



Legacy News



United Methodist
Foundation *of West Ohio*

Wednesday, March 19, 2025



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FOUNDATION UPDATES

[Clergy Couples Receive Special Attention](#)

In mid-February, UMFWO partnered with the West Ohio Conference Office of Ministry and the Episcopal Office to host a Clergy Couples Retreat for West Ohio clergy couples. Including retired couples and couples in which one spouse is part of another denomination, the Conference has about 40 married couples in which both spouses are both engaged in active professional ministry.



"We've been planning this for over a year," remarked Susan Black, Executive Director of the Foundation. "When we started the conversation, I asked if there were any groups of clergy who could use special attention. We began discussing the needs of clergy couples and how their situation was unique above all other folks engaged in full or part-time ministry. The idea for the Clergy Couples Retreat was born."

During the one and half day retreat held at Mohican State Park Lodge and Conference Center, the couples had the opportunity to worship together, enjoy a dinner date, take educational courses on communication, finances and other topics, and enjoy free time together or talking with other clergy couples. "We appreciated the opportunity," said one attendee, "In getting to know one of the couples, I discovered how connected we are."

One special part of the retreat included a vow renewal led by West Ohio's own "head clergy couple" Bishop Hee-Soo Jung and Rev. Im-Hyon Jung. "Bishop and Rev. Jung's schedule is so hectic, we were delighted they could make time to join us. They said in 42 years of ministry they had never heard of a Conference doing a clergy couples retreat," said Mrs. Black. "We hope we can make this a new tradition here in West Ohio."

[Foundation Awards \\$10,000 in Matching Go Grants Funds](#)

Staff from the Foundation joined the Bishop's Go Grants celebration in early February to award an additional \$10,000 in matching funds. The Foundation worked with the Office Of Fresh Starts and New Beginnings to identify the "Breakout Vision of the Year" and three runners-up. The winners included:

- 3rd Runner Up: Church of the Master in Westerville - Common Grounds Coffee Ministry (\$1000)

- 2nd Runner Up: Mosaic Church in Dayton- Young Adult Koinoinia Cianni House project(\$1500)
- Circleville Community UMC - Community Kids renovation project (\$2000)
- Breakout Vision of the Year: York Street UMC in Cincinnati - From Past to Present: Intergenerational Bonds through Tech and Tradition program (\$5000)



FOUNDATION RESOURCES

UMFWO Offers Free Comprehensive Stewardship Education Program - *Generosity Abounds!*

Did you know that churches across the WOC have access to a free comprehensive stewardship education program from the United Methodist Foundation of West Ohio? The program, called *Generosity Abounds!* provides a stewardship education toolkit developed with resources from across the UM connection. The goal of the program is to create a culture of generosity within each church. It approaches stewardship as a holistic year-round process that ultimately:

- Increases congregational engagement;

- Increases revenue;
- Strengthens commitment to faith and faithful living;
- Focuses church ministry and mission programming.

The program is comprised of three phases. Congregations have the option to complete the three phases of the program in one of the following ways: on their own using the Foundation's free curated resources; or with the help of a stewardship coach; or a combination of both DIY and guided options.

Access to the complete program is available on the Foundation's [website](#). For more information or assistance, please contact Susan Black at sblack@wocumc.org.

Registration Opens April 1st For Generosity Summit

The United Methodist Foundation of West Ohio invites all clergy and local church leaders from across the Ohio Episcopal Area to attend a two-day summit focused on growing a culture of generosity in the local church. Hear from experts in the field and relax in the beautiful environs of Maumee Bay State Park in Toledo, OH. Registration opens April 1. \$350.00 includes registration, meals and one night's stay at the lodge. Watch [this page](#) for more information and to register. Questions can be directed to Susan Black at sblack@wocumc.org.



**SEPT. 15-16,
2025**

REGISTRATION
OPENS APRIL 2025

\$350
REGISTRATION FEE
INCLUDES 1 NIGHT
STAY

SPEAKERS FROM
ACROSS THE
CONNECTION

PLAN NOW TO
ATTEND!

SAVE THE DATE GENEROSITY SUMMIT 2025

Maumee Bay State Park Lodge and Conference Center
Join your clergy colleagues and local church leaders from across the Ohio Episcopal Area for a two-day summit focused on growing a culture of generosity in the local church. Hear from experts in the field and relax at beautiful Maumee Bay on the shores of Lake Erie.

 **United Methodist
Foundation of West Ohio**

MAUMEE BAY
1350 State Park Rd. #1
Oregon, OH 43688
More info at
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sblack@wocumc.org

Upcoming Free Foundation Educational Opportunities:

Foundation Offers New Resource: Investment Best Practices for Every Church

The United Methodist Foundation of West Ohio invites you to a free Zoom training on May 13th at 7:00PM as Foundation Executive Director Susan Black helps unravel the mystery of church investing for your congregation. All church leaders are welcome to join. To access the Zoom link, click here: [Join Zoom Meeting](#).

Saving Grace Clergy Edition - - Online Class Coming Again this Summer!

Join Rev. Anna Guillozet for an 8 week course intended to help clergy address one of the most important aspects of their lives and careers: their finances. Clergy who complete the course will receive a \$250 stipend. The class will begin July 14 and continue once a week through August 25. Registration will open May 1. Stay tuned for registration details by watching [this page](#).



ASSET MANAGER UPDATES

[Investment Manager Update](#)

[Watch Wespath's 2024 Q4 Markets at a Glance Video:](#)



Interested in receiving Wespath's monthly and quarterly market reflections directly to your email? [Contact](#)

Maddy DeWitt to request access: mdewitt@wocumc.org.

FINANCES

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[Mortgage Rates Relatively Unchanged](#)



Thank you for your vested interest in helping build disciples of Jesus Christ. To access any of our resources, please go to our [website](#).

FREE ESTATE PLANNING GUIDE

It's never too late to plan for the people and causes you care about. Our easy-to-use estate planning guide can help you gather the information you need before meeting with your attorney.

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PLANNED GIVING CALCULATORS

Use our online calculator to view the tax and income benefits of making a gift to support our cause. This can help you determine the best plan to meet your needs and goals.

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