Camperships given to 24 students
"...thanks for this amazing week of camp because I'll never forget it. God touched me..." ~ 2015 Wesley camper Hayley Hobbs.

Congratulations to Pastor Thomas Hargis and Katie Owen, proud parents of Madeline Sarah born Friday, 8/14/15!
This summer Hyde Park Bethlehem United Methodist Church provided camperships for 24 students to spend a week at Camp Wesley after being challenged by member Chris Frank to send "all the children and youth who wanted to go to camp, to go." Only a couple of the kids attend the church, the rest were found through partnerships with Groesbeck UMC and area ministries. **Click here to learn more about their passion for church camp ministry.**

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**For lay persons called to lead & serve**

Many lay persons feel a calling to lead or serve more fully in their congregation or community, or perhaps just desire more in-depth theological learning.
Certified Lay Ministers may have the opportunity to preach the Word, provide care for the congregation, assist in program leadership or serve as witnesses in the community to further the mission of church. August 30 is the deadline to apply for the next Certified Lay Ministry Academy.

**Praying for our churches**

*Week of August 17, 2015*

ORV Superintendent Brian Brown and district staff are praying this week for these ORV churches:

- **Calvary Hilltop**, Rev. Roland Moore
- **Mt Healthy**, Rev. Jonathan Kollmann
- **New Vision**, Rev. Rick Nance

Please join us as we ask the Holy Spirit to breakthrough and renew and revive each church, unleashing new life!

Abundant Fruit Gathering is September 20th
Our annual Abundant Fruit Gathering takes place on Sunday, September 20th from 3:30-6pm at Owensville United Methodist Church. Learn how grants provided by the Ohio River Valley district have helped churches and agencies be in ministry with their neighbors and change lives.

Abundant Fruit is always a time of inspiration and celebration and this year's event will be no exception. A special addition to the festivities will be a barbeque sponsored by the Council on Development. They want to thank Ohio River Valley District churches for taking part in the Imagine No Malaria campaign. All 121 churches made a donation, helping West Ohio reach its goal of $3.5 million!

Mark your calendar now and plan to join your friends in celebration of what God is doing in our midst. Sign up now.

It's the 95th anniversary of Wesley Education Center, let's help!

Established in 1920, Wesley Education Center for Children and Families is the oldest child care facility of its kind in the city of Cincinnati. Since its beginning, their educational philosophy has been based on meeting the developmental needs of the whole child; educationally, emotionally, and socially in a safe and healthy environment, as they strive to respond to the needs of poor, young working mothers.

Presently, more than forty infants and pre-kindergarten children are served, 98% of whom are from African American families who fall below the poverty guidelines. Only 83% of Wesley's operational budget is covered by client fees, government vouchers and
subsidies, and the support of a few of the congregations in Ohio River Valley District and United Methodist Women worldwide.

In order to help Wesley Education Center meet some of their very practical needs, the Ohio River Valley District under the leadership of Linda Young, will begin collecting supplies for them each month. Items may be delivered to the Ohio River Valley District office or taken directly to the Center (525 Hale Ave, Cincinnati 45229) at the end of each month.

September - Baby Wipes and Liquid Hand Soap  
October - Toilet Paper and Facial Tissues  
November - Disposal diapers (Infant - Toddlers, 27-37 lbs.)  
December - Play Dough, Books for toddlers-pre school  
January - Batteries (AA, AAA, D)  
February - Underwear for boys and girls ( 6 mos. - 5 yrs.)  
March - Copy Paper (8.5 x 11)  
April - Infant & toddler bibs  
May - Balls (big & small), cars & trucks  
June - Baby Wipes, Liquid Hand Soap  
July - Toilet Paper & facial tissues  
August - Disposable Diapers (Infant - Toddlers, 27-37 lbs.)

To more fully experience Wesley Education Center, visit their website: [www.wesleyeducationcenter.org](http://www.wesleyeducationcenter.org). For more information, contact Linda Young at 513.871.1598.

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**More news from National Night Out partnerships**

Many ORV churches participated in National Night Out on August 4th - some for the first time. In fact, Batavia Emmanuel took a leap of faith and actually organized Batavia Township's first ever National Night Out! They partnered with the township and the Clermont County Sheriff to provide an opportunity for families in the community to meet and greet local law enforcement, fire fighters and EMS volunteers. It took place at Batavia Township Park and an estimated 500-600 people attended. They had free ice cream, popcorn, face painting, live music, a car show and other family-friendly activities. Pastor Joe Royer summed up the event by
saying, "It was a good start to what will hopefully be an annual event."

Mt. Healthy United Methodist Church sponsored a face painting booth at their community's National Night Out and had over 55 kids come out. The overall attendance at the event was well over 150 people.

First UMC Springboro sent 11 volunteers to Clearcreek Township's National Night Out. They "had a blast" and are going to try to make it an annual event.

What was your experience? Let us tell your story - send an email to ohiorivervalley@wocumc.org.

Festival of Sharing is September 19

Because of your participation in the Festival of Sharing, a significant impact was made to those in need here in America and around the world! We could not be prepared in times of need without the support of you and your congregations! We can't wait to see you all at the Festival of Sharing on Saturday, September 19!

~Matthew Stevens
Director of Congregational Giving
Church World Service

Your kits will be picked up in the ORV on Friday, September 18 - please have yours delivered to the nearest pick up site by Wednesday, September 16. Also, a driver is needed to drive the district and pick up kits and then take them on to the Festival of
Sharing at Otterbein. Please contact Johnny Phillips, ORV Festival of Sharing Coordinator at 513.256.5193 if you can help out.

**Mission Team being formed now to Colombia in 2016**

Members are needed to join the ORV Mission to Brisas del Mar, Colombia the week of February 9-17, 2016. Service will include construction work on the community church, holding Bible School for children and Bible Studies for adults. At week’s end, you'll get the opportunity to enjoy a full day of touring Historic Cartagena, Colombia.

Team formation and meetings begin September 27th. The projected cost for this trip is just under $2000. The continued work in Colombia is making a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters there.

Contact team leader, Mike Estep, to learn more: 513.600.3997.

**September is Hunger Action Month**

Nearly 50 million people in the United States today are hungry or food insecure. Yet in this country, we will throw away over 133 billion pounds of good food this year. As people of faith, it is time for us to take action - to say that this situation is unacceptable and to do something about it.

Plan now to make September a time for your congregation to stand together against hunger, joining with the Society of St. Andrew to see that each person in this country has healthy, nourishing food to eat. Download the Daily Calendar for Prayer and Action
Let us remember in prayer those grieving the loss of their loved one, and remember in thanksgiving the life and ministry of:

**Don Roy Shegog, M.D.** who died August 9. Don is survived by his wife, Rev. Jeannette Shegog, a son, three daughters, two grandsons and a host of other family members and loved ones. Don practiced medicine throughout the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky area for over 40 years. He served alongside his wife, Rev. Jeannette Shegog, a retired elder in the West Ohio Conference, at Hyde Park (Cincinnati, 1994); Mt. Zion (Cincinnati, 1998); and Calvary Hilltop (Cincinnati, 2002) United Methodist churches, until her retirement in 2012. Obituary. Funeral
services will be held at 7pm Tuesday, August 18 at St. Paul United Methodist Church, Winston-Salem, NC with visitation preceding the service at 6pm. Expressions of condolence may be sent to Rev. Jeannette Shegog, 3643 Signet Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27101.