

January 3, 2023



### Year-End Donations

Donations for the end of the year must be sent to the Conference office to arrive by **Tuesday, January 10, 2023**, in order to get all ISC donations to the National UCC by the end of the month. The check needs to **specify that the donation is for 2022** and the **date on the check should also be dated for 2022**. Thank you for helping us to clear our financial 2022 records in a timely fashion.

### Get Ready! Get Set! Paperwork is Coming Soon

It's time again for UCC Yearbook submissions. It will be done online again this year. You will need information such as:  
 Membership changes, Mailing location changes, Attendance Averages, Community Involvement, Income, Expenses, Payments to your pastor, and more. Please notify the people who handle each department to be prepared for answering these questions. With the information, you will be able to easily compile an 11-year report for your specific church, which will be useful for budgeting and when you are in need of the search process. You have ALWAYS done a phenomenal job, and I hope for the same results this year. The portal is planned to be open January 4. More instructions will be coming after very soon.  
 Thanks. Lynnette Schuepbach, Communication Coordinator

### THROUGH DEACONESS NURSE MINISTRY

The Good Samaritan Fund through Deaconess Nurse Ministry provides financial support, subject to available funds, for UCC active and retired clergy and their partners/spouses who reside in Illinois South Conference.

#### Eligible Applicant (Applicant) criteria:

1. Active or retired UCC clergy with good standing and residing in the Illinois South Conference of the UCC.

### Prayer list for Jan 8-14, 2023 Church & Pastors



**-Hookdale St. Peter's UCC, Rev. Jerry Bennett (right)**



**-Hoyleton Zion Evangelical UCC, Rev. Sharon Patton (left)**

**Retired Pastor Rev. Gus and Suzanne Kuether, Belleville, IL**

### People with Life Concerns

-Pray for the family of **Merilee (Pastor John) Mindrup** as they mourn her death. Pastor John is the Associate Pastor at Alhambra Salem UCC. Memorial services were held on December 28. Cards may be sent to 114 S Marshall St, Alhambra, IL 62001. Read the entire obituary [here](#).  
 -Keep the family of **Melvin Wagner** in your prayers as they mourn his death. Melvin was the father of Larry, Carl, Donald and Bruce Wagner. Larry (Martha) has served on the ISC Recruitment Committee for several years. Rev. Dr. Donald (Nancy) Wagner recently retired as Pastor and Teacher for Lebanon St. Paul UCC and has served on many teams for ISC. Both have been instrumental in the work for DuBois Center.

2. Surviving domestic partners or spouses of active or retired UCC Clergy residing in the Illinois South Conference of the UCC. If a surviving spouse of clergy remarries, they are no longer eligible.

#### **Type of Assistant:**

1. One time, Emergency Assistance Grants are for unforeseen circumstances that create financial demand. Emergency Grants do not subsidize churches or agencies or relieve them of meeting normal compensation responsibilities. Emergency grants are generally considered once per person in a twelve-month period with a maximum of \$3,000 for the year/ Credit counseling or other no cost financial counseling programs may be recommended for those who have avoidable financial circumstances.
2. Gap Assistant Grants are for a specific financial need for a short-term period which will eventually be resolved by other funding sources. Gap funding is available for up to 12 months rolling for a total amount of \$15,000 to an individual.

#### **Referral Process:**

Applicant will need to make contact with your Conference Minister [sjohnson@iscucc.org](mailto:sjohnson@iscucc.org) for referral process to Deaconess.

#### **Nollau Leadership Institute Is Open for 2023-2024 Class**

The Nollau Leadership Institute is CHHSM's signature program with more than 250 attendees in its 20+ years. Enrollment is now open and the short online application can be found [here](#). Grounded in the health and human service organizations of the United Church of Christ, this program offers a unique space in which to experience leadership formation. Each year, Nollau brings together a community of leaders committed to creating a just, caring, and compassionate world. Cultivating this connection between others, the world, and within themselves is the heart of the Nollau experience. Through retreats, online interactions, and peer mentoring, this program supports leadership formation through a variety of learning modalities and within a community of practice. The use of rituals, art, poetry, embodiment, and time to simply be in nature are all part of the program—alongside the interactive didactic sessions

Visitation will be between from 9 am - 11 am on Wed, Jan 4 at Darmstadt Holy Ghost UCC with services at 11 am with the Rev. Tarrah Vaupel officiating. Cards may be sent to Larry at 2144 Wagner Rd, Marissa IL 62257 and to Rev. Dr. Donald at 507 South Dr, Marissa, IL 62257. Read the entire obituary [here](#).

-Pray for **Rev. Lori and Wayne Schafer** as they mourn the loss of their animals in a barn fire. Rev. Lori is the Pastor & Teacher for Moro St. John UCC Midway. Cards may be sent to them at 210 Grandview Pl, Brighton, IL 62012.

-Keep the **mother of Pastor Norma Patterson** in your prayers as she struggles with health issues. Pastor Norma Patterson is the Pastor and Teacher for East St. Louis Good Shepherd of Faith and has served on several teams for ISC. Cards may be sent to Norma at 5310 DePaul Drive, PO Box 4235, Fairview Heights, IL 62008.

-Please pray for **Rev. Ken (Jean) Knobloch** as he recovers from surgery. Rev. Knobloch served Irvington Friedens UCC and Red Bud St. Peter UCC before retiring, as well as serving on several ISC teams/committees. Cards can be sent to 1518 Mill St, PO Box 76, Maestown, IL 62256.

-Please hold **Rev. Jim & Lelynna Langdoc** in your prayers as Lelynna deals with some memory loss. Good news...Jim reported that he is still in remission. Cards can be sent to them at 16640 Cagan Orchard #122, Clermont, FL 34714.

Guided by CHHSM's commitment to issues of Race, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice, leadership will be examined and practiced. You can learn more about the curriculum [here](#).

### **Carol Joyce, first woman elected to leadership in mainline denomination, dies at 81** by [Maic D'Agostino](#) | published on Dec 26, 2022

The Rev. Carol Joyce, former secretary of the United Church of Christ, [died Nov. 30 in Minneapolis](#). She was 81. In 1983, Joyce became the first woman elected to national leadership in a mainline Protestant denomination. At the 14th General Synod in Pittsburgh, she successfully ran for secretary, which then was one of the highest executive offices in the UCC, along with president and treasurer. The structure of the elected leadership has been modified since then. Read [more](#).

### **Getting Started with Messy Church**

On Jan 21, 2023, the first Training Event for Messy Church will be presented at Waterloo St. Paul UCC from 9 am to 3 pm (lunch is included). Click [here](#) for registration, pricing, & further information.

## DuBois Center News

**For Lightning Fast Speed** - The fastest way to receive a response from DuBois Center involves a new process for snail mail, email,

and donations. To reach DBC via email use this email [dcinfo@duboiscenter.org](mailto:dcinfo@duboiscenter.org). To send snail mail regarding DuBois Center, send to *DuBois Center, c/o St. Peter UCC, PO Box 96, Okawville, IL 62271*. Julie Riechmann, the ISC/DuBois Registrar, is processing mail and email from her office inside Okawville St. Peter UCC. **Or** you may send it directly to the Highland Office at *Illinois South Conference, 1312 Broadway, Highland, IL 62249*. Either of those ways will give you the quickest response from us.



**ISC Property Team needs your help** - Camp DuBois has no hay shed to keep their round hay bales dry. Wet hay bales are prone to mold and bacteria which pose a serious health risk to the camp's horses. An ISC family has generously offered to donate their 43x68 metal pole building to the camp. Our challenge is to find a company that will dismantle the building, move it to Camp DuBois, and reassemble it at the camp. If you know of such a company please contact one of the Property Team's co-chairs, Roger Harris ([rharris2325@gmail.com](mailto:rharris2325@gmail.com) or 618-631-4502) or Mark Beckmeyer ([mbeckmey@icloud.com](mailto:mbeckmey@icloud.com) or 618-335-9945).

### **Search for Executive Director of DuBois Center**

Are you a people person who also has a deep love of creation? Do you possess strong organizational and interpersonal skills? Are you someone with abundant initiative and enthusiasm? If so, you are the person we are looking for to be the Executive Director of DuBois Center.

The Executive Director of DuBois Center is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of DuBois Center as well as staff recruitment and management, ensuring the health and safety of all campers and guests, and developing and sustaining partnerships to grow camping and retreat activities. The Executive Director of DuBois Center will serve in conjunction with the members of the Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ, which seeks to do the work of Christ on earth through our shared missions of healing, mercy, and justice and which rely on the Holy Spirit to guide, comfort, challenge, empower, and bind all God's people in a loving, covenantal relationship.



To review the job description, expectations and compensation, please click [here](#). To apply, send your statement of interest and resume to [DuBoisCenterJobs@gmail.com](mailto:DuBoisCenterJobs@gmail.com).



**DuBois 6.0 Campaign Update** - Churches and individuals continue to show support of the DuBois 6.0 capital campaign through their donations. Because of your generosity the total for the DuBois 6.0 campaign is over \$242,660.00.

## Health & Human Services Sunday - January 29, 2023



*CHHSM News*  
Council for Health and Human Service Ministries



Every year, the United Church of Christ designates a Sunday in January as the time to uplift the many gifts of the Health and Human Service Ministries across the church. This year, Health and Human Service [Sunday](#) takes place on January 29, 2023.

Liturgical resources for observing Health and Human Service Sunday are now available on CHHSM's website or by clicking on the blue button below. This year's [materials](#) were composed by the Rev. Dr. Elyse Berry, and include unique elements such as a Meditation for Mental Health and Beatitudes for Essential Workers.

**Stress-busting for Family Care-Givers** - St. John's Community Care holds sessions every Monday from 10 am - 11:30 am for 9 weeks. The next session will be from Feb 6 - April 10, 2023. The program provides education and support, teaches stress management techniques, and helps care-givers develop coping strategies. Call 618-344-5008 for more information.

**The Savvy Caregiver Series** - Are you noticing memory loss, confusion or unexpected behavior in your family? St. John's Community Care provides a class for care-givers beginning Jan 19 - Feb 23, 2023, from 10 am - 12 pm every Thursday. Class size is limited so registration is required. Call 618-344-5008.

**Medical Equipment Loan Program** - St. John's Community Care is open to loan equipment and accept equipment returns and donations on Monday - Friday from 9 am - 4:30 pm. Call 618-344-5008 to determine if they have the equipment you need. Email [info@stjohnscc.org](mailto:info@stjohnscc.org) for more information or to reserve equipment.

## What's Happening in Illinois South Conference

### **From UCC General Council - Proving Your Church's Tax-Exempt Status, and Your Church's EIN: What Local Churches Need to Know.**

Do you know about the United Church of Christ's group exemption for 501(c)(3) status? Do you need to prove that your Local Church is tax-exempt? Do you know the difference between "nonprofit," "tax-exempt," and "501(c)(3)?" These terms, while often used interchangeably, have distinct meanings under the law, and come with different legal obligations. This post explains how these terms apply to your Local Church, how to prove your church's tax-exempt status, and the importance of maintaining your church's federal Employer Identification Number, or EIN. Read [more...](#)

**Region 9 - Belleville Concordia Church will hold its Chili Challenge Men's Fellowship Event on Sat, Jan 21 from 11 am - 3 pm.** Eat in or carry out. Menu includes Chili samples



(1 of each chili) for \$5; 16 oz serving of chili \$5; Plain hot dog for \$2; Chili dog for \$3; or hot dog/Chili combo for \$7. 50% of proceeds go to the Millstadt Food Pantry. Questions, call 618-476-3377.

**Belleville St. Paul UCC will hold its Crafty Mania on Sat, Jan 21, 2023, from 9 am - 4 pm.** Ticket includes all day crafting, lunch, snacks, crafting space, attendance prizes, and vendors in the afternoon. Tickets for raffle items will be available for purchase. Cost for the day is \$35. Register [online](#) (addition \$3.77) or send the form [here](#). Registration with payment deadline is Jan 7.

**Job Opportunities - Granite City St. John UCC is seeking a passionate, part-time Director of Music** able to consistently provide a holy experience for our congregation and to reach new people through live music at worship services. The Director of Music will develop and lead the music ministries of our church year-round, providing live music throughout the year along with direction for our choir. Requires a high proficiency in playing organ and piano. A state-of-the-art Allen Bravura digital organ and grand piano are recently installed in the sanctuary, along with a new top-of-the-line sound system. Worship services are made more vibrant and motivational through music, and we rely on our Director of Music to lead the way. This part-time position will entail an average of 10-12 hours per week, with the inclusion of Sunday morning worship, Wednesday evening rehearsals, and occasional special services, funerals and weddings. Salary commensurate with work experience. The church's mission statement: Empowered by the Holy Spirit, living our faith in Jesus Christ, and celebrating the promises of God, we welcome all to unite in loving and serving God. We hope you are called to be part of our historic church. Candidates may apply by submitting a resume and references to [stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com](mailto:stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com).

**Friedens UCC in Marissa seeks part-time organist and/or pianist.** Duties include playing organ and/or piano on Sundays for our 10am worship services as well as Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, mid-week Lenten services, and our Pre-Lenten breakfast. Position includes 4 paid Sundays off (except for Easter) for vacation time. Services normally consist of a prelude, 2-3 hymns, some short, sung responses, and a postlude. To apply or for more information please contact Rev. Brett Palmer at [marissafriedens@gmail.com](mailto:marissafriedens@gmail.com) or call the church office 618-295-2004.

**Troy Friedens UCC is looking for a Nursery Attendant.** If interested, call 618-667-6535 or email [friedens@friedensucc-troy.org](mailto:friedens@friedensucc-troy.org).

**St John UCC in Fairview Heights seeks a part time Church Secretary.** Duties include answering the phone, process and distribute email and regular mail and ordering supplies as needed. Preparing the Sunday bulletin, the annual meeting reports, newsletter, coordinate the church calendar, keep Member contribution files updated in Church Windows and providing support to the Pastor and other ministries of the Church. A full job description will be provided at the interview. 9-12 hours weekly and should be familiar with Word and Excel. Contact the Church office at 618-660-8894 or email [stjohnuccfairview@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnuccfairview@gmail.com).

**Music Ministry Director at Evangelical UCC in Highland,** this position will promote leadership in developing and implementing the music ministries of the Church, and actively engage the congregation in worship through music. The Director serves as a resource to support, foster and coordinate the worship life of the congregation through congregational,

choral, and special music. This is a part time position, averaging 15 hours per week. Scheduling is flexible and offers competitive compensation. Candidates can apply by sending their resume to [office@evucc.org](mailto:office@evucc.org). Click [here](#) for details.

**Pinckneyville St. Paul UCC is in search for a Part-time Music Leader.** This position requires excellent people skills in working with the Council, Pastor, Secretary, committees, and Sunday school teachers. Music skills include the ability to play a Wick's two-manual pipe organ with pedals and piano. Good vocal skills are a plus but not required. The church does not have a choir but occasionally has special instrumentalists and vocalists. Church services are currently 10 am - 11 am on Sundays. Special services include Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and two Easter services. Contact the church secretary at 618-357-8075.

**CONTACT US - YOUR OCWM MONIES AT WORK - Please call (618-654-2125) before coming to the Conference Office or make an appointment with a staff member using the emails below.**

For the work of Conference teams and committees or for financial matters (in terms of your church's giving to the Conference or OCWM), contact Debbie Kesner at [dkesner@iscucc.org](mailto:dkesner@iscucc.org).

For communicating within the Conference, the Conference website, Facebook page or Weekly Connection, contact Lynnette Schuepbach at [lschuepbach@iscucc.org](mailto:lschuepbach@iscucc.org).

For DuBois Center program information, contact Rylee Bernhardt at 618-787-2202 or [program@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:program@DuBoisCenter.org).

For DuBois Center registration for upcoming events and camp sessions or ISC program registrations, contact Julie Riechmann at 618-357-1809 or [jriechmann@iscucc.org](mailto:jriechmann@iscucc.org).

The ISC Conference Minister, Rev. Shana Johnson, will be on a short limited medical leave after surgery on December 9 to the end of the year. Please get in touch with her via email [sjohnson@iscucc.org](mailto:sjohnson@iscucc.org) or text 618-882-8247 if you have a question or an emergency.

*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 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.*

[Illinois South Conference](#) [Back Bay Mission](#) [CHHSM](#) [Deaconess Foundation](#)

[Deaconess Nurse Ministry](#) [DuBois Center](#) [Ecuador Partnership](#)

[Eden Theological Seminary](#) [Emmaus Homes](#) [Hitz Memorial Home](#)

[Hoyleton Youth & Family](#) [LIFE Program](#) [Unleashing Potential](#)

[Pension Board-UCC](#) [St. John's Community Care](#) [UCC Insurance Board](#)

[Uplands Village](#) [UCC Campus Ministry](#) [Uni-Pres Kindercottage](#)  
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