



News and Notes: May 11, 2021

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**Save the Date:
Sunday May 16 at 7 PM**

**Virtual Spring Celebration
on the [ORV Facebook Page](#)**

**A link will be sent via email
later this week**



Praying For Our Churches, May 2021

Each week during 2021, the staff of the Ohio River Valley District will be praying for one or more of our churches. During the month of May we pray that the congregations, pastors and church ministries of the following churches will find joy in the daily work of responding to God's direction, a joy that generates perseverance for all that is set before us this year.

Week of May 2

Clough - Pastors Paula Stewart, Patty Matthews and Jennifer Burns / PPRC Chair Irene Linton

Summerside - Pastor Nicole Henderson-Johns / PPRC Chair Stephanie Foltz

Week of May 9

Forest Chapel - Pastor Kabamba Kiboko / PPRC Chair Maureen Smith
Mt. Washington - Pastor Penny Magee / PPRC Chair Julie Peelman

Week of May 16

Clifton - Pastors David Meredith, Robert English and Benji Sayre / PPRC Chair Linnea Lowe

Middletown Christ - Pastor Wynston Dixon / Council Chair Sally Williamson

Week of May 23

Eden Chapel - Pastor Jackie Apted / PPRC Chair Margaret Schott
John Wesley - Pastor RJ Davis / PPRC Chair Don Butts

Week of May 30

Groesbeck - Pastor Dave Mack / PPRC Chair Mark Dunham
Pleasant Ridge - Pastor Jack Marsh / PPRC Chair Lynn Bell

Clergy Session of Annual Conference:

Online - Wednesday May 19

Registration Ends Tomorrow



The West Ohio Conference will host the Annual Clergy Session virtually on May 19, 2021.

All Clergy members of the Annual Conference and Laity on the Board of Ordained Ministry are invited to participate.

The objectives of the Clergy Session include caring for those who will have new credentials for Commissioning and Ordination and those who have changed status in the past year, such as retirees.

[Registration ends May 12 - please register as soon as possible!](#)

Moving, Pastor? You need the Right Start. The Right Start: Beginning Ministry in a New Setting

Available in [Pastor's](#) and [Group Training](#) Versions

The Right Start is a video-based training resource for clergy preparing to begin ministry in a new setting. It includes video instructional segments, resources, planning aids, and supplementary materials to help pastors make the most of their first days, weeks, and months in their new congregations.

Includes [The Right Start — COVID 19 Supplement](#), a guide covering the unique implications for pastoral transition during the pandemic.



Also includes strategies for the relational aspects of transition, including how to handle social media and issues of concern to single clergy and associate pastors.

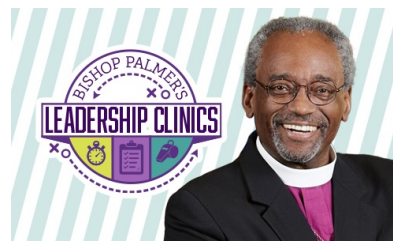
Educational Opportunities

Bishop Michael Curry joins Bishop Gregory Palmer at the May 18th Leadership Clinic

Deadline to Register is Wednesday

Bishop Palmer is excited to announce his next Leadership Clinic guest, Bishop Michael Curry, on May 18, 10a-12p EST. The Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry is Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church.

He is the Chief Pastor and serves as President and Chief Executive Officer, and as Chair of the Executive Council of The Episcopal Church.



Join us for his teaching titled, "Leadership and the Dangerous Liberation of Love." Following Bishop Curry's teaching, he will be interviewed by Bishop Palmer, and will be available for LIVE Q&A from participants.

Throughout his ministry, Presiding Bishop Curry has been active in issues of social justice. He maintains a national preaching and teaching ministry, having been featured on The Protestant Hour and as a frequent speaker at churches, cathedrals, conferences, and television news channels around the country and internationally. He has authored five books and numerous publications including columns for the Huffington Post and the Baltimore Times. Bishop Curry's latest book: Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times was released in 2020. In 2018, Bishop Curry gained global attention as he preached an unforgettable message of love at the Royal Wedding of Prince Harry and Ms. Meghan Markle.

The first 250 people to register for this Clinic will receive a free copy of the book Love is the Way. Information will be in your registration confirmation email. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please email Allyssa: agraves@wocumc.org

[Learn More and Register Here](#)

Deadline to register is Wednesday, May 12th by midnight.



Lower Your Congregation's Utility Bills June 7th - 7pm to 8:30pm on Zoom

Green Umbrella is hosting a FREE webinar with professional advice on how to lower your house of worship's utility bills and carbon footprint.

This webinar will guide your faith community to walk the talk to care for creation.



Speakers will explain the different types of energy audits, how to know which one is right for your facility, how to develop a plan from simple do-it-yourself projects to changing light fixtures to installing renewable technology. You also will hear about funding options for nonprofit institutions. This educational program is designed for house of worship executive directors, maintenance supervisors and congregational members. [Register Here](#)

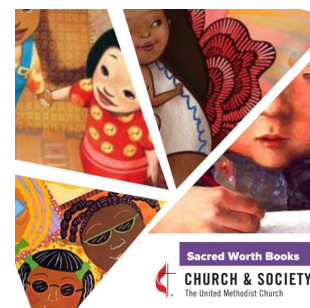
Other Resources

From GBCS: How Children's Books Start Conversations about Social Justice

"Racism and discrimination thrive in silence. Not talking about it is silent acknowledgement that it's okay when it's not. Children's books are helpful in having those conversations and exposing kids at a young age to different things."

- Aimee Hong, Church and Society

[Read the full article here](#)



Virtual, Hybrid, or Outdoors: 2021 Vacation Bible School Options

To provide an excellent VBS this summer, listen to volunteers and church staff. What is the response to returning to in-person worship in the context in which you serve? As you plan VBS 2021, create a couple of approaches to your VBS format that could be offered regardless of how the guidelines fluctuate.



[Read more from UMC Discipleship here.](#)

Classifieds

Paid and unpaid job openings:

Music Director/Accompanist - North Bend UMC

Worship Leader - Bethany UMC

Director of Children & Family Ministry - Anderson Hills UMC

Director of Youth & College Ministries - Oxford UMC

Pianist - Hartzell UMC

Senior High/Young Adult Minister - Lebanon UMC

Preschool Director - Sharonville UMC

High School Program Coordinator, Pre K-6 grade Children's Program Teachers (3 needed), Summer Volunteers - Wesley Chapel Mission Center

Guitarist - Clough UMC

Children's Ministry Team Leader - Westwood UMC

Director of Camps, Retreats & Next Gen Engagement - West Ohio Conference

Director of Connecting and Discipleship Ministry - Hyde Park Community UMC

Summer Americorp Interns - UMC Food Ministry

Director of Family and Student Ministry - John Wesley UMC

Director of Student and Family Ministries - Shiloh UMC



Items needed and available:

Free! Safe - Christian Family Credit Union

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