

Reunion Weekend 2024 Frequently Asked Questions

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Reunion Planning Frequently Asked Questions

When is Reunion Weekend 2024?

Reunion Weekend activities begin on Friday, May 17 and continue through Sunday, May 19.

Who's invited to Reunion Weekend?

Everyone in a reunion year who attended Ohio Wesleyan will receive an official invitation, but all alumni are welcome! Even if a classmate did not graduate from OWU, as long as we have a current address on file, they will be sent an invitation to Reunion Weekend.

Which classes are featured/special guests during the weekend?

Members of classes ending in "4" and "9" celebrating five-year reunions are featured during Reunion Weekend this year. Members of the 50th reunion class (1974) are special guests of the University. We strongly encourage you to invite friends, relatives, spouses, and guests from other OWU classes to join you for your reunion.

Who receives Reunion Weekend invitations?

Reunion Weekend materials will be sent only to members of reunion classes. Non-reunion year alumni interested in receiving information about Reunion Weekend should contact the Office of Alumni & Family Engagement or visit the Reunion Weekend website at owu.edu/rw.

Why didn't my classmate get their Reunion Weekend materials?

There are several possible reasons someone may not receive Reunion Weekend mail. They may have:

- Out of date address information - in order to receive mail from OWU, alumni must keep the University Advancement Office up to date on their current mailing address. Updates can be submitted at owu.edu/emailupdate.
- Changed their "preferred" class year - occasionally, an alumnus/a chooses to be associated with a different graduating class than the class with which they graduated.
- Requested that no mail be sent to them from OWU.
- Requested that the University make no contact.

Will there be a place to stay on campus for Reunion Weekend?

Yes! We will have a variety of on-campus housing options available to reunion attendees for Friday and Saturday nights of Reunion Weekend. More information on housing options will be provided with reunion registration materials which are mailed out in February.

How much does on-campus housing typically cost?

While we can't guarantee locations or rates until reunion registration materials are mailed out, last year's housing options and rates (the total for Friday and Saturday night) are listed below. **These prices are as an FYI only as they reflect the pricing structure for on-campus accommodations for 2023. We anticipate changes for 2024.**

Building	Stuyvesant - Single Bed	Stuyvesant - Half Suite (2 beds)	Stuyvesant - Full Suite (4 beds)	Bradford Milligan 4-person/4 bedroom apt.	Bradford Milligan 6-person/ 5 or 6 bedroom apt.	Bradford Milligan 8-person/ 7 bedroom apt.
Cost	\$90	\$180	\$360	\$600	\$900	\$1,200

How many alumni make up a reunion committee?

Typically there are 4 to 10 alumni on a reunion committee. The 50th reunion committee tends to be larger than others. While the staff Reunion Team does recruit volunteers, the best recruiters are current members of the committee. If your committee adds additional members, please notify your staff liaisons so we can properly involve and recognize new volunteers.

What roles do the reunion committee members play?

The main role of the reunion committee is to contact and reconnect with alumni and to encourage them to attend the reunion. This cannot be emphasized enough. In an annual survey done after Reunion Weekend, we ask those people who did not attend to tell us what would make them attend in the future. The number one answer is “personal contact from classmates.” Also, the reunion committee should encourage alumni to make a gift to the Ohio Wesleyan Annual Giving Program (Ohio Wesleyan Fund, academic departments, Team OWU, Women of Ohio Wesleyan, and President’s Circle). Finally, whether you are planning months in advance or greeting guests at your dinner, you should remember to have fun every step of the way!

How do we organize contacting our classmates?

Our team will provide you with the contact information you need to reach out to your classmates via our Volunteer Management System (VMS). The VMS allows committees to easily coordinate outreach to classmates and provides a vehicle for completing that outreach.

In addition, the staff Reunion Team will assist you in sending class-specific emails through the University’s email system. Click here to see if your class has a [Facebook page](#) - this can be a great place to post updates for your class!

Why does Ohio Wesleyan charge for reunion events?

Ohio Wesleyan alumni events operate on a cost-recovery basis. There is a very limited budget for Reunion Weekend and much of it is designated to marketing the weekend, mailings and covering general weekend expenses. We charge a registration fee to help offset the cost of paying our student workers, renting vans and golf carts to assist with transportation needs and renting other equipment for the weekend (tents, tables, chairs). All in all, the cost for the weekend is comparable to any “weekend getaway” you might take with a spouse or former roommates. However, 50th Reunion alumni (not their guests) attend the weekend free of charge, excluding travel and lodging.

Class Gift Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Annual Giving Program?

The Ohio Wesleyan Annual Giving Program encompasses all areas of impact that count toward your class gift - the Ohio Wesleyan Fund, academic departments, Team OWU (athletics), Women of Ohio Wesleyan, and the President’s Circle. Any gifts to Annual Giving Program funds ([see a full list here](#)) automatically count toward class gift totals.

Within these areas, donors can choose to support scholarships, faculty, programming, emergency needs, academic departments, or athletics. As the Annual Giving Program continues to grow, with your support, OWU can do more for today’s students year-in and year-out and continue to offer a superior education.

How can I make a gift to Ohio Wesleyan?

There are many vehicles you can use to give to OWU! The top 3 ways to give are:

- Give by mail by sending a check to
University Advancement Office
Mowry Alumni Center
61 S. Sandusky St.
Delaware, OH 43015
- Give by phone at 1-855-OWU-1842
- Give online at owu.edu/give

More information on ways to give (monthly gifts, matching gifts, DAFs, IRAs, and more) can be found at owu.edu/waystogive.

How will Ohio Wesleyan use my gift?

Annual Giving Program gifts support the areas of greatest need at OWU, from student scholarships, to campus programming, to academic departments, to athletics. These gifts help make the OWU experience accessible and special. With unrestricted dollars from the Annual Giving Program, the University can seize educational opportunities and will be ready for unforeseen problems that may arise.

What kind of impact can different gift sizes have?

Annual gifts support 10% of Ohio Wesleyan's operating budget each year. Gifts to the Ohio Wesleyan Fund are unrestricted, allowing the University to support the areas of greatest need as they arise. These gifts are especially important in allowing OWU to remain flexible as needs change. Examples of the kind of impact these gifts have are listed in the table below.

A gift of...	...can make this possible:
\$6	1 bottle of hand sanitizer
\$34	1 hour of instant online tutoring
\$50	1 volleyball for the volleyball team
\$75	1 keyboard and 1 mouse for a computer station on campus
\$200	A month of HIPAA compliant telehealth services for counselors
\$250	One semester of programming for the Panhellenic House
\$700	Cost of desktop computer in OWU library
\$900	Rent tables and chairs for one semester of Day on the JAY, the bi-annual campus-wide event
\$1,500	Cover all expenses for one tennis player
\$1,842	Supplies for 9 students to complete 1 semester of Intro to

Microbiology lab

Why should I contribute if I paid my full tuition?

Even when an individual or family pays full tuition and fees, the cost of educating an Ohio Wesleyan student remains much higher than tuition. This gap in cost is subsidized by the University and made up through annual gifts from alumni, parents, and friends, as well as income earned through endowment gifts. Since 1926, alumni have been able to help subsidize current students' education—yours included. We encourage you to invest in current students to keep this legacy of hope and generosity alive.

Why should I give to Ohio Wesleyan when there are so many other pressing needs in my community and the world?

There are many organizations that deserve your attention and support. Many Ohio Wesleyan alumni do not see this as an either/or decision; they support both. A gift to Ohio Wesleyan University helps support the education of people who will help solve problems in the world—people who will make a difference in the future.

The goal for the Annual Giving Program is in the millions. Does my gift make a difference?

Ohio Wesleyan needs the support of all of its alumni. Every gift is meaningful and valuable, no matter the amount. Each unrestricted dollar given allows the University the flexibility needed to operate daily and seize opportunities. When combined, Annual Giving Program donors give the largest gift to Ohio Wesleyan each year, and reunion class gifts account for approximately one-third of total annual giving. Never underestimate the collective impact Bishops can have!

What are the Annual Giving Societies?

Ohio Wesleyan has [two giving societies](#) that recognize leadership and loyalty in class giving: The 1842 Society and the Loyal Bishops Society.

Alumni who give \$1,842 or more are recognized as leadership donors in our 1842 Society and are invited to a reception with President Rock Jones during Reunion Weekend. Young alumni who graduated 0-5 years ago may join by making a recurring monthly gift of \$18.42 (\$221.04 for the year), and those who graduated 6-10 years ago may join with a recurring monthly gift of \$42 (\$504 for the year).

Alumni who give for 3 or more consecutive years or who make a recurring gift of the same duration will be recognized as part of a new giving society, the Loyal Bishops Society, for their steadfast support of Ohio Wesleyan.

Why doesn't Ohio Wesleyan run on a calendar year?

Ohio Wesleyan's fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30. This is the standard practice of most institutions of higher learning.

How can I make sure my gift is included in my class gift?

All gifts to any of the Annual Giving Program funds (see above) are automatically counted in your reunion's class gift.