212. Featuring Dr. Carren Moham, Director/Organizer and Rose Zuber, piano. Join us as professional and amateur artists come together to present a program of reflections 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.

### **Living in the Different by Rev. Elaine Sturtz**

Elaine Sturtz, shares in her book *Living in The Different*, that grief is messy, hard, painful, filled with tears and loneliness, but also includes faith, hope and love. She walks through the journey, the emotions, the changes, and hurts. Each grief is different, and grief changes our lives. We are different, and how we live and interact with others is different. The journey of grief takes different forms as we learn to live and mingle joy and sorrow together. Elaine offers hope, a hope of hope, through these passages of sorrow and loss. Hope is found in our faith in God who is love, and love never ends.

*"In Living in The Different, Reverend Sturtz sets us free to live, grieve, die and live again by pouring into us out of her experience, both deep and wide, as person, pastor, chaplain and friend. She offers what she knows in her head and heart with transparency and vulnerability."* Bishop Gregory V. Palmer, Resident Bishop of the West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church. Available [here](#). Elaine is available to local churches and districts, groups, and organizations to lead a grief seminar. Contact Elaine at 614-406-9544, [ejsturtz7@gmail.com](mailto:ejsturtz7@gmail.com)

### **Just. Be. 2019 Women's Retreat February 8 – 10**

It seems like there's never enough time – time for yourself, time for quiet, time for God. In a world of busy, how can we learn to "just be?" Learn alongside other women how we can reduce the distraction and busy-ness around us, and find a new rhythm – for life. [Registration is open now, here!](#)

Retreat Information: Friday, February 8 to Sunday, February 10, 2019 | Salt Fork Lodge, Lore City, Ohio | Cost begins at \$185 (Early Bird Pricing Until January 6), and includes lodging, food, and speaker support. Hosted by Trinity and Worthington UMCs. Grants available.

### **Racial Reconciliation Discussion February 10**

The Ohio Council of Churches is part of the initiative "Breaking the Chains of Slavery and Racial Bias" that is an effort to involve our churches on the discussion on the book and documentary titled: **African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross** (video can be obtained through Amazon). Our participation in this effort is linked to our anti-racism priority and our connection with the ACT NOW to End Racism effort of the National Council of Churches. To help with this effort, there will be a discussion on Racial Reconciliation on February 10, 2019, 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. at The Ohio State University Saxbe Auditorium, 55 W 12 Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210. The facilitator for this discussion will be OSU Law Professor Emeritus *Vincene Verdun-Cox*, an African American activist and involved member of our who has served on many committees and movements that impacted the presence and rights of historically oppressed groups. For additional information, contact: Cheryl D. Cattledge: 614-580-1064, or Dr. William Wayson: 614-873-3317

### **MTSO's Schooler Institute on Preaching: How to Preach a Dangerous Sermon February 12 and 13**

Author, scholar, and renowned preacher Frank A. Thomas will offer Schooler Institute on Preaching participants insights from his latest book, *How to Preach a Dangerous Sermon*, and upcoming book, *How*

*to Survive a Dangerous Sermon.* The Schooler Institute will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 12 and 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 13 on the MTSO campus, 3081 Columbus Pike in Delaware. Thanks to the generosity of the Schooler Family Foundation, the Schooler Institute is offered to the public without cost, as is lunch both days. Advance registration is required and available at [www.mtso.edu/schooler](http://www.mtso.edu/schooler). One continuing education unit is available for a \$25 processing fee.

### **Retired Clergy and Spouses Luncheon February 14**

Hope you will be able to attend our next Central Ohio United Methodist Retired Clergy and Spouses on February 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. at the MCL Cafeteria in the Kingsdale Shopping Center, 3154 Kingsdale Center, Upper Arlington, OH 43221. We meet every other month on the second Thursday. We look forward to Cean Wilson leading the group in February.

### **Ohio PAUMCS Applications due February 15**

Attention Church Secretaries/Administrators! The Ohio Chapter of the Professional Administrators of the United Methodist Connectional Structure (PAUMCS) invites you to consider renewing or creating a new membership in their organization. Celebrating over 27 years of service, Ohio PAUMCS is committed to their purpose of recognizing the position of the church administrator as a professional within the church. By providing leadership and educational opportunities around Ohio, the Ohio PAUMCS chapter is linking church administrators, secretaries, administrative assistants, and volunteer staff as an effective support group in local ministry. Individual membership is \$25 and a staff membership is \$40. Applications are due by February 15, 2019 to Lorri Phile, 53 Towne Commons Way, Apt. 13. Cincinnati, OH 45215. If you have any questions, please email [office@cliftonumc.com](mailto:office@cliftonumc.com).

### **Winter Youth Lock-In 2019 February 15 – 16**

All CAN District youth grades 6-12 are invited to the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Winter Youth Lock-In on February 15-16. Cost will be \$20 per youth if registered by January 28, 2019. (\$25 per person after January 28<sup>th</sup>). Further event details and registration information will be sent out in the coming weeks. Mark your calendars now for this fun overnight event for your youth group! Contacts: Jessica Cavinee (Linworth UMC) [jcavinee@linworthumc.org](mailto:jcavinee@linworthumc.org) and Erin Kendall (King Avenue UMC) [erin@kingave.org](mailto:erin@kingave.org).

### **Organ Guild February Fanfare February 16**

The Columbus Ohio Chapter of the American Guild of Organists Invites you to *February Fanfare* on Saturday, February 16. The Columbus Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is sponsoring a one-day workshop for all area church musicians with classes for choir directors, singers, pianists, and organists. This event takes place on Saturday, February 16, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2151 Dorset Road, Columbus, OH, 43221. Lunch will be provided. Students are also welcome to attend. For a complete schedule and registration information, please go to [www.agocolumbus.org](http://www.agocolumbus.org).

### **VIM Team Forming for Costa Rica**

For a number of years there have been mission teams formed to serve in Nicaragua. Nicaragua has now become too dangerous, so an alternative mission site has been developed in Costa Rica. The next team to Costa Rica is scheduled for June 18-26, 2019. This team will work on potential projects supporting a Costa Rican Methodist church, a home building or church building ministry and other projects. The cost per person is \$1,600 with a deposit of \$500. For additional information and an application, please contact Jack Reif at [jack.reif34@gmail.com](mailto:jack.reif34@gmail.com). **Applications with deposits are due before March 1,**

**2019.** This new ministry in Costa Rica promises to be important in building Christian relationships and in increasing personal Christian development. I hope you will choose to join up soon!!! Jack Reif

### **Ash Wednesday Drive-Up Ashes at Epworth March 6**

Epworth United Methodist Church, 5100 Karl Rd., will offer a drive-up observance of Ash Wednesday in their church parking lot. People are welcome to come anytime between 11:00 am- 1:00 pm on March 6 to receive ashes. There is no need to get out of your car. "Not everyone is comfortable coming to a church service or has time to do so," the Rev. Jennifer Casto said. "We want to make the love of God as evident to people as possible. Offering this holy act in a public and accessible way provides an opportunity to do so."

### **Spirit and Truth Conference March 7 - 9**

Held at Stillwater UMC, Dayton, Ohio, Spirit and Truth is excited to partner together with The Pohly Center of United Theological Seminary to host our first ever Spirit & Truth Conference in 2019! Gather with other believers to get equipped, be encouraged, and worship together. Come learn from respected teachers on ways to spark a new movement of back-to-the-basics, full-time, power-infused, multiplying, Christianity! [SPEAKERS SCHEDULE LOCATION COST, MEALS & LODGING](#)

### **Upcoming Opportunities from Living Streams Flowing Water**

#### **Faith-forming Conversations**

Brenda provides spiritual direction and coaching through teleconferencing and in person. Don't let geography inhibit your next steps into the dance of God's unfolding possibilities. Email to schedule your first free conversation [brenda@livingstreamsflowingwater.com](mailto:brenda@livingstreamsflowingwater.com)

#### **Lenten Study**

THE RESOUNDING WORD: A LENTEN JOURNEY TOWARD RESURRECTION

An Online opportunity of small group and formation for the Lenten Season, 2019

March 6 – April 27, 2019, 2 CEU Credits

Contemplative listening shapes our lives from the inside of our being to our exterior actions!

Through the spiritual disciplines presented in Fryling's book *The Art of Spiritual Listening* and daily devotionals from Brenda's newest manuscript *The Resounding Word: a Lenten Retreat & Devotional Journey towards Resurrection*, participants will discover how to attune heart-listening for and to the Word of God that resounds through all generations. Participants will experience: Creative arts prayers, Guided meditation, *Audio, Visio and Lectio Divina*, Contemplative seeing and listening. Registration open at [www.livingstreamsflowingwater.com](http://www.livingstreamsflowingwater.com)

#### **Congregational Retreats**

Book Your Congregational Retreat now. Get a jump on the New Year by booking your 2019 retreat now. Rev. Brenda will travel to a location of your choosing and provide creative, contemplative, or prayerful and playful spiritual life retreats designed just for your group, [brenda@livingstreamsflowingwater.com](mailto:brenda@livingstreamsflowingwater.com).



## **Watoto Read Benefit Concert: Ernie Haase + Signature Sound April 6**

Join us for a concert by the renowned group [Ernie Haase + Signature Sound](#). All proceeds benefit Watoto Read, a non-profit dedicated to the education of refugee children in Africa. Held at Powell UMC, 825 E. Olentangy St., Powell, on Saturday, April 6 at 3:00 pm. Tickets available at [www.watotoread.com/concert](http://www.watotoread.com/concert), or contact Claudine Leary, 304-612-4168.

**Clergy Renewal Scholarships** available at Lakeside. Deadline to apply is February 2. [Application.](#)

**UMC Summer Camp Registration** is now open. Learn more [here](#).



## **Interns Needed for Summer Impact at Hyde Park Community Church**

Do you know a college aged young adult that wants to make an IMPACT over the summer? Please let them know about a summer internship opportunity in Cincinnati, Ohio! Summer Impact, a ministry of Hyde Park Community UMC, is looking to hire 4 interns. As a way to deepen their love and understanding of God while exploring God's call on their lives, interns will lead groups in serving, worship, and reflection. This internship will not only include making an impact in Cincinnati but also leading a mission trip to Tijuana, Mexico. The link has more information and an online application. Thanks for help me get the word out! Applications are due **February 11, 2019**.

<http://hydeparkchurch.org/summer-impact-internship/>

## **YOUTH 2019: Love Well Conference July 10 - 14**

This is a once in a quadrennium opportunity for youth to gather with other United Methodists to worship, study, be in mission, and hear and live more fully into their call. Registration for this event is open! <http://youth2019.com/> If you'd like more information or have youth who'd like to attend contact Rebecca Hug, [rhug@wocumc.org](mailto:rhug@wocumc.org).

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## **Classifieds**

### **Help Wanted**

[Part-time Chaplain, Friendship Village of Columbus](#)

[Accompanist, Summit UMC](#)

[Senior Director of Development, United Theological Seminary](#)



[Part-time Music Ministry Director, Powell UMC](#)

[Children's Coordinator, Short North Church](#)

[Nursery Coordinator, Short North Church](#)

[Church Band/Worship Leader, Sunbury UMC](#)

[Part-time Administrative Coordinator, Lewis Center UMC](#)