

Weekly Connection

For the Week of February 19, 2017 - February 25, 2017
 Diverse Minds, Covenant Hearts, Made One in the Body of Christ



The Amazing People of ISC...

When Gertie Holle and Janet Klie, members of Zion UCC in Hoyleton, attended the Illinois South Conference Annual Meeting last fall, they were concerned about the budget cuts to DuBois Center and the Uni-Pres Kinder Cottage. They and the members at Zion UCC in Hoyleton



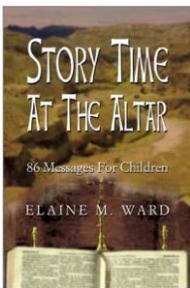
have a great passion for these two facilities. In addition to a part of their regular offerings going for these places, they approached the Council with the idea of doing a Noisy Offering once a month for them. The Council gave their blessings and they did that last November and December. This went over so well with the Congregation that during 2017 they will do the Noisy Offering each week. Two or three of the young people pass an offering container and people are asked to drop their change (dollars and checks too) in. So far about \$50 a month is collected for each agency. Not much each Sunday, but those coins sure add up over the year. Thanks Janet and Gertie for following the message of that Annual Meeting and implementing this 2nd Mile Giving opportunity at Zion.

Above Left Photo: (l to r) Reese Renth, Serenity Polojski and Logan Polojski.

Above Right Photo: (l to r) Mark Beckmeyer, Serenity Polojski, Mark Hake, and Logan Polojsk.



Zion UCC in Central City is excited to announce that during their Annual Congregational Meeting on January 22, the Congregation voted to become an official Open and Affirming Church.



In her book *Story Time at the Altar*, Christian educator, and author, Elaine Ward has penned a poignant story about the loneliness of choosing to fight. This is the story she tells.

"There once was a boy who was always fighting. If someone accidentally touched him, he hit them with his fist. If someone called him a funny name, he kicked them. If someone laughed at him, he beat up on them. After a while, the others learned to fight back, and the boy came home lonely, with bruises and bad feelings.

One day someone asked, "Why do you want to fight?"

"To show I am stronger than anyone else!" The boy clenched his fists.

"Does that make you feel good?" asked the other, as he ran.

The boy asked himself, "Does fighting make me feel good? Of course, winning is good. But winning is lonely."

The next time a child made a face at him, he began to beat up on him, and the voice said, "Turn the other cheek." The boy turned his head the other way and continued hitting the other.

"No, silly, I mean if someone hits you on one cheek, turn the other, so he can hit that one, too."

The boy was so surprised by such a silly suggestion; he stopped fighting long enough to laugh. The more he thought about it, the harder he laughed. He laughed so loud the others heard him and began to laugh. Soon everyone was laughing, and it felt so good to be laughing together that the boy laughed even longer.

Important Links

iscucc.org/

duboiscenter.org

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
Feb 19 - Feb 25, 2017
Churches & Pastors

- Marion Zion UCC, Rev. John (Sara) Holst
- Marissa Friedens UCC

Retired Pastor

- Rev. Robert and Doris Utke, St. Paul, MN

"This is better than fighting!" he thought. Since that day, whenever anyone calls him a funny name, he laughs, remembering the silly, but wise advice someone gave him long ago."

This week's lectionary text from the Gospel of Matthew (Matthew 5:38-48) includes "silly" suggestions that Jesus made, such as "if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also" and "if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well." In the ancient world, such suggestions sounded silly. In our world, a world that upholds winning at all costs as the ultimate achievement, Jesus' suggestions sound down right ludicrous.

Yet, as the boy in Ward's story reveals, winning feels good in the moment, but, in the end, it is lonely. When we choose being right, being first, or being on top, we often choose it over relationships. The wisdom and truth of Jesus' suggestion of "turning the other cheek" comes down to choosing to invest in the relationship. When we fight with one another, nothing good and fruitful emerges. Relationships wilt and perish in the darkness of discord and strife, whereas, our relationships will bloom and grow in the light of harmony and unity. "Turning the other cheek" means choosing love and grace over fighting.

I encourage you to think about this the next time you are tempted to pour your time and energies into battling others. What will really be gained? More importantly, what will be lost? Remember winning is good, but winning is also lonely!

Blessings, Shana



SHARING IN WORSHIP WITH YOU

A Note from Shana

My worship schedule for upcoming weeks:

February 19

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

Bill Whicher will be worshipping at St. John UCC, Trenton and participating in the Service of Farewell for St. John UCC and Rev. Mark Stryjak.

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

February 26

Preaching at the Installation of Rev. Rebekah Rathman-Wingrove, Fieldon UCC

March 12

Worshipping at St. Peter's UCC Stone Church

March 19

Worshipping at St. John's UCC, Midway

I am currently planning my worship schedule for May 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. I am looking forward to meeting you and sharing in worship with you.

Blessings, Shana

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.

People with Life Concerns

- Hold the family of Amy Dillon in your prayers as they mourn her death. Amy was the sister-in-law of Amber Rhodes, member of Central City Zion UCC, the ISC Region Convener, and a member of the ISC Justice & Witness Team.

- Keep Dorothy Edwards in your prayers as she deals with health issues. Dorothy is a member of the East St. Louis Good Shepherd of Faith and the mother of Pastor Norma Patterson.

- 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.

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 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

Statistics for your church are due for the UCC Yearbook.

Illinois South Conference churches have always had 90+% of the churches turning in their membership, attendance, financial and ministerial support information each year. We're hoping you will be one of those churches to do just that. **If you plan to do it online, the drop dead deadline is Wednesday, March 8.** After that, online will be locked. **If you want us to do it for you, we need the worksheet by Monday, February 20.** It is difficult to know who has done it online unless you send us a report or just a note to say it is done. For those who have already sent their reports...woohoo! If you haven't yet, we know you will soon. Thanks so much. Lynnette.



Just a Few Days Left Before Day of Discipleship! Sign up NOW! SHAKING UP WORSHIP!!

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

[Flyer](#) Cover [Letter](#)

DOD Bulletin [Insert](#)

[List](#) of Workshops

Complete [Packet](#)

Registration [Form](#) & Map to Nashville

Register [Online](#)



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



Meet our Summer Staff!

Now introducing another member of our 2017 summer staff...Esme Trevelyan! Esme is returning to DuBois Center for a second summer as a Counselor/Activity Specialist. She is very excited "to see some of [her] campers and friends, to sing crazy songs about Oreos and to be a part of the magic of camp again." Esme has always loved working with children and youth. In Essex, England, where Esme grew up, she volunteered at church with children's programs, youth groups and for summer holiday clubs. Her favorite thing about summer camp at DuBois Center is "...the idea of a smaller

camp... it helps us give a more personal experience to campers. I love seeing how much campers can blossom in just one week." When not at camp, Esme studies Social Sciences at the University of Bath in Bath, England. In her free time, she loves to travel. Esme has been to 11 different countries- her favorite trip being a three-month adventure around Australia.



The "HOW TOs" of International Staff

We are often asked, "How do you find your international staff? How does it work?" Well, we begin with three organizations: Eden Seminary, Camp America and CCUSA (Camp Counselors USA). Camp America is related to the American Institute For Foreign Study (AIFS); CCUSA is an independent organization. Both are approved by the US Department of State and both have been serving camps for over 30 years. Eden Seminary has a strong international component. Because their students are already in the USA and hold valid visas, the application and interview process are very similar to those for other local applicants. Camp America and CCUSA recruit internationally on our behalf. They receive and review applications and references, perform background checks and conduct interviews. The applications of those who clear this extensive process are placed on the recruiting organization's website. We search these sites for individuals who might be a good fit for DuBois Center. Our top priorities are candidates who are Christian, have solid experience and either are or have the potential to become lifeguards. We also prefer applicants who are 19 years or older. If they play the guitar - that's a bonus! After selecting applicants to interview, they are sent a packet with lots of information about DuBois Center, our mission and program. Then an interview is conducted online via Skype. Afterwards, the interviewers discuss the candidate and decide whether to extend an invitation or not. Then regular communication via email begins, which includes additional orientation and even some online training. We want our international staff to feel as welcome and prepared as possible when they arrive at DuBois Center.



Volunteer NURSES Needed Spend 3-6 Days at DuBois Center

Share your skills and make a difference! Camp Nurses, most of whom are RNs, play a key role in providing safe and fun experiences during DuBois Center summer camps. Many find it to be a very rewarding opportunity for ministry; one that is quite different than their regular jobs. Camp nurses review camper medical forms, conduct health screenings, administer medications, and provide first aid, basic medical treatment and extra TLC for homesick campers. The nurse's living quarters are air-conditioned, and it's not all work and no play. There is often time to sit back and read a good book, take a hike or dip your toes in the lake. For more information about this ministry opportunity, contact Shirley at dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org or 618-787-2202.



Summer Camp Brochures Hot off the Press!

They're hot off the press and heading your way! Watch your mailbox - at home and at church - for your guide to a summer packed with fun, faith and adventures at DuBois Center. Churches will also receive a packet with other helpful information and promotion materials. Can't wait? Get a sneak peek of the [brochure](#) online today. Registration opens February 15.



Wrangle & Ride - April 22

Grab a friend and spend Saturday, April 22 from 9am-5pm horsin' around at DuBois Center! This horse intensive-day is for pony enthusiasts 12 years and older. Groom, tack, ride and enjoy horse-themed activities with other horse lovers! The cost is \$60 (or \$55 if registered by the early bird deadline) and lunch is included. To ensure more time in the saddle, space is limited to the first 12

SPRING BROCHURE

Spring is a great time of year at DuBois Center! There is still time to plan an event for your church or group, or to get involved in one of the many events sponsored by DuBois Center. Check out our [Spring Brochure](#) for information about our Father-Son Retreat, Horse Event, Service Saturdays, Sunday Fundays and more.



TALENT SCOUTS NEEDED

We are always on the lookout for caring, fun-loving individuals who enjoy the outdoors and have a heart for ministry to serve with us at DuBois Center. Paid and volunteer positions are available for Summer 2017. If you know someone who might be a good fit,



who register. Click [here](#) for more information or contact either complete the information on this [form](#) or contact the DuBois Center at dcinfo@duboiscenter.org or 618-787-2202 or register by mail today or online starting February 15. DuBois Center office at dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org or 618-787-2202.



VOLUNTEERS are the HEART

Volunteers are the heart of strong and healthy Outdoor Ministry programs. At DuBois Center, they serve throughout the year on committees and teams, at the barn, in the office, on work projects, as retreat leaders and fund raisers. During the summer, there are a variety of ways to be involved and make a difference in the lives of the young people we serve. Join us for a few hours on a Sunday afternoon, a couple days during the week or a full week of camp. Volunteers work hand in hand with paid summer staff to provide our fun, engaging and faith-filled program. For more information contact DuBois Center at dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org or 618-787-2202. Volunteer applications are available [online](#).

Cabin Counselor Chaplain Nurse
 Barn Helper Sunday Welcome Team Activity Leader Photographer

If you, or someone you know, would like to volunteer, but is only 15 or 16, consider the [CIT](#) (Counselor in Training) [program](#), June 25-30.



Great fun for a great cause! Neighborhood Houses' 7th Annual Trivia Night will be held on Sat, April 22 at the Sunset Hills Community Center, 3915 S. Lindbergh Boulevard, St. Louis. Doors open at 6 pm. Trivia Starts at 7 pm. Beer, wine, soda, and water provided. Feel free to bring snacks and adult beverages! VIP Table Sponsorship - \$350 per table includes one table of 10 players, display of logo and/or name at event, and priority seating; table service; special VIP party basket; two tickets per person for attendance prizes. Attendance cost 10-Person Table - \$300 per table. Sponsor a Round! - \$150 per round. 10 sponsorships available, display of logo and/or name at event. Sold out in 2015 and 2016! Click [here](#) to register. Click [here](#) for flyer.



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.



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 or by calling 314-918-2554.

2017 LIFE Schedule

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
 Click [here](#) for February brochure.

March 10-11, 2017

Certificate: God Revealed in Scripture: Biblical Theology, Rev. Dr. J. Clint McCann
 Elective: In our Midst: Ministry to those Struggling with Addiction, Rev. Peter Maffly-Kipp
 Click [here](#) for March brochure.

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 is now open. You can reserve your mission trip week by emailing the Mission's volunteer coordinator at 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](#).

Family Caregiver Support Group - Edwardsville - Wed, Feb 15, from 6:30 - 8 pm. This support group is intended for family caregivers caring for loved ones with any type of disability. Sessions are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month. For more information call 618-656-7090.



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...

The Pastors/Spouses Fellowship meets on Thurs, Feb 23 at 11:30 am at the Red Apple in Maryville. This group of mostly retired folks warmly welcomes new attendees. To sign up to come, please call Herb & Bennie Schafale at 618-476-3925 or email them at herbenne@wisperhome.com.

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 Poplar, Highland, IL.

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

Purpose: Support for Kindercottage.

Contact: Lynn Beil, Missy Loyet, or Kay Ahaus at 618- 520-1790 or kayahaus@yahoo.com

Sponsor of the event is the Mission Board of Evangelical UCC. Click [here](#) for a flyer.

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 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.

Region 5

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.

Friedens UCC in Troy will hold its Sausage & Kraut Dinner on Sun, March 12 from 11:30 am - 5:30 pm. Menu includes buffet style grilled pork sausage, sauerkraut, green beans, mashed potatoes & gravy, applesauce, coffee, tea, & dessert. Dine-In - Adults: \$10; Children 5-10 yrs. \$5; 4 yrs & under

Region 7

St. Peter's UCC in Okawville will hold a Puzzle Party on Sun, Feb 26 from 2 pm - 4 pm at their Educational Building. Each team will be given the same 300 piece puzzle. The first team to get their puzzle completed will be the champions. Prizes. \$50 per team of up to 6 people. There is a maximum of 25 teams so register soon. Register by Feb 19 at 618-521-0561. Proceeds help the family of Kolby Bowers, undergoing treatments for a brain tumor.

Region 4

Job Opportunity: St. John UCC in Granite City is currently seeking a part-time Church Office Financial Secretary to work two five-hour days for a total of

Region 8

Trenton St. John UCC will hold its first annual drive-thru chili dinner on Sat, Feb 18 from 11 am to 3 pm

10 hours a week. The pay will be within the range of \$12-13 per hour.

Duties: Prepares checks for payroll and bills; enters weekly contributions to an accounting system; maintains payroll and tax records; prepares quarterly tax reports; prepares Annual Giving Reports.

To apply, send resume with a cover letter to: St. John UCC, 2901 Nameoki Rd, Granite City, IL 62040. ATTN: Personnel Committee or to stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com. No phone calls please. Reply by March 1.

Job Opportunity: St. John UCC in Granite City is currently seeking a part-time Church Office Clerical Secretary to work three six-hour days for a total of 18 hours a week. The pay will be within the range of \$12-13 per hour.

Duties: Answer phone calls and take messages; maintains and files all correspondence; types all correspondence, reports and etc.; maintains and distributes all incoming mail; monitors and orders supplies as needed; oversees maintenance of office equipment.

To apply, send resume and cover letter to: St. John UCC, 2901 Nameoki Road, Granite City, Illinois 62040. Attn: Personnel Committee or to stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com. No phone calls please. Reply by March 1.

The Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ invites you to the installation of Pastor Rebekah Rathman-Wingrove on Sunday, February 26 at 3 pm at the Fieldon United Church of Christ in Fieldon. Everyone is welcome. Authorized ministers are invited to participate in the service. Participating pastors should robe and wear red stoles and arrive at the church one-half hour before the service.

free. Carry-Outs & Curb Service \$10. Call 618-667-6535 for Curbside Service.

Summerfield Lions Club presents its 4th Annual Trivia Night to benefit St John UCC in Summerfield on Sat, April 8. Doors open at 6 pm and play starts at 7 pm. Silent auction, 50/50 raffle, bake sale, and lunch available. Drinks must be purchased there. Cost is \$100 per table with a max of 10 per table. Contact Mindy Schiefer at 618-444-2852 or Barb Baer at 618-795-0746.

Immanuel UCC in Hamel will host its Family Style Chicken Dinner on Sun, March 19 from 11:30 am - 5:30 pm. Adults \$10; Children 6 - 9 \$5; Carry outs \$10. Quilt raffle. Church is located 1-1/2 miles south of Hamel, 5838 Staunton Rd, Edwardsville.

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.

Region 6

The Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ invites you to the installation of Rev. P. Jerry Bennett on Sunday, February 19 at 3 pm at the St. Peter United Church of Christ in Hookdale. Everyone is welcome. Authorized ministers are invited to participate in the service. Participating pastors should robe and wear red stoles and arrive at the church one-half hour before the service.

- or until the chili is gone. Hot and regular chili will be available for \$5 per quart. Call 618-224-9828 for questions/information.

Sat, April 22, 2017 from 9 am - 2 pm, St John UCC in Mascoutah will hold its 38th Annual Quilt Show with 200+ quilts. Bed turning at 9:45 am; quilting demonstrations at 10:45 am, 11:30 am, 12:15 pm and 1 pm. Items for sale. Raffle prize drawing for the youth quilt, "Secret Life of Pets" with all proceeds donated to DuBois Center. Lunch available. \$3 admission. Contact Kay Ostrom at 618-566-8776 or ostromdk@charter.net.

Region 9

Trinity UCC in Belleville will hold its 28th annual Chicken & Dumplings Dinner on Sun, Feb 26 from 11 am - 3 pm. All-you-can-eat menu. Adults \$9; Children 5 - 12 \$4; Children 4 and under free. Drawing for quilt and 2 shams, Bakery, boutique, and baskets. [Flyer.](#)

Instruments of Faith will lead worship at St. John UCC in Fairview Heights on Feb 26 at 10 am. Join us for some old-time gospel music as well as new gospel selections. This talented men's quintet has been singing praise since 2000.

Concordia UCC will hold its All-you-can-eat Pancake & Sausage Breakfast on Feb 25 from 7 am - 10 am. Adults \$8; Children \$5; and Under-5 free. There will also be a bake sale. (We are located 3 miles north of Millstadt on State Route 163)

The Belleville St. Paul UCC Fine Arts Committee presents Spring Forward Dance on Sun, March 12 from 3 pm - 5 pm. Relax with the vocals of Bob Arttime. Music, light refreshments, friends. Tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased on Sundays or at the church office 618-233-3303. Proceeds benefit music scholarships.