

West Ohio Conference
Shawnee Valley



"Traction Tracks" are specific training/resourcing/coaching/implementation components developed within West Ohio's Missional Church Consultation Initiative (MCCI), now available in individual short courses for churches of any size and setting.

Does your congregation need to gain a new specific aspect of traction in order to begin moving forward into renewed vitality? Consider which of these next Traction Track offerings might be right for you. Every Traction Track involves your pastor plus a team from your church. Click on any of these links to find out more, and to register online. All start in August or September.

Breakthrough Prayer Initiative (one session training)

Every new movement of church renewal always begins through prayer, asking God to bring new possibilities and hope. Learn how to lay a foundation of churchwide prayer that will move your congregation from looking down and in, to up and out! Choose any one of these three identical Traction Track single sessions:

- [Saturday, August 19: Host location Trinity UMC, Upper Arlington \(CAN district\)](#)
- [Sunday afternoon, August 20: Host location Bainbridge UMC, Bainbridge \(SHV district\)](#)
- [Sunday afternoon, October 22: Host location Trinity UMC, Grove City \(CAS district\)](#)

[Read about other Traction Track Sessions](#)



SHV Ministry Session

September 12, 10:00 a.m.

Christ UMC, Jackson

Opportunities to Network with Others and Learn Together - Open to Anyone

This session's topic will be "Sabbath Keeping", led by Bill Hughes, a staff member of SabbathLiving.org.

Everyone is welcome; Leadership Team meets at 9:30 a.m. for a short business meeting. **A complimentary meal is served at noon - Please contact the district office to reserve a meal.**



**District Charge Conference
Saturday, October 21
Cornerstone UMC, Portsmouth**

The Shawnee Valley District is excited to host its first ever **Breakthrough Prayer Summit** in conjunction with its annual District Charge Conference.

We believe as a District that prayer is the foundation of discipleship and fruitful ministry. Our goal is to remind and encourage every church in our District to create a prayerful atmosphere in its congregation. What if we prayed before making any plans? What if we depended on the Holy Spirit to direct all our efforts? Our Prayer Summit is designed to impact each church by making prayer the heartbeat of all we do and accomplish. You are invited to a life-giving day in our District. Please see the flow of our day below and the opportunity you will have to be encouraged to make prayer the expression of a trusting relationship with Jesus Christ. We would love for you to come!

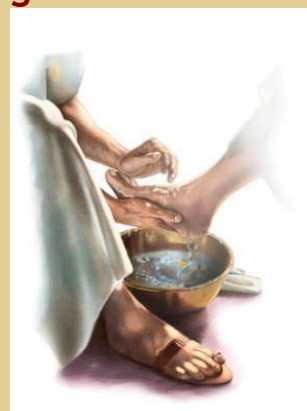
[Click HERE to register and see the schedule](#)

Fall Lay Servant Ministry Training Events

Lay Servant Ministry courses are designed to help develop skills in witnessing to the Christian faith through spoken communication, church and community leadership, and care-giving ministries.

Anyone may participate in these courses; Basic Courses must be taken before the Advanced.

- September 16 - Leading Missional Small Groups
- October 14 - Basic Course
- November 4 - Leading Worship (Advanced)



Contact District Coordinator, Pastor Carol Harper for more information.

WesPath's 2017 Well-Being Survey Results

The Center for Health (CFH), a division of Wespath Benefits and Investments, conducts a biennial survey of The United Methodist Church (UMC) active U.S. clergy to gather comparative data on clergy well-being.

2017 REPORT

**Clergy Well-Being
Survey**

Monitoring clergy well-being trends informs the Center for Health's development of programs and services to assist UMC clergy in leading healthier lives. The Center for Health shares this research with the denomination so we can all learn more about the health and well-being of our clergy. The state of clergy health has a significant effect on congregations, on communities and on the overall mission of the Church. Healthy clergy are inextricably linked to vitality

[Read the Report](#)

Strategic Ministries Grant Application Deadline October 1, 2017



We are so excited in the Shawnee Valley District to invest money in our congregations to partner with you in order to help create meaningful life-changing ministry!!

The Strategic Ministries Grant is offered annually, and any church may apply. Up to \$20,000 is available per church, with a limit of \$70,000 offered by the District each year.

Applications for 2018 are being accepted now and the deadline is October 1, 2017.

[Details and Application](#)

One Child at a Time

The joy of Christmas morning is something that is often taken for granted. Most of us enjoy a day off with friends and family, good food and an exchange of gifts. To imagine a Christmas without any of these things is nearly beyond our understanding, but in places all over the world it is a reality.



Shoebox drop-off location coordinator for **Nauvoo United Methodist Church, Trish Shaffer** says that she is thankful to have the opportunity to be a part of something making such a wide impact.

"Many times we feel like, how can we do anything to take the word of God into the world," Shaffer said. "We can't all be missionaries, we aren't all called to go somewhere other than where we are. This is a way we can reach the world from a simple shoebox and it's amazing because some of the things are basic needs that the children here would not even think that they were valuable." [\(Read More\)](#)



Local Church Events

- **Maple Grove UMC**
 - August 18 - Bake Sale at Wal-Mart, Washington Court House (10am-12pm)
 - August 20 - "Hi Neighbor" Community Day at the church (3pm-5pm) Make Your Own Sundaes!
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Future District Events - Mark Your Calendars

details on these events will be posted in future newsletters and on the website


- West Ohio Conference Pre-Retirement Seminar - **September 19**
- District Retired Pastor's Luncheon - **October 2**

- West Ohio Conference Clergy Day Apart - **October 19**
 - District Smaller Church Pastor's Training "Experiencing the Sacraments of Baptism & Communion" - **November 11**
 - SHV Ministry Session with Bishop Palmer speaking on "Personal Prayer Life" - **November 28**
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Churches to Pray for This Month

- Week of August 6, 2017
 - **Ripley Centenary UMC**, Pastor David Harper
 - Week of August 13, 2017
 - **Rock Camp UMC**, Pastor Bradrick Jenkins
 - Week of August 20, 2017
 - **Rome (Adams) UMC**, Pastor Wayne Harper
 - Week of August 27, 2017
 - **Russellville UMC**, Pastor Paul Cocklin
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Visit Our Website!

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