



New this week: Denman Award nominations sought; Spring Fling at Church of the Messiah; Finance Manager needed at North Broadway UMC; “When Kids Come Out” offered at Worthington UMC; Urban Way of the Cross on Good Friday; Seminary Hill Farms offering shares of fresh produce; MTSO Offers workshop to help congregations heal wounds around human sexuality; All in Community Reentry COPE Simulation at Annual Conference; 2017 All People Conference: Rise Up... and Build! registration now open;

News, Trainings and Events

Denman Award Nominations Sought

The West Ohio Annual Conference is now accepting nominations for **The Harry Denman Evangelism Award** for Clergy, Lay, and Youth. The Harry Denman Evangelism Awards honor United Methodists in each Annual Conference whose exceptional ministry of evangelism – expressed in Word (what), Sign (why), and Deed (how), that brings people into a life transforming relationship with Jesus Christ. Each year Annual Conferences join The Foundation for Evangelism to recognize one youth, one clergy, and one lay person in their conference. To nominate someone print the [attached nomination form](#), complete, and return to the West Ohio Conference, attn: Grace Gerber by May 1, 2017 to be considered for the 2017 awards.

Seminary Hill Farm offers new Community Supported Agriculture options for 2017

Central Ohio fresh-food lovers will enjoy new food and location options for participation in community-supported agriculture through Methodist Theological School in Ohio’s Seminary Hill Farm. Registration is now open for 2017 CSA shares, available weekly in three sessions spanning the months of May through October. This year, CSA members may choose where and when to pick up their weekly shares and will have new flexibility in assembling their weekly shares in 2017. Information and online registration are available at www.seminaryhillfarm.org.

Great Night Out with Mark Cable April 8

Everyone is Welcome! Great Night Out with Mark Cable, guitarist and comedian, on April 8 at 7 p.m. at Church of the Messiah, 51 N. State St., Westerville. Suggested donation \$10/person, at the door. Come on out for a night of fun and laughter, and some tasty desserts! Child Care available. Please email kcurrier@messiahumc.net with reservation number and be sure to include whether you need child care or not. [INFORMATION](#)

Urban Way of the Cross April 14

The Church for All People and Livingston UMC are hosting an Urban Way of the Cross on Good Friday, April 14 at 10:30 am. This is an opportunity to recognize places where Christ is being crucified today and where people are at work to help carry the cross beam.
<https://www.facebook.com/events/180921929079524/>

PAUMCS Spring Conference April 18

The Professional Association of UMC Secretaries spring conference will be held on April 18 at Oak Chapel UMC in Wooster, Ohio. Speakers include WOC Assoc. Dir. Of the Council on Development Rev. Stan Ling, and WOC Director of Communications Kay Panovec. Learn more [here](#).

UTS Hosting Spring Open House April 18

Tuesday, April 18, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm at the campus of United Theological Seminary. Learn more [here](#).

MTSO workshop offers ways for congregations to heal sexual wounds April 20

Combining her experience as a church pastor and psychologist, Karen A. McClintock will address the issue of shame in the church in a workshop at Methodist Theological School in Ohio. “Sex at Church: The Problem of Shame and the Promise of Grace” will take place from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. April 20 on the MTSO campus. McClintock will offer ways for congregations and clergy to open up safe and healing conversations, heal sexual wounds, and affirm sexual diversity. Workshop participants will: review outdated sexual morality codes from scripture and faith traditions; learn to recognize shame in their own lives and reduce shame transference in pastoral leadership; and learn to manage sexual topics at church with humor, ease and grace. Tuition for the workshop is \$30, which covers all sessions, afternoon refreshments and one-half CEU. Students may attend for free. Advance registration is required and is available at www.mtso.edu/sexatchurch.

Lay Servant Advanced Course: Pastoral Care April 21 and 22

Lay Servant Advanced Course: Go Preach April 22 and 29

Offerings of the Capitol Area North and South Districts' Board of Laity

[Go Preach Information](#) [Pastoral Care Information](#) Both classes will be held and Hebron New Life UMC

Sunday Jazz at Crossroads UMC April 23

The Franklin Heights High School Jazz Band, Findland Middle School Jazz Band, and guests will perform at the church at 3:00 pm on Sunday, April 23. 1100 S. Hague Ave., Columbus. Donations accepted to benefit the school music programs.

United Way Self Development of People Grant Orientation April 26

The United Way of Central Ohio Neighborhood Training Center is pleased to host the Self Development of People (SDOP) Grant Orientation program on April 26, 12N at our offices at 360 S. Third St., Columbus, OH. This unique grant program is for a collaborative effort of under the poverty level individuals seeking to raise their economic status or for individuals seeking social justice for themselves. This is a grant to do for themselves, quite a unique turn from most grant programs. We believe your program participants might be interested in this grant. Please attend to acquire information to share with your community. A light lunch will be provided for this noon program. Wednesday, April 26 at 12:00 pm. United Way of Central Ohio, 360 S. Third St., Columbus OH. Advance registration required, no later than April 17. Limited seating, register as soon as possible. Contact: Sharon Ware sharon.ware@uwcentralohio.org. Parking: Limited free parking sites behind United Way building with additional parking on street or the City Center Commons parking.

Jesus Scholars Explore ‘Alternative Christianities’ at First Community Church April 28 and 29

Friday, April 28, 7 – 8:30 pm and Saturday, April 29, 9:30 am - 4 pm, First Community Church

1320 Cambridge Blvd., Columbus OH 43212 614-488-0681 www.FCchurch.com/jesus-seminar Spring *Spiritual Searchers* at First Community Church are Jesus Seminar Scholars Celene Lillie and Robert J. Miller, focusing on "Alternative Christianities" from the earliest days of the Jesus movement. While the traditional Christian story suggests a steady development from Jesus to Paul and on to the Church "Fathers," over the last 150 years this story has proven false. Early Christians did not even call themselves Christian! What were these unknown Christianities like? Why were they lost? And what can we learn from texts like the Gospel of Thomas that were valued by early communities much as Christians today value the books of the New Testament? See the full weekend schedule at www.FCchurch.com/jesus-seminar.

Racial Justice Spiritual Retreat April 29

West Ohio Conference United Methodist Women are presenting a Racial Justice Spiritual Retreat featuring Key Note Speaker Reverend Karen Cook; L. Cean Wilson and Ethel Johnson with special guest Vickie Shurelds. April 29, 2017 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Check in begins at 9:30 am. At the Warehouse 839 at Hilliard UMC, 3691 Main St/ 5445 Scioto Darby Rd, Hilliard, Ohio. Registration deadline April 19, 2017. Box lunch provided, contributions accepted to cover cost of lunch. Please send your name, district, email, phone and dietary restrictions to Sylvia Kempton at kemptonss@yahoo.com

Class on Spiritual Disciplines Offered in May

Coming Up this May: A great opportunity for lay persons and clergy. Habits of the Heart is an introductory 4-week class on the spiritual disciplines. This e-Course on Spiritual Disciplines sponsored by CenterQuest Lifelong Learning Community (LLC) and Living Streams Flowing Water (www.livingstreamsflowingwater.com) Registration is now Open! [Check it out](#). Rev. Dr. Brenda Buckwell, Obl. OSB, Living Streams Flowing Water, LLC, 614.517.8115 brenda@livingstreamsflowingwater.com, www.livingstreamsflowingwater.com

"When Kids Come Out" a Four-Session Class for Parents of LGBT Children starts May 3

When a child comes out to his/her/their family, it often raises many questions for both the child and for the family. For example: What does it mean for the family when the child comes out to their parents? What does it mean for the parents' relationship to their church? What does it mean for the parents' own faith? How do parents navigate their own "coming out" after their children have come out to them? These questions are among those that will be addressed in a four-session class that will be held on Wednesday evenings from May 3 through May 24 at Worthington UMC, 600 High St., Worthington, 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Look for signs directing you to the class. The Rev. Jim Waugh, retired pastor in the West Ohio Conference, will lead the group. Jim and his wife Carol have an adult daughter Lisa who came out to them several years ago. You can contact Jim with questions at jwaugh3@mac.com. [Bulletin insert](#).

Stewardship 101 for the Smaller Church May 6

Held at Shiloh UMC, Helena, OH. [Information](#)

Fallen Comrade Ceremony – Honor the Living May 7

Veterans, members currently serving, their families and the community are welcome! This unique ceremony honors living warriors and their resulting "Soul Injuries" from military service and/or combat experiences. Family members affected by their loved ones' service are also provided a safe place to remember. Civilians are offered a meaningful way to show

support. Sunday, May 7, 2017, 3:00 – 4:30 pm at Trinity UMC, 1581 Cambridge Blvd., Columbus, Ohio, 43212 Please RSVP: <https://goo.gl/F0WkBO>. Child care will be provided. A time for fellowship will follow.

Spring Fling at Messiah UMC May 13

Church of the Messiah invites the community to a great event they are hosting in the parking lot at 74 N. State St., The Gathering Place, on Saturday, May 13 beginning at 11 am and continuing until 1 pm. Messiah's "Spring Fling" takes the place of their annual Egg Hunt and will include all kinds of free, family-friendly events like face painting, carnival games, cotton candy and other tasty food, and a Video Game Truck from **Mr. Game Room** – video party on wheels! So much fun you won't want to miss this great day in Uptown Westerville! At 1:00 we are especially excited to bring **Real Encounter** to Westerville – as seen nationally on **America's Got Talent**. Unlike anything you would usually see in Uptown Westerville, Real Encounter brings thrilling motocross and BMX Stunt Bikes to the parking lot to engage your entire family. Call us for any questions or further information at 614-882-2167 or contact Rev. Kathy Currier at kcurrier@messiahumc.net.

ERT Training in Bowling Green May 13

Basic and Recertification Trainings offered. <http://www.westohioumc.org/equip/mission-and-justice/conference/event/early-response-basic-and-recertification-training-bowling>

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

District Conference and Pre-Annual Conference Briefing May 16

The CAN District Conference and briefing on Annual Conference will be held on Tuesday, May 16 at 7:00 pm at Indian Run UMC, 6305 Brand Rd., Dublin, 43016.

Rx Riders May 20

Please plan to join us on Saturday, May 20, for the first-ever Rx Riders. All proceeds will go to purchase breathing medication and inhalers for low-income individuals and families in Franklin County. Riders can choose from a 25-mile or 50-mile trek through the bike paths of German Village and downtown Columbus. Registration is \$35 and all participants are encouraged to invite support from friends, co-workers and family. We'll give you all the tools you need to meet your own personal fundraising goal. To sign up, email melanie.charitablepharmacy@gmail.com and put "Bike Ride" in the email subject line to get started now!

Reentry COPE Simulation at Annual Conference June 5

This year at Annual Conference immerse yourself in the post-release challenges and suffering that is present in the lives of the imprisoned and their families. Join us on Monday, June 5th, at 8:00am for the Reentry COPE Simulation, a powerful learning experience you won't forget. Are you looking for a way to mobilize more of your members into authentic relationship with people impacted by incarceration and marginalization? Reentry COPE is an easy and engaging first step. This is a "must do" experience for lay leaders, mission teams, Freedom School coordinators, prison/jail ministers, and social justice advocates who want to make a greater impact in the lives touch through your church's ministries. Please Note: The Reentry COPE Simulation is open to the **first 50 people** who register and begins promptly at 8:00 am. Please be seated and ready to engage by 7:50 am. Look for registration details coming out soon! Click [here](#) to check out the Reentry COPE video.

EXPLORE Institute for High School Juniors and Seniors June 12 – 17

Do you know a high school student who would benefit from a spiritually-grounded, academically-solid week exploring God's Call for their life? Ohio Wesleyan University, in partnership with Lilly Endowment, Inc., will be holding a week-long Theology Institute for Protestant and Catholic youth who are rising high school junior and seniors. This institute is called EXPLORE: Faith, Service, and Calling and will be held June 12 – 17, 2017. A copy of the nomination form and additional information can be found at www.owu.edu/EXPLORE, or explore@owu.edu, 740-368-3091.

Camp Hope for those facing grief due to the loss of a loved one August 4 – 5

Ohio Health Hospice, Nationwide Children's Hospital Hospice, Heartland Hospice and Schoedinger Funeral Home are sponsoring Camp Hope, for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one, on August 4 and 5, 2017. Click [here](#) for more information.

2017 All People Conference: Rise Up and Build! October 21 - 23

Key Note Speakers include Bishop John R. Schol from the New Jersey Episcopal Area; Rev Junius B. Dotson, General Secretary, Discipleship Ministries; and Rev. Olu Brown, leader, author, visionary and lead Pastor at Impact Church. [Information.](#)

Classifieds

Help Wanted

[Finance Manager, North Broadway UMC](#)

[Office Administrator, Indian Run UMC](#)

[Custodian/Building Manager, Indian Run UMC](#)

[Youth Pastor, Indian Run UMC](#)

[Part-time Office Manager, Bellpoint UMC](#)

[Children's Ministry Director, Hilliard UMC](#)

[Intern – Youth group and Music/Worship leader, Chatham UMC](#)

[Young Adult Ministry Coordinator, Bethel International UMC](#)

[Director of Worship \(Non-traditional\), Trinity UMC](#)

[Director of Children's Ministry, Trinity UMC](#)