

Weekly Connection

For the Week of November 5, 2017 - November 11, 2017
Diverse Minds, Covenant Hearts, Made One in the Body of Christ



Fall Back!!!

Time Change November 5 at 2 am.

Remember to turn you clocks back before going to bed on Saturday, November 4 so that you don't have to wait at the door until the time is right. This is your chance for catching up on an hour's sleep!!



Review of ISC Annual Meeting on October 21, 2017



Eden Theological Seminary presents its Walker Leadership Institute Tools for Leadership: The Five Most Important Questions on Thurs, Nov 16 from 9 am - 12 pm at Eden Theological Seminary in Press Hall, Room 101. What are the five most important questions you will ever ask about

your organization? We will learn about Peter Drucker's tool for an accelerated strategic assessment, utilizing the five questions to help lead your organization or church to greater clarity and effectiveness. This model is useful for running a meeting, a board retreat, a yearly or long-range strategic plan. All church leaders are welcome - both clergy and laity. Registration is \$30. Register [here](#).

Many churches have mission fairs to highlight their church ministries as well as community and global ministries. If you are having a fair and would like to have a table of resources from the UCC/DOC's Global Ministries, we have a display board, booklets, flyers, DVDs, pins, and pens that you can use/distribute. Contact the ISC office at 618-654-2125 to make arrangements for getting the items to you.



St. Paul UCC, Waterloo Associate Pastor Merlyn Lawrence is home...not here in the United States, but in South Africa. Pastor Merlyn left October 25 for an almost month-long trip that will combine business and pleasure. She is in her hometown of Cape Town to represent Waterloo St. Paul UCC at the 70th anniversary celebration of Athlone High School, her alma mater. Waterloo St. Paul UCC has supported the school with funds for scholarships during the past two years. While in Africa, she will also make preparations for a 2018 mission trip for a delegation from St. Paul UCC. She is hoping to organize a way to help with a mission already ongoing there and to deepen understanding and relations with our

Important Links

iscucc.org/

duboiscenter.org

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[Back Bay Mission](#)

[CHHSM](#)

[Ecuador Partnership](#)

[Eden Theological Seminary](#)

[Deaconess Foundation](#)

[Deaconess Nurse Ministry](#)

[Emmaus Homes](#)

[Hitz Memorial Home](#)

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[Insurance Board](#)

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[Neighborhood Houses](#)

[New Athens Home](#)

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

[St. Paul's Home](#)

[Uplands Village](#)

[UCC Campus Ministry](#)

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[ISC Directory](#)

Pray for...

**Prayer list for
Nov5 - Nov 11, 2017
Churches & Pastors**

- Lebanon St. Paul UCC, Rev. Dr. Don (Nancy) Wagner
- Lenzburg St. Peter's UCC,

African brothers and sisters. Finally Pastor Merlyn will spend personal time with her mother and other family members to process the recent and sudden death of her brother. Our prayers and good wishes are with her.



DEEP LISTENING

By Rev. Shana Johnson

Although I had four years of Spanish in high school, since then I have had few consistent times in my life when I have been in full conversations with someone who only speaks Spanish. On the first day of our delegation pilgrimage to Cuba as Regional and Conference Ministers, we sat down with our partners from

the Christian Pentecostal Church of Cuba. I was nervous that I would not be able to follow the conversations and as a result not be able to make the connections and learnings I was hoping to make. Fortunately, we had several Spanish speakers in our delegation as well as a local translator.

In order for me to understand their greetings, personal experiences and faith stories, I needed to listen in a very different way than I might have with someone who was speaking my native tongue. True comprehension and understanding required deep listening. I could not be distracted by other conversations. I could not look at my phone or other things in the room. I could not be thinking of the next thing that I wanted to say or be focused on the answers I wanted to give. For this type of deep listening to happen, it took my full attention. It took an attention to the words being translated as well as the body language and gestures that might give further explanation and context to the message.

After our session with the leaders of our partners in Christian Pentecostal Church of Cuba, I was struck by three transforming learnings. First, how much energy and brain power it took to engage in this type of deep listening. Second, how quickly I was drawn into their stories and testimonies. Finally, how much connection, compassion and love welled up in me for these new friends. This deep listening allowed me to look and listen for what we had in common. Before long, I realized we had a common language-the language of a shared faith in Jesus Christ.

Even though we might not agree on every theological point, in the essentials of our faith, it was clear we had unity. As they spoke passionately about the ways they are actively serving the poor, the outcast, the sick, and the disenfranchised as well as educating and raising up their children and youth to be strong leaders in the church, I was inspired by the ways they were not simply doing church but "being the church." Their faith in action challenged me to consider how we in our respective churches could do the same. The conversations also taught me how transforming it can be when we do the work of deep listening.

Deep listening allows us to hear beyond the words. Deep listening allows us to pay attention to the heart and soul of another. I believe that in the church, we need to do more deep listening. Listening to each other's stories of how God has and is moving in our lives. Listening to what challenges us or what brings us joy. Listening to the things we have in common as well as the things that differ in our beliefs and experiences. And above all, listening to the nudgings of the Holy Spirit to pay attention to what we can learn from one another and what we have to share with the world. The next time you have an opportunity to be in conversation, especially with someone new, I encourage you to practice deep listening.

Rev. Bob Coffey
Retired ISC Staff

- Jo-Ann Steiner, Pocahtontas, IL

People with Life Concerns

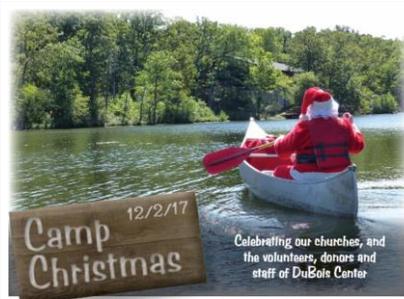
- Keep the family of Gene (Mary) Bergmann in your prayers as Gene deals with serious health issues from a fall. He is the brother of Shirley Bergmann, ISC Treasurer and Finance Coordinator.

- 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.



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



"THANK YOU" CHRISTMAS PARTY - Sat, Dec 2 - Save the Date

This annual event is our opportunity to say **THANK YOU!** Thank you for your prayers and support; your gifts of time, talent and treasure; and your partnership in our shared mission and ministry at DuBois Center. Together we have touched countless lives over the past five decades with gifts of sacred space and God's abundant love. Volunteers, staff, supporters and friends are invited to enjoy a tasty dinner, unique entertainment and, of course, THE Christmas game. Social hour begins at 5 pm with dinner at 6 pm. Churches are encouraged to send representatives. RSVP to DuBois Center at dcinfo@duboiscenter.org or 618-787-2202 by **Fri, Nov 24**. Click [here](#) for your invitation.

Fundraiser for DuBois Center AND ISC Disaster Relief Fund

1-Week's Vacation over July 4, 2018 in
Williamsburg, Virginia

A "Silent Bid" Auction is going on now until January 4, 2018.

Anyone interested in a 1-week (2 bedrooms) time share at the Marriott Manor in Williamsburg, VA from June 29-July 6, 2018!!! This special fundraiser will benefit DuBois Center and the Illinois South Conference's Disaster Relief Fund by the generosity of the Zinns. The reservations are made for the highest bidder. A certificate will be your proof that you are the time-share winner.



For more information, contact Norma Borgmann at nborgmann1658@charter.net or

618-292-4617. The deadline for silent bids is January 4, 2018. Use this bid [form](#). Cut off the bottom portion, place it in a sealed envelope, and mark the envelope with "Silent Bid". Mail or 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.



RECYCLE your GOLF CART

Planning to replace your golf cart next spring? Current one just taking up space? We may be able to help! DuBois Center is in need of a 4-seat golf cart - gas or electric.

Currently, our nurses use a Gator with two seats to respond to situations and deliver medication. If a camper needs to be transported back to the health center for treatment, there is no room for a third person. Renting a golf cart for the summer is very expensive, so we are exploring other options. You can help with this critical need; donations may be tax-deductible. For more information contact Shirley at 618-787-2202 or shirley.director@DuBoisCenter.org.

CONSIDERING A RETREAT?

Considering a spirit-filled retreat or family camp for your church? Now is the time to start planning! Groups as small as 8 and as large as 90 can easily be accommodated, and prime dates are still available for this coming spring. A number of churches already "retreat" to DuBois Center. We host family camps, women's retreats, youth weekends and confirmation events for local congregations. These events can be key components of your year-round faith formation and fellowship programs. If you are interested, but don't know where to begin - we can help. Check out this [brochure](#) for more information or to just explore the possibilities, contact Shirley at dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org or 618-787-2202.



YOUTH



UPCOMING EVENTS

There are a number of events in the coming months that may be of interest to you or your church family. Mark your calendars and make plans now to attend. Help spread the word! Questions? Contact DuBois Center at dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org or 618-787-2202.

Nov 4
Dec 2
Jan 13-15

Service Saturday
Annual "Thank You" Christmas Party
ISC Winter Weekend (high school)

Feb 17-18
Feb 24

ISC Festival of Faith (middle school)
Bunco Night in Columbia



Acknowledgement of Gratitude to the Volunteers in the Hayrides' Area at Fall Festival

Two of the outdoor fun activities at Fall Festivals are riding on the hayride wagon and being transported from the outer parking lot into the center where most of the events took place. This year was no exception! Thus, the following volunteers made both areas possible and memorable:

- **Tractors** - Special Thanks to Rick Porter (Salem UCC-Alhambra) for providing 2 tractors (as the Center's tractor is inoperable) and Harold Kurtz (St. Mark's UCC-DuBois)
- **Drivers** - Special Thanks to the following drivers for the hayrides & transporting visitors from the parking lot from 11 am-5 pm: Phil Jones (St. Paul UCC-Nashville), Norval Slone (St. Paul UCC-Nashville), Levi Kolweier (St. Paul UCC-Nashville), Tom May (St. John UCC-New Athens), and Harold Kurtz (St. Mark's UCC-DuBois)
- **Ticket Takers/Greeters** - Special Thanks to the following volunteers who took the tickets (and \$) for riding on the

wagons as well as assisting/greeting the crowds around the tractors: Linda Schneider (St. John UCC-New Athens), Kent Niermann (St. Peter UCC-Centralia), and Dennis/Collette Niermann (St. Paul UCC-Nashville)
Thank you to ALL who helped in these specific areas of the 2017 Fall Festival on October 1.
Norma Borgmann, FF Coordinator

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



St. Paul Senior Community presents Trivia Night to be held at St. Paul UCC, 115 W B Street, Belleville on Saturday, November 4. Doors open at 6:30 pm and play begins at 7 pm. Contact tlakehopper@stpaulucc.org or call 618-233-3303 for reservations. Emcee for the night will be Chris Ritter. \$80 per table with 8 people per table. 50/50. Heads/Tails. St. Louis Cardinals. Quilt Raffle.

St. John's support groups provide opportunities for families and friends caring for an aging loved one to discuss their concerns and uncertainties, as well as find resources to help regain a sense of balance and hope. We also provide information about helpful coping techniques and resources to make your job as caregiver a little less stressful. The sessions allow you to listen and discuss common issues with the group, leaving you with more understanding and a sense that you are not alone. There is no charge to attend.



Family Caregiver Support Group- Collinsville, Wed, Nov 8, 5:30 pm - 7 pm. This support group is intended for family caregivers caring for loved ones with any type of disability. Join us at St. John's Community Care in Collinsville for a light complimentary dinner. Sessions are held the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Complimentary care for loved ones available with a reservation. **Call 618-344-5008.**

Alzheimer's Support Group- Collinsville, Tues, Nov 14, 1:30 pm - 3 pm. Join others dealing with dementia and memory loss at St. John's Community Care in Collinsville. Sessions are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Complimentary care for loved ones available with reservation. **Call 618-344-5008.**

Family Caregiver Support Group – Edwardsville, Wed, Nov 15, from 6:30 pm - 8 pm. This support group is intended for family caregivers caring for loved ones with any type of disability. Join us at St. John's Community Care Adult Day Program in Edwardsville. Sessions are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month. **For more information call 618-656-7090.**

Deaconess Nurse Ministry congregational information packets were distributed at the Conference Annual Meeting on October 21. If your church did not receive a packet, please contact Marti Kelley at mkelly@faithnurses.org and a packet can be mailed to you. Each packet contains: A Welcome Letter, List of people who are able to provide a Worship Moment for Mission or speak to your church leadership, a list of tangible ways your church can help Deaconess Nurse Ministry, a contribution envelope and a list of Illinois South Conference ministries where Deaconess Nurse Ministry is partnering.



Mental Health First Aid training offered through Hoyleton. 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.

Who should participate: Community members, school personnel,

social workers, students and first responders

Date: November 11, 2017 **Time:** 8 am – 5 pm. **Location:** 2200 Camp Jackson Road, Cahokia, IL 62206

RSVP by November 9 to Allison at 618-688-4776 or ahoshide@hoyleton.org. There is no cost for the training.

What's Happening at Illinois South Conference...



Calling All Senior High Youth - Winter Weekend 2018 will take place on January 13-15, 2018 at DuBois Center. The theme is "Seeing Clearly: No Conflict Between Faith and Science" (it's a re-do of WW17 that was cancelled due to weather). We hope you will share this packet with your senior high youth and encourage them to attend this faith-filled and relationship-building event! If you would like the packet in hard-copy format, let us know at cpursell@iscucc.org or 618-654-2125. Click [here](#) for the full packet. [Here](#) if you need the DCFS fillable form.

Thanks for the Generosity of Illinois South Conference Congregations

In addition to the multitude of Clean Up Buckets and Hygiene Kits already donated to help those hit by natural disasters, ISC members donated \$4,200.15 to Church World Service to aid in making more buckets and hygiene kits and \$19,352.56 to UCC Disaster Ministries to continue to aid those in need in the USA and worldwide.

Region 2

Friedens UCC in Hecker will hold its All You Can Eat Soups & Chili Dinner on Sat, Nov 4 from 4 pm - 7 pm. Dine in only.

Three Trips / Tours for Confirmation Classes. This year's area Confirmation Class trips for youth and adults in Region 2.

- Sun, Nov 12 at 1:45-3:45 pm - Holocaust Museum & Learning Center
 - Sat, Dec 2 at 11:30 am - Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
 - Sat, Jan 13 at 10 am - St Louis Basilica Cathedral
- Contact Rev. Ivan Horn at ivhorn@htc.net if interested.

Region 4

Brighton St. John UCC will hold its Totenfest Sunday service on All Saints Sunday, Nov 5 at 10:15 am. Members of the community are invited to attend and bring a picture of their loved one to share. Special recognition will be given to people who have died in the past year. All who have died will be remembered.

Region 5

Marine UCC will hold its Pork Sausage Dinner on Sun, Nov 5 from 11 am - 5:30 pm. Menu includes homemade pork sausage, mashed potatoes and gravy, applesauce, sauerkraut, corn, green beans, and homemade pie. Adults \$10; Children 4-10 yrs \$4; Children 3 & under Free. All carry-outs \$10. Farmers' Market. Raffle of quilts, side of beef, whole hog, & more.

Region 5

Highland Evangelical UCC will hold its 30th Annual Talents and Treasures Auction on Sun, Nov 5 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 12454 State Rt. 143 in Highland. Doors open at 11:15 am. Auction starts at 12:30 pm. Child care provided. Lunch available. All are welcome. For more information, call 618-654-7459.

Grantfork UCC will host its 48th Annual Sausage Supper on Sat, Nov 11, from 3 pm - 8 pm. The meal features fresh, homemade pork sausage, mashed potatoes and milk gravy, sauerkraut, green beans, applesauce, bread, and homemade pie. Adults \$10; Children (ages 6-12) \$5; Children under 6 free. All carry-outs are \$10. Packaged sausage and fried sausage for sale. Country Corner, featuring homemade goodies.

Region 7

Addieville Zion UCC will hold its 68th Annual Wurst Markt on Wed, Nov 8 beginning at 4 pm at the Addieville Community Club. All-you-can-eat buffett-style menu includes pork sausage, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, peas, applesauce, desserts, and coffee. Adults \$10; Children \$5; All carryouts \$10. For advanced sausage sales, call 618-410-8861 or 618-424-7816.

Region 8

Lenzburg St Peter UCC will hold its Pancake Breakfast and Sunday School Craft and Bake Sale on Nov 11 from 6 am to noon. Made with whole hog sausage and "made from scratch" pancakes. Handicapped accessible. Contact 618-475-2557.

The 7th Annual New Baden Festival of Trees will be from Nov 16 - 19 at the Community Life Center at St. George Church, 317 E Maple St, New Baden. More information from Leanne at nbfestivaloftrees@gmail.com or call 618-224-7825.

Region 9

The St. Paul UCC in Waterloo introduces its St. Paul Fine Arts Concert. The Sun Dec 17 - 2 pm - St. Paul Orchestra Christmas Concert prepares you for the holidays.

St. Paul UCC in Belleville will host a Trivia Night on Saturday, November 4. Doors open at 6:30 pm and play begins at 7 pm. Proceeds will support St. Paul Senior Community. For reservations, contact 618-233-3303 or lakehopper@stpaulucc.org. \$80 per table with 8 people per table.