

Weekly Connection

For the Week of April 8, 2018 - April 14, 2018
Diverse Minds, Covenant Hearts, Made One in the Body of Christ



Don't Miss the Early-Bird Savings for Your Church & Your Youth at Great Lakes Regional Youth Event!

Early Bird registration is \$300/per person through May 1. Regular Registration after May 1 through June 1 is \$325/person. Late registration from June 2 through June 15 is \$350/person. All three registration fees are for double occupancy in sleeping rooms. Registration fees include lodging, event t-shirt and meals. Required paperwork will be

emailed out after registration.

The Great Lakes Regional Youth Event (GLRYE) on July 5 - 8, 2018 at Elmhurst College in Elmhurst (Chicago), Illinois. The theme, *A Just World for All: Your Voice Matters!*, will encourage your youth to ponder, pray, and play. GLRYE is open to youth who have finished 6th grade through those who have just finished 12th grade.

Rev. R.J. Morgan, Pastor at Zoar UCC New Hanover, has agreed to be the group coordinator. There have been some discussions about riding the train to Chicago rather than drive or take a bus. Train tickets are approximately \$30 one way from St. Louis. However, churches can make their own travel arrangements to get to Elmhurst College. If your church has interest in attending RYE, please let us know and tell us who your contact person will be. Then watch for further emails from the ISC office and/or Rev. R.J. Morgan for more details.

Please note: Youth Group Leaders and Youth Group Chaperones must be 22 years old or older.

If your group cannot pay by credit card, contact Lisa Hart at glrye18reg@gmail.com for assistance. Click [here](#) to like the GLRYE Facebook page and keep updated on plans, and click [here](#) to register youth from your church.

SHANA'S WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 7

Worshiping at Friedens UCC, Irvington for the 2018 church renovation dedication

April 8

Preaching at Immanuel UCC, Hamel

April 15

Preaching at St. John UCC, Wood River

Worshiping at St. John UCC, Fairview Heights for Rev. Rosemary Captain's Installation

April 22

Preaching at Godfrey Evangelical UCC

Preaching at Zion UCC, Central City for Rev. Nancy Pebbles' Installation

April 29

Worshiping at Zion UCC, Waterloo for Rev. Nancy Spier-Lee's Farewell Service

THIS IS YOUR OCWM MONIES AT WORK

To invite me to your church for a particular event, season in the life of the church, or a special occasion, please reach out to me via email at sjohnson@iscucc.org or by phone at 618-654-2125 (office phone) or 618-882-8247.

Join Me in Doing a Happy Dance!!

Thanks to all of the Pastors, Presidents, Treasurers, Office Support Staff, and any other church leaders who helped to get information into the UCC Yearbook. Illinois South Conference ranked fourth out of 38 Conferences with 96% of our churches reporting. This record helped us to win a \$400 gift certificate for



Important Links

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[Back Bay Mission](#)

[CHHSM](#)

[Ecuador Partnership](#)

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[Deaconess Foundation](#)

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[St. John's Community Care](#)

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Pray for...

Prayer list for April 8-14

Churches & Pastors

- Central City Zion UCC, Rev. Nancy Pebbles
- Centralia St. Peter UCC, Pastor John Pawloski, Student Pastor

items from UCC Resources. You all did a stand-up job completing a tedious report of membership, attendance, financial and ministerial support questions. We should all be standing proud. Doing the happy dance!

Retired Pastor

- Rev. E. John Schaller,
Waterloo, IL



The United Church of Christ Mental Health Network presents UCC W.I.S.E. (Welcoming--Inclusive--Supportive--Engaged) Mental Health Conference on Friday, May 4 at St. Paul UCC in Downer's Grove (Chicago), Illinois from 8 am - 5 pm.

At this conference, you will:

- * Hear stories by persons who have been affected by mental health issues;
- * Receive practical steps to engage in a mental health

People with Life Concerns

- Keep Kyle Nuetzel (24) in your prayers as he recovers from a serious car accident. Kyle is the son of Kathy Nuetzel, the fiancée of Rev. Patrick Poole. Rev. Poole is the pastor at Maeystown St. John UCC. Kyle and his mom live in the St. Charles area.

ministry in our congregations;

- * Be introduced to the WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, Engaged)

Covenant for congregations for mental health; and

- * Worship together, share together, and meet new people.

Click [here](#) for more information or [here](#) to register.



Are you a member of a Committee or Commission on Ministry (COM)? Are you concerned about professional ethics among authorized ministers? Would a more comprehensive approach to professional ethics for clergy enable you to respond to the unique issues which you face as a member of a COM?

PATHWAYS Theological Education, Inc., has received a special donation to cover the costs for up to twelve COM members from any UCC Conference for the course, *Professional Boundaries and Ministerial Self-Care*, held from Wednesday, May 9 to Tuesday, June 19. This six-week asynchronous online course explores ethics and their application for professional pastoral ministers. In addition to the topic of boundaries that define the relationships between pastoral ministers and congregants, the course also explores issues like confidentiality in ministry, ethics related to competency in pastoral ministry, power differential in ministerial settings, and the use of social media. Through the coursework, participants will come to a greater understanding of the need for an ethical paradigm for ministerial engagement. In addition, the course explores the professional minister's right to privacy. Claiming one's appropriate right to privacy helps the professional maintain appropriate boundaries. Knowing how to discern where our public self begins and our private self ends serves as an essential aspect of self-care.

The Course Facilitator is Rev. Lou Kavar, Ph.D., President of the Board of Directors, PATHWAYS, and a member of the faculty in the School of Psychology at Capella University. Lou has facilitated courses in professional ethics for health and mental health professionals as well as clergy. He has been teaching online courses for 18 years.

Required readings for the course include:

- Lebacqz, Karen, and Drickill, Joseph. (2000). *Ethics and Spiritual Care: A Guide for Pastors, Chaplains, and Spiritual Directors*. Abingdon Press. ISBN: 978-0-678-07156-2
- Gula, Richard M. (2010). *Just Ministry: Professional Ethics for Pastoral Ministers*. Paulist Press. ISBN: 978-0-80910463104

Participants who complete all required coursework will earn four continuing education units. For more information, contact: pathways.ucc@gmail.com. Click [here](#) to learn more about PATHWAYS Theological Education, Inc.



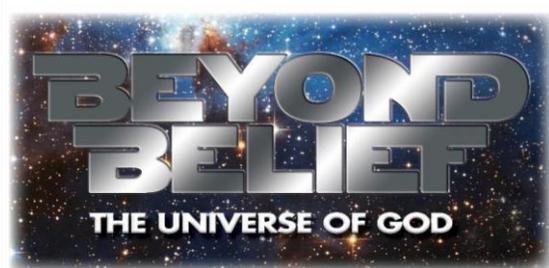
The Camp and Retreat Center of the Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ

MEET our SUMMER STAFF!

Welcome Jack Lockhart from Motueka, New Zealand to our 2018 summer staff team. Jack will be serving as a Counselor/Activity Specialist and is looking forward to working with young people in another country, making friends from around the globe and gaining new skills. Back home he is passionate about serving his community and does so as a volunteer rural fire fighter and a member of the local community patrol. The most important things in Jack's life are his "friends and family, moral values & respect for others." Fitness, health and sports are also near the top of his list. He swims and plays soccer, basketball, rugby and cricket. Jack's experience with children is varied; he has served as a coach, referee, babysitter, mentor and leader. As a fire fighter, he spends time in and with the community. One of his favorite "kid memories" is actually from a fire prevention expo. At these events, kids climb through the fire trucks



and use the giant hoses to put out controlled fires. One child with a disability was watching from aside. Jack helped him try on the gear, maneuver through the truck and even manage the powerful fire hose. Being able to connect with and include this child was golden and comes as no surprise. One of Jack's references wrote, "Jack just has a wonderful way he connects with others - be it adults or children." Jack's favorite foods are typical barbecue foods - sausages, burgers, steak and fresh seafood. His favorite memories of times outdoors were from primary and high school camps at Abel Tasman National Park. ([Check](#) it out!) His long-term goal is to either go into law enforcement or police work.



EARLY BIRD DEADLINE

Thursday, April 5

All you need to be singing a happy Early Bird tune is a completed 2018 Summer Camp Registration Form and \$50 non-refundable deposit. Save \$20 on full-week sessions and \$10 on part-week sessions. Register and pay [online](#), or postmark your registration form and deposit by April 5. If your church pays part of the camp fee, we will send them an invoice. To receive a summer



camp brochure - check in your church office, view it [online](#) and download it along with this registration [form](#), or contact DuBois Center at dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org or 618-787-2202.

SERVICE SATURDAY

April 21

Don't Miss It!

Stretch your muscles, get a little dirty and make a difference! Help spruce up the grounds for our busy spring and summer seasons. We can't do it without YOU! Projects vary, depending on the weather



and the skills of the workers - carpentry, cleaning, painting, raking and more. We may even dismantle a dock. Serve together with friends and family, and gain a



sense of satisfaction. Lunch is provided. Check out this [flyer](#) for more information. **RSVP** to DuBois Center by **Monday, April 16** at dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org or 618-787-2202. If this date doesn't work for you, we have a mission work group in camp May 16-20 and the

extra helping hands are always welcome.

Counselors in Training (CIT)

June 24-29

CIT is a great opportunity for young people who are interested in developing their leadership skills, working with younger children, and having a great time at DuBois Center! The program functions much like a "lab school" with discussion, training, practice and evaluation sessions. Skills gained will help participants



grow as positive Christian leaders, manage problematic behavior, create a safe, fun environment, and teach basic camp skills. CIT is designed for youth who have completed grades 10-12. Previous camp experience is NOT required. **NOTE:** A special application is required - in addition to the Camp Registration Form. The CIT application packet is available [online](#) or contact DuBois at dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org. For more information, check out this [flyer](#).



WRANGLE & RIDE
Registration Deadline

April 7

There's still time to sign-up for this horse-intensive day at DuBois Center!

Wrangle & Ride is for enthusiasts age 12 and older. Yes, youth and adults are welcome! Groom, tack, ride

and enjoy other horse-themed activities from 9 am - 5 pm, Saturday - April 21. The cost is \$60 per person and lunch is included. Activities are geared for novice riders and those with more experience. Click [here](#) for a flyer and reservation form or register [online](#). Contact DuBois Center at dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org or 618-787-2202 with questions.

VOLUNTEER at
Summer Camp!

Whether in a cabin, at the barn, in the health center, during specialized activities, on the Sunday Welcome Team or all around snapping photos of camper fun - volunteers make a



huge difference at DuBois Center! They work hand in hand with paid summer staff to provide and support our fun, engaging, faith-filled program. To learn more about volunteer opportunities click [here](#) or contact DuBois Center at dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org or 618-787-2202. Use this bulletin [insert](#) to help spread the word!

DuBois Center is your OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission) monies at work. When you or your congregation gives to OCWM, you are directly supporting the work of DuBois, a Camp and Retreat Center of the Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ. Thank you for your ongoing support of OCWM!



CHHSM News

Council for Health and Human Service Ministries



Marine United Church of Christ will host an evening of friendly competition with Hoyleton Youth & Family Services as the winner! The church is set to host the 17th annual Trivia Night benefiting Hoyleton Youth & Family Services on Sat, April 28. Join the hosts for challenging trivia, door prizes and more. The cost is \$12 per person, with up to 8 players to a table. The church is located at the intersection of Center Street and Hwy 143 in Marine. Prizes will be awarded to the first and second place winning teams. Contact the church at 618-887-4465 to reserve a table for trivia or click [here](#).

Surviving Caregiving, A MAP THROUGH THE MAZE, is an insightful conference designed for family caregivers who wish to gain valuable knowledge and resources that will help them navigate the maze of caregiving. The Conference is Sat, April 28 from 9:30 am 2:30 pm at St. John Evangelical UCC's Faith Hall, 307 West Clay Street (rear), Collinsville, IL 62234. To register call Age Smart Community Resources at 618-222-2561. This conference is free, but registration is required. Box lunch included. Complimentary care will be available at St. John's Adult Day Center during the conference hours. Pre-registration for adult day service is required. Contact Stacey Rhodes at 618-344-5008. Surviving Caregiving is co-presented by: St. John's Community Care, AgeSmart Community Resources and Hospice of Southern Illinois.



St. John's Community Care will offer Savvy Caregiver Training sessions several times through 2018 using a curriculum developed by the University of Minnesota. This training provides tools to family members who are caring for an individual with dementia/memory loss who is living at home, either alone or with family. This series of 6 two-hour sessions will be held on Tuesday evenings on April 17 & 24 - May 1, 8, 15, 22 at Fairview Heights Community Room, 10025 Bunkum Road, Fairview Heights, IL 62208. To register or for more information, call 618-344-5008.

2nd Annual Night at the Improv

Uni-Pres Kindercottage presents **Night at the Improv on Sat. April 14 at St. Paul UCC, 115 W "B" St, Belleville.** A night of Laughter, Frivolity & Jocularly featuring *Ed Reggi and The Paper Slips Theater*. Doors open for silent auction at 5 pm. Dinner and show at 6 pm. Here are two ways to promote the event at your churches. Click [here](#) for a bulletin insert. Click [here](#) for a pdf to be placed on your PowerPoint slides during your services.



What's Happening at Illinois South Conference...

The St. Louis area AUCE (Association of United Church Educators) is planning the *Better Together: Children and Family Ministry Resource Fair* on Sat, April 7 from 8:45 am - 1 pm at Eden Seminary Main Building, 475 E Lockwood Ave, St. Louis. There is no cost to attend. You can look forward to resource samples, book tables (sharing personal resources so you can look before you buy), workshops including OWL, LOGOS, Godly Play, and a Mult-Generational Faith Formation Roundtable. The morning will conclude with a "sample" of Messy Church model of ministry! Click [here](#) for a flyer.

St. John's UCC Midway presents a Personal Safety and Self-Awareness Presentation on April 15 from 1 pm - 3 pm. This is an ESSENTIAL Class for anyone and everyone! Learn more about awareness and protecting yourself! We tackle this very serious issue while learning techniques to empower and defend ourselves against acts of aggression and violence! While much of the class is geared to women, men will learn personal safety as well as what is necessary for your wives, daughters, mothers and sisters to stay safe. Leslie Sphar Reeves, owner of All You Studio and Party Place in Troy, IL will be presenting. She has an extensive training and experience in self-defense, conceal carry, and physical fitness. Learn about distractions, intuition, psychology of fighting and more! This is a speaking engagement only; there will not be a physical demonstration during this presentation. Put more tools in your SELF DEFENSE and AWARENESS Toolbox! Great for college students, mother, daughters, sisters, office staff or anyone else! You are worth defending! No registration required to attend. Contact 618-377-9288.

Join St. John UCC in Fairview Heights for the installation of Rev. Rosemary Captain on April 15 at 3 pm at St.

John UCC in Fairview Heights. Pastors who wish to participate are asked to robe with a red stole and arrive 1/2 hour prior to the service.

Join Zion UCC in Central City for the installation of Reverend Nancy C.L. Peebles on April 22 at 3 pm at Zion UCC in Central City. RSVP to 618-532-1751 or zionuccil@att.net. Following the service of worship, all are invited to a Celebration Tea. Pastors who wish to participate are asked to robe with a red stole and arrive 1/2 hour prior to the service.

Our Whole Lives(OWL): Sexuality and Our Faith Facilitator Training will be held from April 12 - 14 at the First Congregational Church of Webster Groves, 10 West Lockwood, Webster Groves, MO. Meals are included with the training. Training begins with a meal at 4 pm on Thursday, April 12 and ends on Sat, April 14 at 4 pm. You will have a choice of training levels of K-1, 4-6, Secondary or Adult. All participants must purchase and/or bring with them a copy of the curriculum for the levels they are being trained on. Before the training, contact the UUA bookstore or UCC Resources to purchase the materials. Registration deadline is April 2. Click [here](#) for registration form or contact Tracey Harris at tracey.harris@firstchurchwg.org.

Region 2

Dupo Christ UCC will hold an All You Can Eat Chicken & Dumpling Dinner on Sun, April 8 from 11:30 am - 3:00 pm. Dinner includes chicken, dumplings, green beans, carrots, cole slaw, bread and dessert. Adults \$10; Children 5 - 12 \$4; Children under 5 Free. Carry outs available. Call 618-286-4211.

Region 3

St. John Evangelical UCC in Collinsville will hold its 10th Auction - the Main Event - on the evening of April 7. Lots of great items to bid on!! Proceeds benefit their Homework, Help and Hoops after-school and summer programs as well as St. John's Community Care program of in-house and home service programs for the elderly. All are welcome to attend. For tickets, contact the church at 618-344-2526 or St. John's Community Care at 618-407-0343.

Region 5

Exhale youth group at Salem UCC in Alhambra will host a Trivia Night and Silent Auction on Sat, April 14. Doors open at 6 pm. There will be soda for sale. Free water. Bring snacks for your table. 50/50. Cost is \$10/person with up to 10 per table. Proceeds will help them raise funds for their summer mission trip to Houston. Contact 618-520-0185 or rjbraundmeier@gmail.com.

Region 8

Zion UCC in New Baden will hold a drive-through Spaghetti Dinner on April 13 from 4 pm - 7 pm. Menu includes a choice of spaghetti with marinara, meat or white sauce, bread sticks, salad and dessert. \$8/dinner.