



Ohio Episcopal Area Emerging Gen Connections



OCTOBER 2025

Celebrating School Connections



Brice United Methodist in Brice, Ohio is the proud home of the Brice Christian Academy. Not only is Pastor Nick Shaw the chaplain for the school, there are several other exciting partnerships taking shape. Most recently, students from the school's life skills class spent time helping the Brice UMC food stock shelves, prepare, and clean in preparation for this weekend's food distribution.

Celebrating Community Connections



Saturday Walnut Street UMC had a fantastic worship event led by a team that included young people. They welcomed members from 5 different churches & 3 UMC pastors from Chillicothe shared a word and prayed over the body.

Save the Dates

October 4th 9am-2pm
Volunteer Work Day @ Wesley

October 15
Family Advent Resources
available online!

October 19th
Laity Sunday

October 26th 6-7:30pm
Showing up for queer & trans
peers @ North Broadway UMC

November 1 9am-2pm
Volunteer Work Day @ Wesley

November 15
Ohio Day of Prayer

November 16
Ohio Youth Project Feed

January 23-24, 2026
Ohio UM Children, Youth, Young
Adult Leader Retreat

February 20-22, 2026
Ohio Confirmation Retreat @
Wanake

March 13-15
Ignite-NCJ Exploring Call in
Chicago

March 20-21, 2026
Laity Convocation - Youth and
Young Adult Focus Groups
Invited-especially Saturday!

MORE CELEBRATIONS



Over the past year, the Interim Camp Wesley Coordinating Council has been hard at work preparing our camp and retreat ministry in Bellefontaine, Ohio, to reopen for the 2026 summer camping season. The council includes lay and clergy members from across the West Ohio Conference, representing the Board of Trustees, Council on Finance and Administration, Transformative Discipleship, the United Methodist Foundation of West Ohio, the Connectional Table, Emerging Generations, and Camp and Retreats. Co-led by Rev. Joe Ziraldo and Rev. Paula Stewart, with staff support from Rev. Ann Marie Carley, the team has been focused on ensuring that proceeds from the camp sale are invested wisely. Their efforts are making possible a \$3 million renovation to the property.

When it reopens in 2026, the site will feature a refreshed look, including a clean and safe lake, new restrooms in the dining hall, and a modern water filtration system providing drinking water throughout the property.

In addition, the council developed a marketing and messaging plan that includes rebranding the site as the Wesley Camp and Retreat Center. This new name reflects both its history and its future vision. The rebranding comes with a new logo, social media presence and a soon-to-be-launched website.

A new full-time position was created to oversee property maintenance with Tom Baker as the Maintenance and Facilities Coordinator. Tom, who previously served as Wesley's part-time maintenance person, brings valuable experience and has been onsite to oversee work since March.

At the end of October, the Rev. Abby Lightle will join the staff team as the Director. Lightle's leadership marks a new chapter for Wesley Camp and Retreat Center as it prepares for a full camp relaunch in 2026. The camp schedule will be released in November, and hiring will begin soon for 30 summer staff members to help welcome 100 campers each week.



EVENT DETAILS

PROJECT FEED

Sunday, Nov. 16

3-5pm



Kent First United Methodist Church
1435 East Main St., Kent OH

\$10 for students [adults are free]



OHIO EPISCOPAL AREA
East & West Ohio Conferences
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Deena Wolfe - PF Coordinator
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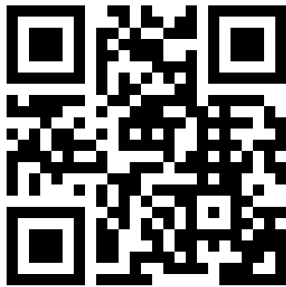
OHIO CONFIRMATION
RETREAT
CAMP WANAKEE
FEBRUARY 20-22ND

FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR TO REGISTER FOLLOW
THE QR CODE



EVENT DETAILS

Ignite is an event for young adults (18+) and beyond! If you or someone you know is leaning into a call to credentialed ministry in any form, save these dates. Registration is anticipated to open some time in October. The QR Code below will take you to the NCJ website where details will be posted when available:



NORTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION

IGNITE

EXPLORING YOUR CALL TO MINISTRY

Join us for an unforgettable event filled with discernment, fellowship, education, and support as you explore your call into ministry!

MAR. 13 - 15, 2026
1901 Chestnut Avenue
Glenview, IL 60025

www.ncjume.org

The Grief Recovery Method: **Helping Children With Loss Program (HCWL)** teaches adults how to help children talk about their losses and to give voice to the feelings they experience. Adults learn how to help children identify and give voice to undelivered communications they need to make to take the actions necessary to begin the grief recovery and emotional healing process.

The program focuses on these key components: Grief is the **normal and natural** emotional response to change or loss of any kind – death, divorce, moving, health changes, relationship changes and more; Grief is also the **result of unmet hopes, dreams and expectations** and the loss of intangible concepts such as safety, trust, respect, faith... and hope. Grief is **universal**. All of us have experienced grief throughout our lives, as a result of many changes and losses. These losses begin in childhood – when we move from one home to another, when our parents go through divorce, when a pet dies, when a first love doesn't work out, or when we experience abuse or neglect from someone we expect to love and care for us.

The Grief Recovery Method[®]
ESTABLISHED
Evidence Based
PROGRAM



**FALL
TRAININGS**



**MORE
INFO**

EVENT DETAILS



SHOWING UP FOR OUR QUEER & TRANS PEERS

Sun Oct. 26th, 6-7:30pm
North Broadway United Methodist
48 E. North Broadway St.
Columbus, OH 43214



Chris Rehs-Dupin graduated from the University of Louisville in 2007. Chris began speaking at Professional Camp Conferences in 2009, and has presented sessions on: Queer and Trans* Inclusion, Staff Morale, Intersectionality, Motivating Millennials for Success, De-Escalation Techniques for Angry Caregivers, Fostering Belonging, and has sat on numerous panels including Inclusive Care of LGBTQ Individuals, Intersectional Equity Panels, and LGBTQ Inclusion in Churches. From keynotes to break out sessions, Chris loves working with folks to understand how belonging can be transformative in our spaces, and in our world. Chris was the recipient of the ACA Illinois, Marcy and Bob Brower Award (2022), and the ACA Ohio Friends of Camping Award (2023). With a background in theatre, he weaves entertainment, humor, and storytelling into his workshops and trainings, creating an impactful environment for learning and growth. For more information contact: Rev. Kristen Lawson, klawson@north-broadway.org

WESLEY VOLUNTEER WORK DAY!

653 TOWNSHIP RD 37, BELLEFONTAINE, OH 43311

OCTOBER 4TH & NOVEMBER 1ST 9AM-2PM

TRAIL MAINTENANCE
We have tools for mowing grass, & weed eating. If you have a chainsaw or tree limb trimmers, bring it

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS
Bring electric saws, drills, hammers & help us repair storage sheds (Oct) cabinets (Nov)

WE WILL HAVE PLENTY OF WATER & LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED!

Reset

A special Ohio United Methodist Retreat
for all ministry leaders (lay, clergy, paid, unpaid) who engage with children, youth, or young adults

January 23-24, 2026
Embassy Suites, Akron Canton Airport
7883 Freedom Ave NW, North Canton, OH

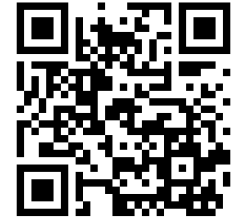
More Details Coming Soon!

RESOURCES

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRIES



DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES
The United Methodist Church



THE PRESCHOOL
CONNECTION



Advent



2025 FAMILY ADVENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE BY OCT 15TH

- Family Advent Devotional
- Family Advent Calendar
- Family Centered Advent Social Media Resources



Connect with us!

Have a helpful resource, something to celebrate or upcoming events others may be interested in? We'd love to share it in the next edition of Emerging Generations Connection!

Contact:

Rev. Ann Marie Carley, Director of Engagement with Children, Youth, and Young Adults for the Ohio Episcopal Area
amcarley@wocumc.org or 380-223-9369