

Methodist Theological School in Ohio
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Thank you for this opportunity to bring you news from Methodist Theological School in Ohio (MTSO).

International Institute on Theology and Disability meets at MTSO

MTSO was pleased to host the four-day international Institute on Theology and Disability in June 2022. Founded in 2010, the institute celebrates, explores, and investigates the ways that disability impacts many dimensions of religious life; theology and practice mutually inform and support one another; and diverse perspectives enrich and inform theological formation and religious practice.

MTSO and WomanPreach! share \$1 million Lilly Endowment grant

Lilly Endowment Inc. has awarded MTSO a grant of \$1 million to support prophetic preaching through a partnership with WomanPreach! Inc. The grant period extends from November 1, 2022, to December 31, 2027. WomanPreach! was founded 12 years ago by MTSO Dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Rev. Valerie Bridgeman, Ph.D., who serves as the organization's CEO. It provides practical training and nurturing community spaces that empower preachers across the country. Originating as a way to train women, WomanPreach! has since grown to include programming for people of all genders. Its numerous programs include the biennial Jarena Lee Preaching Academy, a week-long intensive academy that equips women of the African Diaspora to speak in their own prophetic voices; Sophie's Table: A Conversation Among Siblings, an all-genders program that amplifies voices of people of marginalized genders, women, and children; and Chloe's Circle, which gathers women from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds to sharpen preaching that reflects a commitment to justice based in God's call through Jesus.

Mount Union joins MTSO to offer 3+2 program

The University of Mount Union and MTSO have started offering incoming college students a 3+2 program, leading to a Master of Arts in Social Justice degree in five years of study rather than the six years typically required. Students will begin the program at the University of Mount Union in Alliance, Ohio. After completing the program's requirements at Mount Union, they are eligible to begin two years of study at MTSO, where they will finish requirements for a Mount Union bachelor's degree and earn an MA in Social Justice degree from MTSO. Students in the 3+2 program are eligible for MTSO's exceptional scholarships.