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# West Ohio Conference Council on Development

## The United Methodist Church

### *Strength for Today...*

### *Bright Hope for Tomorrow*

## June 2010

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### Rock Solid Leadership

Jesus taught that those who hear and act on his words are building their lives (houses) on the solid rock (Matthew 7:24-27; Luke 6:47-49). Jesus drew from the Hebrew scriptures and Psalms for his “building on the rock” metaphor. The prophet Isaiah (17:10) identifies God as the “rock of your refuge” and Deuteronomy 8:15 claims the Rock is the source of living water. The psalmist thanks God for setting “my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure” (Psalm 40:12) and affirms that “the Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer” (Psalm 18:2). The early followers of Jesus consistently referred to him as the living stone and the cornerstone of God’s redemptive, saving activity. (I Peter 2:4-7).



Every spiritual leader I know desires to have his or her feet firmly set upon the solid, immutable rock of Christ. Every disciple I know aspires to be a living stone, built by God into a spiritual house, a holy nation, a royal priesthood in order to “proclaim the mighty acts of Him who called us out of darkness

into His marvelous light” (I Peter 2:9). Every pastor I know prays for the Lord to be his or her rock, fortress, deliverer and refuge.

Within The United Methodist tradition, spiritual leaders who are “rock solid” – leaders who are firmly set on the solid rock of Christ – typically demonstrate the Spirit gifts of faith, fire and fruits. John Wesley sought these three hallmarks of spiritual leaders – faith, fire and fruits – in the first lay preachers of the Methodist movement in England. Faith is demonstrated in convictions and character that are Christ-centered. Fire is exhibited in calling, passion and vision for the purposes of Christ’s ministry. Fruits are exhibited in competency for ministry and the results of that ministry.

The West Ohio Conference has long stated that our primary contribution to helping local congregations fulfill their mission of “making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world” is to identify, enlist, train, credential and deploy spiritual leaders for the local churches. The purpose of the Conference is to develop “rock solid” leaders. Leaders who have their feet solidly planted on the Rock of Salvation and their hearts fully aligned with

**OVER \$46 MILLION HAS BEEN RAISED IN GIFTS AND PLEDGES**

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the Cornerstone of the Church. Leaders who are so well grounded in Christ that they consistently exhibit faith, fire and fruits.

The West Ohio Conference is a leading innovator in raising up the next generation of “rock solid” pastoral leaders. This innovation is possible because of the strong investment pastors and congregations have made in hosting and mentoring our interns and residents. It is possible because of the financial support provided for these initiatives through *Strength for Today...Bright Hope for Tomorrow* and our district and conference apportionments. It

is possible because of the many churches that consistently invite children, youth and young adults to consider how God is calling them to serve Christ, the Church and God’s people.

Thank you for your contribution in developing the next generation of “rock solid” leaders who demonstrate the Wesleyan hallmarks of spiritual leadership – faith, fire and fruits.

Bishop Bruce R. Ough

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## LOCAL CHURCH RESIDENCY PROGRAM OUTCOMES ACHIEVED

One of the four foci affirmed by the 2008 general Conference of The United Methodist Church to guide United Methodists at the dawn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century is “Developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world.” United Methodist officials said the church is approaching a “leadership crisis” of ordained clergy in the United States.

The West Ohio Conference is responding to this crisis in an innovative and exciting way through the Local Church Residency Program, funded by *Strength for Today...Bright Hope for Tomorrow*.

### Rachel Billups appointed Senior Pastor, Shiloh UMC



*“The Residency has taught me to be a servant leader who empowers others to lead.”*

Rachel Billups became our first Resident in July 2007. Rachel was appointed to Greenville Evangelical United Methodist Church (EUMC) under the supervising leadership of Senior Pastor Bill Lyle.

*“Having been the first church to experience the Local Church Residency Program, I am convinced more than ever it is vital for the future of our conference. We can’t underestimate the importance of pairing our brightest and best young leaders with our most innovative and creative churches. We have a rich untapped training ground in a host of churches across our conference and I am excited to see how this program will impact West Ohio in the next decade.*

*During the three years of the Residency program, I personally witnessed profound and accelerated growth in Rachel’s self-confidence, vision casting, ministry skill sets, preaching, administration, and strategic thinking. She developed from a seminary graduate to an effective pastoral leader in a much shorter period of time than would have been afforded her if she had not participated in the Residency Program.*

*The Local Church Residency Program demands a tremendous amount of time, energy*

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*and focus from the senior pastor and the church but without a doubt the payoff is well worth the investment. EUM church was blessed to participate in the Residency Program and I am thrilled for other pastors and churches to receive the same blessing.*

Bill Lyle, Senior Pastor,  
Greenville EUM

When asked to state the greatest benefit of the Residency, Rachel replied,

*“The Residency has taught me to be a servant leader who empowers others to lead. My*

*job as a pastor is to lead leaders, to empower leaders...I am not to do all the work myself...I am to empower others to do the work.”*

Rachel Billups, Resident  
Greenville Evangelical UMC

The Local Church Residency Program has achieved its purpose and goal for Rachel and for the West Ohio Conference. After three years of intense leadership development, Rachel has been appointed as Senior Pastor to Shiloh UMC in Cincinnati effective July 1, 2010.

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## Current Residents

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### Dan Metzger Anderson Hills UMC



*“One of the greatest benefits...has been in observing Pastor Mark’s skill at developing leaders within the church.”*

Dan Metzger is serving a three-year Residency at

Anderson Hills UMC in Cincinnati that commenced July 1, 2009. Mark Rowland is Dan’s supervising pastor. Dan previously served as an intern at St. Paul’s Findlay UMC and as a student pastor at Van Buren UMC. Dan graduated from Asbury Theological Seminary in May 2010.

*“Thus far my experience with the Local Church Residency Program while serving at Anderson Hills United Methodist Church has been challenging and exciting. It has been a real honor and privilege to witness a church and a staff that is devoted to making disciples for Jesus Christ in Cincinnati. One of the greatest benefits so far for me has been in observing Pastor Mark’s skill at developing leaders within the church. Being able to witness how he goes about leading the staff and the church as a whole has been an invaluable example for me as I am starting out in pastoral ministry.*

*Finishing seminary, it has been great to put what I’ve been learning into practice. At Anderson Hills, I’ve been able to lead meetings, go on hospital visitations, vision and implement ministry programs, and help design and lead worship services. Through all of this, I have access to Pastor Mark who helps to mentor me along the way, encouraging my strength and successes, and teaching and guiding me through times when I am unsure or make mistakes. Having that sort of counsel at this stage in my ministry is a huge blessing!”*

Dan Metzger, Resident, Anderson Hills UMC

At a recent Residency event at Anderson Hills UMC, Senior Pastor Mark Rowland praised the leadership of the West Ohio Conference for launching the Local Church Residency Program.

*“This initiative is innovative and requires risk taking, but it is successfully providing for the intentional development of the next generation of ordained leaders in The United Methodist Church.*

*Dan has worked hard his first year, and he has related well with staff and the congregation. He is playing an integral part in helping Anderson Hills UMC move through the 1,000 barrier.*

*The most important skill pastors need to learn is leadership; providing an atmosphere in*

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*which people are transformed to be leaders. One of Dan's key roles is building a young adult ministry from the ground up by recruiting and mentoring young leaders. The leadership skills that Dan is developing will equip him for a highly effective appointment."*

Mark Rowland, Senior Pastor,  
Anderson Hills UMC

## Kevin Quincel Reynoldsburg UMC

*"I have been given opportunities for 'hands on' leadership experience..."*



Kevin Quincel is serving a two-year Residency at Reynoldsburg UMC that commenced July 1, 2009. Kevin is a graduate of Ashland Theological Seminary. He has most recently served as pastor at Salem UMC near Kingston, OH. Prior to that Kevin was a member at Emmett Chapel UMC, Circleville. Before entering the ministry Kevin was employed as IT Project Manager for Nationwide Insurance.

*"I praise God every day for the blessing and the opportunity of the Local Church Residency Program of the West Ohio Conference. This Residency Program has not only changed the trajectory of my ministry but has transformed my life as well.*

*For the past year I have had the opportunity to serve at Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church with a team of leaders who are changing the world for Jesus Christ. As a member of this team, I have had the opportunity to gain an insight and understanding of what effective ministry leader-*

*ship entails. In addition, I have been given opportunities for 'hands on' leadership experience within the life of this church. In the first year alone, I have been given the opportunity to:*

*\*Lead the Launch of a Satellite Campus*

*\*Co-Lead and Redesign our Adult Discipleship Program*

*\*Lead the Young Adult Ministry*

*\*Become an active member of the teaching team and proclaim the gospel*

*These are challenges and opportunities in which I never dreamed of being a part."*

Kevin Quincel, Resident,  
Reynoldsburg UMC

*"Kevin is a gifted preacher and teacher, but probably the most significant impact of his Residency is the experience he is gaining in strategic leadership through change. During the past year, Kevin has had an inside look at what it will take for him to lead a congregation through strategic change. He has not only had the opportunity to watch it occur, he has provided integral leadership in a variety of areas—including the development and launch of new adult discipleship system, staff transitions and supervision, and intentional outreach. Probably the most significant has been his leadership of the effort that will result in the planting of a satellite congregation during the fall of 2010 from the Reynoldsburg Church. The investment in his Residency is giving him accelerated ministry experience that can alter the trajectory of his usefulness and fruitfulness in ministry for decades to come."*

Dr. Jeffrey E. Greenway, Senior Pastor,  
Reynoldsburg UMC

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The West Ohio Conference is grateful to Anderson Hills United Methodist Church, Greenville Evangelical United Methodist Church, and Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church for the resources they have provided in hosting the Residents and to the supervising pastors for their time and commitment to this initiative.

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## 16 Interns Announced Summer 2010

Desiree Baird	Sulphur Grove UMC
Anne Combs	Waynesville UMC
Anthony Coy	Trinity UMC
Jessica Harris	Loveland UMC
Lauren Harsila	Ginghamsburg UMC
Megan Hernandez	Reynoldsburg UMC
Christine Montgomery	Ada First UMC
Jordin Kear	Cornerstone UMC
Anthony Livoti	The Plains UMC
Jamie Mosley	Lifewell Ministry Center
Ken Schoon	Gaines UMC
Justin Smith	Bowling Green UMC
Allyssa Smithers	Central Avenue UMC
Timothy Wasserman	New Life Community UMC
Michael Weaver	Stillwater UMC
Rachel Wood	Reynoldsburg UMC

## Leadership Development Gatherings throughout the Conference

On April 26 we held a gathering at Anderson Hills UMC where Bishop Ough and other leaders in the Conference presented our Local Church Residency Program and our Internship Program. We held a similar event on May 13 at Reynoldsburg UMC. Future events are being planned for the fall of 2010 in Miami Valley District, Maumee Watershed District and Northwest Plains District.

These gatherings are for multiple purposes. In addition to expressing our gratitude for the support already in place, we are attempting to broaden our base of financial support. We recognize that we must continue to communicate our progress and outcomes. In addition, we need to recruit from among our lay persons “champions” within local church congregations to not only raise awareness but also to assist in developing further investment throughout the Conference to advance our successes.

### Foundation Gifts from prior years:

Cora Foundation

Lloyd D. Hunter Memorial Fund of the  
Columbus Foundation

**Foundation for Evangelism  
awarded a  
\$50,000 Venture  
Capital Grant to West Ohio  
Conference Residency  
Program in 2008/2009**

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# E. Eugene Frazer Excellence in Ministry Scholarship Endowment Fund

There are a number of dynamic leaders, past and present, who have left indelible marks within the West Ohio Conference with their strong, enduring commitment to excellence in ministry, evangelism, church growth and leadership development. One such distinguished leader was Dr. E. Eugene Frazer.

The recently formed ***E. Eugene Frazer Excellence in Ministry Scholarship Endowment Fund*** addresses this commitment with stirring passion and purpose. We are deeply grateful to Mrs. Mary Jane Frazer and family for their willingness to allow the West Ohio Conference to honor Dr. Frazer's heritage with the establishment of this fund. We are pleased to report that the fund has already received over \$40,000 toward an initial goal of \$100,000. All contributions will be added to the principal of the fund to be held in perpetuity since earnings only from the fund will be utilized for scholarship awards.

Leadership development is one of the critical challenges facing many of our young pastors and churches today. The creation of the ***E. Eugene Frazer Excellence in Ministry Scholarship Endowment Fund*** will help to ensure that effective pastors, early in their ministerial careers, will learn how to create and lead healthy, vital growing congregations that make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

### Mission Statement

*The Council on Development informs, counsels, and encourages individuals and congregations to respond to Jesus Christ with wise financial decisions and, when appropriate, assists them in making outright and deferred gifts to the ministries of  
The United Methodist Church.*

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## Strength for Today... Bright Hope for Tomorrow

### PLEDGES AND GIFTS

Local Churches _____	\$42,211,682
Foundations and Corporations _____	\$ 228,160
Individuals _____	\$ 3,336,184
In Kind and Direct from Local Churches _____	\$ 361,819

**Total Pledges and Gifts through April 30, 2010 \_\_\_\_\_ \$46,137,845**

Total Pledges and Gifts through April 30, 2009 \_\_\_\_\_ \$39,680,367