All Are Gold

In India, there is an ancient story about a gold ring, a gold nugget, and a gold signet, which I believe reveals a beautiful truth about our worth in the eyes of God.

The story goes something like this...

A long time ago there was a collector known for his riches and rare finds. While the collector slept, often the objects argued with one another about who was more valuable.

The gold ring argued it was more valuable than the other two because it was made for the finger of a very important bride.

The gold nugget argued it was more valuable than the other two because miners had risked their lives to find it.

While the gold signet argued it was more valuable than the other two because it had sealed the messages of a prominent leader.

It was said that they argued day and night, until finally the ring said, "I know a way we can settle this. Let's ask God. God will decide and surely be able to tell us who is the best among us."

The other two agreed, and so they approached the Almighty. Each made its claim for being superior. God listened carefully, and when they were done, God simply replied, "I cannot settle your dispute, I am sorry."

The gold signet seal became indignant. "What do you mean, you cannot settle this debate for us? You are God."

"You are right and that is the problem," said God, "I don't see a ring, a nugget and a seal. All I see is gold."

What I love about this simple, yet profound story is the essence of what we as humanity continue to struggle and fight about.

Existence is pure gold.

Our very existence in the eyes of God is the gold; it is what is of highest worth rather than our form.

Our existence as those who have been created by God, regardless of form, race, gender, sexual orientation, creed, affiliations, status, occupation, title, or position, is what makes us wondrous, beautiful, and as precious as gold.

Nothing else is needed.

Nothing else matters.

Yet, I wonder what it will take for everyone to see this, to understand this, and to accept this as the most important truth.

Imagine how different our world would be.

Blessings, Rev. Shana Johnson, ISC Conference Minister

Registration Is Open

Click this [link](#) to register as a lay delegate, a pastor with standing in ISC, a pastor without standing who is serving an ISC church, or a member of the Conference Council.

Visitors will be given a link to view the Annual Meeting as it happens. If you want to receive the link to view Annual Meeting as a visitor, call 618-357-1809 or [email](mailto:) Julie and ask to be added as a visitor. The link will be sent to your email address as it gets closer to the event.

Local Church Ministries Presents Virtual Workshops

There is no registration. A link to the workshops will be sent Annual Meeting registrants, churches and pastors and it will be available on ISC website and in Weekly Connection.

Important Links

- iscucc.org/
- duboiscenter.org
- 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

Pray for...

Prayer list for Oct 4 - Oct 10, 2020

Churches & Pastors
- Hookdale St. Peter UCC, Rev. P. Jerry Bennett
- Hoyleton Evangelical Zion UCC, Rev. Sharon Patton
Friday, October 23 - Afternoon
The Re-formation of the Church
Come as you are with your questions and comments to speak with Rev. Dr. Chris Davies of Faith Education, Innovation and Formation of the national setting. We will take a breath together, witness to the time we are in, and hope for the world we are co-creating together. We hope that you will feel restored and deeply heard after having attended this conversation and Webinar on October 23 from 2 pm to 3 pm.

Engaging the Youth
Are you struggling with keeping your youth involved? Bring your questions and concerns regarding ways to keep your Youth engaged in the life of your church during these unprecedented times. Join us via Zoom on October 23 from 3:15 pm to 4 pm as we pose questions and seek the wisdom of our panelists: Julie Gvillo, former Presbyterian Youth Pastor and founder of A Place of Grace and Rev. Debbie Jo Atkins, pastor of St. Paul UCC in Staunton. Gain insight and ideas to rekindle or spark your youth ministry.

A link to these webinars will be provided in upcoming Weekly Connections, on our ISC website, and in email communications for Annual Meeting.

Friday, October 23 - Evening
Friday night, Chilang Lawless and Eileen Hoag will host a celebration of churches and pastors who are celebrating milestone anniversaries, the Member in Discernment and the pastors who have retired this year.

Saturday morning, October 24 - Business Meeting
The Conference Council with all church delegates will experience a combination of pre-recorded videos and interactive webinars with voting capabilities for the business portion of our meeting. We plan to have our guest speaker, Rev. Dave Sigmund, the UCC's 3 Great Loves Campaign ambassador, talk to us about the ways in which the Church has been the Church by caring for our neighbors, children, and creation.

Sunday morning, October 25
Join the rest of the conference in an online pre-recorded worship service that will be available for everyone in the Illinois South Conference to view. Check out the Delegate materials at this link. Items will be added as they become available. More details on all that will be taking place during the weekend will be sent to churches and delegates and be made available in upcoming Weekly Connections.

Offering
The Conference Council approved the Conference Gatherings Team's decision that the Annual Meeting offering will be designated for food pantries supported by our ISC churches. We will ask churches to "bring" their offerings to the meeting by sending in their checks to ISC with Annual Meeting offering on the memo line and the amount being donated on the "Hunger Project" line of the monthly contribution form. The ISC Hunger Action team will assist in the distribution of the monies raised for our food pantries. We know that hunger is an ongoing issue and that COVID-19 has put an extra strain on the pantries. So, we pray that the generosity of the churches and delegates will assist the pantries and their patrons during this time.

A Resource to Help Keep People Safe
It is with deep gratitude for Rev. Dr. Don Wagner and the staff and leadership of St Paul UCC, Lebanon that we are able to share a suggested protocol and checklist. These documents are best practices lists for staff, employees and contractors who enter the designated church space during this time of COVID. If you choose to, you may use, share with fellow church leaders, and make these documents appropriate for your church. We hope these will be useful as you consider ways to keep all who enter your church doors as safe as possible.

Friday, October 23 - Evening
People with Life Concerns
- Pray for the family of Rev. Gilbert F. (Pat) Bumb as they mourn his death on Wednesday, September 23. Rev. Bumb served as an Associate Conference Minister in the Illinois South Conference for 12 years. His daughter is Rev. Cindy Bumb, who served several ISC churches as Interim Pastor and is currently Emmaus Homes' Vice President of Spiritual Care. Visitation is Wed, Sept 30 from 4-8 pm at John L. Ziegenhein & Sons Funeral Homes (7027 Gravois Ave. 63116). Funeral service is Thurs, Oct 1 at 9 am at St. Lucas U.C.C. (11735 Denny Road 63126) at the outdoor pavilion. Interment immediately following at Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery. Masks and social distancing are required at all services. Memorial gifts may be made to Eden Theological Seminary. Cards may be sent to Mrs. Pat Bumb at 218 Lazy Ridge Dr, St. Charles, MO 63304. Please keep Pat and Rev. Bumb's family in your prayers. Click here for the complete obituary. -Keep the family of Janet Bernadette Frost in your prayers as they mourn her death. Janet was the mother of Rev. Karla (Rev. Charles Preston) Frost, Pastor of St. John UCC in Granite City. A drive-by visitation at the Irwin Chapel Funeral Home in Granite City will be on Sat, Oct 3 from 3 pm - 4 pm. The funeral service will be that day, livestreamed through the Irwin Chapel web page at 2 pm. Interment will be at a later date in Withee, Wisconsin. Click here for the full obituary. Cards may be sent to 2901 A Nameoki Rd, Granite City, IL 62040.

Retired Pastor
- Rev. Kevin and Shellie Strope, Carlinville, IL

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World Communion Sunday - October 4, 2020
Since 1933, the first Sunday in October has been designated as World Communion Sunday. Although we may be separated by distance, we are connected with the communion of Christ.

Have You Read a Good Book Lately?
Each year the Committee on Ministry Team asks authorized ministers of ISC to complete an annual review form. This request serves as an opportunity for pastors to share their ministry joys and concerns for the past year. One of the questions on the form asks pastors to share one book and/or experience that they would highly recommend. We have been sharing and will continue to share some of those recommendations for the next few weeks to help pastors and lay alike to find new and inspiring books and/or experiences.

Recommendations for September 29
- Holy Daring by Tessa Bielecki
- Raising White Kids by Jennifer Harvey
- Jesus and After by E. Bruce Brooks
- When God is Silent and Learning to Walk in the Dark by Barbara Brown Taylor
- On the Brink of Everything by Parker Palmer

Resources for Congregational Giving
The Lake Institute on Faith and Giving at Indiana University's Lilly Family School of Philanthropy is a well-known and well-respected school that understands the basic nature of congregational life and giving. As a part of the United Church of Christ's relationship with the Lake Institute we are offering a series of four free webinars on various aspects of strategic communications where it overlaps with philanthropy and other key elements in helping congregations message their "why" to the wider community. This would be a great series for local church leaders who have responsibility for finances and development and communications to learn together. They could view the webinar and then schedule a time together to talk about their learnings. If you could post this on your social media platforms to get the word out it would strengthen participation. This series is made available through your OCWM giving. Learn more.

Madison Co. P.I.N. Sticker Program
Effective October 1, 2020, the Madison County Sheriff's Office will unveil a free new program available to all citizens in Madison County called the P.I.N. Sticker Program (Potentially Impaired or Non-Verbal Person). This project was inspired by St. Louis County Police Department's P.I.N. Sticker Program and was made possible through our relationship with St. John's Community Care and Madison County TRIAD. Click here for details about TRIAD.
The P.I.N Sticker Program allows for persons within Madison County who may suffer from an impairment, which may create a barrier in communication, to register with the program by completing a short registration form at the Madison County Sheriff's Office. That participant will then be issued two (2) color coded stickers (one for their primary automobile and one for their home.) The stickers are color coded in a manner which will alert law enforcement to a specific impairment or communication barrier. The Madison County Sheriff's Office will maintain a database of participants and local police agencies will be notified if a participant resides within their jurisdiction. The color key and related list of impairments will be law enforcement sensitive. Color keys will be disseminated to all local police agencies with the request that it

Inclusivity Statement for DuBois Center and Illinois South Conference of the UCC
Because we affirm the value of all God's people, the Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ does not
not be made public information or shared with the media in the interest of protecting those participating.

The program is intended to allow police officers, whether on a traffic stop or responding to a private residence, to recognize the P.I.N. Sticker and be aware that an impairment may present a communication barrier i.e., hearing impairment, dementia, autism, etc... Sheriff John D. Lakin and the Madison County Sheriff's Office are eager to provide this program to the citizens of Madison County. For information regarding the program, or to contact the Sheriff's Office to register an individual, please email us at Triad@co.madison.il.us.

Photo(l to r): Nancy Berry, St. John's Community Care Executive Director; Sheriff John D. Lakin; Missy Athmer, St. John's Community Care Marketing Director.

discriminate on the basis of age, race, ability, national origin, religious background, sexual orientation, or gender identity. To the extent possible, we endeavor to accommodate those with a variety of physical, mental, emotional, medical, or dietary needs.

I'm Gonna Sit Right Down...
by Lynnette Schuepbach, ISC Communications Coordinator

Have you ever realized that your inner voice was singing a song? This morning, I realized that inside my head I was singing "I'm gonna sit right down and write myself a letter, and make believe it came from you. I'm gonna write words, oh so sweet, they're gonna knock me off my feet..." It's familiar to me from a remake in the 60's, but originated in 1935. So many people have sung about writing themselves a letter.

This made me wonder what I would say to myself if I did write such a letter. Would I be kind to me or take me to task. Maybe a bit of both. What if God was writing me a letter? Would the letter from God be kind or take me to task? I'm hoping a bit of both. Here's my imagined letter from God to me. Feel free to substitute your name for mine.

Dear Lynnette,
First, I love you and the Spirit you give to the world. Thank you for using the gifts that I gave you upon entering the world and some of the gift you have cultivated along the way. Keep up the good work. There are some that still need some practice, so keep growing.

Sometimes, your actions were not fully in line with my love for humanity. But, I love you even when your actions disappoint me. When I point them out, they are opportunities for you to grow in Spirit. Pay attention. You will feel me near even when I'm disappointed.

Love your special heart,
God

CONTACT US - YOUR OCWM MONIES AT WORK
During the shelter in place order, all Conference staff will be working remotely, but they are available to help you. Keep these contacts handy.

For the work of Conference teams and committees or search and call inquiries, contact Christy Pursell at cpursell@iscucc.org. For financial matters (in terms of your church's giving to the Conference or OCWM), contact Debbie Kesner at dkesner@iscucc.org. For communicating within the Conference, the Conference website, Facebook page or Weekly Connection, contact Lynnette Schuepbach at lschuepbach@iscucc.org. For registration for upcoming events or for information about cancelled camp sessions, contact Julie Riechmann at 618-357-1809 or jriebmann@iscucc.org. For DuBois Center, contact Shirley Asmussen 618-787-2202 or dcinfo@duboiscenter.org. To speak with the Conference Minister, contact Rev. Shana Johnson at sjohnson@iscucc.org or 618-882-8247.

FALL FESTIVAL CHALLENGE
Yes, DuBois Center's Fall Festival has been postponed until October 2021, but the spirit lives on for this major friend and fund-raising event. Norma Borgmann, who has been involved with DuBois Center for decades as a friend, camper, staff member, Outdoor Ministries Team (OMT) member and chair, and acting director, is challenging other friends of the Center with a $500 donation. In the note accompanying the gift she wrote, "As you know I usually bake a few snacks & provide some Silent Auction items - thus such a gift. Sure hope others will donate dollars to help balance the budget
in this historic year of COVID-19.” This would have been the 44th year for some version of this event, which began modestly in 1977 and grew from there. Nancy Wagner, current OMT Chair, suggests that supporters consider donating $1, $2, $3 or more each year of Fall Festival.

- $1 per year = a Yellow Leaf giver at $44
- $2 per year = a Red Leaf giver at $88
- $3 per year = an Orange Leaf giver at $132
- Anything above this amount would be at the Gold Leaf level.

If you are a “regular,” it might be fun to consider what you would have spent at our Fall Festival 2020 - either as a participant or as a volunteer or a provider of goods to be sold. Participants eat, shop, ride, relax, bid, and enjoy the fellowship of friends and family. Supporters also enjoy fellowship as they bake, promote, stitch, recruit, decorate, set up, take down, drive, lead, greet, direct, park, deliver, clean, serve and dedicate hours and hours to make it all happen.

You may donate online or send a check to DuBois Center; 2651 Quarry Road; DuBois, IL 62831. Thank you for keeping the ministry of DuBois Center in your thoughts and prayers.

WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS!

The last two weeks have been busy ones at DuBois Center with eight different teams in motion - in addition to St. Jacob UCC, which we reported on last week. Neighbors John & Terry cut up and removed 5,000 pounds of wood from a dead tree off the Hickory Lodge patio. They did a great job with clean-up! Carol & David Shanks spent a day painting and repairing. Carol touched-up the entrance sign and painted more boards for the fence on the road across the dam. David replaced some rotted floorboards at the lumber shed and built new steps for it - no unstable cement blocks to contend with anymore! Margie & Mel Lindhorst continued working on the shade pollinator garden at the front of the office. A crew from Grantfork UCC arrived with their mini-excavator and worked on one of the horse trails. They removed two old culvert pipes and cleaned up the area. They also worked on straightening the fence line at Deer Run. Teams from St. Paul UCC in Freeburg are making good progress on the cabins at Deer Run. Last week they installed windows and screen doors. The Horse Team stripped and re-bedded the horse stalls at the barn this past weekend. Watch for more about their efforts next week. In addition, two members were out earlier to check on the horses and help move round bales of hay. The Bee Team was back at camp on Sunday to check on the hives and the health of our bees. And last, but not least, Scott Schubert checked the lines and replaced the old phone on the front of the office. Guests without cell service can again make emergency calls after office hours. THANKS to everyone for your hard work! It truly does make a difference. There is always lots to be done to maintain our outdoor ministry facilities and grounds. For more information, contact us at dcinfo@DuBoisCenter.org or 618-787-2202.
CAMP NURSES
Servants with Sunscreen

Despite the falling leaves, it's never too early to think about summer! We are hoping to be able to provide a full line-up of DuBois fun and adventure in 2021! One setting for ministry at DuBois Center is our Health Center. Volunteer camp nurses, most of whom are RNs, are a vital piece of our summer camp program. Many find serving at DuBois Center to be a rewarding mission opportunity, one that is quite different from their regular job. Responsibilities include reviewing camper medical forms, conducting health screenings, receiving and administering medications, providing first aid & basic medical treatment, and documentation. But when you really get down to it, nurses spend most of their time removing ticks, soothing rashes, distributing medications and providing extra TLC for homesick and nervous campers. If you are an RN, please consider serving with us for a full or partial week. The living quarters have AC and there is often time to join us for worship, explore the woods, ride a horse or just sit back and enjoy a book. Orientation is provided. For more information, contact Alaina Scherle at alainakarn@yahoo.com or leave a message on her cell at 618-604-2540.

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!

Eden Theological Seminary Events Happening Soon

Oct. 7 - Schmiechen Public Lecture on Ministry. This year’s presenters are from UCC/Disciples Global Ministries as part of their Southern Asia Initiative. 3 Posters More info.
Oct. 20 - NEXT Steps course prelude, a time to help potential participants get a taste of the NEXT Steps program (reflecting on aging and vocation) Theme of this prelude event is "Creative Aging" Poster; More info.
Oct. 23 - LIFE (Lifelong Learning ) session - preaching with Dr. Christopher Grundy Poster; More info.
Oct. 25 - Festival of Psalms - A concert "Faith in the Wilderness" will be online and correspond to the annual area CROP Walk against Hunger. Poster; Bulletin Blurb; Press Release; More info.

If your church has property insurance on your church building with the Insurance Board of the UCC, please be aware the Insurance Board wants to help your church protect your ministry. Imagine finding a pipe burst when you walk into your building. Maybe a bathroom flooded or a hot water heater leaked. In addition to addressing water damage, now you are faced with an overwhelming task of cleanup during a pandemic. Instead, imagine you received a text or email alert telling you there was an issue before significant damage occurred. The Insurance Board has collaborated with HSB Connected Technologies to offer you with a valuable early warning system that uses the latest sensor technology. This technology will detect water and monitor indoor temperatures that may help avoid a disruptive impact on your ministry.

There are 3 easy steps to put sensor technology to work for your ministry:
- Sign up today by speaking with your Insurance Board agent or click here.
- Receive your sensors by mail. You will receive emails with delivery status.
- Activate. Using the HSB iSensor app or the instructions provided, activate your account and sensors in less than a half hour.

by Matthew Wagner
As I often find myself these days, I was recently on a Zoom call with an Investment Committee (which shall remain nameless to protect the innocent), discussing a proposed Investment Policy Statement. The group in charge of putting together the initial draft didn't deviate much from a template, probably found online with a few customizations thrown in here and there. Although the template itself was fairly standard, churches and nonprofit organizations are often not.

An investment policy for churches or other faith-based organizations should be viewed not as a policy to be blindly followed, but more of a guide supplying responses to core questions and serving as a living covenant tying the church’s financial and/or investment objectives to your mission and ministry. You shouldn’t have to be an investment professional...
to be able to understand what's in the policy or to serve as a fiduciary leader of your church. In fact, many of the most effective Investment Committees I work with have members with limited financial backgrounds. However, these members bring their various experiences to the table and share a common fidelity to the organization and their status as fiduciaries. (Key Note: A "fiduciary" is someone who stands in a close and covenantal position to financial and/or investment assets of an institution and is required by law to solely serve the best interests of the institution. This obligation is often referred to as the "duty of loyalty and care.")

To start the process of building a workable and effective investment policy, think about the following six questions as starting points on the journey:

1. What is your organization and what does it stand for?
2. Who are those within and outside the organization that are bound by a fiduciary responsibility to it, and what are their specific roles and duties?
3. Which recognized laws and/or organizational by-laws or constitutions are providing guidelines to the organization and its fiduciaries?
4. How will the organization define its financial goals and its core values as part of creating a suitable investment portfolio?
5. Through what processes will the organization distribute funds from the portfolio to supply dollars for mission and ministry, and when will those distributions be most effective to the organization and least detrimental to the portfolio's long-term purchasing power?
6. What happens if our investment policy, the fiduciaries or the needs of the organization change?

Read the entire article.

ONA Coalition Presents Fall Webinars for Your Church
The Coalition's popular webinar series resumes on Thursday, Oct. 8, with "ONA 201: Best Practices for Growing ONA Churches." The series continues with "ONA 101" and "1-to-1 Conversations about ONA"—both indispensable resources for not-yet ONA congregations. No matter where you are on your ONA journey, there's a webinar for you! Look for discounted season passes and reduced rates for multiple participants. And please contact us if you'd like to schedule a special webinar or consulting session for your congregation! Click here to find out more.

Men and women who serve as family caregivers to loved ones struggling with dementia or Alzheimer's can be challenged by stress which can cause depression or anxiety. A caregiver who is suffering from the added stress may not be at their best to care for themselves or their loved one. With your help, we can spread the word that St. John's Community Care can support them on their journey that no one should take alone. Here are a few programs you can suggest to friends or neighbors who serve as caregivers.

- On Line - Stress Busting Program
- On Line Support Groups Offered monthly - Family Caregivers Support Group or Alzheimer's Support Group
- On Line - Memory Cafe Group Offered monthly
- In Person - BRAIN WAVE Early Memory Loss Program
- In Person - Savvy Caregiving

St. John's Community Care is currently offering in-person and on-line support and programs for family caregivers at no charge using Zoom. For more information, call Gail Shaw at 618-344-5008.

Mission Moment for your church.

What’s Happening at Illinois South Conference...

Job Opportunity:
The Highland Evangelical UCC is searching for a Director of Audio-Visual Ministries. The person in this position will lead all areas of multimedia and technical productions in a manner to glorify Christ to further the mission and ministry during all worship services, ministries, and special events at EvUCC. Click here for a full job description. Send resumes to office@evucc.org by October 15.

Zoom Prayer and Lectionary Lunch Hour for Pastors
The Local Church Ministries team will continue to host a weekly Zoom Prayer and Lectionary Lunch Hour on every Wednesday at 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm for all Illinois South Conference pastors. This is an opportunity for clergy in the Conference to get together for weekly prayer, support, and the sharing of preaching and worship ideas for the coming Sunday. We hope to see you in Zoom for our Wednesday lunch hours. An email with the Zoom link was sent to all pastors.
Get Ready to Vote: Early, By Mail, or In Person! Justice and Mission Team Asks You to Vote

You must be registered to vote. You can check to see if you are registered to vote [here](#), and if not, register to vote online [here](#).

To learn more about registering, check out this [document](#).

There are several ways to vote in the election:

**Vote Early**

- Due to concerns over COVID 19, many people may elect to vote by mail. You must apply to get a mail-in ballot. For those who apply to vote by mail, ballots will begin being mailed on September 24. There are three ways to apply:
  - in person at your election authority by November 2 OR
  - by mail by returning the application you may get in the mail. OR
  - apply online [here](#).

*All mailed or online applications for ballots must be received by your Election Authority by October 29, 2020.*

**In Person**

- Vote in person by early voting (October 19-November 2.) You can learn about places to vote early by selecting the 2020 General Election and your Election Authority at this [website](#). However, as of this writing, the places for early voting are not yet posted.

**Vote at the Polls on November 3, 2020**

- Vote in person at your polling place on Election Day. To find your polling place, go [here](#).

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**Region 3**

- **St. John UCC Granite City** will hold a drive-thru/carry-out only Sausage Dinner on Sun, Oct 18 from 11 am - 6 pm or until we run out. All dinners $10. Sausage, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, sauerkraut, apple sauce, and cake with each dinner.

**Region 4**

- **Drive Thru Friday Fish Fries** at St. John's UCC Brighton on Nov 6, 13, 20 serving from 11 am to 6:30 pm as a kick-off of the celebration of their 150th anniversary of ministry. Menu includes a choice of entrees of white or buffalo fish ($5), pulled pork ($5), brats ($2), hot dogs ($1) or meals including entrée plus two sides from potato salad, cole slaw, green beans, baked beans, mac & cheese and desserts of assorted pies or other desserts. Entrees $5; Sides $1; Desserts $3; Meal $10. Delivery of meals to local schools and businesses from 11 am - 1 pm. Credit/Debit Cards or Cash Accepted. Call ahead at 618-556-0801 or fax to 618-372-3737 or drive up to place an order. All proceeds will go to support the ministries of St. John's UCC.

**Region 5**

- **Troy Friedens UCC** will hold a Drive-Thru Sausage Dinner on Sun, Oct 11 from 11 am - 5:30 pm. Menu includes grilled pork sausage, sauerkraut, green beans, mashed potatoes & gravy and dessert. Cost $10 per dinner. Contact 618-667-6535 or [email](#).

**Region 6**

- **Troy Friedens UCC's Fall Rummage Sale** will be Fri, Oct 16 from 3 pm - 6 pm and Sat, Oct 17 from 8 am - 1 pm at their Fellowship Hall. Donation drop off on Mon, Oct 12. Call 618-667-6535 with questions. Participants will be following CDC guidelines.

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**Region 8**

- **Zion UCC New Baden** will host their Drive Thru Chicken Dinner on Sat, Oct 3, from 4-7 pm or while supply lasts. Dinner includes ½ chicken, mashed potatoes, dressing, gravy, corn, green beans, slaw, applesauce, and pie. Cost is $12 each. To reserve a meal, call the church at 618-588-4135 by 3 pm on Fri, Oct 2 with pick up name, number of meals, and pick up time. Your meals will be waiting for you when you arrive.

**Job Opportunity:** St. Peter UCC in Lenzburg is looking for an organist/pianist for the 10 am worship service starting immediately. Contact the office at 618-475-2557 or [stpeterlenzburg@htc.net](mailto:stpeterlenzburg@htc.net).