

## Conference Gatherings Team

The Gatherings Team is responsible for planning meetings of the Illinois South Conference which include:

- Day of Discipleship
- Annual Meeting
- Pre-annual meetings
- Annual meeting warm-up events (Celebration)
- Special ISC meetings

The Conference Gatherings Team meets monthly with the guidance of the Conference Minister, Rev. Shana Johnson, and ISC staff member Christy Pursell. Anyone who has interest in designing and implementing events is welcome to volunteer to serve on the Conference Gatherings Team by contacting the Conference Office.

The Annual Meeting 2019 was held Saturday, October 26 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, Belleville, IL. The Annual Meeting is the largest gathering of the Conference, with the task of convening all the churches in the ISC. The major business that day included passing the 2020 budget and electing new committee and team members, saying goodbye to Shirley Bergmann, our long-serving Finance Coordinator, and announcing the addition of Rev. Nikki Shaw, Communications staff member, who we share with the Indiana-Kentucky and Heartland (formerly Ohio) conferences. A Celebration Event was held Friday, October 25, at Trinity UCC, Belleville, IL.

The Day of Discipleship was held February 29, 2020, at St. Paul UCC, Waterloo, IL, with the theme of “Healthy & Whole Congregations.” More than 150 people attended to hear Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund speak about healthy congregations and to learn about mental health issues that affect many of our congregants.

The 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting turned out to be a challenging one to plan as the Conference Council decided to hold a virtual meeting rather than a large, in-person gathering due to the COVID-19 pandemic concerns. The theme of “3 Great Loves: Christ’s Love in Action” was selected, with Rev. David Sigmund as our guest preacher.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Harms  
Walt Hart, Chair  
Eileen Hoag  
Chilang Lawless  
Mimi Llamas  
Pastor Jon Tinge  
Rev. Michelle Torigian  
Rev. Andrew Wilson