

# Weekly Connection

For the Week of October 14 - October 20, 2018  
Diverse Minds, Covenant Hearts, Made One in the Body of Christ

## RENEWING MINDS

A SERIES OF PAYING ATTENTION TO OUR SPIRITUAL HEALTH

written by Rev. Shana Johnson

*"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..."* (Romans 12:2)

For the next few weeks I will share with you something I wrote a couple of years ago. As I contemplated some of the spiritual maladies we all face, I decided to write a sermon/study series I entitled "Renewing Our Minds" in which I named spiritual disorders and how you can identify them in yourselves and in the faith community.

I created a sort of fact sheet that you might find as a pamphlet in the waiting room of a doctor's office or as a page on WebMD. These are meant to be a tongue-in-cheek way of not only offering ourselves the grace and humor to be honest about our spiritual struggles, but also as a way to begin a wider conversation about those things that exist and that we see in our personal lives and in the lives of our churches, yet rarely speak of openly. My hope in sharing them with you is to spark some reflection and conversation.

### OBSESSIVE-COMPLAINING DISORDER (OCD)

Obsessive-complaining disorder (OCD) is a disabling disorder which is characterized by an endless dwelling upon the negative. People with OCD may not be aware of how their protests, criticisms, whining, grumbling or nit picking can affect the joy and enthusiasm levels of those around them.

The cycle of OCD can only be stopped when a person's attention, attitude, perspective shifts from the negative to the positive.

### What Are the Symptoms of Obsessive-Complaining Disorder?

*The most common symptoms of OCD include:*

Excessive negativity.

Overwhelming thoughts and feelings of dread, disappointment, despair, and doubt. Conversations and comments are often centered on complaints, criticisms, and grievances.

An unawareness of other people's thoughts or feelings.

### Self diagnosis *You may suffer from of OCD if:*

You have persistent negative or nagging thoughts.

You are easily disappointed or angered by things that do not go the way you expected.

You feel the urgent need to point out things you consider flaws, faults or failures.

You find that you cannot control yourself from saying disapproving, criticizing, or judgmental statements or comments.

You easily offend, upset, or insult those around you.

### Prevention

*Although this is not an instant cure for OCD, here are some simple ways to reduce the symptoms of "Obsessive Complaining Disorder."*

### The Key to Managing Your OCD Is Adopting a Whatever Attitude Step

**1: First, ask yourself, "What is important here?"** Instead of getting stuck on the negatives, try and see things from a new perspective. Can the same things be accomplished perhaps by another means? Is there a lesson to be learned here? Is being right more important than the relationship? One difficult faith learning for all believers is that there are no limits to the ways God's work can be done.

### **Step 2: Second, learn to say, "whatever" and let it go.**

Sometimes our negativity stems from the mistaken notion that we need to be in control at all times. True faith often calls for the act of "letting go" and "letting God." Perhaps the picture does not look right to you at this moment now because it is not finished yet.

## 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  
Oct 14 - Oct 20, 2018  
Churches & Pastors**

- Plum Hill St. John's UCC,  
Rev. Don Jones  
- Red Bud St. Peter UCC

**Step 3: Shift your focus to whatever is worthy of praise**

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things."* (Philippians 4:6-8)

Shifting your focus to first seeking the positive-those things that are worthy of praise-- will take discipline and self-control, but after a while it will come naturally.

A habit is a simply a repeated pattern of behavior.

The praise habit can be developed by consciously focusing on what is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and admirable.

As the apostle Paul instructs, *"if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things."*

Finally, focus on what is worthy of praise and do not try to carry your worries and difficulties by yourself. The weight is too much. As we often sing, may we also believe and trust--

*Oh! What peace we often forfeit,*

*Oh what needless pain we bear!*

*All because we do not carry*

*Everything to God in prayer.* (Joseph Scriven)

Blessings, Rev. Shana Johnson, Conference Minister

**SHANA'S UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**October 14**

Preaching at St. Paul UCC, Carlinville for their church anniversary celebration

**October 21**

Preaching at St. John's UCC, Breese for their church anniversary celebration

**October 28**

Preaching at Zion UCC, Marion for their church anniversary celebration

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.**



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

The recipients of the Pana United in Faith Church's offerings changes with each month. In September, the congregation collected \$700 for Hoyleton Youth & Family Services to continue the important work that they do for the youth in our Conference. Congratulations on your generosity.

Join St. Peter's UCC in Murphysboro

For the installation of

**Reverend Michael R. Cassady**

Sunday, November 4, 2018

3 pm

St. Peter's United Church of Christ

1512 Spruce Street, Murphysboro, IL



No gifts please. A reception to follow the service. Pastors who wish to participate are asked to robe with a red stole and arrive one-half hour prior to service.

**Retired Pastor**

- Rev. Wesley and Doris Bornemann, Fenton, MO

**People with Life Concerns**

- Pray for the family of Albert J. Allmen as they mourn his death in Florida. Albert was the father of Rev. Cindy (Rev. Kerry) Bean who serves as the Pastor at Pinckneyville St. Paul UCC. Services were held in Florida last week. Cards may be sent to PO Box 82 242 East Main St, Radom, IL 62876.

- Keep Kyle Nuetzel (24) in your prayers as he continues rehabilitation at home. Kyle is the son of Kathy & Rev. Patrick Poole.

- 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 Tom (Marcia) Ellison who is recovering from surgery. Pastor Ellison is the pastor at St. Mark's UCC in DuBois and serves as ISC's Region 7 Convener. He has also served on several other teams as well as Conference Council. Cards may be sent to 11426 State Highway 37, Benton, IL 62812.



### BIDDLEBORN CHURCH MARKS ITS 140<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Since January, members and friends of Trinity UCC in Biddleborn have been celebrating the church's 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary year in various ways. Names of the forerunners of the church have been lifted up during regular Sunday morning services, and a special service of fellowship and celebration is being planned for October 14 at 10am. The church is located at 5698 Biddleborn Road, Marissa.

On September 30, 1878 a group of men gathered in the Casper Schaefer store in Lively Grove Township at which time the suggestion was made to build a church to be named Biddleborn Evangelical Protestant Church. The cornerstone was laid on November 24, 1878 beginning more than a century of teaching and spreading the Word of God. Through the 140 years that Trinity has been an active church, its members have supported many local and worldwide ministries as well as having ingatherings of food for the less fortunate in the area.

Past members, former confirmands and friends of the church are welcome to come and share in the celebration at Trinity on October 14. Special music by the "Blue Grass Gospel Singers" will be a part of the service. Also a meal and time of fellowship and remembrance will follow in the church basement.

**UCC's Office of Philanthropy, Technology, Information and Communications (OPTIC) is presenting the second in a series of free online discussions on Tues, October 30 from 6 pm - 7 pm CST.**

It will feature pastors who share how they are leading their churches toward meeting financial and membership goals. Questions will also be taken.

**Rev. Nathan Dannison's** four years as the 29th Senior Minister of the First Congregational Church of Kalamazoo, Michigan, the church has undergone a renaissance of reinvestment in the life of its community. Declaring itself the "living heart of the city," the congregation has opened its campus to over 130 different agencies, justice organizations, and arts and cultural ensembles completely free of cost or expectation. This practice of embracing radical hospitality and a posture of hope has sparked rapid growth in attendance and a new sense of purpose among the members.



Nathan Dannison



Tim Hogan-Palazzo

A renewed spirit of philanthropy has accompanied this growth, both through the offerings of the membership and vital investments by local foundations. The church has undertaken a major building restoration and renovation campaign in order to reduce the environmental impact of its historic building, protect its beautiful architecture for the benefit of future generations, and create additional space for community events in the form of a new Garden Atrium.

**Tim Hogan-Palazzo** is a married, gay pastor at St. Paul's UCC in West Milton, PA, population about 900. When he arrived there two years ago, average church attendance was 20. It's currently 82 and the surprising thing is the socio-economic and political diversity of the congregation. Tim will be sharing some of the innovative things he's done toward "being the church" and growing his congregation.

Participation is free and on a first-come, first-served basis as we have a limited capacity. Click [here](#) to register. You will be provided with a dial-in number when we receive your registration. Latecomers will be placed on a wait list and notified if any slots open up.

### The Green DuBois Team will meet again on Oct. 29, from 6:30-8pm in Oak Lodge at DuBois Center.

The team is starting to work on three branches of the Green DuBois plan:

The Flowering branch- come see what we have, promoting the ecological biodiversity of the camp

The Woody Branch- taking care of what we've got, forest management and invasive species removal

The Leafy Branch- how well we fit with our environment, adding to our ecological sustainability

The September meeting generated a lot of ideas for each branch of the program. This meeting will have time for the whole group to hone our direction and decide on next steps, and a short time for each branch to meet and get to know each other.

Worried about making a time commitment to Green DuBois? You can be as involved as you care to be: lead a single wildflower walk in spring; help on an invasive species work day; install rain barrels; maintain a pollinator garden; or lead one of the branches. If you are interested in the outdoors, environmental education, science, scouting, birds, plants, animals, gardening, forestry, or many other kinds of naturalist activities come join the team. We need people interested in supporting Green DuBois at all levels, including organizing and promoting the program as a whole.

If you would like more information, notes from the last meeting, or a copy of the forest management plan, please contact Jill Baker at [jabaker5@aol.com](mailto:jabaker5@aol.com).



The Ecuador Partnership Committee is planning another Habitat build to Catamayo in February 2019. Catamayo is in the Loja province of Ecuador (see the map). A masonry style home will be built. The total cost of the trip is \$2,200 and donations for materials will be needed from congregations and people who may not be able to make the trip. A \$100 deposit is due December 1; \$1,000 due on January 1; and \$1,100 on February 1. Plan to attend two orientation meetings as the date gets closer. Contact Janet McCready at 618-559-1587 or [janetmc1229@gmail.com](mailto:janetmc1229@gmail.com). Click [here](#) for a flyer.



DuBois Center News

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



DuBois Center

# THANK YOU!

Thanks to the Volunteers, Staff, Vendors and Guests who make Fall Festival 2018 such a success! Watch upcoming editions of Weekly Connection to hear some of the fun stories from this event.



### Worship Offering at Annual Meeting (1 of 3)

In order for your church to prepare for the worship offering at Annual Meeting, we felt an explanation would be helpful. One of this year's offerings will go to the DuBois Center Scholarship fund, which is used for children of families who cannot afford to attend camp through their own budgets.



**Shirley speaks about it...** If we truly believe that children and youth need open space to laugh, sing, play and pray together; that meaningful connections with positive Christian role models make a real difference; that learning to respect and care for ourselves and our "neighbors" is a critical skill; and that faith grows as we learn, explore and ask tough questions, then a week at camp can be life-changing and no one should be turned away for an inability to pay.

Finances are one of the challenges being faced by most, if not all, not-for-profit camps. Experts urge organizations to charge what it actually costs to operate a program or a facility including ongoing maintenance, and then provide scholarships for those with financial needs. Groups that have not done this have faced dire consequences. You can look across the country for examples or right here in southern Illinois. Fees that cover direct costs and scholarships for those in need are critical pieces of the equation.

The Sweet Shoppe at Fall Festival raises \$1,200 - \$1,500 annually for scholarships. In addition, DuBois Center receives about \$2,000 each year in gifts designated specifically for scholarships. Beyond that, the Center's budget underwrites an additional \$15,000 - \$18,000 of camper and retreat fees for families with significant financial struggles. DuBois Center participates in a Title XX (financial assistance) program through the American Camp Association. This program provides some reimbursement (approximately 25-30%) of a typical camper fee, and - more importantly - a way to spread the camp experience to children beyond our churches. Information on this program is sent to foster parents, families eligible for free and reduced meals at school, and those with crippling medical bills. Some of the campers utilizing this program come from UCC churches and programs, many do not. This is one way DuBois Center provides outreach on behalf of our local congregations to the wider community.

This year's Annual Meeting worship offering will be used to build the scholarship fund which will be used to underwrite the 70-75% of camper fees not covered by Title XX reimbursement, and in doing so, reduce our annual deficit, and provide for continued outreach.

**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. 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 Tuesdays, October 30, November 6, 13, 20, 27, December 4 from 2 pm - 4 pm at the Cambridge House of Maryville. For more information or to register, call 618-344-5008. Download [poster](#).

**The Basics: Memory Loss, Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease will be presented by the Alzheimer's Association on Tues, Oct 23 from 6 pm - 7 pm at University Pointe II Center in Edwardsville.** If you or someone you know is affected by Alzheimer's disease or dementia, it's time to learn the facts. This program provides information on detection, causes and risk factors, stages of the disease, treatment and more. It is hosted in collaboration with St. John's Community Care. Registration is requested. Call St. John's Community Care at 618-344-5008.

**Alzheimer's Association in partnership with St. John's Community Care will hold an educational program called "Effective Communication Strategies" on Wed, Nov 14 from 5:30 pm - 7 pm at St. John's Community Care in Collinsville.** Communication is more than just talking and listening - it's also about sending and receiving messages through attitude, tone of voice, facial expressions and body language. As people with Alzheimer's disease and other demintias progress in their journey and ability to use words is lost, families need new ways to connect. The program is free and open to the public, but registration is required. Call 618-344-5008 to make a reservation. Click [here](#) for a flyer.

While all people should consider getting a flu vaccine, it's especially important for certain groups of people, including children, adults over 65, people who have a chronic medical condition like diabetes or heart disease and those who work with children and older adults.



Deaconess Nurse Ministry is once again collaborating with Mercy Hospital to provide free flu shots to low-income adults who cannot afford them. Their nurses gave out 700 flu shots in 2017, and they anticipate that number to grow this year. The Deaconess nursing team will work in their various food pantries and outreach centers across the St. Louis region to distribute the vaccine.

Mercy donated the vaccine at no cost and offered other support in this effort. Many donors have provided financial help to purchase needed supplies, like band-aids, needles, alcohol wipes and sharp containers. If you would like to contribute to this worthwhile cause, click [here](#).

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



**Zion UCC in New Baden has a few items that they wish to sell after building their new building.** They have 11 padded church pews in good shape for sale for \$150 each or best offer. They measure 12.75 feet long and 2 feet wide. They are oak with a padded seat. The pews can be purchased as a group or individually. If anyone has any questions, they can contact Leanne at 217-260-5770.



### Free to the first person who responds.

There is a fully functioning keyboard at the Illinois South Conference office waiting to find a new home. Be the first to say, "I want it!" and it is yours.

### Free! Free! Free!

This set of 4-door cabinets could help you get organized and the mess out of view. They are already down from the wall and ready to be hauled away.

Approximate size: 3.5 feet tall by 5.6 feet wide by 16 inches deep. Shelves come with it but have been removed for easy transportation.



## Region 1

**DuQuoin St. John's UCC will hold its Sausage Supper on Sat, Nov 3 from 4 pm - 7 pm.** Dinners and pre-ordered raw sausage available. Raw sausage pickup on Thurs, Nov 1 and Sat, Nov 3. \$5/pound = 4 links. Contact 618-542-3431.

## Region 5

**Exhale, the youth group of Staunton St. Paul UCC, will hold its 3rd Annual Haunted House at the church on Sat, Oct 27 from 4 pm - 10 pm.** Kids and adults welcome. Don't forget your costume. Cost \$5. Proceeds go to the Exhale summer mission trip.

## Region 8

**On Sun, October 14, Rev. Dr. Jim Antal, Retiring Massachusetts Conference Minister, is preaching and speaking on the topic of Environmental Justice at the Lebanon St. Paul UCC at the 8 am and 10:30 am services.** Between services, he will facilitate a conversation on *The Church and Environmental Justice* from 9:15 am - 10:15 am at the church. Click [here](#) for a flyer with more information.

## Region 2

**Red Bud St. Peter UCC will hold its All-you-can-eat Spaghetti Dinner on Sat, Oct 13 from 4 pm - 7 pm.** Menu includes spaghetti, Rich and Charlie's salad, bread, desserts and drinks. Adults \$11; Children 5-12 \$4; Children 4 and under Free. Carry-outs \$11. Country store.

**Marine UCC will hold its Family Style Pork Sausage Dinner on Sun, Nov 4 from 11 am - 5:30 pm.** Menu includes homemade pork sausage, mashed potatoes & gravy, applesauce, green beans, corn, sauerkraut, homemade pie. Adults \$10; Children 4 - 10 years \$4; Children 3 & under Free. Farmer's Market for fresh sausage, ribs, and backbone, jellies, crafts, baked goods. Raffles.

## Region 9

**Belleville St. Paul UCC Women's Guild will hold a Fall Rummage & Bake Sale on Fri, Oct 12 from 5:30 pm - 8 pm and Sat, Oct 13 from 9 am - noon.** They offer a \$1 Brown Bag Special. For more information, contact 618-233-3303.

**Christ UCC in Dupon is having their annual "Fall Festival" on Saturday, October 13 from 9 am - 3 pm.** Soups, sandwiches, homemade pie. Yard sale. Country store and crafts. Quilt drawing at 3 pm. Prize board and basket raffle. Vendors needed. Call 618-286-4211.

**Exhale Youth Group at Alhambra will hold a Turkeyfest on Nov 18 from 11 am - 12:30 pm.** Menu of turkey, mashed potatoes & gravy, dressing, green beans, and dessert. Adults \$8 (\$10 at the door); Children under 10 \$4 (\$5 at the door).

**O'Fallon UCC will hold its WurstMarkt on Thurs, Oct 18 from 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm.** Menu includes pork sausage, mashed potatoes, gravy, sauerkraut, country green beans, applesauce, beverage

**Zion UCC St Joe will hold its BBQ on Oct 13 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (or until sold out) in the Rural King parking lot in Waterloo.** Menu includes pork steak plates or brat plates, which include 2 sides or a choice of sandwiches: pork steak, brats, hamburgers and hot dogs.

**Waterloo St. Paul UCC will hold a Free Concert on Sun, Oct 21 at 2 pm entitled "Simply Patsy" starring Mary Pfeifer.** She sings Patsy Cline's greatest hits and tells stories about Patsy and her life. A free-will offering will be taken. For more information, contact the church at 618-939-7123.

### Region 3

**St. John Evangelical UCC in Collinsville will hold its Wurst-Markt on Thurs, Oct 18 from 11 am - 7 pm.** Buffet-style menu includes pork sausage, sauerkraut, butter beans, peas, mashed potatoes & gravy, applesauce, bread, pie, coffee, tea or milk. Adults \$11; Children 6-12 years \$5; Children 5 and under Free. Raw sausage orders available for \$3.50/pound. To order, call 618-344-2526 by Oct 12. Pick up on Oct 17 from 11 am - 6 pm. Bazaar.

**On Oct 21, St. John UCC in Granite City will have its annual Sausage Dinner and Bazaar from 11:30 am - 6 pm.** Menu: sausage, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, sauerkraut, homemade applesauce, bread, desserts and drinks. Country Store stocked with crafts, homemade food, jewelry, antiques. Handmade quilt and afghan raffles. Contact the church office at 618-877-6060.

### Region 4

**Godfrey Congregational Church will hold a Fall Rummage Sale on Fri, Oct 19 from 8 am - 2 pm and Sat, Oct 20 from 8 am - 1 pm.** Proceeds go to their Missions and General Funds. Contact 618-466-3640.

### Region 6

**Central City Zion UCC will celebrate its 160th Anniversary on Sun, Oct 14 at the Central City Lions Park Shelter.** Worship begins at 9:30 am and a meal will follow the service. RSVP to 618-532-1751 or 618-322-2266. All are welcome to attend and celebrate.

### Region 7

**Hoyleton Zion Evangelical UCC presents "Brett Gibbs and Friends in Concert" on Sun, October 21 at 2 pm.** Refreshments will follow in Fellowship Hall. It will show the versatility & capabilities of Zion UCC's NEW Allen organ. Friends of Brett Gibbs features Chris Gregg on saxophone, Polly Launay on violin, and Marcia Henson on handbells. For more info, contact Rev. Bill Causer at 618-670-6697 or [email](#). Click [here](#) for a flyer.

**Friedens UCC in Irvington is hosting a Friday Night Hymn sing on Fri, Nov 2 at 7 pm.** They invite any groups who would like to come and lead some music to please join them. You may call the church office to be included in the fun! Call 618-249-8445.

### Region 8

**Zion UCC in New Baden will sponsor the Festival of Trees on Nov 15 - 18.**

Nov 15 at 7 pm you may attend a holiday decorating demonstration by the design team of Grimm & Gorly florist. \$10 admission fee includes demonstration, snacks, sneak peak of the trees and 1 raffle ticket.

The Christmas Swirl & Sip is Nov 16 from 7 pm - 9 pm. Sample wine and hors d'oeuvres while strolling among decorated trees and wreaths. Admission is \$20.

Nov 16 is a Kid's Movie & Pajama Party from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Admission \$8.

Breakfast with Santa happens on Nov 17 from 9 am - 11 am. \$9 admission.

Nov 17 from 10 am - 4 pm North

and dessert. Butcher Shop for raw and cooked pork sausage, liver sausage, ribs, back bone and tenderloin. Crafts and Country Store. Adults \$10; Kids 4-12 \$6; Kids 3 and under Free. Dine-in, carry-outs and drive-thru are available.

**The 7th Annual Halloween Trivia Spooktacular will be held at Belleville Trinity UCC on Sat, Oct 20. Doors open 5:15 pm; play starts at 6 pm.** Family-friendly. Bring your favorite spooky snacks. Beer & wine permitted but not served. Costume contests. Rounds for kids. Reservations in advance: \$5 + 2 food items for adults; Children 12 and under admitted for 2 food items. At the door reservations: Adults \$10; Children 12 & under \$5. Proceeds benefit the Belleville Community Interfaith Food Pantry. Contact 618-233-2941 or click [here](#).

**Concordia UCC in Belleville is holding a Trivia Night on October 20 at The Quail Club on Concordia Church Road in Belleville.** Trivia begins at 7 pm and doors open at 6:30. \$15 a person which includes Mulligans and Survivor Round. Sweet Shop and Silent Auction. Walk ins are welcome. Cash bar. Bring snacks.

**Belleville St. Paul UCC will host a Spooktacular on Sat Oct 27 from 10:30 am - Noon.** Kids come in costume for the Trunk or Treat outside, then go inside for lunch, games and fun Halloween activities. Crafts. Face painting. Photo booth. Costume parade. Trunks are needed as well as candy donations.

**Christ UCC in Belleville will feature *Sould Out Quartet* on Sat, Oct 27.** The meal will be at 5:30 pm and the concert at 6:00 pm. A free will offering will be taken. For more information about the group, click [here](#).

## Region 5

**Exhale Youth Group at Staunton St. Paul UCC will hold a Craft Fair & Vendor Sale on Sat, Dec 1 from 9 am - 3 pm.** Great for Christmas shopping. Bake sale. Vendors and crafters wanted. Contact 618-520-0185 or [email](#).

Pole Shoppes, Vendor & Craft Fair.  
\$5 admission fee.  
Nov 17 from 9 am - 11 am Enjoy Breakfast with Santa. \$9 admission fee.  
Experience the Make & Take Bakery on Nov 18 from 10 am - 2 pm. \$8 admission fee.