



**DisAbility Ministries**  
The United Methodist Church



## Ohio Disability & Ministry Collaborative

**We serve a risen Savior!**



### **First WOC Accessibility Grants Awarded!**

Pleasantville UMC's grant of \$5000 will help replace an exterior wheelchair elevator with an interior unit, eliminating physical barriers that may hinder people from attending services and other activities. "We want everyone that comes to our church or wants to come...to feel comfortable and be able to be involved as much as they wish without feeling they are a burden because of a disability."



Bethany UMC's (Bethany/Middleton) application expressed a need for ADA-compliant accessibility into the church Annex that serves many purposes for the church and community. The \$5000 grant will help with the multi-faceted project which includes, among other upgrades, re-grading the entrance and adding handrails leading to the entrance.

Grace UMC in Springfield received a \$5000 grant that will improve the accessible entrance with a covered entryway and automatic door, making their building "more accessible and welcoming to all people."

**CONGRATULATIONS to these recipients!**

**Will your project be next? Apply now!**



**Ukrainian Easter Egg**

Contact Rose at [Rdarling@flatrockhomes.org](mailto:Rdarling@flatrockhomes.org) with questions or for further information about this 4/22 newsletter

ODMC Co-Directors: Zachery Holler at [Zacheryholler88@gmail.com](mailto:Zacheryholler88@gmail.com) and Mimi Luebbers at [mimiluebbers@gmail.com](mailto:mimiluebbers@gmail.com)

## **We Continue to Accept Applications!**

Do you have a project in mind to make your building more accessible? Are you seeking ways to improve your worship space so people of all ages and abilities feel included and loved? This new grant opportunity through the West Ohio Conference could be right for you and your church.

The Disability and Ministry Team of the West Ohio Conference, known as the Ohio Disability and Ministry Collaborative, invites you to its pilot grant program to fund projects for the improvement of church accessibility in the West Ohio Conference. Churches with approved grant applications will be awarded up to \$5,000.

The Ohio Disability and Ministry Collaborative team have been working hard this year towards creating a grant application, *"To encourage West Ohio Conference churches and related agencies to make programs and facilities fully accessible to, and inclusive of, people with disabilities by funding projects that address architectural and communication barriers."* You can complete the 2022 Project Pilot Grant Application now! Grants will be accepted, reviewed, and awarded on a rolling basis until November 1, 2022, or until all available funds have been distributed.

If interested, please complete the grant application through this link: [https://www.westohioumc.org/sites/default/files/conference/documents/docx/page/west-ohio-disability-ministry-pilot-grant-application\\_0.docx](https://www.westohioumc.org/sites/default/files/conference/documents/docx/page/west-ohio-disability-ministry-pilot-grant-application_0.docx)

For more information, or questions, please email [Sam Rodriguez](mailto:Sam.Rodriguez@westohioumc.org), Director of Faith Formation and Community Engagement.

## **MAY 1<sup>st</sup> is WOC Disability Awareness Sunday**



"The Book of Discipline p 265 calls United Methodist Churches to offer an annual Disability Awareness Sunday (DAS) to celebrate the gifts and graces of persons with disabilities and calls the Church and society to full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the community."

We offer speakers and resources for your DAS service. Check out [Worship – Disability Ministries of the United Methodist Church \(umcdmc.org\)](https://www.umcdmc.org) and [Disability Awareness Sunday | West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church \(westohioumc.org\)](https://www.westohioumc.org) for more information. You may schedule your Disability Awareness Sunday service any time during the year.