

## The Amazing People of Illinois South Conference....

### Churches of Illinois South Conference Continue to raise funds for Uni-Pres Kindercottage

Congrats to St. John's UCC of Midway for gathering donations and sending a check to Uni-Pres Kindercottage in the amount of \$2,250. It is their first-quarter direct mission giving from the church.



## Important Links

[iscucc.org/](http://iscucc.org/)

[duboiscenter.org](http://duboiscenter.org)

[ucc.org](http://ucc.org)

[Back Bay Mission](#)

[Ecuador Partnership](#)

[Eden Theological Seminary](#)

[Deaconess Foundation](#)

[Deaconess Nurse Ministry](#)

[Emmaus Homes](#)

[Hitz Memorial Home](#)

[Hoyleton](#)

[Insurance Board](#)

[LIFE Program](#)

[Neighborhood Houses](#)

[New Athens Home](#)

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

[St. Paul's Home](#)

[Uplands Village](#)

[UCC Campus Ministry](#)

[Uni-Pres Kindercottage](#)

[ISC Directory](#)

## Pray for...

### Prayer list for

**Jan 29 - Feb 4, 2017**

### Churches & Pastors

- Jerseyville Peace UCC, Rev. Ted (Kristina) Engelsdorfer
- Johannsburg St. John's UCC, Rev. Bill Groennert

### Retired Pastor

- Rev. Robert and Nancy Tripp, Effingham, IL



## ELEPHANT THINKING

Whenever, I hear phrases like, "We tried that before." "But we have always done it that way." or "That just won't work here," I think of what social scientists call elephant thinking.

When elephants are being trained for the circus, trainers start when the elephants are still small, tie a strong rope around their necks, and attach the rope to a secure pole.

The baby elephants naturally try to walk away and are stopped by the rope. They pull, push, twist, turn, and eventually figure out that they just aren't strong enough to break free of their shackles, so they stop resisting and just stay where they are.

The next time they tie up the baby elephants they try to break away once again, pulling on the rope to see if they can go free. When they figure out that once again it is futile, they stop pulling, settle down, and stay where they are.

The same thing happens repeatedly until eventually, when the ropes are put over their heads, they no longer pull, push, and try to break free because they know it is futile.

That is why you can walk by a circus and see giant elephants standing passively with a rope tied around their necks that isn't attached to anything at all.

The elephant becomes so accustomed to being held back by the rope, that merely the rope itself keeps the animal in check. If only they knew how powerful they really are.

If only they realized that by the time they have grown up, even a rope "secured" to a pole can no longer contain them. As a full-grown elephant, they can weigh up to six tons, which means they could practically sneeze and pull out the pole out of the ground, but they do not try.

Social scientists point out there is a parallel phenomenon in human behavior calling it simply elephant thinking.

This assumed constraint is a belief based on experiences of the past, embedded in your mind at a very early age. This happens not only with individuals, but also in groups of people. We can see it in ourselves; we can see it in others; and we can see it in our churches.

When we focus on times when things WERE difficult - times when we felt that we weren't strong enough to move forward - we unknowingly convince ourselves that maybe we should just stop and stay where we are.

We become too focused on what has happened in the past; eyes cast on the ground.

We lose our ability to dream and visualize the life and future that God has planned for us.

Yet, the good news is the elephant could set himself free, if only he chose.

We can do the same for ourselves, if only we choose to trust in God's vision for us.

When we get stuck in elephant thinking in our personal lives, in our churches, in our Conference and in our world, I believe we need to challenge ourselves and be willing to ask ourselves some vital questions.

Do we believe in God's vision for us?

Or are we frantic in fearful action?  
Can we hear the word of the Lord?  
Are we still listening?

When we are stuck in elephant thinking, it would be good for us to remember the message of the prophet Jeremiah, "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for good and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." - *Jeremiah 29: 11*

### SHARING IN WORSHIP WITH YOU

*A Note from Shana*

My worship schedule for upcoming weeks:

#### January 29

Worshiping at Zion UCC Central City (\*Service of Farewell for Rev. Pamela Smith)  
*\*Please note Sunday, January 29 also marks the retirement of Rev. Gail Geisel from Friedens UCC in Marissa, Illinois and the end of Rev. Ted Engelsdorfer's ministry at Peace UCC in Jerseyville.*

*Please keep these pastors and congregations in your prayers during this time of transition and discernment.*

#### February 12

Worshiping at Zoar UCC, New Hanover

#### February 19

Worshiping at St. John UCC, Fairview Heights (Service of Farewell for Rev. Jim Nolan)

Preaching at the Installation of Rev Jerry Bennett at St. Peter UCC, Hookdale

#### February 26

Participating in the Installation of Rev. Rebekah Rathman Wingrove, Fieldon UCC  
I am currently planning my worship schedule for April 2017 and beyond. If I have not been at your church yet, I would love an invitation! Please reach out to me at the office at 618-654-2125 or on my cell phone at 618-882-8247 with some possible dates. You can also send me an email at [sjohnson@iscucc.org](mailto:sjohnson@iscucc.org). I am looking forward to meeting you and sharing in worship with you.

Blessings, Shana

### Festival of Faith for Middle Schoolers 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades

The Festival of Faith 2017 is an event for 6th-8th graders and their chaperones. It will take place on February 18-19 (Saturday & Sunday) at DuBois Center. We welcome **Jay Tyson** from St Paul UCC Waterloo as the event's new leader and thank him for taking on this exciting, but challenging, responsibility!

Please note the important dates - **January 24 for space requests** and **February 6 for paperwork /payment to the ISC office**. The [packet](#) has been emailed to all of the churches and youth leaders in an effort to be green and to save on mailing costs. However, we would be happy to mail hard copies to churches if requested.



#### Farewell, Bre!

As you may recall from an earlier article, our 7th Outdoor Ministry Intern, Breanne Beisiegel, recently accepted a position with the Illinois Farm Bureau. She is wrapping up her time at DuBois Center buried in brochure editing (probably the thing she'll miss least). When asked about the skills she gained that will most help her in the future, Bre's list included coordinating groups and events, recruiting volunteers and - yes - the ever dreaded task of talking on the phone. While her leadership, calm, easy-going demeanor, and horse, tractor driving and math skills will be greatly missed, we couldn't be more excited to see Bre take the next step in pursuing her career goals. She will be traveling around Illinois for the next few months as a County Manager Trainee, living out of suitcases, her car and hotel rooms - first up to Bloomington, then off to Sparta. Eventually, Bre hopes to settle in with a bureau office in southern Illinois, but until then there is no doubt that she'll re-connect whenever she's in the area. Best Wishes, Bre!

### People with Life Concerns

- Keep Rev. Marvin (Dorothea) Engelsdorfer in your prayers as he deals with health issues. Rev. Engelsdorfer has been very active in the Conference and his son, Rev. Ted is also a pastor. Cards may be sent to him at 122 Wild Rose Dr, Belleville, IL 62221.

- Pray for Rev. Arnold (Luetta) Bizer as he deals with health issues. Rev. Bizer served as pastor of Alhambra Salem UCC prior to retiring. Cards may be sent to 602 Woodchuck Ln, Lake St. Louis MO 63367.

- Keep Rev. Dr. Douglas Anders in your prayers as he continues treatment. He is dealing well with treatment, but prayers are always welcome. Cards may be sent to him at 2921 Moniteau, St. Louis, MO 63121.

- Pray for Pastor Dennis Gilbert as he deals with health issues. Cards may be sent to 3305 Joyce Dr. Belleville, IL 62226.

### Churches in Transition

- Seeking a part-time Pastor St. John UCC, Evansville. St. John is a traditional church with a charm which one can find in a small town. The congregation is small and friendly and is looking for a pastor who will challenge the congregation, with sensitivity to their context. If interested, contact Tom Zweigart, St. John's church council president, at home, 618-853-4075, or on his cell at 618-792-5491.

- Seeking Part-Time Interim Pastor Zion UCC. Zion is located in Metropolis, the official hometown of Superman. It is a conservative congregation which enjoys a close relationship with God and each other. They want the interim pastor to help them focus on the future and help them grow spiritually. Contact Rev. Shana Johnson, Designated Conference Minister of the Illinois South Conference at [sjohnson@iscucc.org](mailto:sjohnson@iscucc.org) or 618-654-2125.

## **Celebrate Seminary Sunday on February 26th**

### **Why Celebrate Seminary Sunday?**

Our UCC seminaries are filled with faithful, committed students seeking the skills and wisdom necessary to lead the church in the 21st century. Our congregations need these students. In our region, we are blessed to have three UCC seminaries - Chicago, United, and Eden. Each of these seminaries provides quality education for pastors and lay leaders, and they provide research and resources that serve the entire UCC.

### **How to Celebrate Seminary Sunday**

- Lift up our UCC seminaries and seminarians in prayer, in mission moments, and in your bulletins.
- Post materials about Chicago, Eden, and United Seminaries on bulletin boards.
- Include a special prayer or litany in your service.
- Show a five-minute CUE Seminaries DVD.
- Include a gift to CUE Seminaries in your church budget or to take a special offering.

DVDs, bulletin inserts, posters, and offering envelopes are available CUE Seminaries [website](#).

Please join us on February 26 in supporting the current and future leadership of the UCC by celebrating Chicago, United, and Eden Seminaries.

If you would like someone from a CUE Seminary to visit your congregation to help with worship leadership for Seminary Sunday, please contact:

**Chicago Theological Seminary** Chad Schwickerath

at [chad.schwickerath@ctschicago.edu](mailto:chad.schwickerath@ctschicago.edu) or 773-896-2434

**United Theological Seminary** Brad Reiners at [breiners@unitedseminary.edu](mailto:breiners@unitedseminary.edu) or 651-255-6164

**Eden Theological Seminary** Lorin Cope at [lcope@eden.edu](mailto:lcope@eden.edu) or 314-918-2549

Each seminary will do its best to accommodate each request.

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### **The new 2017 ISC Directory is here!!**

You can download it [here](#) or anytime at the ISC [website](#) under the Resources tab. We will keep that link updated when/if we hear that something has changed. There is always a link in the Weekly Connection as above.

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### **Chili Cook Off to Benefit Kindercottage**

**Date:** Sunday, February 19th, 11 am to 2 pm. Setup for contestants is 10:30 a.m.

**Place:** Fellowship Hall, Evangelical United Church of Christ, 2520 Popular, Highland, IL.

**Cost:** Entry for chefs, \$10. Guests: \$2 tasting kit, \$3 bowl, \$10 VIP bowl.

**Purpose:** Kindercottage is an important landmark Preschool that has been in East St. Louis for over 50 years. Brenda Crisp and staff need our aid now to replace monies lost from the State and Illinois South Conference's balancing its budget. Illinois South Conference challenges the churches to continue to donate directly to Kindercottage. Please help us publicize this event every way you can. We promise great food, great fun, and great mission.

**Contact:** Lynn Beil, Missy Loyet, or Kay Ahaus at 618- 520-1790 or [kayahaus@yahoo.com](mailto:kayahaus@yahoo.com)

**Sponsor** of the event is the Mission Board of Evangelical United Church of Christ.

Click [here](#) for a flyer.

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### **Faith Formation for Clergy and Lay**

You are invited to an experiential learning event sponsored by the Faith Formation team of the United Church of Christ on March 29. Discussions about **intergenerational ministry** abound in our churches today and studies show the importance of positive intergenerational relationships on the faith formation of our children and youth. Yet churches are finding that building these intergenerational relationships is easier said than done. This event, Logos, will introduce you to a program designed to create intergenerational relationships in your church as well as teach your kids Bible study and worship skills.

**LOGOS** - is a weekly intergenerational experience for young people that creates an arena where all ages, together, can learn about, experience, and practice the art of Christian relationships, critical for developing life-long disciples.

**At this Inspiring Model of Ministry** you'll participate in an evening of Logos at St. John's United Church of Christ in Chesterfield, MO and then have a chance to reflect on what you experienced, have a chance to ask questions of the Logos' leaders, and ruminate on how you might bring this innovative practice back to your own ministry setting. This event is not primarily designed for clergy. Your church could send children's ministry/youth faith formation staff or volunteers to experience the retreat and report back on the experience.

Cost for the event is \$25 per person and dinner is included. A limited number of scholarships are available to help

defray travel costs for the event. For more information and to register, click [here](#). If you have other questions please contact me at [beckwithi@ucc.org](mailto:beckwithi@ucc.org) or at 216-736-3875.

Hope to see you in Missouri on March 29. Click [here](#) for a flyer.

Rev. Ivy Beckwith, UCC Faith Formation Minister and Team Leader



### Plan Now For Day of Discipleship - WORKSHOPS FOR CHURCH MEMBERS

**PURPOSE:** To take home an abundance of information to experience wonderful worship.

**SPEAKER:** Rev. Dr. Christopher Grundy

**WHO:** Interested Church Members

Youth and Youth Leaders

Council/Consistory/Committee Members

Church Officers, Delegates

Christian Educators

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 25, 2017

9:30 am - 2:00 pm (Registration begins at 9:00 am.)

**WHERE:** St. Paul UCC,

330 N Buhrman St, Nashville, IL 62263

**Cost:** \$35 (\$30 for Early-bird payment by February 7, 2017)

[Flyer](#) Cover [Letter](#) [List](#) of Workshops

Registration [Form](#) & Map to Nashville

DOD Bulletin [Insert](#) Complete [Packet](#) Register [Online](#)



A Ministry of Illinois South Conference  
of the United Church of Christ



### Volunteer Spotlight - Larry Reeble

Dedicated, caring, passionate and hard-working - that's Larry Reeble, a dedicated volunteer who goes above and beyond. Larry was first "roped" into volunteering at DuBois Center in 1986 by his wife Sue who was an active summer camp volunteer at the time; he's been hooked ever since. Then Conference Minister, Rev. Martha Baumer, asked him to help rebuild the horse program. That year he traveled throughout the Midwest - 4,982 miles to be exact - to find good, solid horses for the program. Over the years, Larry has helped to find and vet many new additions to the herd, and even donated a few of his own. At the youthful age of 81, Larry

is still very active at DuBois Center. He is a member of our equestrian committee and leads dozens of rides each year for Nature's Classroom students and guest groups. He can also be found mowing pastures, mending fences, and helping in other areas throughout camp. When asked what keeps him coming back, he responded simply "horses and kids." He went on to share that even during some of the most frustrating rides, when he's ready to quit, a kid will give him a hug or make him a card, and then suddenly all the aggravation is worth it. Over the years, Larry has touched the lives of so many people - children, youth and adults, campers, guests and volunteer alike. A fellow volunteer remarked, "He seems to draw strength and endurance from DuBois and helping people and horses." And what would a horse ride be without Larry's trademark advice; "Always keep the horse between you and the ground." We are grateful for Larry and his knowledge, kind-heart and generosity!

### SUMMER CAMP Highlight



**High School Week:** June 18-23

(completed grades 8-12)

**Counselors in Training:** June 25-30

(completed grades 10-12)



### New Host Phone!

We are happy to announce that we have found a "new" host phone. Thanks to those who donated, your generosity is greatly appreciated!



**Father-Son Retreat  
March 31- April 2**  
Fathers, Grandfathers and Uncles - bring your sons, grandsons and nephews to DuBois Center for a weekend of quality guy time! Fish, hike, canoe and just hang out together. Make cool wood crafts, share in vespers and work on your archery skills. Horseback riding is available for

an additional fee. Lodging is in the cottages in main camp. All ages are welcome, though most activities are geared for boys age 5 and older. Families participate together. For more information, check out this flyer. Registration by mail is now open; online registration opens February 15.

**BUNCO NIGHT**  
February 4

St. Paul UCC  
Columbia



Support  
DuBois Center

Click [here](#) for a flyer.

### Upcoming Events

#### February

- 4 [Bunco](#) Night @ Columbia
- 18-19 ISC Festival of [Faith](#)

#### March

- 25 [Service](#) Saturday
- 31 - April 2 Father & Son [Retreat](#)

#### April

- 2 Sunday Funday
- 5 Summer [Camp](#): Early Bird Deadline
- 22 Wrangle & [Ride](#)- all ages
- [Service](#) Saturday
- 30 Sunday Funday

#### May

- 12 DuBois on [Broadway](#)
- 31 Summer Staff Training Begins

#### June

- 11 1st Day of Summer Camp

### CAMP NURSES

Calamine, Calamine, Calamine Lotion... Who remembers that old camp song, sometimes known as the camp nurse's anthem? One setting for ministry at DuBois Center is our health center. Volunteer camp nurses, most of whom are RNs, are vital to our overall summer camp program. We often hear from nurses that serving at camp is very rewarding, and quite different than their regular jobs. Responsibilities include reviewing camper medical forms, conducting health screenings, receiving & administering medications, providing first aid & basic medical treatment, and completing the necessary documentation. But when you really get down to it, nurses spend most of their time removing ticks, soothing poison ivy, distributing medications and providing extra TLC for homesick and nervous campers. If you are an RN, please consider serving with us for a full or partial week. (FYI - Living quarters do have AC.) For more information about this ministry opportunity, contact Shirley at 618-787-2202 or [dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org).



*CHHSM News*  
Council for Health and Human Service Ministries

Hoyleton Ministries presents its Awards Banquet on Fri, Feb 10 at the Four Points by Sheraton, 319 Fountains Pkwy, Fairview Heights. Doors open at 6 pm. RSVP by Feb 2 to Darla Rennegarbe at 618-688-4770 or email [drennegarbe@hoyleton.org](mailto:drennegarbe@hoyleton.org).



**The 36th Annual Rural Ministry Conference presented by Wartburg Theological Seminary will be on March 5-7, 2017 at the Best Western Plus Hotel, 3100 Dodge St, Dubuque, IA from 3 pm on March 5 to noon on March 7.** Keynote speaker is Dr. Val Farmer; Bible study leader is Rev. Dr. Craig Nesson; Plenary speakers are Mary Swander and Jean Sullivan; Workshop leaders are Amy Larson; Rev. Dr. Martha Brunell, Carol Stufflebeam and Elan Hacker. Click [here](#) for more information.

**Neighborhood Houses is holding a job fair on Sat, Jan 21 from 10 am - 2 pm.** The job fair will take place at Caroline Mission Early Childhood Education Center located at 2828 Caroline Street, St. Louis, MO 63104. Neighborhood Houses will be conducting interviews on-site for positions including full- and part-time Early Childhood Education Teachers, part-time Program Assistants (School year and Summer), accountant (CPA preferred), and an HR Generalist! Click [here](#) for more information.



**LIFE at Eden**  
Lifelong Learner Institute of Faith Exploration

**LIFE at Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis** is a program that invites women and men to embrace lifelong learning and faith exploration. It challenges participants to become disciples, faithful witnesses to the gospel, and faithful members and leaders of the church. Each program consists of two courses, and participants may register for either course. There are no prerequisites. Other highlights include:

- Five regular session offerings each academic year
- Course topics range from Old Testament, New Testament, Evangelism, Ethics, and more
- Courses are taught by world-renowned Eden faculty instructors
- Six hours of theological engagement per session
- Worship, meals, and instruction included in registration (\$130 per person, \$140 with lodging)

Click [here](#) for more information and to register. Or contact Jill Schantz at [jschantz@eden.edu](mailto:jschantz@eden.edu) or by calling 314-918-2554.

#### **2017 LIFE Schedule**

Recommended Reading: White Rage by Carol Anderson, Ph.D.

#### **Feb. 17-18, 2017**

Certificate: Shaping Faithful Worship: Worship and Sacrament, Rev. Dr. Christopher Grundy

Elective: Scripture studies, book of Matthew, Rev. Dr. Jeff Moore

#### **April 7-8, 2017**

Certificate: The Church is a Learning Community: Christian Education, Dr. Mai-Ahn Tran

Elective: The Sacrament of Baptism in our Spiritual Lives Today, Rev. Dr. Ginny Brown Daniel, Conference Minister, Missouri Mid-South Conference



#### **Back Bay Mission Opens 2018 Mission Trip Calendar**

Back Bay Mission's 2018 mission trip calendar opened at midnight central time on January 1, 2017. You can reserve your mission trip week by emailing the Mission's volunteer coordinator at [volunteercoordinator@thebackbaymission.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@thebackbaymission.org). The Mission accepts reservation requests only through email. The 2018 calendar is available on the Mission's [website](#).

#### **Back Bay Mission is now accepting applications for the 2017 Shari Prestemon Social Justice Internship!**

The Shari Prestemon Social Justice Internship provides people between the ages of 19 and 35 with a unique opportunity to participate in a 10-week summer program tailored to their interests. Drawing on the Mission's long experience in community engagement and advocacy for justice, the internship will nurture participants' passion for social justice and develop their appreciation for the church's role in seeking social justice.

Applications must be submitted by March 1. Notifications will be made by March 31.

You can learn more about the internship and download an application on the Mission's [website](#).

#### **CUPIDS, CONFECTIONS, CONVICTIONS**

Love and murder are in the air at St. John's Community Care. With the anticipation of Valentine's Day we are preparing for our mystery production: "It's My Party and I'll Die If I Want To" Fundraiser. It will be held on Sunday, February 12, 2017 at Faith Hall - St.

John Evangelical United Church of Christ. A fun afternoon filled with lots of surprises! Be prepared to laugh along while you enjoy the show, chocolate confections and decadent desserts. Doors open at 2:30 p.m. and the show starts at 3:00 p.m. Tickets will be available for purchase at St. John's Community Care, 222 Goethe Avenue. Tickets are \$25.00 each. Click [here](#) for a flyer.

If you would like to make a donation of a restaurant gift card, bottle of wine ( \$20 min.) or prize, please contact Missy at [mathmer@stjohnscc.org](mailto:mathmer@stjohnscc.org).



**Kindercottage continues to make plans for our April 1 "Night at the Improv" dinner theater featuring the Paper Slips Theater group.** This lively and unique show appeals to people of all ages. You can save by buying 8 tickets, fill a table and have a wonderful multi-generational outing. Tickets are \$40 each, or save by purchasing 8 for \$300! Sponsorships are also available. Call 618-874-6505 for ordering information.



## What's Happening at Illinois South Conference...



### Blessing in Blocks

During February 4-13, 2017 a team of four people, representing two ISC congregations will be building our 10th building in Catamayo - Ecuador. Since there are so few ISC travelers' congregations represented in which we can raise money for building materials, we are hoping that people in the other ISC churches will become involved in the Blessings in Blocks program. We have taken around two hundred 3x5 cards with blessings for the family written on them to each of the building projects during the past 9 years. Some of the cards arrive at the Highland office with a check for building materials. While we are very pleased to have the cards and appreciate the

thoughtfulness involved in sending them to the Highland office, this time we need a lot more of them to include checks for \$5, \$10 or \$20.

During recent trips we have asked the homebuyer family members to place the cards in the blocks as the blocks are handed to those who are building the wall. This seems to be very meaningful to our partner families. Perhaps it is impractical for you to go on one of these building trips. However, this is a way that you can have a very specific role in the success of this ministry. We would much prefer to have 300 people who would send a card with a check for \$10 than to have 30 people send a card with \$100. It really touches the families in Ecuador that hundreds of people who they will never meet want to be involved in helping to build their new home. Please write a blessing on a 3 x 5 card and send it to the Conference office **by January 31**: Blessings in Blocks, Illinois South Conference, 1312 Broadway, Highland, IL 62249. Click [here](#) for bulletin insert.



### Thomaskirche, Leipzig

Tenors and basses are desired to complete a mixed-voice chamber choir which will tour Germany and the Czech Republic, departing from St. Louis on July 18 and returning on July 27, 2017. Cities visited in or performed in include Nuremberg, Bayreuth, Wittenberg, Leipzig, Dresden, and Prague.

The choir is under the direction of Daniel Fry, Music Director at St. Paul UCC in Belleville, with Tristan Frampton, Asst. Prof. of Music at St. Louis College of Pharmacy, as Assistant Director. Rehearsals will take place every other Sunday starting on February 12 from 1:30-3:30, and weekly starting on May 12 at the church, which is located at 115 West B Street, Belleville, IL. 62220. Some additional rehearsals toward the tour departure date are possible.

Repertoire includes works by Thompson, Mendelssohn, Billings, Persichetti,

Monteverdi, Bach, Ellington, Brubeck, and others. Approximate trip cost is \$4000.

Please contact Daniel Fry at [dan-fry@stpaulucc.org](mailto:dan-fry@stpaulucc.org) or at 618-233-3303 for more information or with any questions.

### Region 2

#### BUNCO NIGHT - February 4

**SAVE THE DATE** - Join Region 2 for an evening of fun and fellowship. This fun dice game is so easy to learn, anyone can play! Doors open at St. Paul UCC in Columbia at 6:30 pm on Sat, Feb 4; the game will begin at 7 pm. Cost is \$10 per person. 50/50 drawing and silent auction. Snacks and soda available for purchase. All proceeds go to support DuBois Center. Check out this [flyer](#). Advance tickets are available.

### Region 3

**Job Opportunity:** St. John Evangelical United Church of Christ in Collinsville, IL is looking for a person to lead the music program for our Sunday school children (services at 9 am and 10:30 am) and teach a short Sunday school lesson to children in the 10:30 session. Hours are 8

### Region 5

**Job Opportunities:** Evangelical UCC in Highland is looking for 2 full time teachers for their Wee Care Day Care. Interested candidates must have 60 hours from an accredited college including 6 hours of child care courses. Benefits available include health, vision, and dental insurance; paid vacation, sick time and holidays. Please contact Karin at 618-654-6647 for more information.

#### Alhambra Salem UCC will hold its 69th Annual Whole Hog Sausage Supper on Sat, Jan 28 from 2:30

pm - 8 pm. All you can eat. Menu includes fresh homemade pork sausage, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, bread, applesauce, dessert, coffee and milk. Adults \$10; Children 5 - 10 \$5; Children 4 and under Free. Carry-outs adult price only. Advanced sausage orders available for link or bulk

### Region 7

**St. Peter's UCC in Okawville will hold its WURST MARKT on Sun, Feb 12 at their Educational Building from 3 pm - 7 pm.** All you can eat pork sausage, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, green beans, applesauce, pie or dessert and drink. Adults (13 & up) \$11; Children (6-12) \$5; Children 5 and under - Free. All carry outs \$11. (4 links of sausage per carry out) Place meat/sausage orders by Feb 5, to Melinda Albers at 618-243-5354.

### Region 8

**Mascoutah St. John UCC hosts Rev. Monty Jackson, a minister in the Nazarene Church and affiliated with Sparta, IL First United Methodist Church, to their worship service on Sun, Jan 29 at 10:30 am.** Rev. Jackson is a musical evangelist, gospel singer, songwriter, and composer. All are welcome.

am to 11:30 am on Sunday mornings throughout the school year. Pay rate is \$10/hour. Contact Christy at 618-420-2608 or [wsp13@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wsp13@sbcglobal.net).

sausage, backbones, and ribs. Place orders at 618-488-3733 or [ooey5@agtelco.com](mailto:ooey5@agtelco.com). Pick up orders on Thurs, Jan 26 or Sat, Jan 28.

**Trenton St. John UCC will hold its first annual drive-thru chili dinner on Sat, Feb 18 from 11 am to 3 pm - or until the chili is gone.** Hot and regular chili will be available for \$5 per quart. Call 618-224-9828 for questions/information.

#### Region 4

**Carlinsville St. Paul UCC will hold a Chili and Chicken Noodle Soup Supper on Sat, Jan 28 from 4 pm - 7 pm.** All you can eat. Adults \$8; Children \$4. Proceeds go toward their kitchen fund. RSVP to the church at 217-854-4046.

#### Region 5

**Evangelical UCC in Highland will hold a Chili Cookoff on Sun, Feb 19 from 11 am - 2 pm.** Prize for the best entry. Proceeds go to Uni-Pres Kindercottage. Help them feed the children of East St. Louis.

**St John UCC in Breese will be holding their omelet breakfast on Sun, Feb 19 from 7:30 am until 12 pm.** All you can eat including omelets, pancakes, bacon, sausage and drink. Adults \$8; children 4-11 \$4; and children 3 and under are free. For more information, call 618-526-4319.

#### Region 6

**Retirement Celebration for Rev. Pamela Smith will be held on Sun, Jan 29 at 2 pm at Zion UCC in Central City.** They invite you to join them to say farewell to Rev. Pamela Smith as she embarks on this new journey after 27 years in ministry. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to their church office by Wed, Jan 25 to 618-532-1751 or [zionuccil@att.net](mailto:zionuccil@att.net). If you would like to contribute to a card tree for her, send cards to Amber Rhodes, Zion UCC, 101 N Broadway, Centralia IL 62801.

#### Region 9

**Christ UCC in Belleville will hold its 38th Annual Wurstmart on Sun, Jan 29 from 11 am - 4 pm.** All you can eat! Menu includes pork sausage, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, green beans, applesauce, coffee or tea, and dessert. Adults \$11; Children ages 6 - 9 - \$5; Carry outs available! Contact 618-233-1962.