



Special News regarding Annual Conference

The 2016-2020 quadrennium continues to be extended due to the ongoing postponement of General Conference 2020. In 2021 the Annual Conference theme; Christ Alive in Us! was designed as an extension of the quadrennial theme: *Bearing Fruit that Lasts: Called, Committed, Connected*. This year's theme: *Let Us Live Love* is designed to continue the message that we bear lasting fruit by carrying Christ in us and living His love in the world.

Annual Conference will be held in Akron, Ohio beginning Thursday, June 9 at 9am. Hope Ridge will be represented by our Lay Delegate Laura Moll and Pastor Jim Szakacs.

All business sessions and worship services can be found at ecumc.com.

<https://www.ecumc.com/eoac22/livestream.html>

You are invited to attend Annual Conference online. Only voting members and clergy of the church can attend in person.

I hope you will participate and join me in this wonderful opportunity to celebrate our faith as United Methodists.

Below are services and celebrations you may attend online:

Service of Commemoration and Holy Communion

Thursday, June 9 - 9:00 a.m.

Speaker: Bishop Tracy S. Malone – East Ohio Conference, UMC

Board of Ministry Celebration of Retirement

Thursday, June 9 - 4:00 p.m.

Morning Worship

Friday, June 10 - 9:00 a.m.

Speaker: Pastor Sheena Cameron – Mt. Pleasant UMC and St. Paul UMC

Morning Worship

Saturday, June 11 - 9:00 a.m.

Speaker: Rev. Ed Fashbaugh – EOC Director of Connectional Ministries

Service of Commissioning and Ordination

Saturday, June 11 - 3:00 p.m.

Speaker: Bishop Laura Barbins – Northeastern Ohio Synod, ELCA