



West Ohio Conference  
Shawnee Valley



February, 2016

# Shawnee Valley District News



## Leadership Team & Training Event - February 2, 2016 Leadership Team business meeting at 9:30 a.m., Training Event Begins at 10:00 a.m. with complimentary lunch at NOON

People do not give to budgets, they give to people. It is imperative that the church develop a communications resource around financial needs that tells the story of transformed lives and how the church is making a difference in the community. This session will focus on creating a Narrative (story) budget, and how to craft a strategy that communicates changed lives throughout the year not just during the annual campaign or when the church is short on funds. How does the church articulate a vision that expresses making disciples of Jesus Christ? Who tells these stories? How does a church express its need for funds without begging or giving the perception it is always asking for money so as not to alienate guests? Integrating thank you is essential for all of the above. Rev. George Cooper, Director of West Ohio Counsel on Development will be the guest speaker.

### District Calendar Reminders

February 2 - Leadership Team & Training Event - Piketon UMC

February 10 - Ash Wednesday

February 13-20 - District Disaster Response (VIM) Team to South Carolina

February 20 - Lay Servant Ministries - Intro to the Bible

February 28 - Circles of Grace Part 2



### PRAYER REQUESTS

#### Local Churches

Week of 02/07 - Bainbridge UMC, Pastor Matt Brookes

Week of 02/14 - Bear Creek UMC, Pastor Francis Newman

Week of 02/21 - Beaver Emmanuel UMC, Pastor Chris Clark

Week of 02/28 - Beaver

### INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE



At our last Lay Servant Ministry course, there was some interest in an introduction to the Bible class.

Please consider attending this one day course that introduces themes and personalities of the Bible. You don't need to be a "Lay Servant" to participate.

This will be a one day class on Saturday, February 20 at Waverly Grace, taught by Rev. Carol Harper, District Lay Servant Ministries Coordinator.

Details and study materials available [HERE](#). (Registration deadline 2/11/16)



### CIRCLES OF GRACE Part 2: Exploring Scripture

In September, 2015, more than 900 laity and clergy participated in a Circles of Grace conversation focused on human sexuality in The United Methodist Church. The feedback indicated a desire to continue the dialogue and explore how the Bible can inform our conversations. For a summary of the September Circles of Grace conversations, [click here](#).

Circles of Grace Part 2: Exploring Scripture will be an opportunity to participate in small group conversation with our sisters and brothers in Christ and to hear a dialogue from two of our own elders as they explore scripture together. The Event will take place at Ginghamburg UMC on February 28, with simulcasts at a church in every district.

[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS](#)

### VIETNAM MISSION TRIP



You are invited to travel with the Foothills - Shawnee Valley Mission Team to Vietnam, March 29-April 11, 2016! What started fourteen years ago with two United Methodist missionaries responding to a call to share the light of Christ with the people of Vietnam has



[Greater Scioto Valley  
Emmaus Community](#)

[L.O.V.E. \(Limestone Ohio  
Valley Emmaus  
Community](#)

[Southern Ohio Chrysalis,  
Portsmouth](#)

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Center, Portsmouth, Ohio](#)

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become a rapidly growing movement consisting of over 300 house churches and nearly 18,000 members.

This motorbike and van trip will tour northern Vietnam. We will meet with United Methodist congregations and deliver motorbikes to pastors. We will also visit several cultural and geographical sites (including the "Hanoi Hilton") and remember the sacrifices of American soldiers during the war. This is a "riding" tour. We will travel on small motorbikes, although a van will be provided for a few non-riders and our luggage.

Could God be calling you to step out of your comfort zone and become an ambassador of hope? Please pray and consider joining us on this journey.

[DETAILS](#)

### CERTIFIED LAY MINISTRY ACADEMY INFORMATION SESSION

Is God calling? Do you desire to know how the Certified Lay Ministry Academy will further equip you for ministry? Join us at **Grace UMC In Waverly on February 13** to listen to personal call stories from CLMs serving across West Ohio. Learn about the NEWLY designed CLMA, curriculum and course instructors, class schedule, fees, steps to certification and District Superintendent assignments. Other locations and dates are available. Check the [Events page on the West Ohio Conference website](#).



### WOC FEBRUARY PRAYER & FASTING: GENERAL CONFERENCE

The focus for our Conference-wide First Friday Day of Prayer and Fasting on February 5 is the General Conference. The work of the General Conference brings to mind the Commissioning of Disciples by Jesus, as told in Matthew 28:16-20:

*16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some doubted. 18 Jesus came near and spoke to them, "I've received all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to obey everything that I've commanded you. Look, I myself will be with you every day until the end of this present age."*

[\(Read More\)](#)

### OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE CONFERENCE

**February 6** - Caring Hearts (Disability) Ministries of Zanesville (Oh) C&MA Church invites you to our **2016 A Day of HOPE** - an Autism Conference with expert Sondra Williams. [Details](#)

**February 20** - **Good Works Walk**. Become aware of Ohio's rural homeless and help raise funds for the Good Woks Timothy House. It is the only shelter for people without homes in eight Southeast Ohio Counties. [Details](#)

**February 27** - **Super Charge 2016** - A Conference for Men Building Faith. [Details](#)

- **Next Generations Scholarships.** The West Ohio Conference Next Generations Leadership is offering two scholarship opportunities for undergraduate students attending accredited institutions of higher education during the 2016-17 academic years. To learn more about the scholarship criteria visit the [West Ohio Conference website](#).
- **Refresh Families House at Annual Conference** . The Refresh Families House is 205 Park Row during Annual Conference. Here, young clergy and their families can find and deepen connection in an environment of support, love, care, mutuality, and resourcing for life and ministry. If you'd like to live in the house, applications are now being accepted. [Details](#)
- **Summer Impact Interns.** The Summer Impact program at Hyde Park Community UMC in Cincinnati is a program set up to invite youth from all over the country to come join us in making an impact on those living in poverty and homelessness in Cincinnati. [Details](#)
- **West Ohio Conference VIM construction project with SOWER** (Sharing Our Witness - Enriching Relationships). Building a House in the Henderson Settlement Area during the Spring and Summer of 2016. [Details](#)
- **West Ohio Conference Advance Special Grant Applications.** Open to United Methodist ministries that partner with other United Methodist churches and others in their community the WOC-CAS program opens doors to fund raising opportunities to local and regional ministries that would otherwise require approval of the Annual Conference session. [Details](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE  
IMPORTANT DISTRICT EVENTS



March 5 - [Stewardship 101 for the Smaller Church](#)

March 5 - Basic & Advance Lay Servant Ministry

March 7 - Staff Meeting

March 25 - Good Friday

March 27 - Easter

March 29-April 11 - [Foothills/Shawnee Valley Vietnam Trip](#)

April 4 - Staff Meeting

April 5 - [Leadership Team & Teaching Event](#) - Georgetown UMC

April 16 - Advance Lay Servant Ministry Training

April 19 - [Leadership Team & Teaching Event](#) (make-up of January 12 cancelled meeting) - Sugar Grove UMC

April 20 - Retired Pastors Luncheon

5/2 - Extended Staff Meeting

5/15 - District Spring Rally



Add us to your newsletter or e-news so we can see what your church is doing!

And with our new website design, it is easier to advertise your local church events. Just send the information via e-mail, post on our Facebook page or call Diana at 740-637-0829. We'll add the event to our [Events Calendar](#) and provide any details you wish to share. Most formats accepted

(MS Word, .pdf, .jpg, etc.)

Also, be sure to "LIKE" our Facebook page, share your Church's Facebook page with [Diana Hughes Hall](#), and add the Shawnee Valley District to your newsletter (e-news to [dhall@wocumc.org](mailto:dhall@wocumc.org) and/or postal copy to 573 E Main, Chillicothe, OH, 45601).

### Contact Information

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