

SECTION I

NOMINATIONS

BALLOT

1-4 BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF NOMINEES

Ballot
62nd Annual Meeting Northwest
Ohio Association, UCC
April 26, 2025

Cabinet/Executive Position

NWOA Moderator

Peggy George 27

NWOA Vice-Moderator

Jay Scott 27

NWOA Treasurer

Dian Ewald 27

Church and Ministry Team

Terry Rettig 28

Mark Bishop 28

Wendy Schindler-Chasney 28

Rhonda Hainer 28

Faith Formation Team

Noah McCarn 28

Mike Ebersole 28

Diane Carter 28

Stewardship and Generosity Team

Doug Williamson 28

VACANCY 28

VACANCY 28

NWOA At-Large Members

Rev. Dawn Balduf 28

Witness and Proclamation Team

Fred Coulter 28

Adam Shanaman 28

John Mummert 28

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Nominating Committee

Kathryn Helleman

Wayne Chasney 28

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF 2025 NOMINEES

NORTHWEST OHIO ASSOCIATION

NWOA CABINET

NWOA MODERATOR

Peggy George is a member of Bloomville UCC. Peggy retired in 2020 from Heidelberg University after working 40 years for the Dean of Students. She moved from Bloomville to Otterbein St. Mary's Senior Living Community in July 2021. Her husband of 43 years passed away in 2018. She has three children – Eric lives in St. Mary's; Libby lives in Mokena IL; Jenney lives in Kenosha WI. Seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild complete the family. She shares her home with her cat, Cali. If you love the water, come visit and sit with her on her patio to enjoy the lake views. Peggy completed her undergraduate studies at Davis College with an Executive Secretarial degree, and at Heidelberg University with a BA in psychology and English literature. She has also completed classes in Old and New Testament studies in the Lay School of the Northwest Ohio Association. She has been involved with the Northwest Ohio Association for the last several years; last year as Moderator. Peggy volunteers as a shuttle driver on Otterbein St. Mary's campus and currently serves as Secretary on their Resident Council.

NWOA VICE-MODERATOR

Pastor Jay Scott is the licensed pastor at Emanuel UCC at Upper Sandusky, (aka "The Mud Church!") where he has served since August 2014. His upbringing is in the United Methodist Church, and he pastored a Methodist church prior to Emanuel. Jay has a professional background in broadcasting, marketing/public relations, and American Red Cross management and disaster relief. Jay is also a farmer, and lives on the family farm with his wife, Kathy, who is secretary at two Lutheran churches. They have two daughters, and three granddaughters.

NWOA TREASURER

Dian Ewald - I am a member of Trinity United Church of Christ in Tiffin, Ohio. My faith journey with Trinity UCC began 51 years ago when I married my husband and joined Trinity UCC. He is third-generation member and was baptized and confirmed in Trinity UCC. We are blessed with four children who were all confirmed at Trinity UCC (two of whom were later married in Trinity UCC). We have eight grandchildren and one great-grandson. We are pleased to announce that our granddaughter will be married in Trinity UCC this summer. I am retired with a background in banking where I held several positions from Teller to Loan Assistant to Loan Operations as well as assuming executive responsibilities as needed along the way. In our church I have served on many committees to include, Altar Guild, Church and Ministry, Search Committee, Shepherd's Committee, Stewardship, Church Council and co-chaired Trinity UCC's Heritage Festival weekend of Craft, Café and Bake Sale up until recently. If there is one thing taking an active interest in these opportunities has taught me, it is this. "You gain a better understanding and develop more respect for your church (or career) by having taken interest in and by serving on committees to achieve a healthier awareness of how 'things need to work'."

NWOA AT – LARGE MEMBERS

Pastor Dawn and her husband Dan have been members at St. John's UCC in Genoa for 48 years. Following her call to vocational ministry, Pastor Dawn left the business world and completed seminary in 2017 with a master's in family ministry from Winebrenner Theological Seminar (undergrad degree is from Heidelberg University). She has served at St. John's since 2018 as an assistant minister and then as a bridge pastor, with her ordination taking place in 2021. She continues to provide support to St. John's recently-called settled pastor.

Pastor Dawn was a chaplain at Mercy Health St. Charles Hospital retiring at the end of 2024. Pastor Dawn has served on teams for the association and will be one of the first chaplains to be deployed for spiritual and emotional disaster response on behalf of the association/conference. She also provides pulpit support to area churches.

Pastor Dawn and Dan's family consists of Jason and daughter-in-love Angie; Mandi and daughter-in-love Kristina; granddaughter Addison and twin angel granddaughters Kendall and Taylor.

Pastor Dawn has a missional heart, believing we are called to serve in our communities, nation, and world as God has commanded. She and Dan are long-term volunteers at Back Bay Mission in Biloxi along with serving in various ways locally.

CHURCH AND MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Wendy Schindler-Chasney pastors St. John's UCC in Milan, OH. Over the course of her ministry she has served in various settings in the wider UCC denomination.

Terry Rettig –member at St. John's UCC, Holgate

Rev. Mark Bishop – Interim Pastor at St. Paul UCC, Wapakoneta

Rev. Rhonda Hainer-Retired Pastor at St. Paul's UCC, Saint Marys

FAITH FORMATION TEAM

Rev. Michael Ebersole. Pastor at College Hill UCC and St. John's Baseline UCC since 9/1/18. MDiv from United Theological Seminary '20. Ordained 2/23. Past member of Church and Ministry.

Diane Carter is the pastor of St. Paul's UCC in Bellevue, where she has served for the past 13 years. She is a graduate of New York Theological Seminary and Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, and she loves God, her family, and the New York Yankees, in that order.

Pastor Noah McCarn – Pastor at Zion Fireside UCC, Bellevue

STEWARDSHIP AND CARING MINISTRY TEAM

Doug Williamson-I am in my sixth year as the half-time Settled Pastor of First United Church of Christ Congregational in Marblehead after having served for 13 months as the Interim Pastor at St. Paul's UCC in Saint Marys. I was ordained in the United Methodist Church and have Dual Standing in the NW Ohio Association. I also serve as a volunteer Assistant Coach with the Heidelberg Women's Soccer team, having completed three years in that capacity. I am a graduate of Rockford College (now University), and earned an M.T.S. at Harvard Divinity School, an M.Div. at Methodist Theological School in Ohio, and a Ph.D. at Boston University. I have served on two committees in the Association: Stewardship and Generosity, and Finance.

WITNESS AND PROCLAMATION TEAM

Rev. Dr. Fred W. Coulter-After two careers of serving churches as a United Church of Christ minister and as a professor at Defiance College, Fred Coulter is fulfilling one of his retirement goals of promoting social justice in the NWOA. In working with people for over forty years, he works for equity and inclusion of all people as members of God's beloved community. His latest effort is to break the silence, remove the stigma, and the shame of mental health challenges through the UCC Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaging process.

Pastor Adam Shanaman – Pastor at Buckland UCC, Buckland

Rev. John Mummert I am the pastor at Salem United Church of Christ in Kenton. I have been in the ministry of the Church of the Brethren and the United Church of Christ since 1973. I am a graduate of Colorado State University and Bethany Theological Seminary. In my spare time, I watch grandchildren and am a substitute teacher. I have served on three different committees/teams of NWOA. I am married and we have 5 children and 7 grandchildren.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Dr. Kathryn Helleman is the Assistant Professor of Christian Thought at Winebrenner Theological Seminary, teaching in areas of pastoral development, theology, and church history. She is ordained in the United Church of Christ and holds a lay leadership role in her local congregation, Sylvania UCC. Kathryn is trained as a Christian leadership coach who provides coaching services to new and mid-career clergy as well as those in transition. She and her husband, Arnold enjoy time with their children and grandchildren and traveling to new and interesting places.

Rev. Dr. Wayne Chasney has served the Congregational Community UCC, Monroeville, for 32 years. Wayne is married to the Rev. Wendy Schindler-Chasney, pastor at St. John's UCC, Milan, and together they have two adult daughters, Isabel and Brenna. Wayne enjoys running, cycling, and Presidential history.