

FROM THE ACTING DIRECTOR

"Be still and know that I am God!" (Psalm 46:10)

Where are the positive voices? Why is bullying seen as the way to get ahead, even in the church? Where have compassion and "love your neighbor" gone? Why must parents keep their children from watching the TV news? How do we tell our children that insults and harassment are not proper ways to communicate, if that's all they see on social media?

As I ponder these questions and prepare for our 2-week term of COS in August, I find myself also looking forward to the end of August. Not because my year as Acting Director will be over, but because I will be going to England for a month, and I want to spend time writing and reflecting on what compassion means in my life as a Christian. How do I practice compassion, and how is it being changed by our culture? I don't know about you, but this worries me. Oh, I don't spend a lot of time thinking about it because there are so many other things that take my attention in other directions. But I want to spend time thinking about it, reflecting, praying, journaling and just "being," not "doing." Yes, I will be busy in England – preaching at two Methodist churches where I served in the beginning of my ministry, running a half-marathon, and visiting friends and relatives – doing all the things that fill up vacation time, but I will be away. And sometimes that is what it takes to stop doing and open myself to just being in the presence of God.

What will you do before the summer is over to renew your spirit and your understanding of compassion or some other aspect of your spiritual life? We all won't be able to go to England or travel very far away, but we can plan spiritual "pauses" in our schedule by marking it on the calendar – a day or an hour to just pray and reflect, not plan and prepare. Bishop Judy Craig once told me to insure your time with God, mark an "X" on your calendar and write GOD – who can argue with that? (not even you!)

The older I get the more I am convinced that it is important (no, necessary) for a pastor to step away and listen to the One who called you into this holy vocation. Yes, you must read scripture and plan sermons and other ministries in your church, but the only way to maintain a spiritual calling is to revive your soul, and you can only do this by intentionally reserving time with God, otherwise it just won't happen. This is a unique vocation. It can lift you into God's arms and crush you beneath the weight of other people's agendas and burdens.

So, before summer is over, what will you do to insure that you spend time with God? Be aware. Be intentional. And your spiritual journey as a pastor will nurture your soul throughout your life, and beyond.



Rebeka Maples, Ph.D., M.Div.

Acting Director & Director of Spiritual Formation

COS SO NEWSLETTER
 Volume 26
 Summer 2-week
 2018

AN ENRICHMENT FOR ALL OF US:
 On Pastoral Care by one who cares
 TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 3:30-4:30 PM

"DEATH AND DYING: END OF LIFE CARE"

Presented by JACKIE NEHLS, MDiv, BCC
 Manager of Mission and Ministry with OhioHealth Hospice



Jackie Nehls is a manager of Pastoral Care with OhioHealth. She works with a team of 18 hospice chaplains in Columbus, Marion, Mansfield and Athens, Ohio. When Jackie started with hospice in 1999 as a staff chaplain, she was on a chaplain team of two. Jackie has a MTS from Trinity Lutheran Seminary and her MDiv from the Methodist Theological School. She is an ordained minister with the United Church of Christ. Jackie is based out of OhioHealth's Kobacker House in Columbus, Ohio, and she enjoys travel and spending time with family and friends. Jackie is an active member of Dublin Community United Church of Christ in Dublin, Ohio.

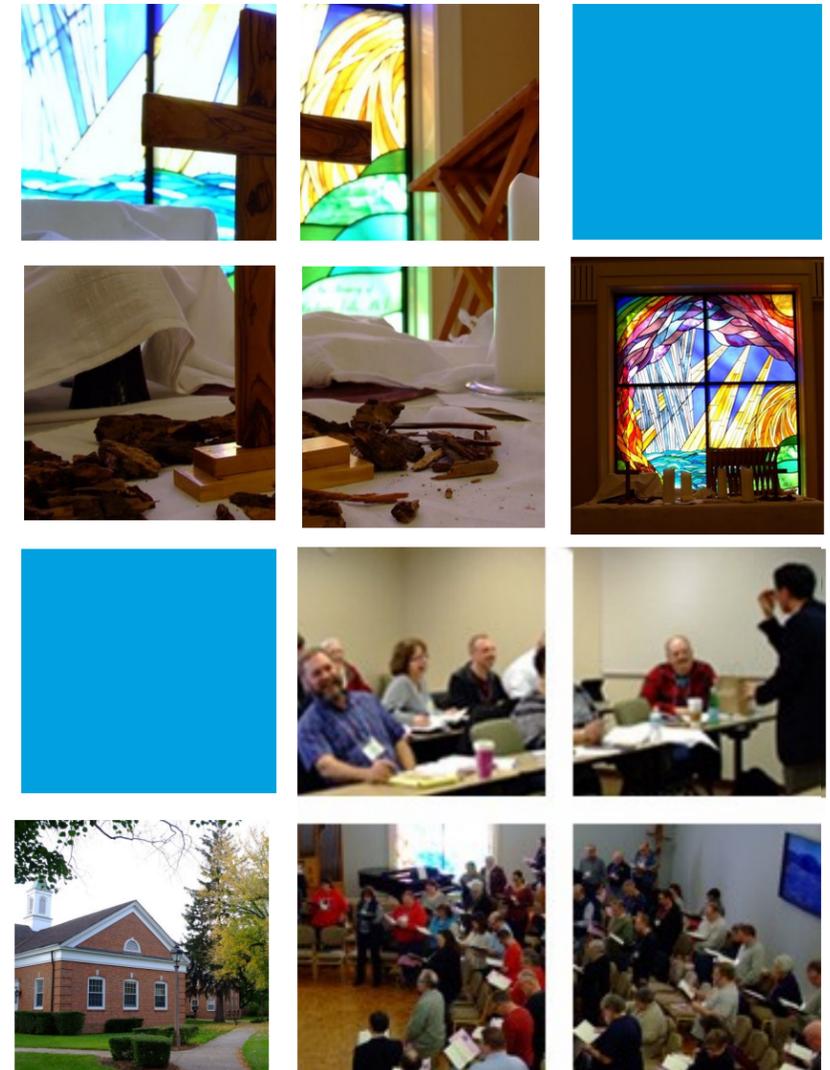
DON'T MISS THIS ENRICHMENT SESSION
 THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 3:30-4:30 PM

"LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME"

Presented by VERA WELKER, MDiv.
 Commissioned Provisional Elder, West Ohio Conference

Vera is a pastor serving in the West Ohio Conference at Perry and Waynesfield United Methodist Churches. She is commissioned on the elder track to be ordained in 2019.

In this session, Vera will present her research on some of the do's and don'ts in children's ministry and explore with us effective ways for delivering children's sermons in Sunday worship. Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them." What things do we do that keep the children from coming?



Course of Study School of Ohio
www.cosohio.org

Term	Class Dates	Registration Deadline	Dorm Available
2018 Fall	Sept. 28-29 & Oct. 26-27	7/30/2018	NO
2019 Winter	Feb 8-9 & Mar 8-9	12/10/2018	YES
2019 Spring	Apr 5-6 & May 3-4	2/4/2019	YES
2019 Summer	June 21-22 & July 12-13	4/22/2019	YES



J. Gary Campbell

COS 122 Theological Heritage I: Introduction
 Rev. Dr. J. Gary Campbell received his Th.M. from Harvard Divinity School and his D.Min. from Asbury Theological Seminary. A retired elder in West Ohio Conference, he served in numerous states as District Superintendent and pastor.

Paul Kim

COS 221 Bible II: Torah & Israel's History
 Rev. Dr. Paul Kim received his M.Div. and Th.M. from Princeton Theological Seminary, and his Ph.D. from the Claremont School of Theology. A Presbyterian elder, he currently teaches Hebrew Bible at MTSO.



Daniel Kim

COS 423 Mission
 Rev. Daniel Kim is the founding and senior pastor at Global Community Church, a multi-ethnic congregation in Columbus, Ohio. He received his M.Div. from Asbury Theological Seminary and a MA in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Cincinnati.

Arun Paul

COS 423 Mission
 Rev. Dr. Arun is an Elder in the UMC, West Ohio Conference. He holds a M.Div. from the Torch Trinity Graduate School of Theology in South Korea, and a Ph.D. in intercultural studies, contextual theology, from Asbury Theological Seminary. He is the Senior Pastor at Oxford United Methodist Church in Oxford, Ohio.



Mark Powell

COS 521 Bible V: Acts, Epistles & Revelation
 Dr. Mark Allan Powell received his M.Div. from Trinity Lutheran Seminary and his Ph.D. from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia. He is Professor of New Testament at Trinity Lutheran Seminary.

Randy Litchfield

COS 123 Formation & Discipleship
 Dr. Randy Litchfield received his Master of Religious Education from Anderson University School of Theology and his Ph.D. from Claremont School of Theology. He currently teaches Christian Education at MTSO.



Brad Binau

COS 323 Congregational Care
 Dr. Brad Binau received his M.Div. from Trinity Lutheran Seminary and his Ph.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary. He is Professor of Pastoral Theology at Trinity Lutheran Seminary.

Ervin Smith

COS 424 Ethics
 Rev. Dr. Ervin Smith received an M.Div. from Drew Theological School and a Ph.D. from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary/Northwestern University. He is Emeritus Professor of Christian Ethics at MTSO.



Jeff Greenway

COS 524: Theological Reflection: Practice of Ministry
 Rev. Dr. Jeff Greenway received an M.Div. from Asbury Theological Seminary and a D.Min. in Evangelism from Wesley Theological Seminary. He serves as Lead Pastor of Reynoldsburg UMC in Reynoldsburg, OH.

VIEW FROM THE COORDINATOR



Terri Litchfield

COS Transcripts

It's easy to request an official transcript from GBHEM. Address your COS transcript request to Pamela Frost, cosregistrar@gbhem.org. To help her confirm she has the correct student, include your

- full name
- PID# (it's on all grade sheets)
- annual conference
- date of birth

Pamela usually emails transcripts within a day or two. Please check any transcript you receive against the reports you receive on the first day of each COS class you take here (this is an UNOFFICIAL listing) and let us know if there are any discrepancies. If you have COS credit from another COS school which isn't showing on the UNOFFICIAL listing we provide, let us know and we will request a transcript and then update our records.

Grades are usually processed at GBHEM five or six weeks after the end of the COS term, at which time the course will show up on transcripts.

CHANGE IN COURSE LOAD POLICY

Approval from GBEHM is no longer required for enrolling in more than four classes in a calendar year. With District and Conference approvals, students may now register for classes beyond the four-course requirement for full-time local pastors.

FROM THE WRITING INSTRUCTOR

For those unfamiliar with academic writing styles, knowing *how* to write in academic language can be an intimidating challenge. Which words are acceptable? Which words are preferred? While those with experience can give a few general guidelines, it is the experience that informs us more precisely about appropriate language use in academic writing. The most important distinguishing factor about academic writing is formality. Academic writing is formal, even if we are writing about ourselves. This implies a few general rules and recommended avoidances. For a start, avoid slang, text-message spellings, clichés, and contractions. Phrases like *to be honest*, *super cool*, *lo and behold*, *ain't nobody got time 4 dat*, *a turn for the worse*, *the cat's out of the bag*, *through the roof*, *so to speak*, and *it was a doozy* have no place in academic writing. These casual expressions may be appropriate in personal emails, text messages, and when you are *chewing the fat* but they are inappropriate in academic papers. Use standard American English spelling for all words, and if you are not sure if a word is a slang term, look it up in the dictionary. Avoiding colloquialisms will help you maintain a scholarly tone throughout your work and will also help you come across clearly and without ambiguity.

Dr. Trad Nogueira-Godsey
 Writing Instructor



WESLEY IN ENGLAND TRIP

MAY 14 – 25, 2019 – 12 days in England - \$3,395*

Course of Study School of Ohio: WV Extension

COS 122: Theological Heritage I
 COS 422: Theological Heritage IV



Experience Course of Study in the land of Methodism's founder, John Wesley. Students will spend twelve days traveling throughout England, visiting many of the Wesleyan heritage sites including but not limited to **The New Room** and **Charles Wesley's home** (Bristol), **Aldersgate Street**, **City Road Chapel** (London), **The Rectory** and **St. Andrews Church** (Epworth), and **Lincoln College** (Oxford).

For more information, contact Rev. Greg Markins (COS: WV Extension Director) at greg.markins@gmail.com.

* Price includes basic tour/sightseeing, round-trip international airfare from New York. See Trip Registration Packet for details.

A link to this flyer as well as trip registration packet can be found under Announcements on the homepage of the COSSO website at www.cosohio.org.

CHOIR NEWS



Psalm 150 reminds us that everything that has breath is to praise the Lord. All who have breath are invited to join our COS choir. The ability to read music is optional.

Choir rehearsals are Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 3:30-4:00. The choir performs during the Eucharist Service before lunch on Saturday. Bring your voice, brass, woodwind, string and percussion instruments as we make a joyful noise in praise to our Awesome Creator. If you would like the music ahead of time, please send me an email at LDouglass@mtso.edu