



February News & Updates

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A MESSAGE FROM CALVIN

To the Shawnee Valley District Laity and Clergy, Church Family and Friends



Just like that, we are one month into the year of 2022. Time waits for no one. And when time is gone, we can not get that time back. That is why Hebrews 11:1 says, **now faith is**. Faith is always Now, not later on, or tomorrow, but now. If we are alive, we can get more time, but the time lost can never be regained.

My prayer and vision for our district for the remaining year and beyond is to 1) make our time with God our number one priority and to share our faith with family and others and 2) to develop godly and Spirit-led leaders so that we can make disciples for Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

As The United Methodist Church, we are a connectional denomination. And as a local church we are committed to connectional/missional giving. (Apportionments). Connectional/missional giving is as simple as people coming together, combining their money to accomplish something bigger than themselves. This is accomplished through our connectional/missional gifts of our time, service, talents, witness, and finances. **(Connectional Giving West Ohio of the United Methodist Church)**

As your District Superintendent of the Shawnee Valley, I pray and solicit your help and support in connectional/missional giving toward the Shawnee Valley District and the West Ohio Annual Conference. (Apportionments). No one church has the same story when it comes to their current local church financial ability.

However, I believe that all of us through the leading of the Holy Spirit and our willingness to cooperate with the Spirit can do something. Because God will not put more on any one person or church than we can bear.

When we choose to step out in faith in one portion of our lives, God will show up in other portions of our lives.

In all categories of life - senior citizens, fixed income, medium, or large income - the scripture calls for all believers to give 10% plus an offering back to the mission and ministry of God. An offering can be anything we give after we paid/sowed our tithes. **Jesus said give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and give to God what belongs to God.**

Whatever issues the church is now facing, God knows, and in due season God will work it out in His time and God does not need our help. So let God be God and let us continue to trust and take Him at His word. Jesus said, *"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away."* Matthew 24:35

Second Chronicles 20:15-17 God reminds us that the battle (*The issues we are currently facing*) is not ours but the Lord. Verse seventeen **says take our position in the Lord and see the salvation of God.** God does not need us to help him, He wants us to be faithful because He is faithful.

We must imitate Jesus when He said to the woman caught in adultery, **...I do not accuse you, but go and sin no more.**..God will judge all of us in His time...Also, the scripture says that as you judge others you will be judged the same way. (Matthew 7:1-5)

As believers in Christ Jesus our Lord, we are called the "Body of Christ." And as a denomination we are called the United Methodist Church with our mission to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation (Conversion) of the world. It is not up to us to choose what part of our spiritual vows we would keep or what part of our connectional vows that we will support.

In other words, in due season, we will reap what we sow. As with our vows and commitment as The United Methodist Church and its policy, when we do not approve of some of its practices and behaviors. **Again** the scriptures remind us in II Chronicles 20:15-17 for **the battle is not yours of mine, its' the Lord.** God does not need us to fight His battle for Him.

Remember that it was over 430 years that the Lord waited to deliver the children of Israel out of bondage. Let us continue to put our trust in the Lord and be patient and see the salvation of the Lord.

Remember with me in Genesis how Abram and Sari tried to help God when it came time of bearing children, in Genesis 16, what was the result of them helping God?

Again, I pray and solicit your support in our District and Conference missional/connectional giving. In God's on time, and due season, God will work everything out. Let us trust God when he said every word that I speak will be fulfilled.

Proverbs chapter 3 says, ...trust in the Lord and lean not to our own understanding and in all of our ways acknowledge Him and he will direct our paths.

With God as my guide, I am your co-worker with Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior.

Calvin Alston, Jr

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT DAY February 26 - Virtual Only



Foothills and Shawnee Valley Districts:

Date: Saturday, February 26, 2022

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

VIRTUAL ONLY

Keynote: "Disciple-Making Reset: Offering HOPE in a Complex World"
Rev. Dr. Tim Bias, District Superintendent of Capitol Area North and South

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

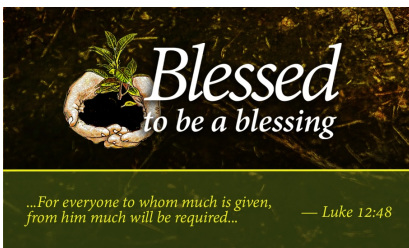
(If you already registered for the 1/22 session, you do not have to re-register)

The Zoom Link will be emailed shortly before the session.

The other sessions initially planned for the day will be recorded and available online in March.

For more information, please contact the district offices

DISTRICT VIRTUAL REVIVAL
MARCH 19
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.



Join us for the Second Annual Virtual Revival on Saturday, March 19 at Noon.

Please join District Superintendent Calvin Alston, Jr in a VIRTUAL time of worship, prayer and praise as well as discussions around **BECOMING BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING**.

Guest speakers will be **Bishop Gregory V Palmer**, West Ohio Resident Bishop and **Rev. Tim Roth**, who serves Cornerstone UMC in Portsmouth.

The event will be held on the ZOOM platform and registration will be required .
(registration will open February 15)

DISTRICT LENTEN CHALLENGE USING "THE MALACHI PROJECT"



More Blessings To Follow: Malachi 3:10

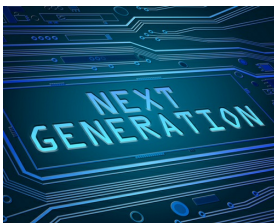
Let us know if your church is participating!

Now is your chance to plan a fun and different fund drive to raise mission dollars—it is called *The Malachi Project*. The District Leadership Team has created an opportunity for all the Shawnee Valley District congregations to initiate a Malachi Project during Lent, with the offering being collected on Easter morning.

The mission target is to be determined by each congregation—but we suggest it be directed toward a local mission/ministry as either seed a new effort or support an ongoing work in the congregation's ministry area. Regardless, each congregation chooses how the project receipts will be used. *There is no "District" goal—each congregation determines their own goal* Then, the week after Easter we ask that each participating congregation call or email the District Office to report their project total. The combined total will reported in the May newsletter. Be as conservative or faithfully aggressive as you like setting your goals—the goal is not the key! **The key is learning how effective and fun a Malachi Project can be for all involved: even the children.**

"What is a Malachi Project?" you ask. [\(READ MORE\)](#)

NEXT GENERATION YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES



Greetings friends,

As we move into a New Year it is time to begin focusing on opportunities available to our youth in the coming months. I hope you can leverage these events to grow your church and expand the Kingdom for Christ.

Winter Jam

It has been a while since Winter Jam has been accessible to our youth, so this year we would love to help you take some kids to this life changing event. If you would like to skip the line, make sure you have a seat and not stand in the cold forever we will partner on the Jam Nation Tickets. **Get a group of 10 or more and we will scholarship \$17 of each ticket for the March 5th event in Cincinnati.** Jam Nation guarantees a seat, free early admission, a commemorative lanyard and a discount at the merchandise counter.

Church Camp

It is time to begin thinking about summer camps for your children, youth, and families. As in years past the district will be participating in the 1/3s for anyone wanting to attend a West Ohio Church camp. What is the 1/3s? This is where we as a district, your church, and the individual share the cost of church camp. It creates a connection to a local faith community, the district to that community and puts value in the game for the participant. In the event you have an individual that would love to participate but can in no way afford to do so please email the district (dhall@wocumc.org) or me (birdiesnsermons@gmail.com), we will figure it out. Please do not let funding deter participation in summer church camp. Link to West Ohio Summer Camps: <https://www.westohiocamps.org/sites/default/files/camp/documents/pdf/page/2021-summer-camp-guide.pdf>

Summer Mission Experience

This summer we once again will try to offer an in-house mission experience for the youth of our district. This will be a works project in Lawrence County Ohio; details are in process now. However participation for this will be very low cost. We are looking at a Sunday afternoon to Wednesday time frame. June 26th-28th It doesn't matter if you have one child or several, this is an experience that will change their lives with the Spirit of Christ. Look for more info soon!

Yours in Christ,
Todd Wallace- NexGen Coordinator
740-352-6689 birdiesnsermons@gmail.com

UPCOMING TRAINING & SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

[IN-PERSON EARLY RESPONSE TEAM BASIC AND RECERTIFICATION TRAINING - FEBRUARY 12](#)

[LAITY DISCERNMENT RETREAT - February 8, 15 & March 29](#)

DISTRICT CLASSIFIEDS

- [Bulletin Stock](#)
- [Youth Ministries Coordinator](#)



[Clergy Gathering Set For February 28](#)

[Welch Named Director Of Human Resources And Benefits For West Ohio](#)

[New All In Community Series Focuses on Doing Justice](#)

[What Is GHX? GHX Is A Greenhouse Expressions](#)

[Earthkeepers Training Sessions Set for Spring, Summer, 2022](#)

[Registration Now Open for Mexico VIM Teams](#)

[West Ohio Seeks Benefits And Human Resource Generalist](#)

GET THE MOST RECENT WEST OHIO NEWSNET [HERE](#)

CLICK [HERE](#) TO BE DIRECTED TO THE WEST OHION CONFERENCE'S HOMEPAGE FOR OTHER NEWS

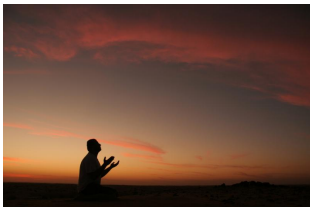
RESOURCES & UPDATES



ANNUAL REPORTING DUE DATES

- Last Day to receive 2021 Apportionments - **January 10, 2022**
- Year-End Statistical Report - **March 18, 2022**
- Parsonage Inspection - **April 30** or with Charge Conference Reports
- Trustee Legal & Property Report - **April 30** or with Charge Conference Reports
- Fund Balance Report - **April 30**
- Clergy Evaluation - **July 1, 2021**
- Local Church Charge Conferences held in October; Final Date to Enter Data - **December 1**

- [SAFE SANCTUARIES RESOURCES](#)
- [ONLINE GIVING OPTION THROUGH WEST OHIO CONFERENCE](#)
- [CLICK HERE TO UPDATE YOUR CHURCH PROFILE](#)
- [SHAWNEE VALLEY DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN](#)
 - [FALL, 2021 NEWSLETTER](#)
- [JACKSON AREA MINISTRIES](#)
 - [November Newsletter](#)
- [UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION OF WEST OHIO](#)
- [ALL IN COMMUNITY EQUIPPING EVENTS](#)
- [LIGHT THE WAY](#)
- [2021 GENERAL CONFERENCE POSTPONED TO 2022](#)
- [DISABILITY AUDIT FOR YOUR CHURCH BUILDING](#)



CONTINUING OUR PRAYER MINISTRY

It has been a standing custom to list several churches each month to lift in prayer. Please add these churches and their pastors to your prayer lists this month. Pray for the congregation, the pastor, their ministries and the communities they serve.

- **Week of January 30**
 - Browns Chapel UMC, Pastor Vera Welker
 - Center UMC, Pastor Sam Mincey
 - Chesapeake UMC, Pastor Rod Carter
- **Week of February 6**
 - Chillicothe First UMC, Pastor Doug Cox
 - Chillicothe Trinity UMC, Pastor Wes Souders
- **Week of February 13**
 - Clarksburg UMC, Pastor Vera Welker
 - Coal Grove Memorial UMC, Pastor Bradrick Jenkins
- **Week of February 20**
 - Colerain UMC, Pastor Tom Jividen
 - Hallsville Community UMC, Pastor Greg Gardner
- **Week of February 27**
 - Concord UMC, Pastor Mike Rhoads
 - Crouse Chapel UMC, Pastor Janette Elliott
- **Week of March 6**
 - Defender UMC, Pastor Bill Flannery
 - Dry Run UMC, Pastor Vera Welker