

# Storytelling festival highlighting many cultures

The Johnny Appleseed Yarn Spinners (JAYS) will present a storytelling festival at 2 p.m. April 10 at the Encore Theatre. The JAYS was formed in 1990 to promote the art and appreciation of storytelling. The 30-member organization is known for their annual Tellabration which is held each fall and for their summer campfire picnic.

The festival will feature storytellers, Jocelyn Dabney, Rick Carson, Betsy Jones Hayba as well as featured members of the group.

Hayba is from Dayton, and has roots in Delphos. She often visits schools in traditional, Welsh costumes and tells the stories of the Welsh.

Dabney is a storyteller, actress and high school librarian from Youngstown. She received a masters degree from Tennessee State University in storytelling/reading. She is the first African-American to receive the degree. She was also one of six regional storytellers chosen for the 1992 National Association for the Preservation and Perpetuation of Storytelling at the National Storytelling Festival. She will tell African and African-American stories including the "Dancing Granny."

Carson originally from Arkansas, currently resides in Hamilton. He is a member of the Ohio Arts Council Artist in Residence Program and is a full-time storyteller.

He features traditional American and Appalachian stories including the "Jack in the Beanstalk" tales.

The event is funded by a grant from the Council for the Arts of Greater Lima's Community Arts Initiative Grant. The program provides funds for project support and supports innovative, collaborative, and educational projects.

Refreshments will be available at the event. Books will be available for purchase. Tickets may be purchased at the Council for the Arts office, the Johnny Appleseed Park District office, Treehouse Books, or by contacting Candy Miller at the Council for the Arts office.

*Betsy Jones Hayba daughter of Walter O Jones  
and sister of Bobb Jones*

## ► MEDAUGH

From/E1

Medaugh said he expected to be assigned to a small rural church but instead was asked to serve two years at Delphos Trinity.

"The congregation has a unique situation now, that a person with more experience can help with," Medaugh said. He would not elaborate.

Wilson said Medaugh will retire after his term in Delphos. "He wants to be a consultant to smaller churches and get them

to be computer literate."

Medaugh has been a United Methodist minister for 35 years. He moved to Lima in 1984 after serving eight years as director of a historic Methodist campground in Lancaster.

During Medaugh's time at Grace, the church has been active in neighborhood revitalization efforts. The church is located at the corner of Kibby and Elizabeth streets.

Medaugh's last Sunday at Grace will be June 26. He is moving to Delphos on June 29.

Although it is in a smaller city, Delphos Trinity's membership and average Sunday attendance are larger than Grace's.

Grace outstrips Trinity in terms of missionary giving.

Leaving Grace will be difficult, the pastor said. "I've grown attached to this congregation."

Parishioners were told in late March of Medaugh's plans to leave.

"Delphos will have different challenges than Lima has," he said.

## Methodist church's Medaugh leaving Lima for Delphos

By STEPHEN HUBA  
The Lima News

Moving from downtown Lima to Delphos will take some adjustment, but the Rev. John Medaugh is looking forward to the change.

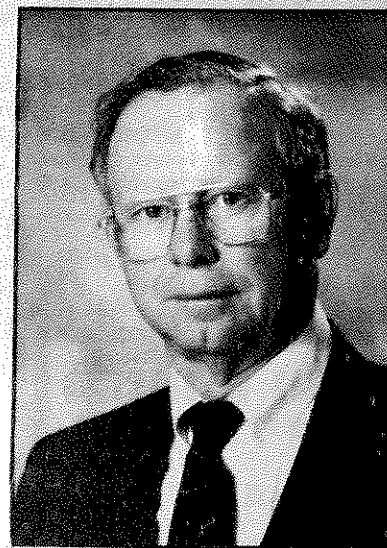
Medaugh, 60, is leaving Grace United Methodist Church after 10 years to become interim pastor at Trinity United Methodist Church in Delphos.

His departure from Grace has to do, in part, with an invitation given last fall by United Methodist Bishop Judith Craig of the West Ohio Conference.

"Her challenge to the ministers was that, rather than seeking larger, more prestigious parishes, they should serve smaller churches that have a need," Medaugh said.

"I accepted the bishop's challenge."

Craig visited the Lima district in October 1993 to discuss the church's system of ordination and appointments. It was



Rev. John Medaugh

during that visit that she issued her challenge.

"The smaller churches can pay only minimum salaries, and therefore they get the less experienced pastors," said the Rev. Cean Wilson, superintendent of the four-county Lima district.

► MEDAUGH/E3

*Son in Law of Paul & Violet  
Ashton married Ruby Pauline  
and brother of Hilda Morris*