



**The Illinois South Conference UCC**  
**cordially invites you to the**  
**2022 Ministers' Retreat**  
*Creative Connections*

Wednesday and Thursday, November 2 & 3, 2022  
Toddhall Retreat Center, 320 Todd Center Dr, Columbia, IL

#### WHAT CAN WE LOOK FORWARD TO?

The Local Church Ministries Team is offering a time away for Illinois South ministers (both active and retired) to be welcomed into community, spiritually nourished, and boosted in creative confidence. We will engage our theme of **Creative Connections** by providing activities, conversations, and creative projects that will remind us that we are created in God's image and help us find the joy and courage in that once again! Whether you consider yourself "creative" or not, there will be something for you at this retreat. We will gather as a large group and in small groups, and there will also be free time to rest, visit with colleagues, or explore the retreat grounds.

#### WHO ARE THE LEADERS?

Retreat leaders are Rev. Debbie Jo Atkins, pastor of St. Paul UCC, Staunton and Rev. Krista Betz, Director, Leadership Initiatives, Pension Boards-UCC. Music will be led by Rev. Monty Jackson, pastor of Christ UCC, Maplewood, MO.

#### SHOULD I READ A BOOK?

If you are the kind of person that likes to prepare by reading a book, we recommend [Art + Faith: A Theology of Making](#) by Makoto Fujimura. This book informs our time together, but there will not be a book study during the retreat, so if you don't read it, no worries.

#### WHAT IS THE SPACE AT TODDHALL LIKE?

We will meet and sleep in Wilson Conference Room and Lodge. There are 30 sleeping rooms, each with 2 twin beds and a private bath. All linens are provided. You can choose to share a room or pay a little extra for a private room.

#### WHAT SHOULD I BRING?

- Comfy clothes and shoes. Toiletries and personal items.
- Bring one of your **stoles** that is meaningful to you (from any liturgical season).
- If you have a **creative spiritual practice or hobby**, bring it along! If it doesn't travel well, then bring something that you could use to show and tell us about it. If nothing comes to mind, don't sweat it, we'll connect in other ways.
- We're going to experiment with having a "**Book Swap**", so if there are books (of any genre) you want to pass on, bring'em—and be prepared to see what others have brought and take some home. This is an attempt to "pass it forward" and resource each other with those books that we no longer use, but someone else may want/need. Any leftover books will be donated to a local agency.

#### WHAT ABOUT COVID?

We are aware that the COVID-19 pandemic is still a reality and want to make it safe and comfortable as possible for everyone. If you want to wear a mask, please do so. We will provide space for the various activities so you can decide what is your comfortable distance. We'll also have hand sanitizer available. If there are other accommodations that would be helpful, please let us know as we are all learning how to navigate this new normal.

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<u>Wednesday, November 2</u>		<u>Thursday, November 3</u>	
11-12noon	Arrival & Check-in	8:00 am	Breakfast
12 noon	Lunch	8:45 am	Morning Music
1:00 pm	Opening Worship	9:00 am	Holy Show and Tell
1:45 pm	Break	10:30 am	Break
2:00 pm	Building Connections	10:45-11:30am	Closing Worship
3:30 pm	Free Time	12 noon	Farewell & Departure
5:30 pm	Dinner		
6:30 pm	Creative Centers		
8:30-8:45pm	Vespers		

### REGISTRATION COSTS

- Retreat program, meals, and private room: **\$110**
- Retreat program, meals, and double room: **\$85**
  - Retreat program and meals only: **\$35**

**Please register by October 19**

Clip form below and mail with check to  
**Illinois South Conference, 1312 Broadway, Highland, IL 62249**  
or to pay with credit card, **call Christy at 618-420-2608**

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### Ministers' Retreat Registration Form

*Note: Use separate registration form for each person registering.*

*\*Required information.*

Name*	Region #
Street*	
City*	State* Zip*
E-mail*	Telephone*
Name of	City of
Ministry Setting*	Ministry Setting*

Please specify any dietary or other physical needs that we can accommodate and assist with:

Single Occupancy Room \_\_\_\_\_ Double Occupancy Room \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate Preferences (if no names are listed, we will assign roommates)

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