## Goals for this Mission Academy

1. Reunite people called to mission
2. Inform
3. Train
4. Energize
5. Share the Story

## Schedule of Sessions

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Descriptions of sessions are listed alphabetically by title on the following pages.

All sessions begin at

- 2:00pm (EDT) 1:00pm (CDT)
- 12:00pm (MDT) 11:00 (PDT)
ABUNDANT HEALTH MINISTRIES: MISSION AT HOME; HEARING AND HEALING DEEPLY  
OCTOBER 16  
BECKY PARSONS AND KACIE HOPKINS

Ever wanted to put your faith, passion, and understanding of health needs together in transformative ministry? Come learn about Wildflower Enterprises and the ways caring for creation, caring for one another, and believing/listening to survivors can transform your church. When we hear survivors and ourselves into speech and practice their practical advice about ending abuse in our communities they can help the church open up and set the world free by facing tough truths, nurturing community, setting good boundaries. Come join the conversation even in times of pandemic we can be a people bring hope, health, and healing.  
Email: RParsons@umcmission.org  
kaciehopkins@gmail.com

ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM  
OCTOBER 26  
REV. TOM LANK

Have you considered how the environment in which we live adds to the challenges of racism? Join this discussion to gain a clearer understanding of how where we live creates unique challenges to be in mission with our neighbors.

Rev. Tom Lank is trained as a Creation Care specialist and serves as the UMVIM coordinator for the Northeastern Jurisdiction.

GLOBAL MINISTRIES 101  
OCTOBER 28  
REV. EVELYN ERBELE AND MISSION ADVOCATES

The GBGM 101 conversation highlights the overarching views and structure of the mission arm of the United Methodist Church. This primer course introduces the history and purpose of Global Ministries, covers the four areas of focus, and details how churches partner with missionaries and mission projects around the world. Join us as we explore the transformations by God through a life of missional service rooted in spreading the love of Christ From Everywhere to Everywhere.

Email: EErbele@umcmission.org
IN MISSION TOGETHER

Rev. Dr. Amy Valdez Barker serves as the Executive Director for Global Ministries’ Global Mission Connections Unit. Her team is responsible for the partner relationships across five different regions around the world. In this session, Amy will be sharing with us the principles and values that ground mission partnerships in a theology of mission aimed at mutuality in mission. We’ll discuss what healthy partnerships look like and what each partner needs to do and understand in order to move towards healthy and whole mission relationships that further God’s work in the world. Come learn from one another and share with one another the gifts and challenges of being in mission together around the world.

Email: avaldezbarker@umcmission.org

IT’S THEIR MISSION: Developing a Youth Designed/Youth Owned Mission Program

Rev. Jan Yandell is an elder serving Painesville UMC. She has led many youth mission journeys using this model she designed to encourage youth leadership. A manual has been designed to take leaders and youth through a month-by-month process of creating a mission journey that is led by the youth every step of the way! The seminar will share how it works and a free manual will be sent to you so you can begin your own Youth Designed/Youth Owned Mission Program.

Email: drjanyandell@gmail.com
**MCPR/REHACE & UMCOR PUERTO RICO MISSIONS**  
**OCTOBER 19**  
**DR. GLORYMAR RIVERA-BÁEZ, CARMEN ANA PÉREZ**

Get the latest news about the United Methodist response in Puerto Rico in partnership with Rehace. We will share data of work completed, teams that have served and learn how the response is being affected by the COVID pandemic. Learn about ways to provide assistance in this time as we wait for the opportunity to respond in person again.  
Dr. Glorymar Rivera-Báez and Caremn Ana Pérez lead Rehace, Inc.  

Email: grivera@rehace.org  
grivera@rehace.org

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**TEAM TRAINING (3 days)**  
**OCTOBER 22, 23, AND 24**  
**RONDA CORDILL, KAREN DISTAFANO, GRAY GAMBRILL, TAMMY KUNTZ, MATT LACEY, TOM LANK**

This is the basic course to orient and equip those who are planning to journey forth as volunteers in God's mission. We will discuss theological and Biblical foundations for mission, intercultural considerations, planning, budgeting, logistics, health & safety, and how to build a mission relationship.

Email: wj@umvim.org, scj@umvim.org, info@sej.org, ncj@umvim.org, sej@umvim.org, nej@umvim.org

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**THEOLOGY OF MISSION**  
**OCTOBER 12**  
**DR. DAVID SCOTT**

What is mission? How does it relate to other practices of the Christian life like worship and discipleship? What are the relative roles of humans and the Triune God in mission? This session will examine United Methodist theological perspectives on the nature and practice of mission.

Email: dscott@umcmision.org

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Be part of the next Virtual Mission team! Visit [www.umvim.org](http://www.umvim.org) and click on Resources, then Virtual Missions.
**TRANSACTIONAL VS TRANSFORMATIONAL MISSION**

**OCTOBER 20**

REV. ASHLEY BARKER-STEELLE

How do we determine if our gifts and service are effective to the mission work we support? Are we indeed Doing No Harm? Join this discussion around best practices of giving and serving. Topics in this session will include the risk of toxic charity, the Oath for Compassionate Service, the power of community leadership, and the creation of alternative economies.

Rev, Steele is the director of Urban Mission in Steubenville, OH.

Email: asteel@urbanmission.org

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**UMVIM101**

**OCTOBER 17**

RONDA CORDILL, KAREN DISTAFANO, GRAY GAMBRILL, TAMMY KUNTZ, MATT LACEY, TOM LANK

What is United Methodist Volunteers in Mission? Learn how we fit into the United Methodist alphabet soup and what we can do to help your ministry in the local church. We will show off some of our newest resources and tell you where we are headed!

Email: wj@umvim.org, scj@umvim.org, info@sej.org, ncj@umvim.org, sej@umvim.org, nej@umvim.org

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**VIRTUAL MISSIONS**

**OCTOBER 13**

KAREN DISTAFANO

Virtual Missions provide an opportunity to maintain our relationships with mission partners around the world as well as creating space for learning about new places and establishing new relationships. These mission journeys include all aspects of a “real” mission journey, including team meetings, cultural research, meal planning, fund raising. Perhaps you shared in one of the Virtual Mission journeys to Mexico, Honduras, Tanzania, Dominican Republic, or Costa Rica. Join us to learn more about how to lead a virtual mission team and share your experiences as part of a virtual team.

Email: kdistefano@scjumc.org

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**THANK YOU**

Thank you for sharing in the Mission Academy!
WE NEVER THOUGHT IT COULD HAPPEN HERE
OCTOBER 15  REV. MEL KAWAKAMI

We said it in Sandy Hook, we heard it in Las Vegas, and Florida and Gilroy. While it may not be a “human caused mass casualty disaster,” disasters do happen within churches and their communities – weather, pandemic, accidents – that effect the whole community. Rather than be caught unprepared, there are ways of intentionally planning for the disaster that no one expects. Rather than feeling completely vulnerable, there are conditions that can be addressed to give you some familiar ground amidst the welter of emotions that threaten to overwhelm you.

The Rev. Mel Kawakami, now retired Senior Pastor at Newtown United Methodist Church at the time of the Sandy Hook School shooting that claimed the lives of 20 children and 6 adults, will discuss basic preparations for a disaster within your church or community and will save time to answer questions.

Email: melkawakami@mac.com

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS IN MISSION
OCTOBER 14  CHRIS WILTERDINK

Chris Wilterdink is the Director of Young People’s Ministry at Discipleship Ministries. In 60 minutes of information and discussion, we’ll discover current trends among young people that impact their ability to participate in mission and service. We will also review how mission and service can (and should!) be part of a discipleship system or faith-formation model for local churches.

Email: cwilterdink@umcdiscipleship.org