



SHAWNEE VALLEY
West Ohio Conference

Visit Our Website

TRANSITION IN THE SHAWNEE VALLEY DISTRICT OFFICE

Please take the opportunity to welcome new staff member, **Toni Moore**. Toni was hired as the new finance manager for Shawnee Valley. Toni was born and raised in Columbus, Ohio. She is married to Michael and they are blessed to have 7 adult children, 11 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren with another great grandchild due in August. After retiring from a career with the Ohio Department of Taxation, she and her husband settled in Lucasville where they reside with their cats. She is a member of Bear Creek UMC where she plays the piano. Early on Sunday mornings she can also be found at McDermott UMC where she also plays the piano. She has a strong faith in God and believes that God will place her where He wants her to be. Toni is delighted to begin her journey with the Shawnee Valley District UMC.



Diana Hall will take over as Administrative Assistant after Roberta Eddy, who is continuing her love of mission, will begin a new journey soon.

OFFICE HOURS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

(please note that office hours and work schedules are subject to change because of meetings and training events outside the office)

Finance Manager: tmoores@wocumc.org

Monday 8-4

Tuesday 8-4

Wednesday 8-12

Administrative Assistant: dhall@wocumc.org

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8-4

Thursday (from home office)

Office will be closed on Friday, but phone messages and emails will be checked

Office Phone number: 740-851-5243

OUTDOOR ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

SATURDAY, APRIL 21
HIGHLANDS NATURE PRESERVE,
7660 CAVE ROAD, BAINBRIDGE
9:30 A.M. - Noon



Our next adventure is Saturday, April 21 in the Highlands Nature Sanctuary. It is the oldest and largest preserve (2200 acres) in the Arc of Appalachia and takes in the Rocky Fork Gorge. We will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Museum there and please pack your lunch to eat afterwards. Everyone is welcome; we hope to see you there!



District Spring Picnic & Pre-Annual Conference Briefing

May 20, 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
StillWater Event and Conference Center
454 DeBord Road, Chillicothe OH 45601

Plan to join us again at StillWater Conference Centre near Chillicothe for an afternoon of visiting, worship and information about Annual Conference.

Reservations will be required for a FREE meal.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Our Spring Mission Call at the Picnic will support [KINDWAY](#), an innovative, Christ-centered reentry program for those recently released from incarceration. There will be items for sale for suggested donations ranging from \$5 to \$20 (jewelry made by incarcerated men and women)

Also available that day will be Drawstring Bags made for our District. Each bag will be sold for \$5, with 1/2 of the proceeds donated to KINDWAY



[Family Fun Day](#)

June 15-16

Shawnee State Park

4404 OH-125, West Portsmouth, OH 45663



Last year, we planned a weekend outing for pastors and their families at Great Wolf Lodge at a deeply discounted price. It was ultimately opened to any family in the district. It was a fun time, relaxing, meeting folks from across the district and visiting with new friends. This summer, we have reserved a block of rooms at Shawnee State Park Lodge near Portsmouth for anyone in the district. **Campsites will also be available, but cannot be reserved as a block and must be reserved by each camper.** Check in will be **Friday, June 15** with a campfire, s'mores and singing. Saturday morning there will be a complimentary breakfast and the opportunity to explore the trails and lakes within the park.

There are a limited number of rooms available.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Pay only \$50 per room before May 1, cost increases to \$75 after May 1

CAMPERS - LET US KNOW YOU'RE COMING SO WE CAN INCLUDE YOU IN OUR BREAKFAST COUNT

NO MAN LEFT BEHIND MEN'S MINISTRY INITIATIVE

April 28, 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Grace UMC

104 S High Street, Waverly, OH 45690

Calling all men!!!

Are you interested in building friendships with men, helping them grow in their faith in Christ as they become disciples

of Jesus?

It is our desire to gather some like-minded men for a presentation and discussion on how we can help disciple men in and through our local churches within the Shawnee Valley District. We will be joined by Pastor Ben Shaeffer of the Bellefontaine UMC who is currently leading the effort to reach men in our West Ohio Conference. Also, Dr. Clark Miller will be joining us from the "Man in the Mirror" movement which encourages men to seize their true purpose in being a man after God's heart. He will share the



discipling program for men entitled "No Man Left Behind" and you will receive a book as well. This is a wonderful opportunity to seize this moment in our local churches and District to make a difference in the lives of men all around us. Please let me know you will be coming via email (bwatson@wocumc.com) so I can make sure to have a book available for you. If you have any questions regarding men's ministry and you want to make sure we talk about it on April 28, please send me your questions and I will pass them along to our presenters. Please pray for this new adventure! I hope to see you there!

Pray For The Church On April 23at Note from Bishop Palmer

Greetings in Christ Jesus:

Earlier this year I spoke to you about 1968 being a watershed year in many ways. That is probably true of every year, depending on your social location and/or your reading of history. That said, 1968 stands out in my mind as BIG. The assassinations, presidential politics, where we were in Vietnam and on and on. We who lived through it could regale one another with our recollections.

One of my firm recollections of 1968 is the creation of The United Methodist Church, formally consummated and ritualized on April 23, 1968, in Dallas, TX. It was a number of years in the making and followed a number of years of conversation, relationship building and negotiation. Two churches came together to create a new church, embracing for a new era relationships first kindled in the 18th century. In a real sense, the new church was bright-eyed and full of hopeful possibilities.

So here we are at the 50th anniversary of our church, and I see and sense hopeful possibilities. Yes, I know what's going on in the Church, in our church and in the world, and I still see hopeful possibilities - if only we would follow the Risen Christ into the world where he is already at work in the power of the Holy Spirit. As a sign of our commitment to join the resurrected Jesus in the world and mark the 50th birthday of the UMC, I am inviting us all to a one-day prayer meeting.

Here's the deal. On Monday, April 23 (our birthday as the UMC), I am asking you to do two things:

1. For every West Ohio United Methodist to spend some focused time in prayer -

- Praising God for the Church
- Thanking God for The United Methodist Church
- Confessing to God our "failure to be an obedient church"
- Seeking God's missional will for The United Methodist Church (local, regional, national, global)

2. For every United Methodist church building in West Ohio to be open for at least one hour on the April 23 with a designated place for people to pray. If your church facility can be open for this purpose for more than one hour, please do so.

Here are a few things to keep in mind as we engage this opportunity for focused prayer on April 23:

- Pray as you are able. You don't have to be in a church building or do it at a specific time of the day;
- There is power in private prayer and praying with others, so feel free to do both;
- Invite people in your community who are not members to stop in to pray;
- Some resources and suggestions for prayer on this day will be made available via the conference website.

Please know that even now my prayers join yours that the mission of the Church would be lived through us in the power of the Risen Christ. I am,

Your servant in Christ Jesus,
+Bishop Gregory V. Palmer

SHV District Pastor's Retreat September 28 & 29 Shawnee State Park

Pastors, please put September 28 (beginning at 5:00 p.m.) and 29 (ending at 1:30 p.m.) on your calendar. If you are married, then your spouse is invited too. The retreat will be hosted at the Shawnee State Park in Friendship, Ohio and the theme will be on "Contentment". We will worship and fellowship together as well as focus on our theme under the teaching of Melissa Spoelstra. More details will be coming!



CHURCHES TO PRAY FOR THIS MONTH

- **Week of April 15, 2018 - Andersonville UMC & Auburn UMC**
 - Pastor Jim Steele & Pastor Mary Cyrus
- **Week of April 22, 2018 - Austin UMC & Bainbridge UMC**
 - Pastor Neil Foster & Pastor Matt Brookes
- **Week of April 29, 2018 - Bear Creek UMC**
 - Pastor Frances Newman
- **Week of May 6, 2018 - Beaver Emmanuel UMC**
 - Pastor Chris Clark

OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS

- Prayers for Pastor Chris Wiseman & family (serving Richmond Dale UMC and Jackson Grace UMC) on the death of his mother.
- Prayers for the family of Reverend Alan Seaman, who died March 18. Rev. Seaman's wife, Norma served Grace UMC in Washington Court House
- Prayers for the family of Reverend Doug Shriner, who died April 10. Rev. Shriner served Grace UMC in Waverly from 1978-1984

HAVE A WEBSITE, FACEBOOK PAGE OR LIVESTREAM? LET US KNOW!

We trying to compile a list of which churches have websites, Facebook pages and livestreams. If you have a page, we'd like to list them on our district website. It's a good resource for other churches to see ideas from others. We will compile a list as we receive information.

Diana K Hall, Communications Coordinator | Shawnee Valley District - UMC |
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STAY CONNECTED:



