



# Legacy News



United Methodist  
Foundation *of West Ohio*



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## Foundation Staff On the Road in First Quarter

During the first few months of 2026, Foundation staff have been on the road attending a variety of events and meetings across the West Ohio Conference, and attending the Wespeth Forum in Charleston, SC. The Forum provided an opportunity to learn more about Wespeth's investment philosophy and to meet other WOC organizations that use Wespeth, as well, such as United Theological Seminary.



A highlight of the quarter was presenting the Breakout Vision of the Year award at the 2026 Go Grants. St. Paul UMC in Dayton won the award for their Mercado de Bendicion or Blessing Bazaar. Two other awards were made to Pandora UMC for their Partners in Hope project and to Brookville Community UMC for their Brookhaven Retirement Community VBS program. Each winner received funds for their

programs.

## Foundation Academies Available

Clergy and lay people in East and West Ohio are invited to register for two academies being offered by the United Methodist Foundation of West Ohio in 2026. Both clergy and lay people are welcome to attend. Registration is required.

### Church Stewardship Academy

This four-part series is intended for church leaders involved in stewardship activities in the local church. Improve your understanding of stewardship basics and take your efforts to the next level with these engaging educational opportunities. Sessions will be held quarterly via Zoom at noon on January 14, April 8, July 8, and Oct. 14. Sessions will be recorded and registered participants will receive a link to the recordings. More information and registration can be found [here](#).

### Church Investment and Legacy Academy

This four-part series is intended for church leaders involved in investment and legacy giving activities in the local church. Improve your understanding of planned giving basics and take your investment knowledge to the next level with these engaging educational opportunities. Sessions will be held quarterly via Zoom at noon on Feb. 25, May 20, Aug. 19, and Nov. 18. Sessions will be recorded and registered participants will receive a link to the recordings. More information and registration can be found [here](#).

## Alford-Cantlin Cohort Forming

Applications are currently being accepted for a new cohort of the Alford-Cantlin Fellows program. The program provides scholarship support for WOC clergy who wish to complete their Doctor of Ministry. Please contact Susan Black at [sblack@wocumc.org](mailto:sblack@wocumc.org) at the Foundation or Rev. April Casperson at MTSO at [acasperson@mtso.edu](mailto:acasperson@mtso.edu) for more information. Ordained elders in a full-time appointment in the West Ohio Conference who are seeking their DMin at MTSO are encouraged to apply.