

# Weekly Connection

For the Week of January 13, 2019 - January 19, 2019  
**For the Week of January 20, 2019 - January 26, 2019**

Diverse Minds, Covenant Hearts, Made One in the Body of Christ



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

If you visit the Hoyleton Campus in Hoyleton, Illinois on a weekday around 8:30 am, it might look like the streets in most neighborhoods. Youth scurrying around, making their way to school just-in-time for the opening bell. The campus is where almost 40 boys and girls live 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Each has their own unique story, but all have been referred by the State.

This year, the Residential Care program at the Hoyleton campus was granted Tier One status from Illinois' Department of Children and Family Services. It's a classification that only a few similar programs in Illinois receive. The status is based on key performance scores that measure the program's ability to successfully retain youth in treatment, present opportunities and enable youth to grow in core-life areas. Read the complete [article](#).

## Kindercottage is Mighty Grateful

During the season of giving many churches in southern Illinois generously gave gifts to the children of Uni-Pres Kindercottage. Brenda Crisp said, "You allow parents to make sure that there will be something under the Christmas tree for their children. The magic and joy of Christmas will once again enter their hearts and homes. For this, we are so truly grateful." Here are a few of the ISC churches who traveled to Kindercottage as "Christmas elves."



Photo (l to r) members from St. Paul UCC, Columbia; St. Paul UCC, Floraville; and Zion UCC, Metropolis.



Photo (l to r) members of St. John UCC, Maeystown; Zoar UCC, New Hanover and St. Charles, MO Presbyterian; St. Mark's UCC, DuBois. Thank you for your generosity.



## Congratulations to the Evangelical UCC in Highland for it's Feed the Need: You're Changing Lives program.

Through the Hallelujah Grants in 2018, they were able to grant over \$39,000 to various programs.

Hoyleton Youth & Family Services Residential Campus flooring, lighting & artwork - \$12,500

Ramp it Up Fundraiser Match - All Abilities Playground in

Highland - \$3,200

A "Versa Climbing Wall" for the All Abilities Playground in Highland - \$12,000

Hitz Memorial Home - New signage - \$1,143

## 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 Sr. Community](#)

[Uplands Village](#)

[UCC Campus Ministry](#)

[Uni-Pres Kindercottage](#)  
[ISC Directory](#)

## Pray for...

### **Prayer list for Jan 13-19, 2019**

#### **Churches & Pastors**

- Collinsville St. John  
 Evangelical UCC, Rev. Dr.  
 Marvin (Mae) Morgan, Interim  
 Sr. Pastor

Rally Day Homeless Hygiene Purse Packs - \$1,720  
Go Serve Highland Projects - \$2,000  
Hitz Memorial Home - New signage phase II - \$760  
HACSM Food Pantry in Highland \$5,000  
Highland Holiday Run - Two local families battling cancer and the All Abilities  
Playground in Highland - \$1,000  
Changing Lives!!

- Collinsville St. John  
Evangelical UCC, Rev. Katie Jo  
(Craig) Bielke, Associate  
Pastor  
**Retired Pastor**  
- Rev. Paul and Debbie  
Schippel, Centralia, IL

### **What Is Our Why?**

Michael Jr. is a Christian comedian that travels the world not only doing standup comedy but also listening to people's stories of inspiration, passion, and joy. During one particular show, he engaged in conversation with a man sitting in the audience who said he teaches music at a school. After asking the man a bit about his profession, he jokingly asked the music director if he himself could sing. When the man said yes, Michael Jr. asked him to sing a few bars of Amazing Grace. After the music director sang a few bars of the song, it was evident he was quite talented.

Yet, then something fascinating and awe-inspiring unfolded. Michael Jr. asked the man to sing Amazing Grace again, but that time he asked him to sing the song as if he was reflecting on a lifetime and experience of difficulty and sorrow. The difference was truly amazing. The man sang the same song, but he told a different story. It was a story through song that connected with the music and the audience erupted in applause and appreciation.

Here is the [video](#).

It was the same song, the same singer, but the second time it was a very different presentation and a very different response from those hearing it. What was the difference? It was the story behind the message. It was what Simon Sinek, author of [Start With Why](#), would name as the difference of what happens inside of people and how others are drawn to us when we start with our true, core WHY. Our why is our core purpose that motivates us, propels us and keeps us going not out of obligation, duty or even responsibility, but because our WHY is so strong we can't imagine doing anything else. Others have also named this principle, our compelling reason.

Recently, I have wondered if we have lost our WHY in the church. We spend a great deal of time talking and focusing on the WHAT-We want more people in the pews, more money in the offering plate or new leaders to inspire us and lead us in new directions. We also spend a great deal of time talking and focusing on our HOW (often this also is tied to comparing ourselves to others and a whole lot of shoulds)-such as "We really should do something different with our Sunday School." "We should put words on the screen or have a contemporary band like that church that is growing." "We should be trying to get more people in the neighborhood to attend."

Now, these conversations and ideas are not inherently bad in themselves, but if they are not rooted in the most foundational piece-our WHY, then they are a flawed conversation and process that will leave us frustrated and confused as to why things do not change that much. For example, when we say we want more people in the pews and more money in the offering plate, we must dig deep and ask ourselves-WHY? We often start with the surface answers to that question-"Well, to keep the doors of our church open. To preserve our traditions or to pass on the church to a new generation." BUT WHY? Are these compelling enough reasons for others to buy in, be inspired, and be moved to share the vision and work with us?

Imagine if Jesus' only WHY, his only compelling reasons were "Well, I just want to see how many people will follow me." Or "I just want to make sure people know the traditions of the faith." These reasons would not be compelling and inspiring enough to create a movement, message, ministry and mission that would continue to be relevant over 2000 years later.

However, the WHY of Christ that is rooted in hope, salvation, grace, and offering unconditional love and inclusion of ALL people is!! The WHY of Christ does not need a Public Relations team. It is a message that needs no fancy marketing

### **Attention:**

There will be no *Weekly Connection* on Tuesday, January 15, 2019. The Prayer lists for that upcoming week are below.

### **Prayer list for Jan 20 - 26, 2019 Churches & Pastors**

- Columbia St. Paul UCC, Rev. Bob (Rev. Jan Dashner) Goddard, Sr. Pastor  
- Columbia St. Paul UCC, Pastor Keith (Jessica) McDevitt, Student Intern  
**Retired Pastor**  
- Rev. E. John Schaller, Fairview Heights, IL

### **People with Life Concerns**

- Prayers of joy go out for Emma Grace Harms who arrived at 11:57 am, weighing 8 pounds and was 20 inches long. She is the granddaughter of Carol and Cliff Harms, members of St. Peter UCC in Red Bud. Carol is a member of the ISC Conference Gatherings Team. Cards may be sent to 6679 Griggs Rd, Red Bud IL 62278.

- Joyful prayers welcome Micah Francis Palmer, son of Pastor Brett and Carolyn Palmer, who was born on Dec 20 at 9:18 am. He is 9 lbs 11 oz, and 22 1/2 inches long. Pastor Palmer is the Pastor at Friedens UCC in Marissa, a member of ISC Local Church Ministries Team, and a General Synod Delegate for 2019. Carolyn is a member of the ISC Outdoor Ministries Team. Cards may be sent to 812 N Main St., Marissa IL 62257.  
- Keep Rev. Joel (Emily) Jackle-Hugh in your prayers as he recovers from surgery. Rev. Jackle-Hugh is the Pastor at

campaign, branding or programming, as it is compelling and transformative enough on its own. It is a message that stands alone when the story is told and shared authentically, boldly, and invitationally. Imagine what could happen in our churches if we took seriously our WHY. If we sincerely considered why we exist, why we gather, why we want others to join us and why our neighbors, our communities, our world need what we have to offer. I challenge you as members, leaders, pastors to ask, and seek the compelling reasons to the question--What is our WHY? Start with the WHY and see what happens. Blessings, Rev. Shana Johnson, Conference Minister



### Official Call to Synod

I am officially calling all delegates, visitors, and friends of the United Church of Christ, to join us in Milwaukee Wisconsin for the 32<sup>nd</sup> General Synod, June 21-25, 2019!

The 32<sup>nd</sup> General Synod promises to be an inspiring and engaging event in the life of the Church. Our keynote speaker

is Dr. Matthew Desmond, professor of Sociology at Princeton University and Pulitzer Prize winner for the book, "Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City."

The preachers for the worship services are, for Friday's Opening Worship Service, The Rev. Kaji Spellman Dousa, Sunday's Community Worship Service, The Rev. Traci deVon Blackmon, Monday's Worship Service, The Rev. Sharon Mei-Shem MacArthur and for the Closing Worship Service, The Rev. Dr. Amy Butler.

We will also celebrate the ministries of retiring Associate Executive Minister for Global Engagement and Operations, Co-executive of Global Ministries, The Rev. Dr. Jim Moos and Mr. Don Hart, President and Chief Investment Officer, United Church Funds.

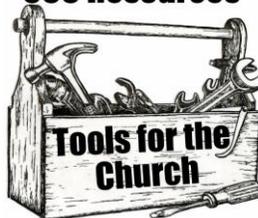
We will re-elect the General Minister and President and elect a new Associate Executive Minister for Global Engagement and Operations, Co-executive of Global Ministries.

I invite you to bring a spirit of love, of compassion, of openness and of hope with you. I look forward to seeing you in Milwaukee! Until then, let the light of the living Christ shine in and through you, and be known to all whom you meet along the way.

John C. Dorhauer, General Minister and President

**Registration Is Open for Day of Discipleship** on February 23, 2019 at the St. Paul UCC in Belleville from 9:30 am - 2 pm (registration at 9 am). Hear presentations from the UCC General Legal Counsel, Ministerial Excellence, Support and Authorization (MESA), Office of Philanthropy, and The Pension Boards of the UCC. Send several leaders of your church to find out more about resources that are available from the UCC denomination which will support your local church. Click [here](#) for the registration form and map to the church. A bulletin [insert](#) will help you spread the word to your congregation.

### UCC Resources



### CALLING ALL PASTORS! Pastors' Sabbath Retreat

Are you looking for an opportunity to share fellowship with pastors in the Illinois South Conference? Are you looking for some spiritual rejuvenation? Are you looking for some great ideas to take back to your congregation for positive change? If

you answered yes to one or more of these questions, then you are in luck! The Illinois South Conference Local Church Ministries Team is hosting a Pastor's Sabbath Retreat February 27 and 28 at the Doubletree, 222 Potomac Blvd, Mount Vernon. The event will include a get together on the first evening for fellowship and food. The next day will be filled with conversations and activities designed

Pana United in Faith Church and a member of the ISC Justice & Mission Team. Cards may be sent to 609 Fairgrounds Rd, Box 78, Pana, IL 62557.

- Please pray for Pastor Nancy (Scott) Shubert as she deals with some health issues. Pastor Shubert serves Holy Ghost UCC in Darmstadt and Trinity UCC in Biddleborn. Cards may be sent to 12691 State Route 177, Okawville, IL 62271.

- Pray for Rev. Debbie Jo Atkins as she recovers from surgery. Rev. Atkins is the pastor at St. Paul UCC in Staunton. Cards may be sent to 339 North Franklin St, Staunton, IL 62088.

- Keep Pastor Don (Lois) Propeck in your prayers as he deals with some health issues. Don is the pastor of St. Paul UCC in Jamestown and is currently serving on the ISC Committee on Ministry. Cards may be sent to him at 2163 E 1150th Ave, Loogootee IL 62838.

- Pray for Rev. Nancy (Kevin Lee) Spier-Lee as she recovers from surgery. Rev. Spier-Lee recently retired as Pastor of Waterloo Zion UCC St. Joe and served on several ISC Teams. Cards may be sent to Rev. Nancy Spier-Lee, 309 Kroeger Avenue, Dupu IL 62239.

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

- Keep Marilyn (Rev. Paul) Thompson in your prayers as she deals with health issues. Rev. Thompson is retired, but serves on the ISC Recruitment Committee. Cards may be sent to her at 910 Circle Drive, Red Bud, IL 62278.

Cost is \$30 per person. Make check payable to and mail with the form to Illinois South Conference, 1312 Broadway, Highland, IL 62249. We hope you are able to take advantage of this opportunity. It is our way of saying thanks for all you do for your congregation and the Conference. Click [here](#) for a registration form.

### **Festival of Faith**

**Calling a youth in Grades 6 -8 and their chaperones. Get ready for Festival of Faith 2019!**

**Saturday, February 16 at 2 pm to Sunday, February 17 at 2 pm.**

**Theme:** "Catch Fire"---The media, movies, books, and politics all seem to discuss the theme of uprisings which are being done in local grassroots efforts (think: Hunger Games, Divergent, Maze Runner). This may seem new, but even Jesus saw this in His time. Jesus encouraged his disciples and followers to be out there spreading the news of God's love and desire for us to care for and love our neighbors. He wants us to "catch fire" for God!

[Here](#) are all the materials needed for you to register your youth group.

Church Youth Leaders - here's the process:

**STEP 1:** Copy Materials for youth and parents and for potential chaperones. **START RECRUITING NOW!**

**STEP 2:** Complete Space Request and Deposit form and send it and your deposit check, postmarked by **JANUARY 18, 2019**, to Illinois South Conference. Make checks payable to Illinois South Conference.

**STEP 3:** Complete and compile remaining forms.

**STEP 4:** When your Group Allocation/Registration form arrives, complete and mail it, along with a single check for all participants AND the entire group's registration forms, to the Illinois South Conference, postmarked by **FEBRUARY 4, 2019**.



**Rev. Dr. Marvin Morgan will teach an Interim Ministry 1 course in conjunction with the Center for Congregational Health (CCH).** The course is open to authorized clergy and currently enrolled seminarians of all faiths. Rev. Morgan is currently the Interim Sr. Pastor for St. John Evangelical UCC in Collinsville. **Interim Ministry Training (IM1)**

**When:** Wed. Feb. 20 at 10:00 am - Fri. Feb. 22 at 4:00 pm, 2019

**Where:** St. John Evangelical UCC, Collinsville, IL 62234 USA  
(The Theater and Fellowship Hall)

**Local Contacts:** Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan - Faculty  
440-550-2842

Rev. Dr. Heather Arcovitch - Course Coordinator  
203-687-9172

**Instructors:** Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan, Certified IIM and Church Consultant Faculty, CCH and also D. Min. Faculty, Interdenominational Theo. Center, Atlanta, GA

Rev. Dr. Les Robinson, CCH Faculty (retired), Associate D. Min. Faculty, ITC and Manager, Interim Ministry Resources and IIM Curriculum Editor

Cost is \$700 which includes tuition, materials and snacks.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.



**The Metro East Food Pantry Coalition and the Illinois Extension will present *Volunteer & Client Safety: Warning Signs & Verbal De-escalation Techniques* on Wed, Jan 23 from 2 pm - 4 pm at the University of Illinois Extension, 1 Regency Plaza, Suite 200, Collinsville, IL 62234.**

Speakers and resources include: John P. Crum LCPC, Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor and Program Director of Addiction Treatment Strategies; Madison County Deputy Collin J Reckman, Triad Middle School, School Resource Officer; and Madison County Deputy Kip D Heinle, Triad High School, School Resource Officer. Speak with any food pantry volunteer, they love what they do and have a deep seeded commitment to those they serve! Sometimes challenging and potentially dangerous situations arise in pantry spaces, putting both their clients and volunteers at risk. Please join us for a discussion on warning signs, verbal de-escalation tips and when to call authorities. This is open to staff and volunteers who work in emergency food settings. Click [here](#) for a flyer.

**St. John's Community Care presents *The Lost Art of Relaxation* by Patti Haddick, Home Services Director.** Chronic stress affects just about all of our body's systems. The effects on the circulatory system can cause high blood pressure, angina, migraines or even heart attacks and stroke. Effects on the digestive system can result in

chronic heartburn, ulcers, colitis, obesity, or diabetes. They are now saying that chronic stress causes the body to lose its ability to regulate the inflammatory response and that inflammation is the cause of disease in the body. Click [here](#) for more information.

Eden Theological Seminary presents the Langenberg Leadership Forum: Making Mission Happen on Tues, Jan 15 from 7:30 am - 9 am at the Schroer Commons in Eden Theological Seminary campus in St. Louis. Join Rev. Steve Lawler for a breakfast discussion on how to connect your organization's missional outcomes with your values. Your mission and values should guide your everyday decisions and actions. Yet, these are not always directly connected to measurable results. We'll focus on critical organizational issues that should be guided by your personal and organizational values. You'll learn the four critical factors to deliver missional success. It includes a light breakfast. There is no cost to attend but registration is required. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.



**On Feb 3, Faith and For the Sake of All is holding a Housing Equity Fair on the grounds of Eden Theological Seminary from 1 pm - 3:30 pm.** The Housing Equity Fair will feature many of the housing groups which contributed to the, " Segregation in St. Louis: Dismantling the Divide" report and will premiere the new Faith and For the Sake of All "Mobilizing the Faithful Housing" workshop. Housing groups will speak to their particular connection to the report's findings and will provide attendees with examples of concrete actions they can take to dismantle the housing divide in St. Louis. The event is co-sponsored by Jewish Community Relations Council, We Stories, The YWCA, Eden and Faith & for the Sake of All. Click [here](#) for more information or to register:

## DuBois Center News

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



### **GREEN DUBOIS - Stewardship Opportunity - Saturday, February 16**

Join the team and make a difference! Removing invasive species, such as Japanese honeysuckle, is the priority for the day. Invasives are insidious - "choking" out native plants and affecting tree reproduction essential for healthy woodlands. This is a great opportunity to move those muscles, meet and work with others who care about the environment, rescue wildlife habitat, support native plants and help ensure the future of DuBois Center's wonderful woodlands. No special skills are needed. Dress for the weather - layers recommended - and bring lopping shears if you have them. Minimum Age: 16, unless accompanied by a parent. Lunch will be

provided. Please **RSVP by MONDAY, FEB 11.** For more information or to sign up, contact DuBois Center at [dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org) or 618-787-2202.



### **BUNCO NIGHT Saturday, February 9**

**SAVE THE DATE** - All are invited to join Region 2 for an evening of fun and fellowship. Gather the family, some friends, your youth group. This entertaining, somewhat frenzied dice game is so easy to learn, anyone can play! The doors at St. Paul UCC in Columbia will open at 6:30 pm, and the game will begin at 7 pm. The cost to play is just \$10 per person, but WAIT - there's more. There will be a 50/50 drawing and a number of other fun extras. Funds raised go to support ministry at DuBois Center. Save the date NOW and watch for details.

### **DIGITAL CAMERAS Used Compact Models Needed**



Great photos and smart phones go hand in hand nowadays. So, what happened to all those small, point and shoot cameras - the Coolpix, PowerShot and FinePix? Last year, we posted a similar request and received 6-8 cameras. They were a big hit especially during summer camp and Mother-Daughter Retreat. We are currently in search of 4-6 additional used (or new) point & shoot digital cameras for this summer. They are great for scavenger hunts, photography classes, photo booths and so much more. **Requirements:** good working condition and SD card compatible. For more information contact DuBois Center at 618-787-2202 or [dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org).

### **OFFICE & EVENT COORDINATOR Employment Opportunity**

Enjoy connecting with people and the outdoors? Fluent in computer-speak? Looking for a position that is more than just a job? DuBois Center is seeking an Office &

### **WINTER PROJECTS: Looking for One?**

If you like to work with your hands and have some spare time over the winter, DuBois Center has some indoor winter projects that might be of interest. Enjoy refinishing

Event Coordinator. This is a permanent, part-time position; the purpose of which is to organize, coordinate and implement office and event functions at DuBois Center including camper family and guest relations, data management (financial, camper, guest group and employee), coordination of office help, assistance with marketing efforts and occasional guest group hosting. The person filling this position will be an integral part of the ISCUCC staff overall and the DuBois Center team. To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter to DuBois Center via email at [dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org). Click [here](#) for the position description.

furniture? We have a coffee table in need of some TLC. Upholstery interest you more? We have two chairs that need attention - backs and seats only. Here's an interesting one... refinishing arrows. Removing and replacing damaged feathers takes time, patience and the right tools. We have a couple dozen that need attention. All three of these projects can be done in the comfort of your home or here at camp. For more information, contact DuBois Center at [dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org) or 618-787-2202.



### SUMMER JOBS - DuBois Center Equestrian Program

Looking for a rewarding summer job working with children and horses? How about hands-on experience managing a trail ride program? DuBois Center has openings for a dedicated summer barn coordinator and two barn assistants/cabin counselors. Spending time with the horses is a highlight for many of our campers. In addition to caring for our 20-horse herd, our summer barn team utilizes basic riding instruction and time "getting to know the ponies" to help campers build self-confidence and learn to respect and appreciate God's amazing creation. For those who have never experienced a horse up close, the first moments can be overwhelming. However, with nurturing guidance, campers quickly learn that they can overcome their fears and experience something wonderful. Tears often transform into giant smiles. The joy campers show is reward enough, but serving on the summer barn team also provides hands-on work experience for individuals considering a career in equine or social service related fields. For more information, check out the attached [flyer](#) or contact Shirley at [shirley.director@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:shirley.director@DuBoisCenter.org) or 618-787-2202.



### MORE than just another SUMMER JOB!

Energetic, child-focused, fun-loving with a heart for ministry - sound like you or someone you know? Check out this [flyer](#) and consider whether an amazing summer at DuBois Center might be just the opportunity you have been looking for. Positions include cabin counselors/activity leaders, barn assistant/counselors and coordinators. FAITH. FUN. HARD WORK. GREAT FRIENDS. LONG HOURS. AMAZING MEMORIES. Gain practical experience,

build your resume and make a difference! Job descriptions and application packets are available [online](#). Questions? Contact us at [dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org) or 618-787-2202.



### PRESENTING.... "I SPY"

#### Another Amazing Quilt from Mascoutah

Pictured is the 2019 DuBois Raffle Quilt "I SPY", made by the Happy Quilters of St. John UCC, Mascoutah. Based on the popular books of picture riddles, the quilt has 120 different fabrics for the challenge and fun of finding hidden objects. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 and all proceeds go to DuBois Center. St. John UCC, Mascoutah matches all money that the Happy Quilters raise, so each dollar you donate is two dollars for DuBois Center. Members of the Happy Quilters will be visiting area churches to sell chances on the "I SPY" quilt. The quilt will be on display at the following churches:

- January 6 - Zion UCC New Baden
- January 20 - St. John UCC Trenton
- February 10 - St. Paul UCC Lebanon
- March 10 - Grantfork UCC - Grantfork
- March 24 - St. Peter's UCC - Okawville
- April 7 - Christ UCC - Dupo



**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!



**Get Tickets Now!** Hoyleton Youth & Family Services' *A Night for Heroes 2019 Salute* will be held on February 22, 2019 at the Four Points by Sheraton. It will be their salute to everyone that makes Hoyleton's work possible. A cash bar at 6 pm kicks off the evening followed by a wonderful dinner at 7 pm. *A Night for Heroes* culminates with Awards, the Fund-the-Need auction that provides support to every one of Hoyleton's nearly 20 programs and services for nearly 3,000 youth and families throughout southern Illinois - and, music and dancing with Butchwax and the Hollywoods! This year's emcee will be Cory Stark, co-anchor at KMOV-TV. Individual tickets are \$50/person. Sponsorships available. Contact Amanda Garrison at [agarrison@hoyleton.org](mailto:agarrison@hoyleton.org) or 618-688-4742.

**St. John's Community Care Presents Savvy Caregiver Training.** The 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, Jan 22, 29, Feb 5, 12, 19, 26 from 2 pm - 4 pm at St. John Evangelical UCC, West Conference Room, 307 W Clay St, Collinsville. For more information or to register, call 618-344-5008. Download [poster](#).

### 24 Hours at Eden Dates Announced

Our annual event, 24 Hours at Eden, will be February 17-18, 2019. This is a recruiting event at which we welcome prospective students on campus for 24 hours. During their time on campus, prospective students will experience life at Eden including sit in on a class, meet Eden's outstanding faculty, interact with current students and learn about what it means to be a part of the Eden Community. If you know someone who may be interested in pursuing a world class seminary education, please send them to the Admissions Department to learn more about 24 Hours at Eden. Call Admissions at 877-627-5652 or click [here](#) for more information.



**Join the Eden Community on Feb 8 from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm for the annual Bracke Lecture at Eden Theological Seminary.** This year, speaker Ann Garrido, D.Min will talk about *Redeeming Administration: The Invitation Hidden in the Clutter on Your Desk*. Ms. Garrido says, "Administration is often critiqued both by those within the ministry and without as work that takes fun-loving people and turns them into anxious curmudgeons, but it doesn't have to be that way." Speaking out of her own experience as an administrator in educational and congregational settings, Ms. Garrido will look at practices of administration that can be potentially transformative, making us not only effective administrators but holier, healthier Christians. There is no cost to attend the lecture.

Lecturer: Ann Garrido, D.Min. is associate professor of homiletics at Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis, Missouri. Ms. Garrido is the author of eight books, including the award-winning volumes *Redeeming Administration* (Ave Maria Press, 2013) and *Redeeming Conflict* (Ave Maria Press, 2016). She now commits half-time to traveling nationally and internationally doing conflict education and mediation work with Triad Consulting Group, founded by two members of the Harvard Negotiation Project based in Cambridge, MA. Ann Garrido's books will be for sale in the Eden Bookstore the prior to and the day of the lecture. She will be available for a book signing after her lecture. For more information or to [register](#).



### Life at Eden

Date: Saturday, January 19 from 8 am to 4:30 pm  
Certificate and Elective Topic: Exploring Spiritual Formation  
Location: Eden Theological Seminary  
Instructor: Kathleen Geraty Davis. Kathleen is a spiritual director and retreat leader. She is an adjunct Instructor and Director of the Graduate Certificate in Spiritual Direction Program at Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis, Missouri.



Brief Description: Throughout time, we've been gifted with wisdom figures whose insights bring us deeper into the mystery of God. Our time today will be spent with a choice few. **We'll learn from their experience and reflect on the messages they offer for our own spiritual growth.** As themes unfold, we'll discover the relevance and urgency their messages carry for our present world. With suggested practices, our day will conclude with the call for all of us to recognize and allow our own inner Mystic to emerge. LIFE classes are designed for both clergy and laity. For more information, contact Jill Schantz at [jschantz@eden.edu](mailto:jschantz@eden.edu) or click [here](#) to register.

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

**Congratulations to Rev. Herb (Bennie) Schafale as he celebrates his service to St. Paul UCC in Belleville.** Join them on Sun, February 3 for a special day honoring an extraordinary man who has served for the past 19 years as visiting pastor for St. Paul UCC in Belleville and the 60 years of his Ordained Ministry.

**The City of Taylorville is slowly starting their clean-up efforts after the recent tornado hit them hard.** Rev. Joel Jackle-Hugh has spoken with the volunteer coordinator for Christian County and she is interested in having a conference-wide volunteer day. He is planning to work with Conference members to set up a date in the Spring. He is grateful for continued prayers and will let you know if any other volunteer opportunities come up.

### Region 5

**Alhambra Salem UCC Churchmen's Fellowship will host its 71st Annual Sausage Supper on Sat, Jan 26 from 2:30 pm - 8 pm.** All you can eat fresh homemade pork sausage, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, bread, applesauce, dessert, coffee and milk. Adults \$10; Children 5 - 10 yrs \$5; Children 4 and under Free. Carry outs for adult price only. Advanced bulk sausage sales, contact 618-488-3733 or [ooey5@agtelco.com](mailto:ooey5@agtelco.com).

### Region 9

**The Region 9 Youth Mission Event will be on Sun, Feb 10 beginning at 1 pm at O'Fallon UCC, 206 W Adams, O'Fallon.** The youth will make 50 Valentine boxes for Kindercottage. They will also prepare colored, plastic bags for use in making mats for the homeless. **Supplies are needed:** Valentine gift wrap, wrapped Valentine candy, printed Valentine cards (packages for little ones, think school); plastic bags to make "plarn" or plastic yarn. If you crochet and would like to take some of the plastic yarn and crochet a mat or two, they will get instructions and materials to you.

### Region 9

**Chili & Soup Drive-thru Fundraiser will be held at St. John UCC in Trenton on Sat, Jan 26 from 11 am to 3 pm** (or until chili and soup are gone). They will serve regular and hot chili and vegetable beef soup for \$5 per quart. Call 618-224-9828 after 11 am to pre-order. Come to the alley behind the church to use our drive-thru. Signs will be up to direct you.