

One Body. One Spirit. One Hope.



Miami Valley District

Free MIV Advent Resource Available To You!

Merry Christmas and
Happy Advent!

We've created a Christmas Eve companion to our Backstory Advent resource series set. It's called "The Story" and picks up where the Advent series leaves off. This is all available at no charge to churches in the Miami Valley District.



In the resource set you'll find:

- * Graphics (widescreen HD and non-wide SD)
- * Promo video (a video in HD and SD formats for promoting, with "Christmas Eve" at the end)
- * Bumper video (same video, but without "Christmas Eve on the end)
- * Looping background (suitable for song lyrics in both HD and SD formats)
- * Bulletin Cover (in Black and White and Color)
- * Christmas Eve Worship Guide (with written calls to worship, prayers, exegetical notes, song selections and more)
- * Discipleship resource (a discipleship diving deeper into the theme)
- * The Story logo.PDF (use however you'd like).

It can all be downloaded here (675.2MB):

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/kx5am0hgc6i4nj5/THE%20STORY%20-%20CHRISTMAS%20EVE.zip?dl=0>

Have a blessed Christmas!
Your Miami Valley District Staff

Building Bridges Academy

Local Church Leader
Training

Saturday,
1/27/2018

8:30am - 3pm
United Theological
Seminary
4501 Denlinger Rd



[Registration & More Info Here](#)

Holiday Happenings in the MIV

Seeds of Grace, an outreach ministry of Grace Church in Dayton, will engage Luke's story of Jesus' birth with women incarcerated in the Montgomery County Jail and the Dayton Correctional Institution. They will help the women learn the story by heart so that it can be a source of spiritual strength and hope for them during the season of Advent. In addition, Dr. Amelia Boomershine, Deacon-in-Residence at Grace, will lead a time of worship on Christmas Day for women in the jail, which will include her telling the birth narrative. The holidays are especially difficult times for women who are incarcerated and cannot be with their children and grandchildren.



Would you like to serve on a MIV District Committee?

We currently have openings for a few of our district committees. If you are interested in serving on one of them, please contact the district office and let us know!

Building and Location Committee, *Don Burley - chair*

This committee provides expertise to help local church leadership evaluate land purchases and construction/remodeling projects whose costs are ten percent or more of the church's yearly budget. (for Trustee-minded individuals)

Lay Servant Ministries Team, Nancy Byrd - chair

The Lay Servant Ministries Team organizes and provides basic and advanced lay servant classes in the spring and fall of each year. The team also reviews the Lay Servant Ministries reports prepared by Lay Servant for charge conference each year and interviews persons who want to be Lay Speakers. (must have had taken some Lay Servant Ministry classes before)

Clergy Cluster Leader or if you are clergy looking for a cluster to join.

Upcoming MIV Events

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

MIV District Visioning Day Retreat (offsite)

The office will be closed.



Friday, December 22, 2017 - Monday, January 1, 2018

MIV offices are closed due to the seminary being closed for the holidays.

Monday, January 15, 2018

Martin Luther King day, MIV offices closed.

Saturday, January 27, 2018

BUILDING BRIDGES ACADEMY - Local Church Leader Training

United Theological Seminary, 4501 Denlinger Rd, Trotwood

8:30am - 3pm

[Register Here](#)

Monday, January 29 - Thursday, February 1, 2018

TIIMS - Transitional/Intentional Interim Ministry Specialist

United Theological Seminary, 4501 Denlinger Rd, Trotwood

9am, each day

[Register Here](#)



Job Opportunities in MIV

Part-time Youth Pastor - Ansonia UMC

Worship And Youth Leader - Bellefontaine UMC (CAN)

Aldersgate UMC Children's Ministry Director

[Click Here for Recent Appointments](#)

Upcoming Local Events

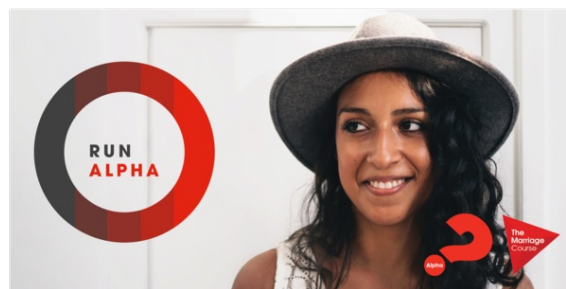
FREE Legal Clinic

Saturday, December 9, 2017
10am - Noon @ Fairview UMC
Greetings this holy season. It is also the time of "year-end-things" that might need a legal reference. Fairview U.M. Church's free legal clinic might be a most welcomed resource.

Run ALPHA

January 6, 2018, 9am - 2:30pm
Gather with other churches across the region for an interactive training to experience what it's like to run an Alpha. Ginghamburg Church, 7695 S. Co. Rd 25A, Tipp City, OH 45371

Register here: alphausa.org/runalphatippcity



Gather with other churches across the region for an interactive training to experience what it's like to run an Alpha.

TOPICS COVERED

- What is Alpha?
- 7 Best Practices of Alpha
- The Alpha Small Group
- Prayer Ministry

DATE	Saturday, January 6, 2018
TIME	9 AM - 2:30 PM
SPACE	Ginghamburg Church South Campus Discipleship Center 7695 S. Co. Rd. 25A, Tipp City, Ohio 45371
COST*	Individual Registration: \$30.00 Group Registration(3+): \$20.00/ea. Walk-in Registration: \$35.00
CONTACT	Priscilla Navarro priscillanavarro@alphausa.org 602.509.0238
REGISTRATION	alphausa.org/runalphatippcity <small>*Includes training materials, lunch and snacks.</small>
MARRIAGE COURSE TRAINING ONLY	2:30 PM - 4 PM
COST*	\$10 <small>*Included in the Run Alpha training</small>



Make the most of your Run Alpha experience by viewing the videos on our online training center before you attend. Visit the site below, click login and enter your email address. New users will be asked to create a password.
run.alphausa.org/training

MLK Day March and Celebration

Join us in Troy for a Martin Luther King Jr. Day march and celebration Monday, January 15
Hosted by Lincoln Community Center of Troy

Holy Land Classic

April 17 - 26, 2018
Educational Opportunities Tours
w/ Pastor Gene and Drema

Phelps

See attached flyer for more information



City of Troy
2018 Celebration
2018 Celebration

9AM - March from Downtown Troy
(Meeting in SW quadrant by Bakehouse Bread)
to Troy Police Department

10AM - Followed by citywide
MLK Celebration
at St. John's United Church of Christ
(130 S. Walnut St. ~ Troy, OH)

Followed by lunch at First Place Food Pantry
(16 W. Franklin St.~ Troy, Oh)



Upcoming UTS Events



Simply Jesus: Advent Devotional

Bring focus into your busy schedule and experience joy this holiday season through simple spiritual practices that celebrate Christ. This practical devotional tool is designed for individuals, small groups and congregations as they incorporate spiritual formation into everyday life. Group rates available upon request.

[Register Here](#)



Building Leaders: Theological Reflection Models

This hybrid course includes online and face-to-face coursework.

Online: December 8, 2017 - February 16, 2018

Face to Face: January 8-11, 2018,

Instructors: Dr. Marilyn Evans

[Information and Registration Here](#)

Learn to think theologically about supervision of staff, committees, groups and leadership of a congregation. Apply theological reflection models to supervisory case material brought by class members. Gain experience and tools to expand your ability to do theological reflection while engaged in ministry. You will refine the use of theological reflection in supervisory conversations introduced in Building Leaders: A Conversational Model [Formerly Principles and Practice of Supervision, a prerequisite for this course].

LINKS: Marriage Retreat

Reconnect with you spouse on January 19-20, 2018 at the LINKS (Lasting Intimacy Through Nurturing Knowledge and Skills) MarriageRetreat. Instructors Rev. Marty and Veronica McMichael will lead participants through applying biblical foundations for a lasting, healthy marriage. [Register Here](#)



Church Security

We have seen an increased interest in matters involving church security, and it's likely you have as well. Because we are always concerned about the safety of all, please consider the following when providing guidance to your churches. Several people contributed to the response below.

- Plans should be in place to protect people from several types of adverse events, not only active shooter events (e.g., tornado, flood, fire, etc.). Your district emergency response team leaders are good resources as is UMCOR's Connecting Neighbors Program.

Keep in mind, a plan without training and rehearsal is less likely to be successful. Discuss plans regularly, and walk your community, including staff and volunteers, through the expected steps.

- While there may be active shooter risks, research shows that there are also risks from poorly thought out responses to active shooters. Local law enforcement and your insurance company are excellent resources for educating local church boards and committees on practices and policies.
- Our Social Principles and Annual Conference rules start with the presumption our churches are weapon-free zones. Practices that are inconsistent with this starting point should follow a thoughtful discernment and decision process.
- Your Safe Sanctuaries® Policy is a good place from which a discussion on active shooters might start. CongregationU, is offering an online training course on Active Shooter Situations in Church Settings.
- Every church has a unique context that should be taken into consideration when developing response plans to dangerous situations.

These staff are ready to assist with additional questions you or your district staff may receive:

- Kay Panovec, Media inquiries
- RaNae Street, Safe Sanctuaries Policy
- Dee Stickley-Miner, Guidance from our Social Principles, General Agencies and Connecting Neighbors Training

- Bill Brownson, Insurance considerations and matters requiring guidance from our Chancellor, Chris Hogan.

Upcoming WOC Events

For a complete listing of WOC events, click [here](#).



WINTER CAMP 2017

December 28-30

Enjoy God's creation in winter with winter games, ice

blocking, and plenty of hot chocolate! Students ages 7 - 17 can study worship in the warmth of Otterbein, Wesley or Widewater camps from Thursday December 28 - Saturday, December 30. Dropoff is 5pm, pickup at 7am. Cost is \$89 for students, and \$45 for adults with a group. Please register by December 21. Find more info and register using the link below!



[Information and Registration Here](#)

Are you connected with your district?!



One Body. One Spirit. One Hope.

Miami Valley District

Visit our website!



miamivalley@wocumc.org

Contact us!



Like us on
Facebook!