



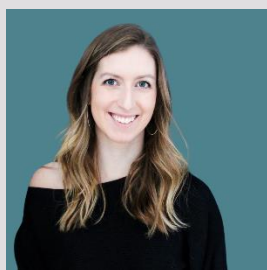
February 7, 2023

## Getting to Know You!

We are excited to provide two "Meet and Greet" opportunities so you all can meet Noah McCarn, the new Executive Director of DuBois Center (photo right) in person. The first opportunity will be **Sunday, March 5 from 3 pm to 5 pm at St. Jacob United Church of Christ** in St. Jacob. It is always good to have a face with a name. Here's your chance to do that with Noah.



The second "Meet and Greet" for **Noah McCarn** happens on **Sunday, April 23 from 3 pm to 5 pm at DuBois Center**. It will be more spring-like weather for this opportunity. You may meet Noah and Rylee Bernhardt, Program Director, (photo left) for DuBois Center AND tour the facility. There have been so many improvements to the space through your generosity in donations to DuBois 6.0. This is your chance to see the space and its caretakers. We hope to see you at one of the events.



## Day of Discipleship

**March 4, 2023**

**[Register Now!](#)**

**Connecting with God, Neighbor, and Self will be held on Sat, March 4 from 9 am - 12 pm at Alhambra Salem UCC.**

Keynote speaker is Rev. Kelsey

Beebe, who believes firmly in an all-loving God, embodied Christ, and ever-moving Holy Spirit that connects us all. She is a trained dancer, yoga instructor, and an ordained minister in the United

## Prayer list for Feb 12-18, 2023

### Church & Pastors

**-Marine UCC, Rev. Phil (Sandee) Kershner** (right)



**-Marion Zion UCC, Rev. John (Sara) Holst** (left)

### Retired Pastor

**-Rev. Louis Fluck**, Marion, IL

### People with Life Concerns

-Pray for the **people of Turkey and Syria** as they recover from the recent devastating earthquake. The UCC asks for your help to aid them in the recovery. Click [here](#) to help.

-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

Church of Christ. She serves as a solo pastor at two churches just south of Milwaukee, WI, and is the Executive Minister of Dancing Pastor Ministries and host of the Lady Preacher Podcast. She has performed, preached, key-noted, and led retreats all around the United States as well as in Costa Rica. In addition to her keynote presentation, you can choose two sessions with a choice of six workshop topics.

**WORKSHOP Choices**— *You do not need to choose your workshops at this time! You will choose your workshops during the event.*

**Please Note:** *Childcare and youth programming will be provided that day.*

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 improves with her battle with 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.

### **WORKSHOP #1 – “A Taste of Companionship”**

**Speaker: Rev. Tim Darmour-Paul, Grantfork UCC**

This is an introduction to Companionship Workshops which teach church members ways to respond to people dealing with mental health challenges. The full workshops, centered on developing five spiritual disciplines which promote building relationships, will help overcome the stigma associated with mental health concerns.

### **WORKSHOP #2 - “Creating Community for Online Worshippers”**

**Speaker: Darren Calhoun, Urban Village Church, Chicago**

Darren Calhoun, a band member of The Many (who joined us for our 2022 Annual Meeting), will join us virtually to discuss how local churches can engage and build a community for online worshippers. Darren is a worship leader at Urban Village Church in the South Loop of Chicago.

### **WORKSHOP #3 – “Lebanon Listens Ministry”**

**Speaker: Christine Brewer – St. Paul UCC, Lebanon**

Christine will explain how what started as a simple, open, and honest community discussion has blossomed into a vital ministry that connects neighbor to neighbor in direct response to addressing the food insecurity issues in the wider Lebanon community.

### **WORKSHOP #4 - “Labyrinths – A Spiritual Practice”**

**Speaker: Rev. Stacy Tate, Irvington Friedens UCC**

Rev. Stacy Tate will lead a workshop on the spiritual practice of labyrinths. Rev. Tate is a certified labyrinth guide. Participants will experience for themselves how this tool can be used for prayer, personal reflection, and spiritual transformation.

### **WORKSHOP #5 – “Transforming Christian Education for the Inclusive Church”**

**Panelist: Pastor Tim Reed, Pastor of Belleville Trinity UCC and Carla Kay Robertson**

In this workshop, participants will be guided through a series of activities based on Multiple Intelligences, a theory of intelligence developed by Howard Gardner. Provide the service of an interactive and engaging Christian Education Program utilizing these tried-and-true activities.

### **WORKSHOP #6 – Movement in Ministry**

**Speaker: Rev. Kelsey Peterson Beebe**

This workshop will explore how congregations can implement practices which embody ways to connect more deeply to themselves, others and God.

Click [here](#) to register. Click [here](#) for a flyer to post in your church.



**Delegates & Pastors: You Are Invited  
To An Illinois South Council Ecclesiastical Council  
To Examine for Ordination  
Amy Brooks**

Sunday, February 26, 2023, 3:00 pm on Zoom (Link below)  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7088890946>

**Schedule:**

2:45 – The Zoom session will open  
3:00 – Ecclesiastical Council begins  
Introduction by a member of the Committee on Ministry  
Presentation of the Candidate  
Summary of the Ordination [Paper](#)  
Examination and Discernment  
Deliberation and Decision by the Ecclesiastical Council  
Announcement of the Vote

**Who Should Attend?**

An Ecclesiastical Council is an official meeting of the Illinois South Conference acting as an Association. Delegates from each congregation and all United Church of Christ ordained and licensed ministers with standing in the Conference are called to be present for this meeting. Local churches are entitled to the same number of voting delegates as for any meeting of the Conference.

**Why Are We Meeting?**

To examine Amy Brooks, a Member in Discernment of Illinois South Conference, for ordained ministry. Amy has completed the preparation steps for ordination, was examined by the Illinois South Conference Committee on Ministry, and was approved as a candidate for an Ecclesiastical Council. It is now the task of the Ecclesiastical Council (the gathered body of voting delegates of our Conference) to discern if Amy is worthy of ordination in the United Church of Christ.

**How Can We Prepare?**

Please download the ordination [paper](#) and the [document](#) entitled “The Church’s Expectations of Its Candidates for Ordination,” which will be attached to email invitations sent to your churches. Copies can also be accessed on our Conference [website](#). Please make copies for other delegates or share the papers so they can read these materials before the meeting. During the Zoom event, delegates can ask the candidate questions about the ordination paper and call to ministry.

**Generosity/Stewardship Materials**

“**Because of You, Our Church Changes Lives**” is this year's UCC stewardship theme, making the connection between donor generosity and the ministry and mission of your congregation. Materials include extensive resources for worship, sermons, and faith formation for children, youth and adults. The materials also provide practical tools such as logos, commitment cards, bulletin inserts and letters. Guidance for every step of your campaign helps you make the best use of these robust materials. Find out [more](#).



**Belleville Concordia UCC held a Chili Challenge** recently. The winners were all smiles. 1st place winner was Randy Huck (far left), 2nd place went to Brian Ripplemeyer (middle), and 3rd place went to Scott Callahan (far right). It was a day full of fun and the winners were happy too.





# DuBois Center News

## ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT SPRING?

Spring and summer are on our minds at DuBois Center and we are ready to welcome you!!

**Register for our spring events with an early bird**

**discount through February 8th!**

### Father & Son Retreat – March 17-19

We are excited to be offering this popular retreat where DuBois Center is your playground to enjoy time with your dad, son, nephew, uncle, grandson, grandpa, or even someone who you think of as one!

### Horse Retreat - April 15-16

Another crowd favorite returns! This weekend is just like our summer horse camp, but with more time with and on the horses! Also, who said you could only **ride** horses? We'll have activities like horse apple bobbing, campfire cookouts with your horse, confecting horse treats, a barn party, and many more horse games. Designed for participants ages 12 and over who love horses, this could very well be the highlight of your spring!



### Women's Retreat - April 21-23

Back again for 2023, this retreat was created just for women ages 20 and over at DuBois Center. Relax and unwind with activities like yoga, nature walks, and spiritual time. This retreat is all about relaxing, getting away from everyday life, and meeting new friends. With an adults-only theme, this is the perfect time to get away and enjoy a stress-free weekend!

**BONUS:** This weekend will also feature yoga from one of our talented former staff members and massages from two of our most dedicated volunteers! Just two more reasons to get away for the weekend!

For full details, pricing, and registration for all events, please visit us online!

As always, be sure to continue to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), [TikTok](#), and [www.DuBoisCenter.org](http://www.DuBoisCenter.org) for pictures, updates, videos, and stories!

### We're Looking for a Few Good Horses

As we prepare for Summer Camp, we want to add a couple horses to our herd. We're hoping someone out there knows of a horse or two that might be a good fit for camp that could be donated or purchased at a reasonable cost.

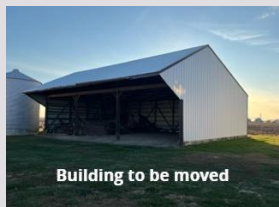
Here's what we are looking for:

- Reliable kid-safe trail horses - walk, trot and canter with good brakes.
- Not too young and not too old - our preference is for horses between 5 and 15 years old.
- Large and sturdy - at least 15 hands tall and well built. They will often be carrying children, but they also need to be able to carry large adults.
- Healthy, easy keepers - our herd spends much of their time living naturally in our pastures and woods. No horses with special dietary or health needs.
- Good temperament - they will be working with kids much of the time and need to be patient and easy-going.



- No bad habits - no bucking, rearing or cribbing

If you know a horse that is available and might be a good camp horse, please contact Scott Kuether at [sekuether21@gmail.com](mailto:sekuether21@gmail.com).



### 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).

### DuBois Center needs Nature's Classroom Instructors!

More information can be found at <https://duboiscenter.org/natures-classroom/> or reach out to the Program Director, Rylee Bernhardt by calling the office 618-787-2202 or emailing her at [program@duboiscenter.org](mailto:program@duboiscenter.org).



### LIFE at Eden: History and Polity of the UCC

Via Zoom and in-person! Free for current Eden students

Dates: Friday, Feb. 10, 2023 @ 7:00-9:00 PM CST

Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023 @ 9:00 AM -2:00 PM CST

This intensive class will provide an overview of the predecessor denominations that shaped the United Church of Christ's style of congregational governance. It will also look at how General Synod functions, explore some theological foundations, discuss how the authorization process works and review educational resources available from the denomination.

#### About the Instructor:

**Dr. Jill Baker** is an adjunct faculty member at Eden and Coordinator of Eden's Houses of Study. She regularly teaches UCC History and Polity, among other courses. She has been active at the local, Conference and national levels of the United Church of Christ since 1991. Jill is the current Moderator of Illinois South Conference.

### The Future of Co-Vocational Ministry

Date - 02/21/2023 from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Annual Bracke Public Lecture on Leadership Via Zoom

Join us to get an update on the latest trends from The Hartford Institute of Religious Research, about the state of the church, and what ministry jobs will look like in the future? This event is for all. It is also part of the Eden students' Progressive Christian Leadership Seminar

#### Speakers:

**Dr. Allison Norton** is the Faculty Associate in Migration Studies and Congregational Life at Hartford International University, where she directs the Pastoral Innovation Network of New England.

**The Rev. Aaron Rogers** is a passionate preacher, teacher, and nonprofit leader based in St. Louis, MO. racial equity, social justice, and creating thriving organizations.



*CHHSM News*  
Council for Health and Human Service Ministries

Affectionately known as “**Rev. Raquel**,” the Reverend Raquel S. Lettsome, Ph.D. informs and inspires congregants and classes through her preaching, teaching, writing, and online course and webinar experiences.

**Uni-Pres Kindercottage Needs Your Support** - Thanks to so many generous donors we have completed our goal of putting in a new 3 to 5-year old outdoor playground. They still owe \$35,000 and are still seeking funds to pay off this project. They are also in the midst of planning and fundraising for the construction of a 0 to 3 year-old playground. Their playground equipment is in poor condition and has been worn over the years. They request your help to reach the goal of a sound playground structure installed by the year 2024. Contact Aimee Hart at [Aimee@unipreskindercottage.org](mailto:Aimee@unipreskindercottage.org) to find out more.

**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@stjohnsccc.org](mailto:info@stjohnsccc.org) for more information or to reserve equipment.

**Mark Your Calendars!** - Unleashing Potential in St. Louis, Missouri, will hold a Trivia Night on Sat, April 22. Watch for more information coming soon. Let's join together for fun that helps to empower the children we serve.

**Hoyleton Youth & Family Services Presents Foster Parent Info Sessions** - If you have ever considered becoming a foster parent, this event on Thurs, Feb 9 from 10 am - 12 pm and 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm at 8 Executive Dr, Ste 200, Fairview Heights is for you. Both sessions will feature a presentation from our foster care staff with information about becoming a foster parent including licensing requirements, background checks, necessary training and the timeline associated with completing requirements. Find out about therapeutic treatment homes and opportunities for respite time shifts. Current Hoyleton foster parents will be there to answer questions. Light refreshments will be served. Bring a friend to be entered in a drawing for a \$100 Amazon gift card. RSVP [here](#).

## What's Happening in Illinois South Conference

**Region 2 - Valmeyer St John UCC will hold its Fish Fries (carryout only from the shed) on Wed, Feb 22, from 4 pm – 7 pm and Fri, March 3 from 4 pm - 7:30 pm.** Enjoy cod plates, cod sandwiches and cod by the pound. Sides will be American potato salad, slaw and fries.

**Region 5 - Troy Friedens UCC will host Classic Friedens Friends on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 10 am.** The day is designed specifically for adults who are retired, semi-retired, etc. The day will include some stretching/ chair yoga, a devotional time to set goals for the year, lunch, and a movie. Feel free to come for part or all of this day. No prior knowledge or experience needed to participate. All are welcome!

**Hamel Immanuel UCC will hold its Chicken Dinner on Sunday March 19 from 11:30 am - 4:30 pm. DRIVE THRU ONLY.** Menu includes fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, slaw, and applesauce. Quilt and TV raffle. Contact 618-633-2277. All meals \$12.00.

**Troy Friedens UCC will host its Coffee & Dessert Speaker Series on the Third Thursday of the Month at 7:00 pm.** Speakers scheduled are:

**February 16 "Jarvis Township History and Folklore"**

Speaker: Kevin Kaegy a Jarvis Family Descendent

**March 16 "A Trip to the Holy Land"**

Speakers: Pastor Tim & Danielle Harrison & fellow travelers

**April 20 "Lessons from the Master Gardeners"**

Speakers: Bob and Judy Smejkal

**May 18 "The 60s Chicks Show Choir"**

**Region 8 - Trenton St. John UCC will hold a Drive-Thru Chili & Beef Vegetable Soup Meal on Sat, Feb 18 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm or until they run out.** Soup price is \$10 per quart. Wurstmarkt applesauce for \$8 per quart (limited quantity). Enter alley on west side by the Shell Station. For questions, contact 618-224-9828.

**Region 9 - Concordia UCC will hold its All-You-Can-Eat Pancake & Sausage Breakfast from 7 am - 10 am on Sat, Feb 25.** Menu includes three kinds of pancakes - Buttermilk, Oatmeal & Gluten Free. Adults \$9; Children ages 5 - 12 \$6; Free for children under 5. Proceeds go to Concordia UCC's youth programs.

**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. The new director must have high proficiency in playing organ and piano. To support you, both our state-of-the-art Allen Bravura digital organ and our grand piano are recently installed in the sanctuary, along with a new top-of-the-line sound system. Our 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. The position's salary will be commensurate with the individual's past work experience. In Christ we live, celebrate and serve. Our church's mission statement embodies who we are: 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).

**Office Business Manager** - Evangelical UCC in Highland has an opportunity for a full-time Office Business Manager. This position will be responsible for overall administrative operation & management of the church office, day care, preschool & building & grounds. 2+ years of work experience required. Candidates can send their resume to [bbray@evucc.org](mailto:bbray@evucc.org). Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

**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).

**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 Executive Director, contact Noah McCarn at [director@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:director@DuBoisCenter.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](#)  
[UCC Newsletter](#)

