

# Weekly Connection

For the Week of January 7, 2018 - January 13, 2018  
Diverse Minds, Covenant Hearts, Made One in the Body of Christ



**Happy New Year!  
It's Time to Close the Books!**  
**Illinois South Conference Financial Books will close on  
January 10, 2018 at 4 pm.**  
**If you want OCWM or any of the special offerings to be  
credited to 2017, these things must apply:**

1. The date of the check must be dated 2017,
2. The contribution form must be dated 2017.

If these two requirements are not there, the contribution will be posted to your 2018 financials. This could affect your 5 for 5 standing for 2017. If you have questions, contact Shirley Bergmann at [sbergmann@iscucc.org](mailto:sbergmann@iscucc.org) or 618-654-2125.

## Important Links

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

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

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

[Back Bay Mission](#)

[CHHSM](#)

[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 7 - Jan 13, 2018  
Churches & Pastors**

- Red Bud St. Peter UCC, Rev. Lisa (Walt) Hart, Interim Pastor
- St. Jacob UCC, Rev. Gary



## One Day Left to Make Your Bid!!

Date of timeshare:

June 29, 2018 - July 6, 2018

Location:

Marriott Manor in Williamsburg, Virginia

Accommodations:

1-week (2 bedrooms) timeshare

**Silent Bid deadline is January 4, 2018.**

This special fundraiser will benefit DuBois Center and the Illinois South Conference's Disaster Relief Fund by the generosity of the Zinns. A certificate will be your proof that you are the timeshare winner.

For more information, contact Norma Borgmann at 618-292-4617 or [nborgmann1658@charter.net](mailto:nborgmann1658@charter.net). Use this bid [form](#). Cut off the bottom portion, place it in a sealed envelope, and mark the envelope with "Silent Bid". Hand deliver to one of these locations:

DuBois Center, 2651 Quarry Rd., DuBois, IL 62831

Illinois South Conference, 1312 Broadway, Highland, IL 62249

Norma Borgmann, #6 Blackberry Run, Centralia, IL 62801

Payment is expected 10 days after notification of winning the auction.

**The deadline for silent bids is January 4, 2018.**



## Mark Your Calendars for March 3, 2018!!

We will be combining 2 events in March 2018. The Installation of Rev. Shana Johnson as Conference Minister and Day of Discipleship. Between the two events, ISC Pride will host a reception for all those attending.

The day begins at 9:30 am at the Highland Evangelical UCC for Day of Discipleship, featuring the keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi, Director of the United Church of Christ CARD (Center for Analytics, Research and Data) ministries. She

will speak on the vitality of all sized churches in the United Church of Christ. After her presentation, there is an option for attendees to choose two of the 11 one-hour workshops being presented. Lunch is also provided. The theme is *Mission Making Members*. Come to learn how mission makes members and members make missions.

From 2 pm - 3 pm, the ISC Pride will host a reception as we prepare ourselves for the installation service for Rev. Shana Johnson at 3 pm.

Plan now to celebrate the gift ISC has been given by calling Rev. Shana Johnson.





(Joyce) Kniepkamp

**Retired Pastor**

- Rev. Gail and Ronald Geisel, Affton, MO
- Rev. Sheldon Culver, Columbia, IL

**People with Life Concerns**

- Pray for Nancy (Rev. Bob) Tripp as she deals with health issues. Rev. Tripp is a retired pastor and they are members of Pana United in Faith Church. Cards may be sent to 9008 E South Cir Dr, Effingham IL 62401.
- Keep Shirley Bergmann in your prayers as she deals with health issues after a short stay in the hospital. Shirley is the ISC Treasurer, ISC finance coordinator and a member of St. Paul UCC in Columbia. Cards may be sent to her at 216 N Briegel, Columbia, IL 62236.

For years, my sister and I have kept a pact to share with each other our New Year's resolutions in order to encourage, support and help each other on track. However, one thing we both noticed was how lofty and intricate we made our resolutions. As a result, a few months into the new year, we have often felt discouraged and moved back to our default settings of bad habits or autopilot living.

This year we are trying something new. Instead of overly complicated and unrealistic resolutions, we have chosen an intention word. We will be finishing this sentence: 2018 will be the year of \_\_\_\_\_. For me, I chose one word for my personal life and one word for my work with you.

For my personal life, my intention word is HEALTH. Those who know me best know I struggle with self-care. I don't eat like I should. I don't sleep as much as I should. Sometimes I don't even play like I should. I often over work and over commit, forgetting to take time to tend to my body, mind and spirit in ways that help me to be refreshed, rejuvenated and revitalized in order to be the best version of myself that God has created me to be. In order to keep myself in check, the focus question I intend to ask myself when faced with choices (whatever they may be) will be "*IS THIS HEALTHY FOR ME...spiritually, physically, emotionally and/or mentally?*"

For my work life, my intention word is COLLABORATE. Too often, those of us in ministry are lone rangers. Even our faith communities tend to work independently and sometimes even competitively with one another. We forget we are stronger together. We forget we can learn from one another. We forget the blessings and benefits of mutual ministry. We forget that we have been created by God to be relational beings. There is something powerful and beautiful that happens when we work together. In order to be more faithful and effective in my own ministry, the focus question I intend to ask myself when approaching any work, task, or responsibility will be "*HOW CAN I COLLABORATE OR PROMOTE COLLABORATION with leaders in our Conference, our churches, our denomination and the wider Church as a whole in order that the work and ministry of Jesus Christ is strengthened?*"

I challenge you as individuals and as a church to consider what your intention word for 2018 might be. If you feel inspired, feel free to send me your 2018 intention word to post in upcoming *Weekly Connections*. In this way we can commit to lifting each other up in prayer, spurring each other to intentionally live a more faith-filled, inspired year. Blessings, Rev. Shana Johnson, Conference Minister

**JANUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**January 14**

Worshipping with the participants of our Winter Weekend retreat at DuBois

**January 21**

Preaching at St. Mark's UCC, DuBois

**January 28**

Preaching at Concordia UCC, Belleville

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 date. You can also send me an email at [sjohnson@iscucc.org](mailto:sjohnson@iscucc.org). **This is your OCWM monies at work.**

**Yearbook Time Is Here! Opened Yesterday and Closes on March 7, 2018**

Although this yearly task may seem daunting, it will help your church in many ways...

- The 11-year report provided by the data can be used when reviewing budgets, calling a pastor, and planning for future missions.
- The statistical information for ministerial support (which is not tied to individuals or churches) helps National

UCC to provide statistics for compensation guidelines.

- Trends about church-going and the needs to be met by our churches is part of the statistical information we can pull from the database.

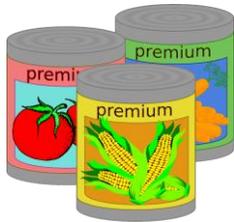
So, though it may seem daunting and/or like busy-work, there is a method to the madness.

*Instructions have been sent to the churches.*

The database opened yesterday at noon and closes on March 7, 2018 at midnight. The ISC office can input the information if you do not want to do it online. Send information to Lynnette at [lschuepbach@iscucc.org](mailto:lschuepbach@iscucc.org). Here is a [form](#) to help you gather the information you need.

## DuBois Center News

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



### BUNCO NIGHT - The Challenge

Sat, Feb 24

Calling all churches and youth, groups and community clubs! Join Region 2 for a night of winter blues-busting fun and support DuBois Center and a local food pantry! There's nothing wrong with a little friendly competition, so this year's Bunco Night includes an effort to "Fill a Food Pantry," a lively game of dice, cool Silent Auction treasures, a 50-50 drawing and help for those in need. By February, the major "food" holidays will be distant memories and pantry shelves will need restocking. Make a difference and have a lot of fun - all at the same time! Help spread the word;

share this [flyer](#) and invite everyone you know.

#### The Challenge:

1. Bring a can or box of nutritious food to donate to a local food pantry. For each item you donate, you will receive one ticket for a special drawing - the more items that are donated, the more chances you have to win. The prize will be a fun basket of items appropriate for a variety of ages.
2. Recruit Bunco players from your local church or community group. The church/group with the most individuals who pay and play Bunco at this event will have the honor of selecting the food pantry to receive the night's collection.



### SUMMER JOBS

#### DuBois Center Equestrian Program

Looking for a rewarding summer job working with children and horses? How about hands-on experience managing a trail ride program? DuBois Center has openings for a dedicated summer barn coordinator and two barn assistants/cabin counselors. Spending time with the horses is a highlight for many of our campers. In addition to caring for our 20-horse herd, our summer barn staff utilize basic riding instruction and time "getting to know the ponies" to help campers build self-confidence and learn to respect and appreciate God's amazing creation. For those who have never experienced a horse up close, the first moments can be overwhelming. However, with nurturing guidance, campers quickly learn that they can overcome their fears



#### APPLY NOW!

DuBois Center is searching for fun-loving and child-focused individuals with a heart for ministry to serve on our summer staff! Is this the year for more than just... another job? Amazing memories + resume building skills = a summer to remember. Check out the Summer of Service [flyer](#) and consider whether serving outdoors with a dynamic team might be just the opportunity you have been looking for. Open positions include cabin counselors, barn staff and coordinators. Questions? Contact Shirley at [shirley.director@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:shirley.director@DuBoisCenter.org) or 618-787-2202. Application packets are available [online](#).

and experience something wonderful. Tears often transform into giant smiles. The joy campers show is definitely reward enough, but serving on the summer barn staff also provides hands-on work experience for individuals considering a career in the equine field. For more information, check out the attached [flyer](#) or contact Shirley at [shirley.director@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:shirley.director@DuBoisCenter.org) or 618-787-2202.



### DIGITAL CAMERAS Used Compact Models Needed

Great photos and smart phones go hand in hand nowadays. So what happened to all those small, point and shoot cameras - the Coolpix, PowerShot and FinePix? DuBois Center is in search of 8-10 used (or new) cameras. They are great for scavenger hunts, photography classes, photo booths and so much more. **Requirements:** good working condition and SD card compatible. For more information contact DuBois Center at [dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org) or 618-787-2202.

### VACATION REQUEST DUE?

Consider a week (or even a few days) at DuBois Center and join our Summer Camp 2018 team! Wanted: fun, engaging and caring volunteers to serve as nurses, chaplains, cabin counselors, activity specialists and barn helpers. Minimum age is 18 for most positions; young adults and older adults are welcome. Give of your time and talent, make a difference and gain a wonderful sense of satisfaction... and even perhaps a bit of joy! For more information, check out the volunteer [page](#) of our web site or contact DuBois Center at [dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org) or 618-787-2202.



**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

**Deaconess Foundation has several copies of *Doing Business by the Good Book* by David Steward. They are available first come, first served.** If you are interested in the books, contact [annr@deaconess.org](mailto:annr@deaconess.org) or 314-436-8001.

### Annual Night at the Improv

Order your tickets for the whole family, and maybe a few friends, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Night at the Improv benefitting Uni-Pres Kindercottage on April 14, 2018. Tickets include dinner and the show and are just \$40 each or 8 for \$300. Send your name and address with your ticket order and check to Kindercottage, 564 Veronica, East St. Louis, IL, 62205.



Kindercottage

### Job Opportunity

**Uni-Pres Kindercottage is looking for a Part-Time Bookkeeper/Accountant**

18-24 hours per week. Knowledge of QuickBooks and Microsoft Office. Responsible for Accounts Receivable/Payable, Payroll and General Ledger. Must also be familiar with not-for-profit organizations. Must be able to work independently and be reliable.

Send email with salary requirements and resume to [unipres@sbcglobal.net](mailto:unipres@sbcglobal.net).

**Hoyleton Youth & Family Services invites you to help in Funding the Need for our organization by attending this year's ROCK THE NEED GALA on Fri, Feb 9, 2018 at The Fountains Conference Center, 319 Fountains Parkway, Fairview Heights.** Cocktail Hour begins at 5:30 pm. Dinner at 6:30 pm. You will have many opportunities to **FUND THE NEED** for many critical, life-changing measures; including emergency support for Foster Care Children and Families and immediate support for victims of human trafficking. Entertainment by: Butch Wax and the Hollywood's from 8-10 pm. Dinner is \$50 per person or \$375 per table of 8. Reservations must be made to [agarrison@hoyleton.org](mailto:agarrison@hoyleton.org) or 618-688-4742 by 1/30/2018. **Sponsorship Opportunities Available.**



## Job Opportunities

### Adult Day Program Caregivers - Collinsville & Edwardsville

St. John's Community Care is seeking qualified individuals for our Adult Day Programs. Must be enthusiastic, self-motivated, and able to handle a variety of tasks to maintain a safe and fun environment. Experience working with individuals with disabilities, dementia, and aging issues. Experience in assisting with ADL's and social activities promoting mental and physical stimulation preferred. Part-time 25-30 hours per week. For information, call 618-344-5008 Monday through Friday from 9 am to 4:30 pm.

### Now Hiring Caregivers

St. John's Community Care's Home Services Program provides homemaker and personal care to the elderly and disabled 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in Caseyville, Collinsville, Edwardsville, Fairmont City, Fairview Heights, Glen Carbon, Granite City, Maryville, and Troy.

Requirements: Compassion, patience, honesty; sound decision-making skills; dependable attendance; housekeeping experience; willingness to help with personal care; valid driver's license & auto liability insurance; dependable transportation; ability to pass criminal background check.

Flexible scheduling; periodic increases in pay; paid orientation & training; paid vacations; attendance bonuses; the reward of making a difference in someone's life.

For more information, call 618-344-5008 Monday through Friday from 9 am to 4:30 pm.



125 YEARS IN MISSION



## Job Opportunities

### Coordinator, Building Maintenance

The primary responsibility of this full-time position is the maintenance and operation of Deaconess Center for Child Well-Being to keep building and grounds clean and safe.

The secondary responsibility is logistical support of meeting rooms and convening spaces. Duties include regular cleaning, operation and preventative maintenance of building systems (mechanical, electrical and plumbing), set-up and transition of meeting rooms and assisting Deaconess Center Manager as needed.

To learn more about this opportunity including responsibilities, qualifications, and how to apply, visit the Deaconess Foundation [website](#).

### Manager, Deaconess Center for Child Well-Being

The primary responsibility of this full-time position is relationship management and constituency support services for the program activities of Deaconess Center for Child Well-Being to optimize its profile as the regional hub for child-friendly public policy advocacy. The secondary responsibility is managing routine operational processes for Deaconess Center. Duties include prospecting, triaging and aligning potential community convenings; supervising building maintenance and meeting logistics; coordinating hospitality; and assuring proper documentation of use to inform evaluation and compliance standards.

To learn more about this opportunity including responsibilities, qualifications, and how to apply, visit the Deaconess Foundation [website](#).

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

**The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Rural Ministry Conference will be held on March 4 - 6, 2018 in Dubuque, Iowa.** This ecumenical conference, sponsored by Wartburg Theological Seminary, is designed for pastors and lay leaders in rural and small town congregations. The topic for this year is "Co-operating Congregations in Mission." The keynote speaker, Pastor Marcia Kifer, is a dynamic speaker with many years of experience in a variety of ministry models and will explore a variety of newer ministry models for smaller congregations. Breakouts include worship for smaller congregations, and evangelism in rural areas. Click [here](#) for a more information or contact Rev. Dr. Ann Fritschel at [afritschel@wartburgseminary.edu](mailto:afritschel@wartburgseminary.edu).

**Irvington Friedens UCC has sixteen (16) 13' pews for sale at \$125 for each.** If you are interested, contact Rev. Stacy Tate at [sundown6@gmail.com](mailto:sundown6@gmail.com) or 618-249-8445.



### Calling all VBS Directors & Staff

Friday, January 5, 2018, all VBS Directors & Staff in Illinois South Conference are invited to St. John Evangelical UCC, 307 W. Clay St., Collinsville, from Noon - 2 pm. Come take a look at the VBS starter kits for 2018, share ideas, and coordinate sharing decorations and programs throughout the Conference. Lunch will be served at noon! A Group Publishing representative will be present to introduce Group's VBS curriculum. Cokesbury is sending two curriculum kits to review. RSVP to Dana Callahan at 618-344-2526.

Happy

New Year

To All!!