

DRAFT COPY
NOTES AND MINUTES OF THE 54th ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE ILLINOIS SOUTH CONFERENCE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
OCTOBER 26 and 27, 2018
Collinsville, Illinois

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2018

Being Church in Uncharted Territory 2-6 pm
St. John Evangelical UCC
307 W Clay St
Collinsville, Illinois
Rev. Dr. Tod Bolsinger

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2018

Registration
Continental Breakfast provided by Deaconess
Foundation

8:30 am: Welcome (Rev. Kevin Strobe)
Kevin called the meeting to order and welcomed
everyone.

Gathering worship with Noisy Offering for
Community of Practice and additional offering for
DuBois Center Scholarship Fund.

9:00 am: Presentation by Constance Rush of the
Deaconess Foundation who gave an update on the
work of Deaconess Foundation (presented using a
PowerPoint).

9:15 am
Shana introduced Rev. Dr. Tod Bolsinger
First Keynote: Rev. Dr. Tod Bolsinger
Isaiah 43; a new thing, a disruptive verse;

10 Minute Break

Plenary Session 1--10:15 am

10:15 am
The official Call to Order was by Rev. Kevin Strobe
Quorum Report by Rev. Kevin Strobe
150 delegates (needed 109 for a quorum)

Shana recognized Regions & delegates.

Shana - introduction of the Executive
Committee/Staff/Guests and Rev. Mike
Southcombe as the parliamentarian.

AM10.28.2018:1

Items to be considered for
Unanimous Consent (Jill Baker)

4 items:

Adoption of the Agenda pg 1

Adoption of Standing Rules pg 3

Approval of 2017 Minutes pg 6

Granting Voice without Vote:

Rev. Tod Bolsinger, Constance Rush, Shirley
Asmussen, Christy Pursell, Lynnette Schuepbach,
Lee-Alison Wilson, June Sielbeck, Rev. Bob
Coffey, Rev. Joel Jackle-Hugh, Rev. Dr. Marvin
Morgan, Rev. Dr. Dwayne Dollgener, Rev. Yvette
Eber, Rev. Elizabeth Terrill, Pastor Jon Tinge
ALL FOUR PASSED

Announcement of Speak Out Sign Ups (John Pawloski)

10:25 am: State of the Conference Address
(Rev. Shana Johnson)

Shana shared her journey, call to ministry, local
church setting, and she has fallen in love with ISC
churches (PowerPoint). ISC is helping churches to
reconnect with UCC, showing how we are
accepting of all people, educating ourselves on the
history & polity of UCC, what does it mean to be
UCC. Shana discussed coming spring speakers from
the UCC at our DOD on Feb 23, 2019. It is
important that we create a more culturally aware
atmosphere so we return to Christ's teaching to
bring down every form of wrongs, evil, and practice
"holy listening" and the welcoming of each other,
being highly committed that we do no harm to
anyone; supporting our clergy through the Fund for
Communities of Practice, with our noisy offering
starting this fund; creating worship resources for all
churches and pastors, especially churches in
transition and "part-time" churches.

10:40 am: Treasurer's Report (Shirley Bergmann) (pages 16, 17, 18 & 21) ISC and DuBois were in the black \$892, 1st time in long time; ISC did not need to take an extraordinary withdrawal. (Page references are to Annual Meeting Workbook.)

10:50 am: Presentation of 2019 Proposed Budget (Rev. Bob Goddard) (pages 15-22) line items combined budget; remember bequests to local church and ISC in estate planning; strengthen the church; the LIFE program; hunger committee and teams.

Shana: November 1st working on staff changes (page 19) part-time registrar for handling all registrations;

11:00 am: DuBois Center Report (Shirley Asmussen) (PowerPoint) 2018 highlights: 80-100 volunteers; many workdays consisting of painting; electric upgrades; new dock area; waterfront much safer and beautiful, all tools for ministry; review of camps, retreats, special and memorable events for ALL God's people; fun with family and friends in a safe space, being serious or silly; \$15,000-\$18,000 scholarships will be available.

11:15 am: Green DuBois Presentation (Jill Baker) (PowerPoint) There new opportunities at DuBois: DuBois is a valuable asset of ISC; the document "Forest Management Plan" by Marty Kemper emphasizes our rich resources at DuBois Center such as: the endangered species at DB, 58 plants rated at high endangered, many very small in size which opens the door for many new volunteers who are not involved in church life. The next solar eclipse will be in April 8, 2024 on Monday. Eclipse with 100% totally for 3 minutes; we have 5 ½ years to plan for that weekend.

11:25 am: Introduction of the slate of nominees (Linda Bowman, Recruitment) (pages 11-14)

10 Minute Break

Banquet 11:45

11:45 pm: Table Grace (Rev. Ivan Horn) The prayer and a moment of silence was observed for those victims of the Pittsburgh Synagogue mass shooting a few hours earlier.

PowerPoints presented on all of the following:

12:15 pm: Introduction of New Clergy (Rev. Shana Johnson)

12:20 pm: Presentations by Committee on Ministry Members in Discernment (Rev. Hugh Fitz)

Church Anniversaries (Rev. Laurie Crelly and Rev. Bev Kahle)

Recognition of our New ONA Congregations (Rev. Christy Eckert)

Recognition of Ordination Anniversaries (Rev. John Holst)

Recognition of Retirements (Rev. Shana Johnson)

12:40 pm: Book Signing and Marketplace

1:00 pm: **Second Keynote Rev. Dr. Tod Bolsinger** Notes: Loving your neighbor, especially those who are in pain with the ultimate despair and no hope; Drawing upon Martin Luther King Jr. "I Have a Dream" speech the analogy of "stone of hope" from the mountain of despair, coming from Isaiah; Blacksmithing Leadership is formed in the act of doing, you learn the process in the midst of doing, like tempered steel, allow ourselves to become "oozy" like steel ready to be shaped.

2:00 to 3:00 pm: Plenary Session

2:00 pm: Reconvene & Call to Order (Rev. Kevin Strobe) Kevin introduced John Pawloski for the speak outs

Speak Outs: Lois Gibson LBGQ support groups and interest

Rev. Dr. Marvin Morgan is developing a program to offer Interim Ministry training sessions 1 and 2 with these sessions being 3-day and 5-day courses respectively to prepare clergy candidates for interim ministry.

Dwight Asselmeier promoted the sale of Christmas cards to raise funds for Kamiyah and her medical expenses. The genetic defect causes her to fall/drop about 200 times every day; only two persons have this genetic disorder in the world.

Rev. Katie Jo Bielke encouraged churches to promote Winter Weekend. The theme will be “Your Voice Matters” on January 19-21, 2019 at DuBois Center.

David Newfarmer from St. Peter’s UCC, Murphysboro challenged the need for Pre-annual meetings because of low attendance at Murphysboro, only 14, including leaders.

Rev. Lori Shaffer shared there will be a local pastors’ retreat February 27-28, location to be announced.

Priscilla Self, ISC Disaster coordinator, will be helping organize mission trips and invites anyone interested in helping to contact her.

Audrey Hicks introduced the Shelterbox project that helps in many disaster-stricken areas and how her son, Erik Eles, is raising funds for that program as he canoed the length of the Mississippi River. Vote for him on Go to VoteForErik.com and vote once every 24 hours until December 5.

Larry Wagner encouraged supporting the New Athens Home fundraising projects.

Rev. Don Bizer spoke encouraging the purchase of products made by women through the Plowsharing Ministries and thanked ISC for their past strong support.

2:10 pm: Thank you from Rev. Krista Betz, Director of the Ministerial Assistance Fund. Expressed thanks on behalf of the UCC Pension Board and the UCC Christmas Fund for the support of clergy and families through the Christmas Fund.

2:15 pm: Ecuador Partnership Mission Moment (Lee-Alison Wilson)

Lee-Alison shared the past signing of the covenant with the Ecuador Partners and announced the next covenant will be in 2020, renewing for another five years of partnership. The excellent PowerPoint program highlighted the many volunteers, groups, churches, facilitators, house constructions, and the importance of supporting the girls through scholarships so they are able to continue their education and move on to become university students.

2:30 pm: Vote on 2019 Proposed Budget (Rev. Kevin Strobe)

AM10.28.2018:2

2019 Proposed Budget submitted by Finance Team does not need a second - Passed

2:40 pm: Elections on Teams and Committees (Jill Baker)

Submitted by Teams does not need a second/Passed

AM10.28.2018:3

Correction and Nominations from the floor:
Eileen Holtz (name correction)

Kay Ahaus Nominated for Justice & Mission

Rose Oglesby Nominated Julie Kies for Outdoor Ministries

Angela Zapp Nominated for Outdoor Ministries

Walter Hart made the motion to approve the correction and additional nominations from the floor; Seconded by Rosalie Bogg, St. Paul UCC, Nashville Motion/Passed

2:50 pm:

AM10.28.2018:4

Vote UCC Bylaws & Constitution submitted by the Executive Committee. Passed
(Rev. Kevin Strobe)

2:50 pm: Report on Noisy Offerings (Shirley Bergmann)

Fund for Communities of Practice = \$2,040.72

DuBois Center Scholarships = \$3,600.17

Recognition of Items Collected for St. Paul’s Senior Community - Mimi Llamas representing St. Paul UCC, Belleville thanked ISC on behalf of the St. Paul’s Senior Community.

AM10.28.2018:5

2:55 pm: Motion to adjourn after Closing Worship
(Jill Baker) Passed

15 Minute Break

3:15 pm to 3:45 pm: Closing Worship

Respectfully submitted,
Ivan Horn, Conference Secretary

GUIDE TO MOTIONS OF THE 54th ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE ILLINOIS SOUTH CONFERENCE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
OCTOBER 27, 2018
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS/COLLINS CLUB
COLLINSVILLE, ILLINOIS

AM10.28.2018:1

(Jill Baker) Items to be considered for Unanimous Consent

4 items:

Adoption of the Agenda, pg 1

Adoption of Standing Rules

Approval of 2017 Minutes) pg 6

Granting Voice without Vote:

Rev. Tod Bolsinger, Constance Rush, Shirley Asmussen, Christy Pursell, Lynnette Schuepbach, Lee-Alison Wilson, June Sielbeck, Rev. Bob Coffey, Rev. Joel Jackie-Hugh, Rev. Dr. Marvin Morgan, Rev. Dr. Dwayne Dollgener, Rev. Yvette Eber, Rev. Elizabeth Terrill, Pastor Jon Tinge

Motion Passed on all four items.

AM10.28.2018:2

(Rev. Kevin Strope) 2019 Proposed Budget submitted by Finance Team does not need a second -
Motion Passed

AM10.28.2018:3

(Jill Baker) Elections on Teams and Committees submitted by Team does not need a second.

Walter Hart made the motion to approve the correction and additional nominations from the floor; Seconded
Rosalie Bogg St. Paul, Nashville-Motion Passed

Correction and Nominations from the floor:

Eileen Holtz (name correction)

Kay Ahaus Nominated for Justice & Mission

Rose Oglesby Nominated Julie Kies Outdoor Ministries

Angela-Zapp Nominated for Outdoor Ministries

AM10.28.2018:4

(Rev. Kevin Strope) Vote UCC Bylaws & Constitution submitted by Executive Committee, Motion
Passed

AM10.28.2018:5

(Jill Baker) Motion to adjourn after Closing Worship, Motion Passed

Respectfully submitted,
Ivan Horn, Conference Executive Secretary