



# Great Miami River District

*News from The United Methodist Church*

**News and Notes :: October 2, 2024**

## Hurricane Helene: How to Donate & Assist

Things you can do to support those affected by Hurricane Helene: PRAY, GIVE, PAUSE. Please PRAY for those affected by the recent hurricane and the first responders providing care, safety, and immediate needs. You may GIVE to [UMCOR - United Methodist Committee On Relief](#) and finally, PAUSE: do not self-deploy to the area. Due to the nature and magnitude of this disaster, it will take months, maybe even years to recover. Just so you know, you will be needed. Just not yet. We will provide more updates as they become available. [Click here to donate.](#)

**100% with**



## Springfield Prayer Gathering

Join Bishop Hee-Soo Jung and Western Lakes District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jim Wilson for a time of Prayer, Praise, and Community for the people of Springfield.

The event will be held on Friday, October 11th at noon at [Springfield Grace United Methodist Church](#) at 1401 W. Main Street, Springfield, 45504.

A time of fellowship will be held immediately following the service. Appetizers, desserts and beverages will be provided. All are welcome.

The "Love Your Neighbor: Haitian Assistance Fund," which will directly assist Haitian immigrants in Clark County, is now accepting contributions. Monetary gifts may be sent to: Love Your Neighbor: Haitian Assistance Fund, c/o Springfield High Street UMC, 230 E. High Street, Springfield, Ohio 45505.

Read the related United Methodist News Story: [Church leaders stand with Haitian neighbors.](#)



## Installation Service For Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

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.



## Hope Collective Chartering Celebration

On Sunday, October 13, West Ohio will charter our newest United Methodist Church! Hope Collective's chartering celebration will take place at Royalty Banquet Hall, 1914 Needmore Rd in Dayton, at 10am. Bishop Jung will bring the message and the first 200 people will receive a free t-shirt, courtesy of United Methodist Communications.



Hope Collective in the Oregon District of Dayton has become an influential voice with a vision to develop an inclusive community where people discover sacred worth and calling. Please keep Pastor Jon Morgan and congregation in your prayers as they lead forward in love.

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## It's Back! Super Serve Saturday - October 19

After a summer-long hiatus, Super Serve Saturday returns on Saturday, October 19! You may remember the partnership between Hyde Park Community and the District office to offer monthly community serve opportunities - a way for families, multiple generations, small groups, youth groups, friends and people of all backgrounds to put their faith into action by serving in the community. And, there's something for every age and ability - no superpowers necessary - just a willing, humble and flexible spirit and heart for all.



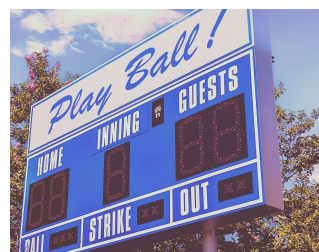
On October 19 there are 4 projects to choose from with 3 different organizations in Hamilton County. [Click here to sign up.](#)

We are hoping to expand the reach of this initiative to all counties in the Great Miami River District. If you know of any organizations who may want to participate, please contact Nancy at [nnewton@wocumc.org](mailto:nnewton@wocumc.org) or 513.421.2057.

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## Keeping Score: Measuring What Matters

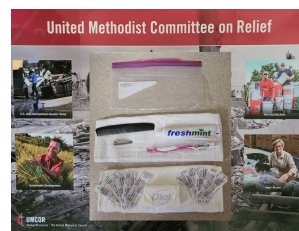
A scoreboard never lies. Whether in basketball, baseball or football, it succinctly displays the outcome of the game. Similarly, it is essential for a church to have metrics that provide an accurate reflection of progress and impact. Without honest assessments, it's challenging to gauge whether a church is winning or not. [Read more from Dave Ferguson, Outreach Magazine...](#)



## 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 district office as well as the following locations... [continue reading](#). You can also make a monetary donation to UMCOR (Advance #901440) for supplies by [clicking here](#).



## Engage Polarization with Kindness

How can church leaders address polarization? The

Lewis Center for Church Leadership recently sat down with Cathy Bien, Director of PR, Media and Special Projects at Church of the Resurrection about this year's Campaign for Kindness and how church leaders can lead out of their faith to engage polarization in their communities with kindness. Click the picture to watch the video or [here](#) for the audio and print versions.



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## Ohio Methodist Historical Society Annual Convocation, October 11-12

You're invited to the 185th Convocation and Annual meeting of the Ohio Methodist Historical Society (OMHS). Two days of activities will be hosted by the First United Methodist Church of Springboro.



Folks from all branches of Methodism and the Wesleyan tradition are welcome as well as those interested in the history of Ohio and the underground railroad. [Click here](#) to learn more and register.

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## United Women in Faith Event

*The West Ohio Conference's* Annual Celebration is happening on October 12 at the Confluence Boat House in Columbus. All women in our district and across the conference are invited to this year's event, "Down to the River to Pray." Rev. Karen Cook, Director of Connectional Ministries for West Ohio, will be your keynote speaker. Included in your \$25 cost is a lovely brunch of eggs, bacon, sausage, fresh fruit, potatoes, muffins and beverages. Questions? contact Paula Nourse, UWF President for West Ohio at [kinder6595@hotmail.com](mailto:kinder6595@hotmail.com) or 614.326.9062. [Download the registration](#) and sign up by September 27.



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## GRANT FUNDING

### 2025 Great Miami River District Grants *Deadline to apply is this Friday!*

Through the faithful generosity and long-term vision of those who gave toward the Mission Foundation endowment, our district has the great blessing of being able to offer grant funds to local churches in the Great Miami River District.



Local Church Grants fund ministries and projects that help local churches reach people more effectively with the healing love and grace of Jesus Christ. Grant funding is available for New and Emerging Ministries, Leadership & Discipleship Ministry, Social Justice Ministry, Ministry with Young People, and Outreach Ministry. These annual grants are distributed quarterly.

**Application deadline is October 4. [Application](#)**

Applications are also available on our website: [District Grants | West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church \(westohioumc.org\)](#).

Questions? Contact Rev. Justin Fuhrmann, Strategy Committee Chair at [jfuhrma@hotmail.com](mailto:jfuhrma@hotmail.com).

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## 2025 Office of Fresh Starts & New Beginnings Go! Grants





**Go Grants!** resource new innovative ministry ideas that help West Ohio UMC churches develop relationships beyond the walls of our buildings and within our communities, to make new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

West Ohio wants to help your dreams come alive! Need ideas? [Click here to download the Ideation Guide](#). Or, try one of their whiteboard Zoom sessions, Wednesdays at noon. Click the date to register: [9/25/24](#) | [10.2.24](#) | [10/9/24](#).

**Applications are available now through October 15, 2024** [Click here](#) for more information and the applications.

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## The General Board of Church and Society (GBCS) Grants



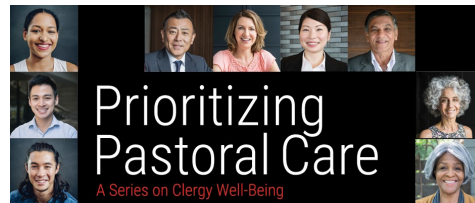
Churches are encouraged to apply for a Church and Society grant between now and October 31. They provide grants ranging from \$2000-\$5000 in the following categories:

- **Peace with Justice Grants** support programs and projects that witness to God's demands for a faithful, just, disarmed, and secure world.
- **Ethnic Local Church Grants** focus on the self-identified needs of ethnic local churches and persons as they address one or more chronic social issues or concerns.
- **Human Relations Day Grants** support advocacy and community engagement aimed at uplifting the right of all God's children to realize their potential in right relationship with one another.

To learn more and apply [click here](#).

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### 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.

You're invited to two 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 these sessions:

- October 24, 1-2pm Central – Physical and Emotional Well-Being [Register Now](#)
- November 7, 1-2pm Central – Spiritual and Social Well-Being [Register Now](#)

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## Free Foundation Educational Opportunities

### Stewardship in the Extraordinary Church

The United Methodist Foundation of West Ohio invites you to join them via zoom on October 22 at 6pm for a presentation from Horizons Stewardship CEO, Joe Park, as he reprises his Generosity Summit Session on Stewardship approaches for extraordinary churches. To access the zoom link, click here: [Join Zoom Meeting](#).



### Leaving a Lasting Legacy

Join Foundation Executive Director and Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy (CAP®), Susan Black, as she helps unravel the mystery of planned giving for your congregation. All churches and individual members are encouraged to join this legacy giving presentation via zoom on November 10 at 6pm. The zoom link will be available here: [UMWFO Program Calendar](#).

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### Ministry Monday is October 28

The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction with The Four Seven Ministries have created a beautiful opportunity for families to experience the Christmas holiday with their incarcerated loved ones. All In Community is working alongside to help this year. Lots of volunteers are needed to make the experiences successful!



[Sign up](#) for the October 28 Ministry Monday to hear details about how to make Christmas magical for those who are often forgotten and left out of holiday celebrations.

Questions? Contact [Jami Nathan](#), AIC Ministries Coordinator, at 419.591.9717.

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### 2024 Preaching Seminar: Preaching in the Purple Zone October 9-10, 2024 Attend In-Person or Online

Red state/blue state politics threaten the foundations of our democracy and tear the fabric of our churches. Congregations and church leaders need new perspectives and insights for navigating this difficult time. At the 2024 Preaching Seminar, featured guest Rev. Dr. Leah D. Schade will teach from her book *Preaching in the Purple Zone: Ministry in the Red-Blue Divide* (2019). This event will equip preachers with a range of tools to proclaim the Gospel across political divides with integrity, boldness, intentionality, and care. Learn more and register at [united.edu/preaching-seminar](https://united.edu/preaching-seminar).



### Early Response Team Training & Recertification November 9, 2024 - Hocking River District Office

The Basic ERT Class is being offered on November 9. This 8 hour class will teach you how to assist survivors of natural disasters in their time of need. You will learn how to provide a Christian presence while taking steps to prevent further damage to the family's personal property; this may include tarping, debris removal, cleaning out flooded homes, etc. FEMA recognizes this training to enter a disaster scene.



The recertification class will take place during the morning session and is only for those who have completed the basic course and are within one year of the date their badge expired. Cost is \$40 for the basic class; \$35 for recertification. The deadline to register is Monday, November 4. [Click here to learn more/register](#).

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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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## Lay Servant Ministries Classes

Lay Ministry is the work of mission or ministry to which each believer is called. As Christians we are all called to this ministry or priesthood – not just clergy. Each of us has a responsibility to proclaim the Good News and reach out to others in love.



**Leading Worship:** Friday, October 18 from 6:30-9pm (Zoom) and Saturday, October 19 from 8:30am-5pm (in person only at Parkview UMC in Columbus). Sponsored by the Olentangy River District. [Register](#)

**Living our United Methodist Beliefs (UM Heritage):** November 3, 5, 7, 10, and 14 on Zoom only. Registration opens August 30. Sponsored by the Olentangy River District. Registration opens September 27.

**A reminder:** Even if you have completed the Basic Course and all of the Core Courses, you need to take an Advanced Course every 3 years as part of maintaining your certification. Not sure what you need next? Contact Glen Lash, Chair, GMD Lay Servant Ministries Committee at [grlash1015@gmail.com](mailto:grlash1015@gmail.com).

## LOCAL CHURCH AND MINISTRY PARTNER EVENTS



### Mosaic UMC

Fall Fest  
October 10

Click [here](#) for more details



### Brecon UMC

Life Line Screening  
October 14

Click [here](#) for more details



### Epiphany UMC

National Youth Ministry Training Day  
October 19

Click [here](#) for more details



### Clifton UMC

Onward: A Celebration of LGBTQ Inclusion  
October 20

Click [here](#) for more details

## CLASSIFIEDS

[Click here](#) to view/respond to the ads below  
[Click here](#) to submit your own classified ad



### Employment

Administrative Assistant - *Church of the Saviour UMC*  
Building Administrator - *Church of the Saviour UMC*  
Contemporary Worship Leader - *Christ UMC, Kettering*  
Social Media Coordinator - *Christ UMC, Middletown*  
Secretary - *Xenia Evangelical UMC*  
Pianist - *Xenia Evangelical UMC*  
Organist/Keyboardist - *Belmont UMC*  
Custodial & Facilities Maintenance Supervisor - *Shiloh UMC*  
Choir Director - *Brookville Community UMC*  
Associate Pastor of Community Outreach - *Armstrong Chapel UMC*

### Free Items

Cushioned chairs and chair caddy - *Normandy UMC*

## A Call to Prayer



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

**Rev. Dr. Mark Dove** who passed away on September 21, 2024, at the age of 91. He was a retired elder in the West Ohio Conference. He served these congregations during his time in active ministry: Maineville, Westwood, Friendship, Washington Courthouse Grace, and Epworth. He was then appointed as Superintendent of the Springfield District and later finished his ministry career at Linworth UMC. [Obituary](#). A Memorial Service will be held at Friendship Village of Dublin (6000 Riverside Dr, Dublin) October 11, 2024 at 3pm. Memorial contributions are suggested to [Friendship Village](#).

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Notes

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