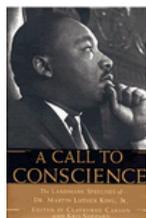


# Weekly Connection

For the Week of January 21, 2018 - January 27, 2018  
Diverse Minds, Covenant Hearts, Made One in the Body of Christ



"When Bull Connor would say, 'Turn on the fire hoses.'  
Bull Connor didn't know history.  
He knew a kind of physics that somehow did not relate  
to the trans-physics that we knew about.  
And that was the fact that there was a certain kind of fire no water  
could put out.  
And when we went through the fire hoses.  
We have known water.

*If we were a Baptist or some other denomination, we had been immersed.*

*If we were Methodist, and some others, we had been sprinkled,*

*but either way...WE KNEW WATER."*

---The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Memphis, Tennessee, April 3, 1968

When I was a freshman in high school, my father agreed to teach my Sunday School class. Not thrilled with the David C. Cook curriculum he had been given, Dad decided he would create his own. Several of the most memorable lessons were those he based on Taylor Branch's book, *Parting the Waters*.

In those Sunday School sessions, we talked openly and honestly about racism in America. Although we had certainly studied the civil rights movement in school, our discussions in the context and framework of our faith centered around being confessional of the ways we had not loved and accepted others or the way we gave lip service in the Church.

We also spoke intensely about how it was our obligation and responsibility as people of faith to name and stand up against injustice, oppression and discrimination. We talked about our own experiences of bearing witness to discrimination in our schools and times when we were not brave enough to speak up, correct, or not to join in. This sparked further discussions about actions we might take and ways we could make a difference in our little piece of the world. These were powerful and transformative conversations.

One particular lesson that I will never forget was when Dad showed us the video based on Branch's book which featured real footage of protesters being sprayed with fire hoses. We then read the section in the book that explained that King was often on the front lines of the marches and the recipient of the full strength of the fire hoses. As Taylor Branch explained, King knew the power of water and spoke about it powerfully in a speech he gave on April 3, 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee.

So what gave King and the others the strength to march and protest the next time after facing the flesh-tearing blows of the fire hoses? The power of water. They remembered the waters of their baptisms. They remembered that they were first and foremost God's beloved, God's sons and daughters, and their resistance, their marching was to remind others of the same.

The conversations we had in that Sunday School class were sacred and holy conversations.

Just as holy and sacred were the conversations we had at home when Mom would talk about how a racist joke or racial slur someone made (whether it occurred on tv or at an extended family gathering) was not only inappropriate, but also denied the beauty and equality of all of God's children.

I am grateful that I grew up having sacred and holy conversations on race, gender and equality in church and in my home. I believe this is where the most important conversations must start and continue if we, too, are to remember our own baptisms...remembering who we are and whose we are as sons and daughters of the One who created us all.

Blessings, Rev. Shana Johnson, Conference Minister

## 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 21 - Jan 27, 2018**

### **Churches & Pastors**

- Staunton St. Paul UCC, Rev. Debbie Jo Atkins

- Stone Church St. Peter's UCC, Pastor Cherie (Michael) Stolze

## SHANA'S JANUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**January 21**

Preaching at St. Paul UCC, Waterloo

**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.**

### Celebrate Seminary Sunday on February 25th

#### 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 fine 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 at CUE Seminaries [website](#).

Please join us on Feb 25 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, 773-896-2434

or [chad.schwickerath@ctschicago.edu](mailto:chad.schwickerath@ctschicago.edu)

**United Theological Seminary** Carla Marchio, 651-255-6138 or

[cmarchio@unitedseminary.edu](mailto:cmarchio@unitedseminary.edu)

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

Each seminary will do its best to accommodate each request.

### Retired Pastor

- Rev. Jerry Bennett, Highland, 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.

- Pray for Rev. Nancy (Kevin) Spier-Lee as she deals with some health issues. Rev. Spier-Lee is the pastor of Waterloo Zion St. Joe UCC and a member of the ISC Committee on Ministry. Cards may be sent to 309 Kroeger Ave, Dupu, IL 62239.

- Pray for the family of Leora Gehm who passed away on Jan 9 in Litchfield. She was the widow of Rev. Noel Gehm and together they served many churches throughout ISC including UCC churches in Metropolis, Collinsville, Okawville, Lebanon, Staunton, Jerseyville, and Carlyle. Leora was a member of Peace UCC in Jerseyville. Cards may be sent to her daughter, Denise (Jay) Rademacher at 709 W 3rd South St, Mt. Olive, IL 62069. Click [here](#) for the full obituary.



### Online Registration is Open NOW!! Click [here](#).

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.

Then, choose two of these workshops.

### **Be the Church: A Mission Planning Guide for Congregations**

Above and beyond developing different programs and activities for the sake of attracting members or increasing tithes, congregations today are called into new ways of being and doing that must seek first to answer the question, "For what deeper purpose?" In other words, what role in God's mission are you being called to enact and embody as a unique member of Christ's beloved community? This workshop will introduce participants to a new tool for discernment, mission planning, and assessment based on the UCC's "Be the Church" framework that will assist congregations in living out their particular missional purpose and direction.

**Presented by Rev. Dr. Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi, Director of UCC CARD (Center for Analytics, Research and Data)**

### **Mission Trips within the United States**

You do not need to go out of the country to find people in need of construction, clean-up, painting, and more. Members of St. Paul UCC in Belleville travel locally and regionally to bring mission through their church and through other organizations or directly to the people in need. **Presented by Roger Harris, Belleville St. Paul UCC.**

### **Ecuador Partnership - Mission in Action**

Several church groups from Illinois South Conference have traveled to Ecuador to help with Habitat Builds. Find out the dollars you need to participate and the life-changing experiences you will receive. **Presented by Lee-Alison Wilson, Belleville St. Paul UCC and Rev. John Holst, Marion Zion UCC.**

### **Finding Mission in Your Own Community**

Whether it is working at the local food pantry, finding a local resident in need, or working with your city to provide a project to complete, there is always a place where your community will appreciate a helping hand(s). **Presented by Rev. Katie-Jo Bieleke, Collinsville St. John Evangelical UCC.**

### **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner**

Community meals can serve as a way to encourage a mission of feeding the hungry and present a social time for the members and prospective members of your church. Grant writing to support your community meal will be discussed. **Presented by a panel of Dana Callahan, Collinsville St. John Evangelical UCC; Sandy Ritter, Belleville St. Paul UCC; Carol Meeks, Edwardsville St. Paul UCC**

### **Carry Out or Delivery?**

Many youth do not have enough to eat on week days, weekends and/or through the summer. Churches can run programs to handle this problem without embarrassment to the children. Let's make sure no one is left hungry. **Presented by a panel of Rev. Laurie Crelly, Brighton St. John UCC; Missy Loyet, Highland Evangelical UCC; and Rev. Carol Shanks, Cahokia Bethel UCC.**

### **How Does Your Garden Grow?**

America has garden fever and faith communities are getting involved. Gardens are springing up in church parking lots, vacant lots that have stood empty for years, and even on rooftops. The most common motivation for faith-based community gardens is the opportunity to provide locally grown, healthy food to those in need. Others are motivated by the desire to heal our earth. A community garden is not just a place to grow food. It is a way to express our faith and interact with God and God's creation. It's a mission of education as well as feeding those in need. **Presented by Margie Lindhorst, Columbia St. Paul UCC; Pastor Norma Patterson and Milton Jones, East St. Louis Good Shepherd of Faith UCC.**

### **Shelter in Times of Trouble**

There are times when a person with a broken heart, a battered body, and/or no possessions to his/her name needs a place to lay down for the night to refresh. The church can help their brothers and sisters in need. Find out how your church can be a part of the healing process. **Presented by Pastor Cory Hartz and members of Belleville Trinity UCC**

### **Setting a Healthy Table for All**

This workshop will look at how churches can start, engage and be a part of the Healthy Eating for All Movement. Come and learn about what is healthy eating for all and its impact on the health and wellness of the individuals and communities, how churches can engage and support healthy food choices for those with limited incomes and rely on food pantry foods, and ways in which the healthy food movement can reach young adults in service. **Presented by Rev. Donna Pupillo, Deaconess Nurse Ministries.**

### **The Story - Making Disciples**

The "greatest story every told" is more than just a cliché. God goes to great lengths to rescue lost and hurting people. That is what The Story is all about: the story of the Bible, God's great love affair with humanity. Do the people in your congregation actually know The Story? Can they see how it all fits together? Would you like for your congregation to see themselves as a living part of The Story? This workshop will introduce you to Zondervan's book The Story, and share with you one church's experience with it. **Presented by Rev. Earl Creelius, Freeburg St. Paul's UCC.**

### **Growing Church Membership With Older Adult Ministries**

Discuss effective ministry models, learn the power of purpose and the unique gifts older adults bring to the multi-generational church through exploration of biblical perspectives, and discovery of cultural myths about aging. Share your own experiences, perspectives and ideas about older adults, for developing intentional programs. **Presented by Jan Aerie, MS, gerontologist, family counselor, former UCC national staff member.**

### **The Mission of Being an Open & Affirming Congregation**

Becoming an Open & Affirming congregation can be a joyful mission outreach experience for your congregation. This workshop will discuss why an intentional welcome to the LGBTQ community is important and what the first steps are for starting an Open & Affirming process. The more you reach beyond your walls, the more you find we are all really the same. Come join the discussion. **Presented by Dr. Jill Baker, ISC Vice-Moderator**

**From 2 pm - 3 pm, the ISC Pride will host a reception.**

**The installation service for Rev. Shana Johnson begins at 3 pm.**

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



## FATHER-SON RETREAT

April 13-15

Fathers, Grandfathers and Uncles - SAVE THE DATE and plan now to 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 crafts, share in vespers and work on your archery skills. Horseback riding is available for an additional fee. Lodging is in heated cottages and Hickory Lodge. All ages are welcome, though activities are geared for boys age 5 and older. Families participate together. Rev. RJ Morgan will be returning as our chaplain for the weekend. **Registration opens February 1.** Watch for details.

## Church Alert!! Check it out!

Utilize this retreat as an extension of your family or men's ministry. Recruit a group from your congregation to attend. Engaging faith focus times will be woven throughout the weekend.



## Buddy to Buddy Mission Experience June 30 - July 3

This close-to-home mission experience offers teens the opportunity to "live kindness, do justice and walk humbly." Youth encounter God as they participate together with young people from Hoyleton's youth residential programs.

They swim, create cool crafts, play games and more! Buddies walk hand in hand with their biblical "neighbors" and practice sincere acceptance and respect. Daily reflections and prayer times focus on diversity, justice and our role as Christians. Click [here](#) to learn more or contact Shirley at DuBois Center at [shirley.director@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:shirley.director@DuBoisCenter.org) or 618-787-2202.

## SUMMER JOBS - APPLY NOW!

Is this the year for more than just another summer job? DuBois Center is searching for fun-loving and child-focused individuals with a heart for ministry to serve on our summer staff. 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 618-787-2202 or [shirley.director@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:shirley.director@DuBoisCenter.org). Application packets are available [online](#).



## DICE & GREEN BEANS

Join Region 2 for a night of winter blues-busting fun on **Saturday, Feb 24**. Support DuBois Center and a local food pantry! Challenge the fellowship groups within your church and your community. This year

**Bunco Night** is being paired with 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; invite everyone you know! Check out this [flyer](#) for details.

### 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

## WINTERTIME ODDITY

Have you ever come across a frozen lake or pond and wondered what would happen if you tossed a stone onto it? If not, you might be surprised by the results. Check out an example from our lake [here](#), or another example from [Youtube](#). This futuristic sci-fi laser-like sound is caused by the whole plate of ice vibrating each



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.

time the rock strikes it. Because the ice is not of uniform thickness or texture, vibrations (that cause sound waves) occur in differing frequencies, and the higher the frequency, the faster it travels. The higher pitched waves reaching your ears before the slower, lower frequencies is what causes the sliding laser-like sound.



### HIGH SCHOOL WEEK - June 17-22

One week, two great options: Wranglers and X-Plore! All the favorite DuBois Center activities plus MORE! More fun, more adventure, more friends, with an extra special treat - more meals served in the Rustic Village. And there's more... choice times return with even more great options. If you have completed

grades 8-12, this is a great week to build community, grow closer to God, experience nature and have some great unplugged FUN! Plan now to attend and watch for details in the coming weeks.

**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

**Advocacy and Ministry: A Voice of Faith in an Evolving Society**

St. Louis / March 1-3, 2018  
#OneVoiceCHHSM



**The Council for Health and Human Service Ministries of the United Church of Christ will hold its Annual Meeting on March 1-3, 2018 at the Marriott St. Louis Grand, 800 Washington Ave, St. Louis, MO 63101 in St. Louis, Missouri.**

The theme is *Advocacy and Ministry: A Voice of Faith in an Evolving Society.*

"May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant that you live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with ONE VOICE bring glory to God." Romans 15:5-6

Highlights include:

- Opening Worship at Deaconess - Our opening worship service will also include the consecration of the Deaconess Foundation's new Center for Child Well-Being. Buses will depart from the hotel at 2pm on Thursday March 1 for that special event. Worship is free and open to the public.
- St. Louis Celebration - Friday evening, March 2nd, we will celebrate our host city, St. Louis, and all its member organizations! This fun night will include a St. Louis themed buffet dinner and music from the Baglunch Blues Band. Admission to this dinner is included in the full registration cost and is only \$25 for guests.
- German Diakonie Visitors - We will be joined by guests from our German partner, Diakonie Rhineland, Westphalia, Lippe.
- Diakonal Minister Consecration - As always, a highlight of our Annual Gathering will be to consecrate those who are completing this year of the Nollau Leadership Institute. Worship is free and open to the public.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

**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.



**Mental Health First Aid Workshops will be presented by Hoyleton Youth & Family Services and is funded in part by Illinois Department of Human Services.** Mental Health First Aid USA is a training designed to give people the skills to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. The course uses techniques to demonstrate how to recognize and respond to the warning signs of specific illnesses.

Here are the dates, times and locations:

- January 26 & 27 from 11 am-3:15 pm at YMCA in Granite City
- February 9 & 10 from 8am-12:15pm at YMCA in Maryville
- February 16 from 8am-5:30pm at YMCA in Belleville
- February 24 from 8am-5:30pm at SIUE in Edwardsville
- March 5 from 8am-5:30pm at Regency Conference Center in O'Fallon
- March 23 & 24 from 11am-3:15pm at YMCA in Granite City

Registration [Link](#).

For more information contact Allison at 618-688-4776.

Continuing Education Units for LSW, LCSW, LPC, & LCPC available upon request.

**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.**

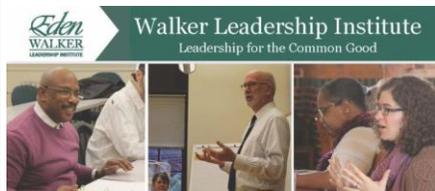


**▲ The Alzheimer's Association will offer free consultations to discuss dementia and Alzheimer's related issues on Thurs, Feb 1 from 9 am - 3:30 pm at St. John's Community Care Adult Day Program in Edwardsville.** Appointments are required. Register by Tues, Jan 30 at 314-801-0399. Walk-ins accepted only if time allows.

**▲ Trivia Night to benefit St. John's Community Care will be held on Jan 27 at Edwardsville American Legion. Doors open at 6:30 pm and trivia begins at 7:00 pm.** \$20 per person with tables of 8. 50/50. Heads or tails. Soft drinks and beer included. Cash bar available. Snacks welcome. Sponsored by ECHO (Enriching Communities by Helping Others).

**▲ Dine for a Cause at Collinsville Ravanelli's on Wed, Jan 17 from 4 pm - 9 pm.** 25% of every customer's bill that night will benefit St. John's Community Care. You must present this [coupon](#).

**▲ 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. Each session will be comprised of six two-hour sessions. The series of 6 classes will be held on Thursday mornings from 10 - noon on Feb. 15 & 22 - March 1, 8, 15, 22 at Ruth's House, 7325 Marine Rd, Edwardsville, IL 62025. Each series is limited to a maximum of 12 families. There is no cost to those attending. Registration is required. Ruth's House is offering complimentary care for person with dementia with reservation. Call 618-344-5008.



**Date: Thursday, January 25, 2018 Time: 9:00 am - noon (lunch following)**

**Location:** Eden Theological Seminary, Press Hall, Room 101, 475 East Lockwood Ave, Webster Groves, MO

**Cost:** \$40 per person, includes lunch following the program

[Click Here to Register Now](#)

Questions? 314.918.2546 or [leadership@eden.edu](mailto:leadership@eden.edu)

**You Will Learn:**

- How a clearly articulated identity is important to your congregation and to draw newcomers.
- Understand what newcomers do and think before they show up on Sunday.
- How important it is for everyone in your congregation to tell the same story in their own unique way.

**You Will Create:**

- A unique identity.
- An "elevator speech" for all occasions which will motivate current and new membership.
- A refined brand that will set you apart from other congregations.

**You Will Take Home:**

- An identity that is simple and clear to communicate to everyone you encounter.
- Your unique "story" based on this identity and your context for mission and ministry.
- The ability to train others in your congregation to effectively tell your story

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

**The Pastors/Spouses Fellowship group resumes regular monthly luncheon get-togethers at 11:30 am on Thurs, Jan 25 at the Red Apple in Maryville.** We look forward to seeing the "regulars" and the "occasionals" as we share informally and warmly over lunch. Although this group is made up primarily of retired folks, we welcome anyone who would like to share with us. Please telephone 618-476-3925 or email [herbenne@wisperhome.com](mailto:herbenne@wisperhome.com) reservations to Herb & Bennie Schafale no later than Monday evening, Jan 22.

### **Yearbook Time Is Here! It is open for input 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.

**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 [email](#) Rev. Dr. Ann Fritschel.

### **Region 2**

**Floraville St. Paul UCC will sponsor an American Red Cross Blood Drive in their Fellowship Hall on Fri, Jan 19 from 3 pm - 7 pm.** To set up an appointment, contact [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or 800-733-2767. Enter SPCC to schedule at Floraville.

### **Region 5**

**Salem UCC Churchmen's Fellowship will host their 70th Annual Whole Hog Sausage Supper on Sat, Jan 27 from 2:30 pm - 8 pm.** Sausage Sales: Thursday, Jan 25 12 - 6pm & Saturday, Jan 27 9am -? To place sausage orders prior to Thurs, Jan 25: Call 618-488-3733. Adults \$10; Children 5 - 10 \$5. Menu includes fresh homemade pork sausage, sauerkraut, potatoes, gravy, green beans, applesauce, dessert, coffee, milk and desserts. Carry-Outs available at Adult price only: Call (618) 488-3215. You may also email your advance order to [ooey5@agtelco.com](mailto:ooey5@agtelco.com).

### **Region 8**

**Mascoutah St. John UCC will hold its Pancake, Sausage and Fruit Brunch - All You Can Eat on Sun, Jan 28 from 8:30 pm - 12:30 pm.** Adults \$6; Children (4-10) \$3.50; Children 3 and under are free. All proceeds benefit local charities. Sponsored by the St. John Saturday Nighters.

### **Region 9**

**Christ UCC in Belleville will hold its 39th Annual Wurstmart on Sun, Jan 28 from 11 am - 4 pm.** All you can eat! Pork sausage, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, green beans, applesauce, coffee or tea, and dessert. Adults \$11; Children ages 6 - 9 \$5; Children under 5 free! Carry outs available!

**Belleville Trinity UCC will host its 29th Annual Chicken & Dumplings Dinner on Sun, Feb 25 from 11 am - 3 pm.** Menu includes home-made chicken & dumplings, green beans, corn, home-made cole slaw, applesauce, rolls, tea or coffee and dessert. Adults \$10; Children 5-12 \$4; Childen 4 and under Free. Bakery. Boutique. Baskets. Carry outs available.