

# **NINE RIVERS DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES SHARING RESOURCES WITH STATEWID MISSION PROJECTS**

**Sunday, April 21, 2024**

**4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

## **Cross Lanes United Methodist Church**

A Showcase of Sacred Music performed by churches and groups from across the Nine Rivers District and Kanawha Valley in support of mission work in the West Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church will be held on Sunday, April 21, 2024.

The Festival of Song! will start at 4:00 pm at Cross Lanes United Methodist Church at 5320 Frontier Drive, Cross Lanes, WV 25313. Activities will include uplifting music, a dessert auction, fellowship and more! All are welcome with donations being accepted to support mission work in West Virginia.

Reverend Joe Hill, District Superintendent of the Nine Rivers District, said “we are excited to invite our local communities and Nine Rivers District parishioners to gather for this special event. Musical performers include: Lydia Sturm, Jim Snyder, Benjamin Wells campus pastor at Marshall University, the Almost Heaven Dulcimer Club, the Cross Lanes United Methodist Church worship band, among others. We can’t wait to see everyone!”

United Methodist Churches across the West Virginia Annual Conference are presently involved in a major campaign to fund mission ministries across the state with vital supplies and cash donations. The emphasis, named **The Celebration of Mission Event (COME)**, has been a major contributor to mission ministries supported by The West Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church for the past twenty-seven years.

Included in the 2024 campaign are mission ministries spread across the state, including Ebenezer community outreach in Huntington; House of the Carpenter in Wheeling, Upshur Parish House in Buckhannon, Scotts Run in Morgantown, New Vision Depot in Beaver, Tyrand Ministries in Mill Creek, Heart and Hand Outreach in Philippi, Clarksburg Community Ministries, Heart + Hand Outreach in South Charleston, and Volunteers in Mission, who serve across the state.

These mission ministries provide a wide range of assistance to needy families, including food, clothing, shelter, pre-school and after-school care, natural

disaster recovery and work teams for both national and international building projects. The 2024 Celebration of Mission Event's goal is to provide tangible goods or cash support to the mission projects.

In additional, at 2:00 pm on April 21, 2024, Mike Linger, Director of House of the Carpenter in Wheeling, will lead a one-hour session/learning opportunity to assist people in the community to learn how to best walk alongside their neighbors in need. The learning session will include: A poverty simulation, how federal poverty guidelines are calculated, how SNAP benefits are calculated, understanding the struggles of households that earn about the federal level, but not enough to afford a bare-bones household budget and statistics regarding unhoused in our area, and more. This session is free of charge and everyone is invited to stay for the Festival of Song!

For additional information contact: Rev. Deborah Coble, Pastor of Cross Lanes United Methodist Church; [revdeborahwv@gmail.com](mailto:revdeborahwv@gmail.com) or Kathy Johnson, [kakawv@hotmail.com](mailto:kakawv@hotmail.com).