



WD News

June 2005

Wilmington District - The United Methodist Church - West Ohio Conference

West Ohio UMC Resident Bishop - Bruce R. Ough
District Program Coordinator - Marcia Rummel

District Superintendent - Thomas D. Hanover
Secretaries - Lorene Williams / Sherry Williams

With the reading of appointments at Annual Conference, old ties are severed and new ones initiated for a number of our itinerating pastors and their congregations. At this Conference Session at Lakeside, June 12-15, we find ourselves expressing farewells and extending welcomes to the following pastors and their families.



- Timothy Gleason, Blanchester Grace; to Edgerton/Emmanuel (Defiance)
- John Harra, Hamilton Grace; to Neal Avenue (Newark)
- Patricia Matthews, Mason Associate; to Farmersville (Dayton South)

- Paul McFarland, Okeana; retirement
- Linda Hedden, Oxford; to Napoleon St Paul/Christ (DE)
- Jason Pletcher, South Lebanon; unappointed
- Georgiana Salyers, Campus Ministry, Miami University; to Tower Hamlets Circuit, London, England



- William Bowdle, Bethel; from Armstrong Chapel (Cincinnati)
- Robina Vaughn, Blanchester Grace; from Christ (Newark)
- Robert Ingram, Hamilton Grace; from Gallipolis Grace (Athens)

- Kirk Peterson, Milford Trinity; from Napoleon Christ (DE)
- Robert Schreiner, Morrow/Zoar; from Emmett Chapel (Columbus South)
- Blossom Matthews, Okeana; from New Mexico Conf.
- Lea Ann Morris, Otterbein-Lebanon Assoc; unappointed

Moves Within the District

- Roy Wigal to Hamilton Lindenwald Assoc., from Batavia Emmanuel Assoc.
- Fred Shaw to Oxford, from Milford Trinity

CONGRATULATIONS to Jerry Caddell, Bill Schilling and Peter Warren who will be ordained Elders; also to Ron Slater who will receive associate membership and deacon's orders; Sara Thomas will be Commissioned (Elder's track), all at this session of Annual Conference.

CLERGY SPOUSES

The **District Spouses Gathering** at Lakeside will be held Monday, June 13, 1:30 p.m., 224 Maple. The **Conference Spouses Gathering "Mexican Fiesta"** will be held Tuesday, 2-4 p.m. at the Train Station.

CLERGYWOMEN BREAKFAST

The West Ohio Clergywomen will meet for breakfast at 7:00 a.m. on Monday, June 16 at Lakeside UM Church.

BOOK OF REPORTS

Pastors and Lay Delegates: if you missed the preconference briefing on May 22, please make arrangements to pick up your Book of Reports at the District Office.

HOUSING AT LAKESIDE

There is some space available at 215 Park Row during the time of Annual Conference. Contact Rev. Kenn Barton, kbarton@infinet.com or call, 513-896-5683.

CLERGY FAMILY PICNIC

Friday, August 12, 6:30-8:30
Otterbein-Lebanon Pavilion

AIMING AT THE HEART

Have you marked October 1st on your calendar? That's the date of our Wilmington District Training Event "Aiming at the Heart". We will meet at Milford First to explore the CORE Process. The day is for clergy and lay and will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end by 3:00 p.m., with a dozen workshops from which to choose.

DISTRICT CAMPS

- Elementary - entering grades 4-6, June 26-30, cost \$185
- Junior High - entering grades 7-9, July 17-22, cost \$230
- Senior High - entering grades 9-13, June 26-July 1, \$250
- Bike Camp - entering grades 8-13, July 10-15, cost \$125

GLAD THAT HAS CHANGED!

When I was in college. I drove a used Chevy II. It was a three-speed with a stick shift on the steering column. The linkage often stuck in third gear, so it was not unusual to hop out a stop light, pop the hood, and dislodge the rods by hand. I may still be driving Shirley Cadle's car, but I don't have to do that. Boy, I'm sure glad that has changed.

In our first parsonage the water pump quit working. The Trustees decided they needed to dig a new well, but we were moving in 3 weeks; so they donated an old milk can and we dipped water out by hand to flush the toilets and take a bath. Boy, I'm sure glad that has changed (especially with two infants in diapers).

In our second parish we had black sulfur water. It was not unusual to draw a tub of bath water and not see the bottom of the tub. Boy, I'm sure glad that has changed.

In our third parsonage bats would find a way into the house. We would sometimes awaken in the night to hear them swooshing above our heads. Boy, I'm sure glad that has changed.

When I left our fourth appointment, I weighed 190 pounds and had a full head of hair. To be honest, I am not very happy about that change.

Change is a constant part of living. The only people who do not experience change are lying comfortably six feet under ground. To live means to experience changes.

The 2005 annual session of the West Ohio Conference will be an example of living in change. 42% of our churches are growing. On the other hand, in 2004 40% of our churches did not have one profession of faith.

We are changing, but for some of our churches the changes are decline and death. Other churches are addressing the changes in our world, and looking for new ways to extend ministry because of those changes. They are growing.

The West Ohio Conference is addressing change as well. There are proposals coming to the annual conference in mid June to realign the resources of the conference more directly with the vision that every local congregation become a center for making disciples of Jesus Christ through whom God can transform the world. Many conferences across the connection are engaging in realigning changes. West Ohio may be unique in attempting to realign many systems on several levels all at once. It is messy and confusing, but it is ineffective to tweak a few cosmetic modifications and ignore key systemic issues. So many of the changes have impact on other significant systems.

Is change good? Sometimes. Is it bad? Sometimes. But to ignore or resist change leads to decline and death. To grow means to change.

So I invite you to prayerfully and carefully consider the proposals coming to the annual conference. Much work and research and discussion and prayer has already gone into these ideas. Proposals have been floated by Conference Boards and Agencies, district leadership, consultant focus groups, and even a cross section of the conference in February. While it is appropriate to ask what this may cost to implement, it is equally important to ask what will it cost to delay or avoid a decision.

I know my waist is thicker and my hair is thinner than 15 years ago, but I don't think I want to go back. Those were good times, but I don't want to miss what God has in store for all of us...just around the corner! How about you?



PERSONALS

- Lynn Phillips, wife of Johnny (Felicity), is recovering from recent surgery.
- Tom Brunner, Seven Mile/Somerville, is recovering from foot surgery.
- Bishop Ough's mother had cancer surgery April 29.
- Allyson, daughter of Randy & Dana Clark (Batavia Emmanuel) continues to improve since recent hospitalization.

Condolences to...

- Evelyn Huber (spouse of deceased pastor Francis Huber), 333 Lafayette St, Marion 43302, on son's death.
- Geneva Aldridge (spouse of dec. Rev. Joseph Aldridge), 2433 Alpena, Dayton 45406, on granddaughter's death.
- Myrth Zambon, 336 Oak Ave, Waverly 45690, on the death of her husband Rev. Louis Zambon.
- Rev. Jim Hopkins, PO Box 99, Fayette 43521, on the death of his father.
- Rev. & Mrs. Clark Hess, 3146 Fields Ct, Portsmouth 45662, on the death of Kim's step-father.
- Karen Darby, 12945 Eileen, Weston 43569, on the death of her husband Rev. Richard Darby.
- Rev. & Mrs. William Augman, Jr, 1271 E. Cooke Rd, Columbus 43224, on the death of Alfreida's sister.
- Rev. Orlo Freshly, 2220 Pinkerton Rd, Zanesville 43701, on the death of his brother.
- David West, 2807 Silvercliff Dr, Dayton 45449, on the death of his father Dr. John Arthur West. Dr. West served many years as director of U.M. Communications.



YOUNG ADULTS IN MISSION

Four young adults from Ohio have been selected by the General Board of Global Ministries to serve as US2's and Mission Interns in the class of 2005. A class of 8 US-2 Missionaries and 8 Mission Interns will be trained and commissioned in June. Elizabeth Clark (EOC) Joshua Gray (WOC) and Laura McDowell (WOC) are part of the US-2 Missionaries class. Jill Conway (WOC) is a member of the Mission Interns class. Please be in prayer for these young adults as they prepare for and participate in training. Churches and individuals who would like to support these young adult missionaries may do so by using the Advance Special: US-2 #982874, Mission Intern Program #13105Z.

Ohio has the largest representation in the class of 16! Those of us in higher education ministries are truly blessed to have opportunities to support and encourage young adults in their discernment and call to ministry. The support EOC and WOC provides for campus ministry empowers these ministries to guide and encourage young adults in their spiritual formation and leadership development. Here is a wonderful glimpse of your apportionment dollars at work.

Jeanne Smith, Director, Wesley Foundation, Cincinnati
 Jeanne@wesleyuc.org 513-861-2929

MISSION EDUCATION

The first week of May, Marcia Rummel and I were part of a group of 13 persons from West Ohio on a Mission Education visit to the General Board of Global Ministries in New York City. It was a busy few days as we learned of the scope of the work of the General Board, heard from missionaries, helped with a feeding program at Metropolitan Duane UMC, and even did a little sightseeing.

We learned how important our apportionment dollars are in support of current missionaries and mission projects, and to support sending out new missionaries and starting new projects! You are welcome to stop by the office to look through the resources we brought back.

Lorene Williams, District Secretary

MISSION EVENT

You are invited to Ross Community UMC for their "Faith Promise Missions" weekend event: Saturday, June 25, dinner 6:00, music and speakers at 7:00; Sunday June 26, at 10:30. You can help raise money for missions - locally, nationally and internationally. Please RSVP for the free dinner by calling the church at 513-868-2923, or Sherri Dykes at 513-829-4371.

NICARAGUA VIM TEAM

Four spaces are open on the Nicaragua VIM Team #3, Nov. 13-21, 2005. This is a construction team, however, diverse activities include cultural immersion, hospital and school visitations, worship, shopping and sightseeing. The cost is \$1100 per person, covering all expenses except gifts (for maternity/pediatric hospital visits) and personal expenditures. For more information, contact Jack Reif at jackreif@juno.com or phone 513-831-5550.

VIM TO McCURDY

There are openings available for the Oct. 10-18 VIM team to McCurdy School in New Mexico. Cost is approx. \$750. There are many jobs to be done and may include carpentry, electrical work, office help, library work, painting, possibly tutoring, and more.

McCurdy is a mission school set in the Rio Grande Valley in northern New Mexico. The school provides a safe environment, making studying and learning much easier. Volunteer time and money help the school direct more of their funds to education for the children.

Monetary gifts to help pay for materials for team projects are welcome. Please make checks to: Wilming-
ton District Special Fund - VIM and send to: Sara Hulse,
 8792 Meadowview Dr, West Chester 45069, by Aug. 15.

For more info on the work team or to learn more about McCurdy School and its mission, contact Sara Hulse at 513-777-1471 or sarajsews2@wmconnect.com

HUNGER AWARENESS DAY

The Society of St. Andrew (Advance #801600) is a partner sponsor of Hunger Awareness Day, June 7. Activities are listed at the website: www.hungerday.org

To guide and assist churches in their observance of the day, the Society of St. Andrew has prepared a free church resource packet, available on their website.

Also available is a 12-unit Hunger Bible Study and a Vacation Bible School hunger program. VBS materials are free; the Bible Study is available in hard copy for \$10, on CD for \$5, or it can be downloaded from the website: www.endhunger.org For further information you can call 800-333-4597 or email: church@endhunger.org

EASTERN HILLS CAMP MEETING

This year's Camp Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 26, 3:00-7:00 p.m. at Clear Creek Park on Hwy 32 just west of Newtown. There will be a petting zoo, 1860's marriage vow renewal by Circuit Rider in costume, gospel singers, praise bands, worship service led by Bishop Ough, and much, much more! Come join us.

DISTRICT CALENDAR

JUNE

- 1 - Conversations with DS at Milford Trinity: Allen, 9; McLean, 10; Payne, 11; Miller, 1; R. Thomas, 2; Luckey, 3; Garbett, 4
 - Camp CPR training at Olive Branch, 6:30
 - 2 - Conversations: Robinson, 9; Nathan, 10; Coleman, 11; J. Wirth, 1
 - 6 - Conversations: Merriman, 1; Carroll, 2
 - 7 - Conversations: Utley, 10; S. Thomas, 11
 - 8 - Conversations at Hamilton Lindenwald: Montgomery, 9; Barton, 10; Burns, 11; Long, 1:30; Beck, 2:30; Salyers, 3:30; Lucas, 4:30
 - 11 - CABINET at Lakeside
 - 12-15 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE at Lakeside
 - 23 - CABINET
 - 26 - Eastern Hills Camp Mtg, Clear Creek Park
 - 26-30 - Elementary Camp, King's Domain
 - 26-July 1 - Senior High Camp, King's Domain
 - 28-30 - West Ohio Leadership Team Retreat
- Dates for United Methodist Moves:**
June 29 - move out; June 30 - move in

DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

Pastors, I am beginning to work on the new district directory. If any of your information needs to be corrected, such as address, phone number, e-mail, fax, secretary, etc., please let me know.

Thank you, Lorene

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2005

MUSIC AVAILABLE

A large selection of sacred anthems for 2, 3 and 4-part choirs are available for free distribution. Otterbein-Lebanon has a rich heritage of music, and we are offering the anthems to area churches that are interested. For a listing of titles and further information, call or write: Howard Longmire, 433 N. SR 741, Lebanon 45036; phone 513-932-5964; email: longmirehv@aol.com

Gathering of U.M. Men-July 15-17, "Hearts Afire for God", Purdue Univ, register online: www.gcumm.org

The Journal 2005

Journal Volume II is \$12 postpaid. Order by August 1. CD-ROM includes the contents of printed version and additional material. No charge. Order by September 1.

To order perfect bound paper Journal copies, make check to "West Ohio Conference" and send with name and mailing address to Journal Orders, West Ohio Conference, 32 Wesley Blvd, Worthington 43085. Include payment.

To order Journal 2005 CD-ROM, use address above, call 800-437-0028 or email: hkillman@wocumc.org

DISTRICT INFORMATION

Check the Wilmington District website at: www.wilmingtondistrictumc.org for information on:

- Realignment Proposal
- 2004 Year End Report
- April 2005 Financial Report
- 2006 Budget

<p>Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Wilmington, Ohio Permit No. 73</p>
