

The Historians' Newsletter

Summer 2023

Pre-Convocation Edition

United Methodist Historical Society of Ohio



Welcome to our Summer 2023 edition of *The Historians' Newsletter!*

We hope you enjoyed our Spring 2023 edition; our Newsletter Editor, Dr. Janet Rice McCoy, continues to assemble a publication full of interesting anecdotes and information regarding the history of Methodism in Ohio, and I encourage you to read everything. *The Historians' Newsletter* has benefitted from Dr. McCoy's expertise as Editor, and we continue to publish both print and digital color copies of our Newsletter. Please write and let us know your thoughts regarding *The Historians' Newsletter*. We look forward to your feedback!

Our 184th Convocation and Business Meeting will take place on October 13-14, 2023, at John Stewart UMC in Upper Sandusky, Ohio. Our Vice President Christy Culver is preparing a great meeting, and we are proud to announce that Chief Billy Friend of the Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma will be our featured speaker. John Stewart UMC is one of our historic Church homes in Ohio, and we look forward to seeing you there this October 2023! Our summer edition of *The Historians' Newsletter* includes a registration form and more details on all the events planned for at our 184th Convocation and annual business meeting.

We also include in this edition on page four a by-laws resolution that will be voted on by the attending members at our upcoming business meeting. We plan to change our name back to the name our Society held from 1911 to 1977– the Ohio Methodist Historical Society. Our business meeting will also include voting on several new changes in officers for the Society. Your Executive Board will present a slate that is listed on page six. This proposed slate will include Christy Culver as our new President and Jack Hott as our new Vice President. In addition, after serving for the past three years as your President, I will be replacing Meg Sunday as your Past President.

We encourage you to either join or renew your membership in the UMHSO for 2023. Annual dues are now \$20, and a Lifetime Membership costs \$200. While many of our programs are directed to Local Church Historians, anyone with a love and appreciation of Ohio Methodist history is encouraged to join the UMHSO. We appreciate the efforts of both our clergy and laity who cherish our Methodist heritage in Ohio, and we thank all of you for your service to our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ.

Blessings to each of you,
Bill Smith, UMHSO President
bsmith1244@cinci.rr.com | (513) 316-1772

184th UMHSO Convocation and Annual Meeting

Pre-Convocation – Friday, October 13

@ John Stewart United Methodist Church

GPS: 130 W. Johnson Street, Upper Sandusky, OH

Located at corner of Johnson Street and 7th Street | Use 7th Street entrance

Registration open at Noon – 12:45 p.m. | Program 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

“Dutch Treat” Dinner at Don Tomasso's Kitchen at 5:30 p.m.

123 W Wyandot Avenue, Upper Sandusky

Join us for an unforgettable experience at the 184th Convocation & Annual Meeting, hosted by the John Stewart United Methodist Church in Upper Sandusky. We are gathering in the enchanting fall season amidst the picturesque farm country of Wyandot County, Ohio.

On Friday afternoon, we extend a warm invitation to explore three exceptional visit options, each offering a unique glimpse into the rich heritage of Wyandot County:



Figure1 Wyandot County Courthouse

Wyandot County Museum located across the street from John Stewart UMC. Immerse yourself in history as you admire the original artwork of Rev. N. C. B. Love and an array of captivating Wyandot artifacts.

Historic Wyandot County Courthouse located around the corner from John Stewart UMC. Marvel at the recently refurbished stained-glass dome in this iconic courthouse. An added treat awaits as we strive to grant attendees a rare peek into the courtroom that once starred in the acclaimed movie, "The Shawshank Redemption."

Old Mission Church (*aka Wyandot Mission Church*) is a 199-year-old gray stone building on East Church Street approximately 1.2 miles from John Stewart UMC located in Old Mission Cemetery. Step back in time at the very first officially recognized mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America. This historic site holds profound significance in the narrative of the Wyandots and the Methodist movement.

We cordially invite you to join the Executive Board for a delightful dinner at 5:30 p.m., hosted at the charming Don Tomasso's Kitchen, located in the heart of historic downtown. This will be a “Dutch treat.”



Figure 2 Old Mission Church

Convocation and Annual Meeting – Saturday, October 14

@ John Stewart United Methodist Church

GPS: 130 W. Johnson St., Upper Sandusky, OH

Located at corner of Johnson Street and 7th Street | Use the 7th Street entrance

Registration open at 8 a.m. | Continental Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. | Program 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.



Figure 3 John Stewart UMC, 7th Street view

Saturday's Convocation promises to be enlightening and diverse, featuring a lineup of esteemed speakers covering a range of captivating topics. A highlight of the day will be the keynote address delivered by Chief Billy Friend of the Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma, shedding light on the inspiring legacy of John Stewart and the Wyandots. Discover the intriguing variations in Wyandot spellings and expand your understanding of this narrative.

We will also have our annual “Show and Tell” stories from local church historians. Moreover, we have exciting news to share! We will unveil the host sites for the upcoming 2024 and 2025 Convocation events, promising even more memorable gatherings on the horizon.

So, mark your calendars and make plans to join us in Upper Sandusky for a weekend filled with enlightenment, discovery, and cherished camaraderie. Let the 184th Convocation and Annual Meeting be an occasion to remember, celebrating our shared heritage, and embracing the beauty of Wyandot County, Ohio. See you there!

Proposed UMHSO By-Laws Amendment

Article 1

Article 1 shall now read:

The Corporation shall be known as the Ohio Methodist Historical Society, at times herein after referred to as “Society.”

Nature of Change

The name Ohio Methodist Historical Society (OMHS) replaces the name United Methodist Historical Society of Ohio (UMHSO) in Article 1.

Background & Rationale

In 1839, we began as the Western Methodist Historical Society and were based in Cincinnati. Beginning on January 20, 1911, our Society was officially chartered in our State of Ohio incorporation papers as the Ohio Methodist Historical Society. In 1977, a Certificate of Amendment was filed with the State of Ohio changing our name to the United Methodist Historical Society of Ohio. This took place due to the merger of the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren (EUB) Church following their merger in 1968.

Due to the recent rounds of disaffiliations in both the East and West Ohio Conferences of the UMC, we currently have over 300 former UMC’s that have either joined the Global Methodist Church or have become Independents retaining their Methodist/Wesleyan beliefs and traditions. It is our purpose to be an inclusive Society, and we do not want to limit our charter to just United Methodist Churches. We will continue to support all present and former United Methodist Churches, and so, we return to our original incorporated name: the Ohio Methodist Historical Society. Our Executive Board passed this change at their May 15, 2023, Board Meeting, and it is time for the Membership to approve this change in the by-laws as reflected in their attendance at the 2023 Convocation & Business Meeting on October 14, 2023.

Going to Convocation? Looking for hotel options?

Royalton Inn & Suites, Upper Sandusky (behind Bob Evans)
1726 East Wyandot Avenue, Upper Sandusky, OH 43351
(419) 294-3919
\$89.00 plus tax (ask for John Stewart UMC rate)

Quality Inn, Upper Sandusky (behind McDonald’s)
105 Comfort Drive, Upper Sandusky, OH 43351
(419) 294-3891
\$108.10 plus tax





**United Methodist Historical Society of Ohio
2022 – 2023 Executive Board**

Elected by Membership at Annual Board Meeting

President: Bill Smith

Vice President: Christy Culver

Membership Secretary: Mary Ann Stotts

Recording Secretary: Judy Hotz

Treasurer: Greg Johnson

Past President: Meg Sunday

Newsletter Editor: Janet Rice McCoy

Webmaster: Christy Culver

At-Large Members: Rudy Heath & Jack Hott

Appointed by Virtue of Position with Voting Rights

Ohio United Methodism

Archivist: Sharon Monigold

East Ohio Conference

Chair Archives & History: Meg Sunday

Historian: Rev. Don Trigg

West Ohio Conference

Archives & History: David Boling

Historian: Vacant



Proposed Slate*
Ohio Methodist Historical Society**
2023 – 2024 Executive Board

Elected by Membership at Annual Board Meeting

President: Christy Culver
Vice President: Jack Hott
Membership Secretary: Mary Ann Stotts
Recording Secretary: Judy Hotz
Treasurer: Greg Johnson
Past President: Bill Smith
Newsletter Editor: Janet Rice McCoy
Webmaster: Christy Culver
At-Large Members: Rudy Heath

- Nominations can also be made from the floor.
- ** Dependent upon the amendment to Article I being approved.

General Commission on Archives and History

Local Church Historians School 2023-2024

Local Church Historians School cohort begins September 4, 2023. Participants will engage in an intensive, self-paced course taught by leading Methodist scholars, archivists, and historians. The cost of this online workshop ranges from free to \$50 to \$150 for three CEU credits.

Registration is Open

<http://www.gcah.org/resources/enrollment-for-the-local-church-historian-school-2023-24>

2023 UMHSO

Convocation Registration

Pre-Convocation on Friday, October 13
Convocation on Saturday, October 14
Both @John Stewart UMC – Upper Sandusky

PARTICIPANT

Name _____

Address (street / city / state / zip code)

Phone _____

Email _____

METHODIST CHURCH AFFILIATION

Church _____

District _____

Annual Conference _____

Other affiliation (details as applicable)

Are you a Lifetime UMHSO member?

YES _____ NO _____

Are you a local church historian?

YES _____ NO _____

Are you bringing an item or “fun fact” for Saturday’s Show-and-Tell?

YES _____ NO _____

Would you like to become a member of the Society?

_____ Lifetime – enclose \$200

_____ Annual – enclose \$20

_____ Not applicable

When will you attend?

Mark All That Apply

____ Friday’s Pre-Convocation
@ John Stewart UMC about
Upper Sandusky

____ Saturday’s Convocation
@ John Stewart UMC

What do you want for lunch on Saturday?

There will be at least two options in each category. Availability will be on a first-come first-serve basis. Bottled water will also be available.

____ Sandwich, cold side, bag of chips, and cookie

____ Salad with greens, chopped raw veggies, meat, and/or cheese, and dressing

____ Not applicable

Do you have any special dietary restrictions?

____ YES _____ NO

If yes, a member of the Executive Committee will contact you.

EVENT REGISTRATION

\$25 Members | \$30 Non-members

Lifetime members do not pay annual dues, but they are required to pay the registration fee at Convocation.

Lifetime members may bring one guest at the \$25 member price.

Name of Guest: _____

Make check payable to UMHSO.
Cut and detach this page.

Mail completed form and check to:
Mary Ann Stotts, Membership Secretary
3901 Park Avenue West
Mansfield, OH 44903

**Archives of Ohio United Methodism
Ohio Wesleyan University
Beeghly Library
43 Rowland Avenue
Delaware, OH 43015**

Return Service Requested

184th Annual Meeting & Convocation John Stewart United Methodist Church



Please Join Us!

**October 13-14, 2023
Upper Sandusky, Ohio**

**Featured Speaker
Chief Billy Friend
Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma**