



Western Lakes District

News from The United Methodist Church

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

WLD Important Information

Deadline to Register for The West Ohio Conference Special Called Annual Conference is Sunday, October 1st

Paragraph 603.5 of The 2016 Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church outlines the provisions by which a Special Session of the Annual Conference may be called “by the bishop with concurrence of three-fourths of the district superintendents.”

Registration for this special Annual Conference will end on October 1st, and **all clergy members, lay members and guests must register.**

Because electronic voting devices will be used and we must order those ahead of Annual Conference, **pre-registration will be required so that we can ensure we have enough voting devices available. You must pre-register in order to vote at Annual Conference.** Only those that register will receive devices to vote.

We will be electing delegates for Jurisdictional Conference, and more information about how to serve as a delegate can be found [here](#).

[Click Here For More Details and The Registration Page Link](#)

Western Lakes District Charge Conferences

Regional charge conferences are coming up in November. This is always an important time together as we elect church officers, establish compensation packages, and review our membership rolls. Our plan is to hold regional gatherings by county circuits on November 12 and 19.

Please sign up for your church's regional conference [here](#).

You may go ahead and have your committee meetings and begin collecting your information now. The forms needed for charge conferences can be found below. The website is not ready for online entry yet, but will be very soon.

[Charge Conference complete worksheet packet](#)

[Charge Conference complete worksheet packet - Word Doc](#)

[2024 Minimum Salary guide](#)

[Trustee Legal & Property Report](#) - if not completed in June

[Parsonage Inspection Report](#) - if not completed in June

HealthFlex Update From Conference Benefits Office

The collaboration between the West Ohio Board of Pension and Health and Wespeth Benefits and Investment has made the HealthFlex program increasingly popular. This program provides comprehensive health and wellness solutions for WOC-eligible active clergy (non-retired), conference/district employees, and their families.

To stay current on *HealthFlex*, [click here](#).

News and Updates:

· The *HealthFlex* Introduction Sessions, held September 11 to 14, were well-attended and received an overwhelming response from more than 120 participants who attended in person and virtually. We extend our gratitude to everyone who participated. Don't forget to visit the webpage for frequently asked questions.

· The *ALEX* Benefits Counselor is up and running for you to test before enrolling into HealthFlex! Click [Medical - ALEX \(myalex.com\)](#) to estimate costs, explore your benefit options, and contribute to health accounts (i.e., HSA, FSA, DCFSA).

[Read More](#)



2024 Go Grant Applications Are Due October 1st

Go Grants are for passionate individuals and churches eager to explore uncharted territory. We encourage everyone, regardless

of background or experience, to apply. Diversity is key to inspiring fresh perspectives, and we are excited to help nurture churches in their ministry.

Innovative ideas will be considered in the following 7 categories:

- Family Ministries [a ministry supporting families, children, youth, or college aged leaders]
- Emerging Gen Leaders [a ministry led by children, youth, or college aged leaders]
- Inclusion [a ministry focused on hospitality; intentionally including people who are often overlooked]
- Social Transformation [a ministry focused on changing/alleviating institutionalized norms]
- Community Engagement [a ministry focused on cultivating long-term relationships within your community]

Fresh Expressions/GHX [a new expression of church happening beyond the building]

- Building Bridges [a building enhancement to support better accessibility and connection for those outside of the church building ie. signage, handicap accessibility, media enhancements]

Deadline to submit applications via our [online application](#) is October 1, 2023.

*All Go Grants recipients will be invited and celebrated at Bishop's Go Awards on February 4, 2024

Events



It is Moving Day in West Liberty - Friday, Oct 6th

We have a new pastor at West Liberty UMC and he could use a little help moving. This would be a great way to welcome Pastor Rod to the area. We are looking for some people to meet at the parsonage at 10am on Friday, October 6th to help Pastor Rod move in. The parsonage is located at 206 N. Taylor St. in West Liberty. Please let Cortney know if you are able to help. creed@wocumc.org

Fall UMCOR Kit Collection for Midwest Mission

After a year that saw record-breaking disasters occurring around the world, Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC) – our North Central Jurisdiction UMCOR supply depot – needs our help replenishing their stock of hygiene and menstrual hygiene kits. From **Oct 16 - Nov 10**, hygiene and menstrual hygiene kits can be dropped off at the following locations, to then be picked up by MMDC:

Chillicothe Trinity UMC, 24 S Mulberry St, Chillicothe (South/Southeast)

Drop-off hours: Mon-Thurs, 9am-3pm

Contact Trish Barber at 740-412-1529 for questions or to make other arrangements.

Monroe UMC, 206 East Ave, Monroe (Southwest)

Drop-off hours: Tues-Thurs, 10am-2pm

Contact Edna Miller at 513-539-7290 for questions or to make other arrangements.

Lima Trinity UMC, 301 W Market St, Lima (West/Northwest)

Drop-off hours: Mon-Fri, 8am-3pm

Contact Rev. Jim Nathan at 419-591-8148 for questions or to make other arrangements.

West Ohio Conference Center, 32 Wesley Blvd, Worthington (Central)

Drop-off hours: Mon, Weds, Thurs, 10am-4pm

Contact Mariellyn Grace at 380-223-9212 for questions or to make other arrangements.

Instructions for how to make hygiene and menstrual hygiene kits can be found here: <https://umcmmission.org/relief-supplies/> Cleaning kits (flood buckets) will also be accepted at the drop-off locations.

For more information, contact Mariellyn Grace at mgrace@wocumc.org.



SCHOOL OF NURSING
Indiana University



ADVANCE CARE PLANNING WORKSHOP

*Learn how to talk to your loved ones about your
values, goals, and preferences for future medical care*

Pick Your Day
September 23
October 21
November 18

Saturday
1-4pm



Registration
ruth.myers@adaumc.org
or (419) 634-4626

**Childcare available
for those registered**

*Hosted by Ada First United Methodist Church
301 N. Main St., Ada, OH 45810*

Please join us! Ada First United Methodist Church will host an Advance Care Planning Workshop facilitated by Deacon Ruth Myers for her doctoral nursing degree as faith community outreach. The workshop involves viewing video scenarios and answering questions relating to choices at the end of life. This workshop is designed for adults at any age or stage of health and is free and open to the public. You're invited to one of these workshops and can come alone or bring family or loved ones. Please register by scanning the QR code above or contact Ruth Myers or the church office, as listed in the information above.

Churches Invited to Partner with UM Dollars For Scholars Program to Send Students to College

The United Methodist Higher Education Foundation's UM Dollars for Scholars program matches a church's sponsoring scholarship for a total of up to \$4,000!

[Nashville, TN – September 27, 2023] The United Methodist Higher Education Foundation's UM Dollars for Scholars program matches a church's sponsoring \$1,000 scholarship for a total of up to \$4,000! Pastors and church leaders, plan now to partner with UMHEF to make it more affordable for your Methodist students to attend UM-related colleges, universities, and seminaries next school year. Matches are made possible by UMHEF as well as participating UM-related schools and UM conference foundations.



UMHEF is a private non-profit organization that aims to make it financially possible for qualified students to attend UM-related institutions of higher education. The foundation awards \$2+ million in scholarships annually. For full details, please visit <https://umhef.org/umdfs>.



Free Book Discussion Group

In My Grandmother's House: Black Women, Faith, and the Stories we Inherit by Yolanda Pierce is a masterful work of storytelling, a gift of God's presence, and a vision of hope.

Here is what people are saying about the book:

" Dr. Yolanda Pierce gives us the gift of inviting us into the faith of her grandmother, and so many others who have gone before. For those of us born entrenched in white patriarchal Christianity, this gift is profound. In her poetic, theologically rich reflections on

growing up in the Black church, Dr. Pierce invited our gaze to honor the women who have upheld a profound yet overlooked aspect of American Christianity. This is a wonderful introduction to womanist theological that is life-giving and nurturing even as it invites constant reflection on the part of the reader." ~ D.L. Mayfield, author of The Myth of the American Dream and Assimilate or God Home.

When: Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm ET

Dates: Beginning October 17, 2023 for 6 weeks. (Oct. 17, 24,31, Nov. 7,14, 21)

Where: Via zoom

Please register through the Living Streams Flowing Water web site using the Contact Brenda form. Registration is now open. <https://livingstreamsflowingwater.com/contact/>
Please, purchase your own book.

2023-2024 Appointments

The list of pastoral appointments beginning July 1, 2023 can be accessed [clicking here](#).

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

[Unsubscribe miamivalley@wocumc.org](#)
[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by westernlakes@wocumc.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!