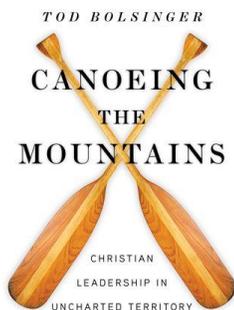


# Weekly Connection

For the Week of August 19 - August 25, 2018  
Diverse Minds, Covenant Hearts, Made One in the Body of Christ



## What Does It Mean to Stop Canoeing the Mountains?

(Article reprinted from *Faith & Leadership*, a learning resource for Christian leaders and their institutions from Leadership Education at Duke Divinity)

Using the metaphor of Lewis and Clark's exploration of the American West, a Fuller Seminary vice president explores the leadership challenges for the church in a post-Christendom world.

When Lewis and Clark reached the Continental Divide, they expected to find a river that would allow them to paddle easily to the Pacific Ocean. What they saw instead were the Rocky Mountains.

That's the type of challenge facing church leaders today -- so daunting, so new and so unexpected that the old solutions won't work, says Tod Bolsinger, the vice president and chief of leadership formation and an assistant professor of practical theology at Fuller Theological Seminary. Read the entire [article](#).

**ATTENTION CHURCHES!! You can learn more from Tod Bolsinger.** He will be the keynote speaker at the ISC Annual Meeting on **October 27** at the Knights of Columbus/Collins Club in Collinsville as well as an all afternoon workshop on **October 26** at the St. John Evangelical UCC in Collinsville from 2 pm - 6 pm. *He recommends that several leaders from the same church come to the workshop to take advantage of solving issues together. Because of that, ISC is offering a special price for churches. Four and more people from the same church can attend for a flat \$100.00.* If less than 4 come from the same church, the price is \$35/person. Take advantage of this fantastic price and learn ways to overcome leadership challenges within your church.

## The Amazing People of Illinois South Conference....

United in Faith Church of Pana gathered offerings during the month of July to support Uni-Pres Kindercottage of East St. Louis. Through generous support of its members and friends, they were able to raise over \$3,700. Thank you to United in Faith for seeking God's guidance in supporting this vital ministry to the people Kindercottage serves.



## \$250 Matching Grants for CWS Kits available from UCC Disaster Ministries

Don't miss this budget and mission stretcher! There are still 60 UCC Disaster Ministries Matching Grants available to UCC churches and other UCC groups that raise at least \$250 in cash and/or in kind to assemble Church World Service Kits and Clean-Up Buckets.

Members of the denomination can assist hurricane and other disaster relief efforts by pre-assembling various kits that are warehoused by CWS, ready to be shipped at a moment's notice when the need arises.

"For families that have lost everything, CWS Emergency Clean-Up Buckets and other CWS Kits are more than just relief supplies, they are an expression of love and symbol of hope for the future," said Zach Wolgemuth, UCC Disaster Ministries executive. "It's energizing to see our congregations and other groups engaged in hands-on ways, reaching out to people they will likely never meet."

This is the fourth year UCC Disaster Ministries has offered the matching grants. The ministry will fund participating and qualifying congregations up to \$250 per congregation on a first-come, first-served basis until the grants are all spoken for. Click [here](#) for more information.

## 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 Aug 19 - Aug 25, 2018 Churches & Pastors

- Marion Zion UCC, Rev. John (Sara) Holst
- Marissa Friedens UCC, Pastor Brett (Carolyn) Palmer

## CWS Bucket and Kit One-Day drop off in Ferguson, Missouri

Immanuel UCC, 221 Church St., Ferguson, MO 63135

October 14, 2018 from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m.

Contact: Krescene Beck at [krescenebeck@gmail.com](mailto:krescenebeck@gmail.com) or 314-521-7824.



United Church of Christ

### June-July Grants by UCC Disaster Ministries

- \$50,000 more for Puerto Rico recovery, bringing its total to more than \$262,000, not counting in-kind and volunteer labor. Work teams have restored 27 houses since June! [Read more.](#)
- \$50,000 to Volusia Interfaiths/Agencies Networking in Disaster (VIND) for the continued employment of a construction supervisor. [Read more.](#)
- \$40,000 to assist 910 Kenyan households (7,300 people) displaced by floods. [Read more.](#)
- \$30,000 more for hurricane recovery in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. [Read more.](#)
- \$30,000 more for Hurricane Harvey recovery in Port Arthur, Texas. [Read more.](#)
- \$5,500 to assist households affected by the eruption of the Fuego volcano in Guatemala. [Read more.](#)
- \$5,000 for Hurricane Irma long-term recovery in Palm Beach, Fla.
- \$5,000 to help ship medical equipment to Puerto Rico for Ryder Memorial Hospital.
- \$3,000 toward flood relief for eight families who suffered significant damages and losses from flooding in April in Kauai, Hawai'i.
- \$3,000 for the United Church of Christ in Japan as it responds to severe flooding and other damage from Typhoon Maria in July, and subsequent heat and dust.

The United Church of Christ Musicians Association presents a **FREE Church Musician Sharing Session on Sun, Sept 23 from 3 pm - 4:30 pm at the First Church of Lombard UCC, 220 S Main St, Lombard, IL 60148.** It is open to all denominations. The session is a wonderful opportunity to share ideas, solve problems, and expand your network in a casual and intimate setting. Bring your favorite music for choirs, any type of instrumental or vocal ensemble, piano, organ and/or congregational song. Share your triumphs and your struggles, your wisdom and your questions. Together, we have a wealth of knowledge and experience - let's share it! Click [here](#) to register by August 31. For more information, contact Janette Rodriguez at [jrodriguez@firstchurchoflombard.org](mailto:jrodriguez@firstchurchoflombard.org) or Michele Hecht at [michele@fccge.org](mailto:michele@fccge.org). Click [here](#) for a flyer.



### Retired Pastor

- Rev. Dr. Richard and Johann Ellerbrake, Lebanon, IL

### People with Life Concerns

- Keep Kyle Nuetzel (24) in your prayers as he continues rehabilitation at home. Kyle is the son of Kathy & Rev. Patrick Poole.
- Pray for Rev. Gary (Joyce) Kniepkamp as he recuperates from an accident. Rev. Kniepkamp recently retired from being the Pastor for St. Jacob UCC and Summerfield St. John's UCC. Cards may be sent to him at 1431 Summerfield Rd, St. Jacob, IL 62281.
- Keep Rev. Paul and Marilyn Thompson in your prayers as each of them deals with health issues. Rev. Thompson is retired, but serves on the ISC Recruitment Committee. Cards may be sent to them at 910 Circle Drive, Red Bud, IL 62278.
- 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 in Addieville and St. Paul UCC in Okawville. Cards may be sent to her at 12023 Lake Meade Dr, St. Louis, MO 63146.

PATHWAYS Theological Education offers a variety of courses for continuing education for ordained ministers, chaplains, and those in designated ministry roles. Upcoming courses for continuing education include:

***Singing the Bible*** (4 weeks for 1.5 CEU's beginning September 12) This course offers tips and tools for choosing music for congregational singing and ensembles that enhance the themes and stories of Biblical passages chosen for proclamation. Facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Ruth Shaver, Interim Minister at First Church of Christ Congregational UCC in North Conway, NH (tuition: \$129)

***Howard Thurman: Living Wisdom for God's Justice and Love*** (4 weeks for 1.5 CEU's beginning September 12) An exploration of Thurman's three "hounds of hell" (fear, hypocrisy/deception and hatred) that track the trails of persons living with their backs against the walls - the disinherited. The Rev. Charmaine Penn Johnson, who studied Race and Religion at Candler Theological Seminary and received the Black Church Studies Prathia Hall Award, will facilitate. (tuition: \$129)

***Practicing Our Faith in the Public Square*** (6 weeks for 4 CEU's beginning October 3) Examines the why, how, and direction of faith-based engagement in the political life of our communities and nation. Based on her book, *Prophetic Faith: Exploring Social Justice Advocacy as a Congregation*, the course is facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Trish Greeves. (tuition: \$295)

***Professional Boundaries and Ministerial Self-Care*** (6 weeks for 4 CEU's beginning October 3). For members of UCC COMs and Conference Staff, a special section of Professional Boundaries and Ministerial Self-Care (6 weeks for

4 CEU's beginning October 3). Facilitated by the Rev. Vicki Wunsch, Director of Leadership and Development for the Minnesota Conference, this course explores professional ethics for clergy, including the development of an ethical paradigm, state requirements for the mandatory reporting of abuse, relational boundaries, financial management, and social media self-disclosure. This course is free for members of COMs and Conference Staff. For more information or to register for any of these courses visit, click [here](#) or email PATHWAYS at [info@pathwaystheological.org](mailto:info@pathwaystheological.org).

## SHANA'S UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### August 19

In Colorado, officiating at the wedding of Meghan Moore, daughter of Rev. Sue Artt, Conference Minister of the Rocky Mountain Conference (formerly of Illinois South Conference)

### August 26

Preaching at the Installation Service of Rev. Chad Abbott, Conference Minister of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference  
If you would like our Conference Minister to participate in a worship service or special event at your church, please invite her. Please reach out to Rev. Johnson at the office at 618-654-2125 or her cell phone at 618-882-8247 with some possible dates. You can also send her an email at [sjohnson@iscucc.org](mailto:sjohnson@iscucc.org).

**This is your OCWM monies at work.**



## DuBois Center News

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



# FALL FESTIVAL

Sunday Oct 7  
from 11-5

## DuBois Center

### 2018 DuBois Center FALL FESTIVAL on Sunday, 10/7/18 --11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Plans are in progress for the 42nd Fall Festival which will be held on **Sunday, October 7, 2018.**

We are seeking MANY volunteers for it to happen. Whether you have previously worked or are a new volunteer, we need your help. Contact information for chairpersons in the respective areas is listed below if you are willing to volunteer, and/or donate snacks, silent auction and/or upscale resale shoppe items. Also, please assist us with Fall Festival communications by word of mouth, social media, newsletters, bulletins, boards, etc.! Thank you!! Come & observe the natural beauty of DuBois Center on October 7.

The 42nd Fall Festival will include these areas with respective chairpersons & phone numbers:

#### **FOOD & BEVERAGES:**

**Oak Lodge Café**-Audrey Hicks: 618-939-8673

**Sweet Shop**-Kristen Belcher: 618-567-6863 & Melissa Nehrt: 314-440-6646

**Pocket Tacos**-DuBois Center: 618-787-2202

**Beverages**-Nancy Wagner: 618-444-2835

#### **ENTERTAINMENT:**

**Crafters**-Susan Fuchs: 618-978-3182

**Music**-DuBois Center: 618-787-2202

**Kidz Korner**-Alaina Scherle: [alainakarn@yahoo.com](mailto:alainakarn@yahoo.com)

**Pumpkin Patch**-Nancy Wagner: [dnwagner@charter.net](mailto:dnwagner@charter.net)

**Horses(arena)** -Scott Kuether: [sekuether21@gmail.com](mailto:sekuether21@gmail.com)

**Pontoon rides**-DuBois Center: 618-787-2202

**Hayrides**-DuBois Center: 618-787-2202

**(Tractors)** -Mark Beckmeyer: 618-335-9945



## **OAK LODGE ATTRACTIONS:**

**Upscale Resale Shoppe**-Norma Borgmann: 618-533-1658

**Quilt Tickets**-Norma Borgmann: 618-292-4617

**Silent Auction**-Norma Borgmann: [nborgmann1658@charter.net](mailto:nborgmann1658@charter.net)

## **GENERAL:**

**Set Up/Take Down**-Rev. Todd Mushaney @618-286-4211 & Crew from Christ UCC/Dupo-Need multiple volunteers.

**Set Up Fall Décor**-The Fuchs Family-Need multiple volunteers.

**Bankers** (responsible for start-up \$/charting/depositing) -Need multiple volunteers.

**Cashiers** (in var. areas): Don Kaiser; Roger & Julie Harris-Need multiple volunteers.

**Ticket Takers for Hayrides**- Need multiple volunteers.

**Horse Walkers** (safer for young riders)-Scott Kuether: [sekuether21@gmail.com](mailto:sekuether21@gmail.com)-Need multiple volunteers.

**Greeters in Welcome Area** (front entrance)--Marketing Committee-Need multiple volunteers.

**Boat Catchers** (assisting people on/off boats/catching them)-Need multiple volunteers.

**"Floaters"** (willing to sub in an area on a moment's notice)-Need multiple volunteers.

**Parking Lot Attendants** (maintaining orderly parking on our field)-Need multiple volunteers.

**Tractor Drivers**-Mark Beckmeyer: 618-335-9945-Need multiple volunteers.

**Boat Drivers** (for 2 pontoon boats)-DuBois Center: 618-787-2202-Need multiple volunteers.

**Publicity** (distributing FF flyers & media coverage)-Marketing Committee & DuBois Ctr.

(Contact DuBois Center: 618-787-2202 or Norma Borgmann: 618-292-4617 if no chair or telephone number is listed).

## **VOLUNTEERS are NEEDED in ALL of the above AREAS! We hope YOU will be able to help at Fall Festival**

In addition, **SNACKS (including cookies, cakes, pies, breads, etc.)** are requested for the **Sweet Shop** (by Roadside Cottage). Your food and/or cash donations certainly make it possible for the Fall Festival visitors to make desired purchases. All the Sweet Shop profits are designated for our Camp/Retreat Scholarship Fund so as to financially assist future campers and/or retreaters.

An **"Upscale Resale Shoppe"** with items that are new or nearly new treasures valued at **\$5.00 or more** will be featured again in Oak Lodge from 11:00 am until 4:00 pm. Items will be priced rather than bid upon as in the Silent Auction. Suggestions for resale shop donations include: Handbags-totes; Jewelry-scarves; Indoor décor-baskets; Outdoor décor-decorative planters; Holiday décor-wreaths; and Christmas and/or Birthday Presents. All donated items will be in new or in excellent condition.

The **Silent Auction** (Oak Lodge) will be sold to the highest bidders from a selection of themed baskets, seasonal décor, unusual and practical items, etc. Donations of these items are truly welcomed. All donated Silent Auction entries need to be registered at the designated table by noon on October 7. Bidding numbers are required to participate. The Silent Auction will close at 3:30 pm.

There will also be 3 **"Quilt Drawings"** - each with unique design. One ticket is \$1.00 or 6 tickets for \$5.00.

We hope that you will mark your calendar now and seriously think about being a volunteer in any area. We will need volunteers on October 5 and 6 to set up all areas.

The Fall Festival is our major annual fundraiser. Profits are deposited in the General Fund with the exception of the Sweet Shop's profits which are applied toward the Scholarship Fund. Monetary donations are greatly appreciated to help defray Fall Festival expenses and may be mailed in advance or given at Fall Festival.

Please help us promote the 42nd Fall Festival, and we hope to see **you** at DuBois Center on Sunday, October 7! .

Thanks for your support! The Outdoor Ministries Fall Festival Planning Committee: Norma Borgmann (Chair), Mark Beckmeyer, Susan Fuchs, Roger Harris, Don Kaiser, Alaina Scherle, and Nancy Wagner and DuBois Center staff

## **Bounty of Beauty**

DuBois Center is much more than simply a summer camp or place to hold a retreat - it's a slice of heaven right here in southern Illinois. The rolling hills, creek bottoms and Southern Flatwoods play host to a magnificent variety of life. Towering oak and hickory shelter owls, herons, foxes and a host of other creatures great and small. Ironweed, phlox and Cardinal flowers are only a few of the beautiful bursts of color that bloom between the trees. This splendor isn't free - in exchange for the breathtaking sights, sounds and smells, we must serve as stewards of the land. It is important to care for this creation so that we may continue to learn from and be amazed by God's majesty for generations to come.





### JOB OPPORTUNITY: Nature's Classroom Instructor

DuBois Center is currently interviewing for Nature's Classroom Instructors. These are seasonal six-week positions from September 17 through October. Enjoy being outdoors and working with young people? Our instructors teach classes, and lead campfires and other evening activities. Parent chaperones supervise free time, dining tables and cabin times. Training is provided, as are meals and overnight accommodations during Nature's Classroom sessions. Weekends off. Click [here](#) for a program brochure or position [description](#). Contact Shirley at [email](#) 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



**LIFE at Eden Begins in September** Date(s) - 09/14/2018 - 09/15/2018 5 pm - 2 pm

### Certificate Course - *Telling and Living the Story: Evangelism*

Rev. Shana Johnson, Conference Minister, ISC UCC

This course will be a journey in exploring how pastors and church leaders can navigate their way towards expressing the Gospel in an authentic manner. In a non-threatening, invitational space, participants will consider what they believe the good news to be. Through examining what we believe, who we are in the image of God, and how we develop our own spiritual lives, we will begin to see how our personal witness can be compelling to others.

**Required reading prior to Sept. 14:** The book *Evangelism for Non-Evangelists* by Mark Teasdale

#### About Shana Johnson

Rev. Shana Johnson is the Conference Minister of the Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ. Prior to being called into Conference ministry, Rev. Johnson spent 20 years in parish ministry serving churches of all sizes in the United Church of Christ. Her greatest passion is helping pastors and congregations discover and build upon the strengths God has already gifted them.

### Elective Course - *Prepare the Way: Creative Advent Planning for Clergy and Musicians*

Paul Vasile, Director of Music, Eden Theological Seminary

Explore the prophetic and poetic power of the Advent and Christmas seasons through music and improvisation with sacred text. We'll explore Revised Common Lectionary texts for the season (Year C), seeking insights that inspire compelling preaching and liturgy. We'll sing together, experiencing how music from a breadth of traditions can enliven and enrich worship, and we'll collaborate, building a community of creativity and mutual support.

#### About Paul Vasile

In addition to Paul's work at Eden, he is the Executive Director of Music That Makes Community. Paul is a freelance church musician, consultant, and composer based in New York City. A multitasking musician and dynamic worship leader, he is committed to building, renewing, and re-shaping faith communities through music and liturgy. He is excited to help congregations broaden their repertoire of sung prayer and praise, and to demonstrate how participatory music and liturgy can energize and unify worshippers from varied backgrounds, cultures, and traditions.

Click [here](#) to register for either course.



**On Tuesday, August 21 from 7:30 am - 9:00 am at Eden Theological Seminary, the Langenberg Leadership Forum: Leadership for the Common Good will present *What's Love Got to Do with It?* featuring Joe Reagan, the former CEO of the St. Louis Regional Chamber of Commerce.** He will discuss how faith and business leaders can unite to grow the region. Reagan will share insights from his front-line experience leading business communities in three metropolitan areas. While community problems are exceedingly complex, community solutions begin by individual leaders shifting their mindset from fear to love, from scarcity to abundance, from fragmentation to unity. No cost to attend. A complementary light breakfast is provided. [Registration](#) is required. Call 314-918-2546 with questions. Click [here](#) for a flyer.

**New this Fall, Eden Theological Seminary is offering a UCC History & Polity class as a distance education course.** The professor will use a "virtual" classroom and allow for students to ZOOM in for class sessions. Below are more details. Contact Eden Admissions for more information at 877-627-5652 or [email](#).

**M308 Title:** UCC History & Polity **Professor:** Dr. Jill Baker **Fall Term Dates:** August 27 - December 10

**Class Meeting:** Thursdays; 2:00pm - 5:00pm **Course description:** The course will explore the history and polity of the United Church of Christ, seeking to provide an understanding of the organization, ministries and mission commitments of the UCC in the past, and looking for clues on how the denomination's theological trajectories may continue to develop in the future. **Note:** This is a synchronous course. Students must be present virtually during class times. The 3-credit hour class costs \$585/credit hour for a total of \$1,755 or it can be audited for \$877.50.

### St. John's Community Care Upcoming Events

**Savvy Caregiver Training** sessions provide 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 classes will be held on Fridays, September 7, 14, 21, 28, October 5 and 12 from 10 am - 12 pm at the St. John Evangelical UCC in Collinsville. For more information or to register, call 618-344-5008. Download [poster](#).

**The Cardinals Reminiscence League** sponsored by St. John's Community Care and the Alzheimer's Association is open to people with memory loss who would like to share memories about the Cardinals baseball team. New fans and those who would like to socialize and learn more are welcome. Session dates: Aug 16, Sept 20, Oct 18 from 10:30 am - 12 pm each day. All sessions are free. Download [poster](#).



**PATHWAYS Theological Education, Inc., announces a new certificate program of Foundational Theology.** This eight-course certificate will provide participants with an overview of progressive Christian theology, including courses in spirituality, faith-diversity, cultural pluralism and religion, and Christian history. All courses are conducted asynchronously online so that participants sign into the course room and participate in discussions based on their own schedule.

The certificate program is designed for members of local churches who are interested in learning more than is available in their church, those who serve in leadership roles, or anyone interested in more focused study in contemporary theology. Because courses are online, participants can sign in from anywhere in the world with high-speed internet access. Tuition is \$295 for each six-week course. For more information, click [here](#). Contact Rev. Valerie Coe Lowder at 770-569-3384 or [info@pathwaystheological.org](mailto:info@pathwaystheological.org)



**The UCC for Mental Health presents WISE (Welcoming-Inclusive-Supportive-Engaged) Conference for Mental Health: *The Power of Personal Story and Breaking the Silence on Mental Illness* on Sat, September 29 at South Congregational Church, UCC, 41 Central Street, Andover, Massachusetts 01810, with Keynote Speaker, Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund, Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice.**

Sarah is passionate about loving God, her family, and being part of faith communities. Her personal mission is to partner with others to share God's healing and hope. She is an ordained minister with standing in the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and has served as pastor to churches in Brooklyn, New York, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and New Smyrna Beach, Florida.

She is the author of the widely regarded book "Blessed are the Crazy: Breaking the Silence About Mental Illness, Family and Church" (Chalice Press, 2014) and blogs at [sarahgriffithlund.com](http://sarahgriffithlund.com). Sarah has recently joined the UCC National Staff in a part-time position on the Wholeness Advocacy Team of Justice and Local Church Ministries, serving as the newly created Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice. Cost: \$45/person. Churches with 3 or more registrants: \$40/person. Onsite Registration: \$55/person. Click [here](#) for more information. Click [here](#) to register.

**The United Church of Christ Disabilities Ministries, in collaboration with the New York Conference, invites you to attend the 2018 "Widening the Welcome Conference: Living, Learning, Leading" on November 1 - 3, 2018 at the Sheraton Niagara Falls and the Niagara Falls Convention Center in Niagara Falls, New York.** The Widening the Welcome Conference is built around the UCC's vision for disability inclusion throughout the UCC.

Workshops offer information about Accessibility & Inclusion (A2A), Advocacy, Christian Education and more. There will also be a panel to bring awareness and insight on living with a disability, and living into the fullness of service to an accessible, inclusive and loving God. Invited speakers include keynote speaker, UCC General Minister and President, Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer; Executive Minister for Justice and Local Church Ministries, Rev. Traci Blackmon; Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice, Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund; and Still Speaking Devotional Writer, Rev. Jennifer Brownell. Click [here](#) for online registration and [here](#) for hotel rates/reservations.

There will also be an opportunity to register for a Mental Health First Aid class on November 1. This class, organized with the help of UCC Mental Health Network, offers continuing education credit upon completion.

**Registration Fees:** Full event (Nov 1-3) \$200 prior to Oct 1; \$225 after Oct 1 or Friday only, including banquet (Nov 2) \$125 prior to Oct 1; \$150 after Oct 1 or Mental Health First Aid \$50 includes required workbook, breakfast and lunch.



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



**Join St. John UCC in Trenton for the Installation of Rev. Christy Eckert on September 9, 2018 at 3 pm at St. John United Church of Christ, 21 N Walnut St., Trenton, Illinois.** Offering will go to Our Church's Wider Mission. Reception with light refreshments to follow. No gifts, please. Pastors who wish to participate are asked to robe with a red stole and arrive at 2:30 pm.

**First Congregational UCC in Dupoué has two sets of hymnals to give away:** approximately 75 of "Hymns of the Christian Life," manufactured by Christian Publications in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania (1978) and approximately 75 of "The Hymnal of the United Church of Christ," manufactured by the United Church Press in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (1974). Contact Gary Edwards at 618-806-1337 or [garyedwards3477@gmail.com](mailto:garyedwards3477@gmail.com).

### 2019 UCC Medical and Dental Benefits Plan Premium Rates and Plan Enhancements

The Pension Board is pleased to announce the following premium rates and plan enhancements for the 2019 plan year, effective January 1, 2019:

- Non-Medicare Health Plan: 2% increase
- Medicare Supplement Plan: 2% increase
- Dental Plan: 4% increase
- Vision Plan: no change
- Life Insurance and Disability Income Plan: no change

The following benefit enhancements are also approved as of January 1, 2019:

#### Dental Plan

- The Annual Benefit Maximum per person is increased from \$1,800 to \$2,000.
- Annual Preventive Services (e.g., cleanings and examinations) will not reduce the Annual Benefit Maximum.

#### Vision Plan

- The Annual Allowance for frames and contact lenses is increased from \$140 to \$150.

As is our customary practice, churches/employers and individual plan participants will receive detailed information by mail later this Summer regarding applicable rates for 2019.

Contact Frank Loiacono with any questions at [floiacono@pbucc.org](mailto:floiacono@pbucc.org) or by phone at 212-729-2806.

### Region 3

**St. Peter Evangelical UCC in Granite City will raffle a hand-made quilt to support the church.** Tickets are \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5. To purchase tickets, call Carolyn at 618-877-1904.

### Region 9

**Trinity UCC at 47 N Douglas Ave, Belleville will be holding a book sale on Saturday, August 18 from 8 am to 3 pm in the church's Social Hall.** We have all kinds of books, so come join us. We'd love to see you!

### Region 9

**Christ UCC in Belleville will worship with Steve Ladd on Sun, Aug 19 at 10 am and breakfast with him at 9:30 am.** As early as five years old, Steve felt the call of God to minister through song. He has been a part of award-winning Christian music ensembles like Gold City and The Anchormen. Performing inspirational songs like "Preach the Word" has become a personal anthem of encouragement Ladd takes wherever he goes. All are invited to have breakfast and worship with him that day.

### Region 8

**St. John UCC in Trenton will hold its 4th Annual Spaghetti Dinner on Fri, Aug 17 from 4 pm - 7 pm.** Menu includes all you can eat spaghetti (meat & meatless sauce), salad, bread and dessert. Adults \$8; Children 7 - 4 \$4; Children 3 & Under FREE; All carry-outs: \$8. Use drive through for carry-outs. Call 618-224-9828 after 4 pm to pre-order. Handicapped accessible. Quilt Raffle - \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5. Drawing on Oct 7.