

Weekly Connection

For the Week of May 27 - June 2, 2018
Diverse Minds, Covenant Hearts, Made One in the Body of Christ



The Amazing People of Illinois South Conference... Diapers and Wipes for UCC Food Pantry in Irvington

In honor of Mother's Day, the 10 United Church of Christ Congregations in Washington County collected diapers and wipes for the UCC Food Pantry in Irvington. Some other local churches and individuals also contributed. Thank you for all the donations. They will be distributed to families with young children.

Pictured (below) is Tim Malacarne from St. Peter's in Okawville, who built a sturdy shelving unit to accommodate the donations. Pictured (above left) with the donations are Sheryl Lehde, St. Paul's Nashville, Ellen Krohne, St. Peter's

Okawville and Priscilla Self, St. Peter's Okawville and Zion Hoyleton.

The Food Pantry is housed in the Friedens UCC parsonage in Irvington. The Ministry Team Representatives are from each of the 10 UCC Churches in Washington County: Zion in Addieville - Shirley Richards; St. Mark's in DuBois - Rosemary Johannes; Zion in Hoyleton - Janet Klie; Friedens in Irvington - Sonya Germann and Pastor Stacy Tate; St. John's in Johannsburg-Christy and Dan Koenigstein; St. Paul's in Nashville-D'Ann Demoss and Pastor Bev Kahle; St. Paul White Church in Okawville-Fern Klasing; St. Peter's in Okawville-Ellen Krohne; St. John's in Plum Hill-Shirley Eigenrauch and Rev. Don Jones; St. Peter's in Stone Church-Sue Lange. Jane Dick is the Treasurer and Priscilla Self is the Secretary, both from St. Peter's in Okawville. Sheryl Lehde from St. Paul's in Nashville is the Food Buyer. This Food Pantry is open to Washington County residents one day a week: 1st, 4th and 5th Saturdays from 9:00 am to 11:00 am.; 2nd and 3rd Sundays from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. The location is 303 South 3rd St. in Irvington, next to the Friedens UCC Church.

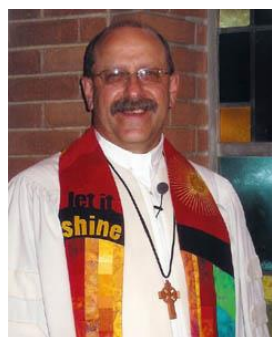


Important Links

- iscucc.org/
- duboiscenter.org
- 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
May 27-June 2, 2018
Churches & Pastors**
- Farina Friedens UCC, Pastor Zach (Chelsea) Garrett
 - Floraville St. Paul UCC, Pastor Matt (Laura) Friz



You're Invited to the Celebration of the ministry of Rev. Dr. Don Wagner on Sun, June 10 at the St. Paul UCC in Lebanon with worship beginning at 10 am. The worship service will be followed by a good ol' fashioned church picnic. Rev. Wagner is celebrating the anniversary of his 25th year serving St. Paul UCC in Lebanon and his 30th anniversary of ordination. Meat, beverages and desserts will be provided. Please bring your favorite side dish to add to the menu.

Gifts: In lieu of any personal gifts, Pastor Don has asked that gifts be directed to DuBois Center, a place he is very passionate about and where he attended camp in his youth.

Make checks payable to St. Paul UCC, (noting 'Anniversary' on the memo line) or gifts can be sent directly to DuBois Center, 2651 Quarry Rd. DuBois, IL 62831 (indicate your gift is in honor of Rev. Don Wagner).

RSVP by June 3 to 618-537-4991 or stpaul-lebanon@sbcglobal.net.



Church World Service (CWS) invites your congregation to be a partner in the heavy lifting this Father's Day. Share this video with your congregation to show them what their generosity and compassion means for families in Haiti. It highlights

incredible before/after house constructions in Haiti, lifting the residents up during their hardest moments. Order your 2018 CWS Tools [material](#) now to distribute after showing the video. Both will help your congregation plan for a successful event! If you cannot do the event on Father's Day, consider another Sunday to help .



We Celebrate the Brave Soldiers Who Sacrificed Their Lives to Keep Us Free.

According to history.com...

"Memorial Day, as Decoration Day gradually came to be known, originally honored only those lost while fighting in the Civil War. But during World War I the United States found itself embroiled in another major conflict, and the holiday evolved to commemorate American military personnel who died in all wars.



For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30, the date General John A. Logan had selected for the first Decoration Day in 1868. But in 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees; the change went into effect in 1971. The same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday."

We remember and honor all of the fallen soldiers and soldiers that have safely returned to us. Watch a video and read more [here](#).

The Highland ISC office will be closed on Monday, May 28 in honor of the holiday.

SHANA'S WORSHIP SCHEDULE

May 27

Worshiping at St. Paul UCC in Belleville.

June 3

Preaching at Zion UCC in Addieville and St. John's UCC in Johannesburg in honor of Rev. Bill Groennert's 50th anniversary of ordination.

June 10

Preaching at St. Paul UCC in Lebanon to celebrate Rev. Dr. Donald Wagner's 25th anniversary as Pastor and Teacher of St. Paul UCC and 30th anniversary of ordination.

THIS IS YOUR OCWM MONIES AT WORK

To invite Rev. Shana Johnson to your church for a particular event, season in the life of the church, or a special occasion, please reach out to her via email at sjohnson@iscucc.org or by phone at 618-654-2125 (office phone) or 618-882-8247.

Retired Pastor

- Rev. Nancy Spier-Lee and Kevin Lee, Dupou, IL

People with Life Concerns

- Keep Kyle Nuetzel (24) in your prayers as he recovers from a serious car accident and is currently in a rehabilitation hospital in Chicago. Kyle is the son of Kathy Nuetzel, the fiancée of Rev. Patrick Poole. Rev. Poole is the pastor at Maeystown St. John UCC. Kyle and his mom live in the St. Charles area.

- Pray for Pastor Cherie (Michael) Stolze as she deals with pain from an accident. Pastor Stolze is the pastor for St. Peter's UCC Stone Church and St. Paul UCC in Okawville. Cards may be sent to her at 12023 Lake Meade Dr, St. Louis, MO 63146.

- Pray for Rich (Joyce) Gusewelle as he deals with some health issues. Rich and Joyce are members of St. Paul UCC in Edwardsville and Joyce is a member of the ISC Conference Gatherings Team. Cards may be sent to 5238 N State Rt 157, Edwardsville, IL 62025.

- Please pray for the family of Rev. Kenneth (Norma) Kramer as they mourn his passing. He died peacefully with Norma at his side. His standing was currently in the Illinois Conference, while serving the St. John UCC in Lincoln, Illinois, but from 2003-2006, he served at Marion Zion UCC in Illinois South Conference and as interim pastor at several churches in other conferences. He and Norma had been members of Irvington Friedens UCC. His father was Pastor at Zion UCC in Addieville. Funeral services were held yesterday at Friedens UCC in Irvington. Cards may be sent to Norma at 1021 N Downing Rd, Apt 7, Mt. Pulaski, IL 62548.

Church as Teacher

Anyone who knows me well knows that one of my highest priorities, as a parent, has been providing my children with a good education. My parents instilled in me the importance of education and being a lifetime learner, which I in turn have passed on to my children.

This month as we have been celebrating our oldest daughter's graduation from college and our youngest daughter's completion of an associate's degree and acceptance into her desired four year school, I have spent a good deal of time thinking about my girls' educations.

I am deeply grateful for the academic experiences that they have had thus far. These experiences have helped them develop discipline, commitment, intellectual curiosity, and a deep love for learning. Yet, I am also mindful and deeply grateful that much of what they have learned and developed as essential life skills and core values came first from being a part of the Church.

This struck me as I went back and read both of their college essays. Within their essays, they spoke of the ways the church had formed them. I was in awe as I was reminded of the powerful education our children and youth can and will receive if they are a part of a church. Certainly, Sunday School and Confirmation may be a part of it, but I am referring more to the life lessons and belief systems that will emerge when children and youth are active members of the body of Christ.

Here are some of the things my girls learned by being a part of church.

In the church...

- they learned how to relate to people of different ages. In school and in their extracurricular activities they only met and associated with their peers, but in church they met and associated with people of different ages. They learned how to respect their elders, as well as how to talk to them and relate to them.
- they learned how to relate to people with disabilities. They became comfortable around and befriended persons with downs syndrome, Asperger's, autism, cerebral palsy, as well as those with visual or auditory impairments.
- they learned how to look beyond disabilities and see people who were not much different than them.

In the church, they learned about diversity, acceptance, inclusion, and unconditional love. They came to know people of different races, ethnicities, and sexual orientations. They came to know people who were shy, awkward, and socially backward. They learned all were beloved children of God, beautiful, and worthy of love.

- they learned about sympathy, compassion, and empathy. They saw the pain people experienced when they lost a loved one. They felt the heart ache when someone was being mistreated. They understood how the world was not always fair, but Christ calls us to be.
- they learned to give of themselves. They learned how to work hard not for their own benefit, but for the benefit of others. They discovered the joy of giving, of making an impact, and in changing people's lives.
- they learned there were people who were suffering and in great need. They learned there are great injustices in the world. They learned they had a responsibility and a moral obligation to do something to help. They learned that doing something, however small, with great love could make a big impact.
- they learned Jesus was real. They understood Jesus' teachings and commands were hard to follow. They understood that often Jesus can be found in those around you and in the people you least expect.

I am deeply grateful for what my girls have learned in the church and what they will continue to learn in the years to come. I pray that we, as a collective voice, will remind parents, grandparents and families what our children and youth can learn when they are a part of the church. The education they can receive in the church is invaluable and worth the investment.

Blessings, Rev. Shana Johnson, Conference Minister



Great Lakes Regional Youth Event (GLYRE) Scholarships Available!!

The President's Office at Elmhurst College has offered One Lucky Church a need-based scholarship equivalent to 2 full registrations (\$650.00). To apply, the Church Pastor must send a letter explaining the need to glyre18reg@gmail.com with "Scholarship Request" in the subject line. Letters must be received by the close of business on May 30. All applicants will be put into a pool and randomly chosen. Churches will be notified by 11:59

pm on May 30. Remember registration rates go up to \$350/person on June 2 .



The UCC DESK CALENDAR 2019 is now available to pre-order.

This popular, 18-month (July 2018 - December 2019) planning calendar for the UCC is 8.5" x 11" and spiral-bound. **One free copy is shipped to each church and all retired pastors.**

The calendar includes:

- Complete lectionary readings for every Sunday
- Special mission offering dates
- Special observances
- Directory of national staff
- Space to include personal appointments and details

Click [here](#) to order. Shipping begins in this month.

Free Webinar from the Insurance Board

Sex Offenders in Your Congregation: Recommendations and Best Practices

presented by Heather Kimmel

Wednesday, May 23 from 1 pm - 2 pm CST.

At the heart of every church beats the willingness to forgive and accept.

Perhaps the greatest obstacle for a church to overcome is when a convicted sex offender wants to be a member of the church.

This is not a decision to take lightly and churches may find it is a divisive decision; struggling with the role of the church and the safety of its congregants. Insurance Board recognizes that many churches face this decision on a regular basis. We believe it is good for a church to be pro-active and have these conversations before that person approaches your doors.

We have invited Heather E. Kimmel, General Counsel of the United Church of Christ, to address issues related to sex offenders in congregations, including safe conduct policies, limited access agreements, and disclosure to congregations. Click [here](#) to register.



Benefits of Annual Meeting Whether You Are a Delegate or NOT

The added bonus of Annual Meeting is hearing from people that we would not normally be able to talk to. They share a perspective that we may not have heard before. This is the case for the Warm-Up Event prior to the upcoming Annual Meeting.

The ideas presented by Tod Bolsinger can be used in the church as well as other avenues of our lives. Explorers Lewis and Clark had to adapt. While they had prepared to find a waterway to the Pacific Ocean, instead they found themselves in the Rocky Mountains. You, too, may feel that you are leading in a cultural context you were not expecting. You may even feel that your training holds

you back more often than it carries you along.

Drawing from his extensive experience as a pastor and consultant, Tod Bolsinger brings decades of expertise in guiding churches and organizations through uncharted territory. He offers a combination of illuminating insights and practical tools to help you re-imagine what effective leadership looks like in our rapidly changing world. If you're going to scale the mountains of ministry, you need to leave behind canoes and find new navigational tools. This workshop will set you on the right course to lead with confidence and courage.

Plan to attend...

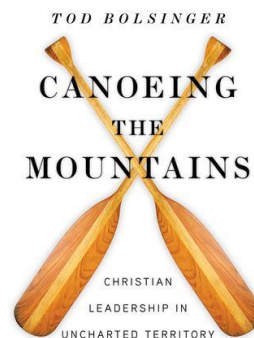
Being Church in Uncharted Territory

Friday, October 26, 2018

St. John Evangelical UCC - Collinsville

2 pm - 6 pm

Click [here](#) for a flyer and registration form to post in your church and share with your congregations. Click [here](#) to register online.



Deadline Extended

All skill levels welcome!!

Ecuador Partnership Committee of the Illinois South Conference of the UCC encourages you to participate in the July mission trip to Jama, Ecuador. The dates are July 7-16th. The group will leave from St. Louis, Missouri and arrive in Quito, Ecuador on the 7th in the evening. They are looking for at least 3+ people to complete this trip. The deadline to register has been extended! What they need are people who are passionate about mission and want to open their hearts to a family in need. All of the work on the trip will NOT be back breaking work. Physical work can be as easy or hard as is capable by the attendee. There are many other ways to help.

Lee-Alison Wilson encourages interested groups to contact her for a personal conversation at 618-616-6676 or ecuadorgirl816@gmail.com.

Come join the fun. Your life will be changed.

Click [here](#) for the flyer. **You will need \$2,200 and a passport valid through 1/16/2019.**





MEET our SUMMER STAFF

Welcome Selena Wellenstein to our 2018 summer staff team! Selena hails from Seattle, Washington and will be serving as a Counselor/Activity Specialist. She is a city kid with a heart for the outdoors. Selena has worked with children and youth in a variety of settings - as a babysitter, child care provider at church and volunteer at a therapeutic riding center. Her love of the outdoors has been fed by her years as a Girl Scout and as part of the Cascade Leadership Challenge program. The summer of 2016 she spent 18 days in the Northwest Territories of Canada rafting down the Nahanni River with nine other people. She wrote, "That was one of the most difficult experiences of my life, but I grew and learned so much!" Selena is studying



Animal Science with a minor in Spanish at Washington State University in Pullman. When at school, she loves being a part of the Guide Dogs for the Blind club, through which she is learning to train dogs for the program. When at home, Selena enjoys spending time in the sun and taking her dog, Roxy, to the dog park. Horses, country music and sweets are some of her "favorites." Her favorite smell is a horse barn and she loves the movie *Guardians of the Galaxy*. So how did Selena find her way to DuBois Center? "The honest story is that I was praying for a summer job, and shortly after I received an email with a flyer for the DuBois Center. When I checked them out online, I loved their welcoming and open approach to faith as well as the down-to-earth, rustic style of camp. I can't wait to work with all different walks of people this summer and am excited to hear their stories!" Selena's faith is very important to her and she found a wonderful church, faith family and mentor while at school. One of her hopes for this summer is to pass on her mentor's kindness and devotion to the staff and campers at the DuBois Center. Welcome Selena!



WHY CHURCH CAMP?

Because church camp is joyful fun! It is a sacred place. It is intensely relational, and positive role models abound! Though an integral part of many congregations' year-round faith formation efforts, church camp is different from Vacation Bible School or Sunday School. Campers and leaders live, work, play and worship together from early morning until late into the evening. They grow together through shared experiences in God's amazing creation and form an intentional community. They hear our faith stories in new places and new ways, and find opportunities to share their own. The activities are

fun, challenging and filled with opportunities to grow as part of a Christian community. Click [here](#) to learn more.



HIGH SCHOOL WEEK at DuBois Center

June 17-22 older youth (completed grades 8-12) take over the Rustic Village. One week, two great options: Wranglers and X-Plore! It's a week to be yourself, make good friends, find new adventures and grow with God. Meals on Rustic are back! Choice times are back! And with them more

opportunities to hang with your friends and customize your week. Play disc golf - DuBois style; get super crafty; fish at Deer Run or ride horses in "the bottoms." Play cricket or Aussie



SUMMER CAMP VOLUNTEERS

Our summer staff team has been hired. Chaplains are busy working on the curriculum for their sessions. Parents are making plans and campers are getting excited. What's left?! Each week of the summer, 4-6 volunteers work hand in hand with paid staff members to provide our fun and faith-filled program. We hope you will consider a week (or even a few days) of service at DuBois Center. Wanted: engaging and caring volunteers to serve as nurses, cabin counselors, activity specialists and barn helpers. Minimum age is 18 for most positions; young adults and older adults are welcome. Share your

football with our international staff and check-out weird and wacky activities at the waterfront. For details, pick up a brochure in your church office, click [here](#) for the online version or contact DuBois Center at dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org or 618-787-2202. Ready to register? Click [here](#). Don't delay - June is just around the corner!

time and talent, make a difference, and gain a wonderful sense of satisfaction. Check out the photo above. Can you pick out the four volunteers? For more information, go to the volunteer [page](#) of our web site or [email](#) or call 618-787-2202. If camp isn't your thing, but you know someone who would be perfect, check out this [form](#) or send their contact information directly to Shirley.



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Twig, Sparkle, Pastor Skippy, Simba, Kayak, Nurse Bandit, Sparrow, Mr. T, Shark Bait - What's with all the weird names? Since 2011, "camp names" have been the norm for summer staff and volunteers at DuBois Center. Some are silly and pulled from... who knows where. Others have stories and traditions behind them. To avoid inhaling pollen and dust, Nurse Bandit wears a bandana over her nose and mouth when driving around camp. Pastor Skippy, who loves peanut butter, has been

a camp chaplain for decades at a variety of different camps and his name has traveled with him. We use "camp names" during the summer at DuBois Center because they are FUN, and because sometimes there are just too many Rachels and Ryans running around. Real names are shared on the last day of each camp, and they are listed on the sign-out sheets when parents pick up their children at the end of a session. If a counselor senses that a parent is nervous about not knowing their "real name," the leader might take them aside and share that detail in advance. What's in a name - a lot of silliness and camp fun!



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

The Hoyleton Youth & Family Services 2018 Golf Classic will be held on Fri, July 13 beginning at 11:30 am at the Tamarack Golf Course, 800 Tamarack Ln, Shiloh, IL. Shotgun start begins at 12:30 pm. It is a 4-person scramble with 3 flights. Prizes awarded. Longest-drive, closest-to-the-pin. Mulligans and poker run available. Entry fee: \$90/person (\$95/person after June 15) or \$360/team of 4. Lunch and dinner provided. 18 holes with cart. Skins game. Click [here](#) to register or call 618-688-4770. Click [here](#) for a flyer to share with your congregation.

WE KNOW WHEN
YOU LIFT A
CHILD'S SPIRIT,
YOU ULTIMATELY
LIFT AN ENTIRE
COMMUNITY.



What's Happening at Illinois South Conference...

Job Opportunities

St. John UCC in Granite City is currently seeking to fill a part time position of **Church Office Clerical Secretary**. This is part-time position requires three six-hour days for a total of 18 hours per week. The pay range for this position is between \$12 - \$13 per hour. Send resume to stjohnuccc2901gc@yahoo.com or mail to St. John UCC 2901 Nameoki Rd Granite City ill 62040. No phone calls accepted. Click [here](#) for a list of job duties and skill requirements.

Cemetery Associate needed for Granite City St. John UCC Cemetery. Requirements include high school diploma or GED certificate, valid driver's license, insurance, violation-free for 24 months, good physical condition, communication skills, work with outside contractors, computer skills, use of Smart Phone, more. Send resume to stjohnucccemetary@gmail.com or mail to St. John UCC, 2901 Nameoki Rd, Granite City, IL 62040. No phone calls accepted. Click [here](#) for a complete list of job duties and skill requirements.



Conflict Transformation Skills for Churches (& parents & teens & bosses & teachers & workers & committee members & pastors & everybody else) will be held on Sat, June 23 from 9 am - 3:30 pm at St. Paul UCC in Waterloo. Presented by Rev. Mike Southcombe, ISC Conflict Mediation Team. Study and workshop resources from the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center.

You will learn:

- What personality "type" you are
- What stress does to your personality

- How to recognize and communicate with other personality types
- How to talk so that others will listen
- How to listen to others and change the way they talk to you
- How to deal with conflict from a biblical, healing perspective
- Collaborative skills/Problem solving skills
- Effective Communication skills
- Effective Listening skills
- The 10 Commandments of Leading an Effective Church Meeting

Cost includes workshop materials and lunch. \$20/person or \$30/couple (shared workbook). Register by calling 618-939-7123 or email linda@stpaulonline.org.

The 2018 Confirmation Retreat is scheduled for September 14-15, 2018. The event takes place at beautiful DuBois Center. It starts at 6:30 on Friday evening and ends at 8:00 on Saturday evening.

The theme for this year's retreat is "**Who is Jesus' Neighbor?**". Our facilitator, Rev. John Holst-Pastor at Zion UCC in Marion, will work with the youth and chaperones to consider one of the themes, Love of Neighbor, which is one component of the UCC's "3 Great Loves" campaign. The retreat will offer time to delve into the question of Who is Jesus' Neighbor? through fun & interactive small group conversations, games, and fellowship.

The retreat is designed as a supplement to your church's confirmation program and it offers a unique opportunity for confirmation classes from across the Conference to bond within and between their groups. If this sounds of interest to your confirmands/leaders, then please make sure to include this retreat in your upcoming confirmation paperwork. Please note that we need space reservations by August 13 and the registration paperwork by August 31. So, use your summer months to encourage confirmands to join you on this retreat. Click [here](#) for the complete packet of information and registration forms.



Region 3

The Evening Circle from St John Evangelical UCC in Collinsville will be having their annual Luncheon and Fashion Show on Thurs, June 21 at 11:30 am in Faith Hall. The event features a variety of homemade salads made by our ladies plus a display of summer clothes from Dillards using our own models. The \$12-ticket may be purchased through Judy Brickey (618-345-4889) or through Amy at the office (618-344-2526). Tickets will not be sold at the door that day. Any questions may be directed to Vicki Donovan at 618-344-6809.

Edwardsville Eden Church presents 5K Character Fun Run/Walk on June 2 at 9 am at the Edwardsville Township Park. Join the fun and dress up as your favorite character. Proceeds to support the Eden Youth Mission trip to Africa and African Vision of Hope. Music, snacks, family activities, and photo booth. Click [here](#) for more info.

Region 9

St. Paul UCC Fine Arts and the St. Paul UCC Music Ministry invites you to attend the Red, White and Blue Concert on Sun, June 3 at 3 pm at St. Paul UCC, 115 W B Street, Belleville. The concert is free. A free-will offering will be taken. A BBQ picnic lunch will be served after the concert in the Activity Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults; \$2 for children. Call 618-233-3303 for tickets or buy them that day.

VBS - May

May 29 - June 1; 9 am - 12 pm; Waterloo St. Paul UCC; *Rolling River Rampage*.

VBS - June

Mondays in June (4th, 11th, 18th, 25th); 9 am - 11:30 am; Trenton St. John UCC; *Rolling River Rampage*.
June 4 - 8; 8:30 am - 11:30 am; Valmeyer St. John UCC; *Splash Canyon*.
June 4 - 8; 9 am - 12 pm; Columbia St. Paul UCC; *Rolling River*

VBS - June

June 24 - 28; 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm; Alhambra Salem UCC; *Rolling River Rampage*.
June 25 - 29; 8:45 am - 12 pm; Mascoutah St. John UCC (in cooperation with St. John, Holy Childhood, and St. Martin of Tours Lutheran Churches); *Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus*.
June 25 - 29; 9 am - 12 pm; Dupo Christ UCC; *Rolling River Rampage*.

VBS - July

July 8 - 12; 6 pm - 8 pm; Granite City St. John UCC; *Game On*.
July 9 - 13; 9 am - 12 pm; Collinsville St. John Evangelical UCC; *Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity*.
July 9 - 13; 6 pm - 8:20 pm; Red Bud St. Peter UCC; *Rolling River Rampage*.
July 9 - 13; 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm; Combined VBS for Centralia St. Peter UCC and Central City Zion UCC at 1st United Methodist Church in Centralia; *Rolling River Rampage*.
July 15 - 19; 6 pm - 8 pm; Stone Church St. Peter's UCC & Plum Hill

Region 9

Concordia UCC in Belleville will host a Chicken Dinner and Strawberry Festival on Sun, June 3 from 11 am - 3 pm. Fried Chicken (fried in peanut oil) with all the 'fixins'. Dine-in or Carry-out. Quilt Raffle Chances: \$1 or 6 tickets for \$5. Bake Sale. Adults \$11; Children 6-12 years \$5.50; Children 5 and under Free. Contact 618-476-3377.

The churches of Region 9 will gather together for an Ice Cream Social on Sun, July 29 from 3 pm - 4:30 pm at St. John UCC in Fairview Heights. The B Street Band will be performing at 3 pm followed by the ice cream social at 3:30 in the fellowship hall of the church. A free-will offering will be taken.

Rampage.

June 4 - 8; 9 am - 11:15 am; Highland Evangelical UCC; *Moose on the Loose.*

June 4 - 8; 9 am - 11:30 am; Fieldon UCC; *Hero Central - Discover Your Strength in God.*

June 11 - 15; 9 am - 11:30 am; Staunton St. Paul UCC; *Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus.*

June 11 - 15; 8:30 am - 11 am; Okawville St. Peter's UCC; *Rolling River Rampage.*

June 18 - 22; 6 pm - 8:30 pm (Dinner served to all members of the family at 5 pm.); Troy Friedens UCC Fellowship Hall; *Rolling River Rampage.*

June 18 - 22; 6 pm - 8:30 pm; Belleville Concordia UCC; *Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus.*

June 18 - 22; 9 am - 12 pm; Maeystown St. John UCC; *Rolling River Rampage.*

June 18 - 22; 9 am - 11:30 am; Marissa Friedens UCC; *Rolling River Rampage.*

St. John's UCC are working together at Stone Church St. Peter's UCC; *Embracing the Fruits of the Spirit Around the World.*

July 21; 9 am - 4 pm; Belleville St. Paul UCC; *Rolling River Rampage.*

July 22 - 25; 5 pm - 8:15 pm; Metropolis Zion UCC (combined with St. Paul Lutheran, St. Rose Catholic, First Christian, and Lutheran Church of the Cross); *Polar Blast.*

July 23 - 27; 9 am - 11:30 am; New Baden Zion UCC; *Rolling River Rampage.*

July 29 - August 2; 6 pm - 9 pm; Carlinville St. Paul UCC; *Rolling River Rampage.*

July 30 - August 3; 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm; New Athens St. John UCC, *Rolling River Rampage.*