



Weekly Connection

Diverse Minds,
Covenant Hearts,
Made One in the Body of Christ

July 31, 2023



Illinois South Conference
October 21, 2023
St. Peter's UCC, Red Bud, IL

**Pastors
Lay Delegates
Visitors & Youth
SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday, October
21, 2023
9:30 am - 5 pm
St. Peter UCC
Red Bud**

This year's Annual Meeting will center on
Doing a New Thing:

Connection, Collaboration, Creativity.

We believe in this moment of our nation and world's history, more than ever, people need to try something new.

Business - Worship - Fellowship

Rev. Monty Jackson (right), singer, songwriter, arranger, and record producer, will inspire us with music and words.

Rev. Monty Jackson is an award-winning artist, singer-songwriter, arranger, and record producer. He has served ecumenically as a Pastor of Worship and Arts in various denominations. He graduated from Eden Theological Seminary, earning a Master of Divinity degree—Monty Co-Pastors Christ Church UCC in Maplewood, MO. An internationally acclaimed artist, Monty has performed throughout the United States, Canada, the continents of Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, the South Pacific Islands, and the Caribbean. The venues where he performed include the Sydney Opera House, the West Angeles Church of God in Christ Cathedral, and the Crystal Cathedral. He was a regular musical guest on the Praise the Lord show on Trinity



Prayer list for Aug 6 - 12, 2023 Church & Pastors

**-Darmstadt Holy
Ghost UCC, Rev.
Tarah (Jasen)
Vaupel
(right)**



**-DuBois St. Mark's
UCC (left)**

Retired Pastor

**-Rev. Christopher and Cathy
Hill, O'Fallon, IL**

People with Life Concerns

-Please pray for a new program **Home Help and Hoops (HHH) Summer Camp**. The program has served over 100 kids. Prayers for continued energy for support and outreach to the Collinsville community.

-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 hold **Rev. Jim & Lelynna Langdoc** in your prayers as Lelynna improves with her battle with memory loss.

Broadcasting Network. He says, "Out of all the places I have performed, no experience compares to singing an American spiritual on the Sea of Galilee." Today, Monty has over a million views on YouTube from those who love his musical gift. Monty, and his wife Patti, enjoy spending time with their two children: Christian and Cetera.

Good news...Jim reported that he is still in remission. Cards can be sent to them at 16640 Cagan Orchard #122, Clermont, FL 34714.

-Pray for the churches who have sustained damage in the recent storms.

FALL FESTIVAL - FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

SAVE THE DATE

October 1 @ DuBois Center from 11 am - 5 pm

Spend the first Sunday in October enjoying the fall leaves and weather at DuBois Center during Fall Festival. There will be food, drink, and lots of vendors. Spend the day shopping, having fun, enjoying music, and helping DuBois Center raise funds while you have fun with the family!

**FALL
FESTIVAL**
DuBois Center

Facing Hunger in Your Community

The Hunger Action Team of the ISC asks you to share the ways (and photos) of how you are helping to address hunger in your communities. During the summer, students who qualify for free school breakfast/ lunch will not have access to their free meals during summer break.

Please share how your church is helping combat hunger for local families in need.

Reminder: Children need the proper nutrition for their learning, development, and growth.

To share your efforts to help feed the hungry, contact Kathi at kathi1emery@gmail.com.

Below is another local program to feed hungry people.

The Amazing People of Illinois South Conference...

The ISC Hunger Action Team would like to recognize St. Paul, Waterloo for hosting free Monday night meals. "Martha's Kitchen/Mary's Heart" started in 2012 with only 1 or 2 people attending the first few weeks. Volunteers kept cooking; before long, word got out. More and more people began attending. Currently, this ministry serves over 75 guests each Monday. The weekly cost of this free community meal is approximately \$300. Pictured: MKMH volunteers accepting a \$500 check from the Rotary Club of Monroe County. Such a blessing to have community support for this great mission project. Thanks, St. Paul.



Disaster Preparedness for Faith-Based Community Organizations

The RDPC (Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium) presents a course, MGT 405: Mobilizing Faith-Based Community Organizations in Preparing for Disaster, on Aug 10 from 9 am - 5 pm at the Fairview Fire Department, 10045 Bunkum Rd, Fairview Heights. MGT 405 is an 8-hour, DHS/FEMA-certified, tuition-free, management-level course. This course covers emergency planning and brings together emergency managers and first responders with Faith-Based Community Organization (FBCO) leaders in a shared

learning environment. This course facilitates effective communication to develop comprehensive local emergency plans. The course is free, but you must register online. Click [here](#) to register. Contact email jordan.p.ping@illinois.gov or phone 618-444-8881.

**General Synod
Wrap Up
Conversation**

JOIN US!

HEAR FROM
DELEGATES
ABOUT THEIR
SYNOD
EXPERIENCES!

Where: Eckert's Cider Shed
951 S Green Mount Rd., Belleville
When: August 22 @ 3pm
Cost: Own food and drinks

For more information, contact Rev. Michelle Torigian at
St. Paul UCC Belleville: 618.233.3303

Companionship Workshops

Companionship is a program that trains people to respond compassionately when they encounter folks dealing with mental health challenges. Its central elements are five spiritual practices which promote a relationship responding to isolation and suffering and supportive of healing and recovery. It is administered by Pathways to Promise, an interfaith cooperative seeking to integrate mental health, faith, and culture. You can find out more about the program at pathways2promise.org/companionship.

As a WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged with people with mental health challenges) Conference, we are planning to conduct the Companionship Workshop at three different locations in the upcoming months for any interested members and friends in our congregations. The training lasts between three and four hours (depending on how many people participate). There is a \$20 fee that covers the cost of workbooks for the participants.

The scheduled workshops are as follows:

Saturday, August 19, 1:00 - 5:00 pm, at St. Paul UCC in Belleville.

Saturday, September 23, 1:00 - 5:00 pm, at a church in the southern part of the Conference (tentative).

Saturday, November 4, 1:00 - 5:00 pm, at a church in the northern part of the Conference (tentative).

Registration at least one week in advance is necessary so that enough materials can be ordered. To register, contact Rev. Tim Darmour-Paul, at timdp811@agtelco.com, or at 618-675-2595 (the phone for Grantfork UCC) with the names of all who wish to attend. Cash or checks payable to Pathways to Promise may be brought at the time of the workshop.

St. Peter UCC in Centralia has more items that need new homes. Some of the items are needed for a wedding in September, but if you want the item(s) your name will be put on a list. The first person who calls gets the first choice. Please feel free to contact me at nancyborg@charter.net to get more details and pictures. Any donations given for items will be given to charity. Descriptions below photos.



(Left) Children's altar 4'1" height 25" wide 6-feet long
 (Second from left) Communion table 35 ½ inches tall 25 inches wide 6-feet long
 The Bibles on top are German, various years, and offering plates
 (Two right photos) Communion table used in the Sanctuary, has a removable glass covering. 7-feet long, 3 feet-3 ½ inches tall



(Left) Baptismal Font – very heavy
 (Second and third from left) Altar candles – wax outside/interior spring 26 Inches tall 2 candles
 (Second from right) Plastic chairs - adult and children sizes
 (Far right) Attendance board with numbers included



(Left) Hymn number display with numbers included
 (Second & third from left) Choir robes – blue with reversible stoles – 15 robes in various sizes
 (Right) Children classroom studies & hands-on Bible curriculum



(Left) Children pews – 3 pews - full length
(Right) 12 Chairs - Used in teenage classroom



† DuBois Center News

Rainbow Camp 2023

Rainbow Camp will be held Aug. 12, 2023, at DuBois Center. We will offer an optional overnight stay on Aug. 11 for those who are interested- just look for Rainbow Camp Plus when you register.

Rainbow Camp is for singles, couples and families in the LGBTQ Community. Straight allies always welcome, too. Come celebrate pride at DuBois Center. Click [here](#) for a flyer to share with your church. Extra discounts for families of 5 or more. **Registration closes Aug. 2.** Photo above are participants in 2022 Rainbow Camp.

DUBOIS FALL FESTIVAL - OCTOBER 1 FROM 11 AM - 5 PM.

Come to DuBois for some Family Fun at Fall Festival.



CHSM News
Council for Health and Human Service Ministries

Save the Date - Laugh Out Loud Fundraiser for Kindercottage



Uni-Pres Kindercottage will have a fundraiser "Laugh Out Loud," a night of Christian Comedy on Sat, Aug 26 beginning at 6:30 pm at St. Paul UCC, 115 W B St, Belleville, IL 62220. \$400 Gold VIP Table for 10 people; \$300 Silver Table for 10 people; \$25 Bronze for individual theater style seating. Contact 618-874-6505 or Aimee@unipreskindercottage.org. Click [here](#) for a flyer to share with your congregation.



Deaconess Foundation shares a new strategic framework.

You will learn their refined strategic direction, ways to access new funding opportunities, and more. See the results of their multilayered community-driven approach to seeding, creating, and fostering conditions where liberation is the lived reality

within seven generations.

Presentation choices:

Tues, Aug 22 from 5:30 pm-7:30 pm at Deaconess Center for Child well-being, St. Louis, MO.

Tues, Sept 12 from 8:00 am - 10:00 am at Jackie Joyner-Kersey Community Center, East St. Louis, IL.

Register [here](#). Additional opportunities to learn more about the strategy will be available this fall.

Hey Friends-- if anyone (clergy or lay) is looking to make a move, why don't you check out the **full-time Director of Campus & Youth Ministry position nested in [Community UCC](#) in the heart of the University of Illinois.** This congregation is a wonderful group of people with a deep commitment to serving the community. Several of our Illinois South young adults have been a part of this campus ministry over the years and some have even discerned their call to ministry there, like Rev. Krista Betz and Rev. Kirk Foster, PhD. Applications will only be received for a short time, so don't delay! More information is available on the UCC Ministry Opportunities page [here](#).



Hoyleton Youth & Family Services has multiple employment opportunities available. To see the list, click [here](#).

Hoyleton Youth & Family Services needs your help to build their Back to School supplies. The supplies can be dropped off or mail checks to Hoyleton Youth & Family Services, 8 Executive Dr Ste. 200 in Fairview Heights between 9 am - 4 pm by appointment. Click [here](#) for a flyer with a list of needed supplies.

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 until Aug 31, 2023, from 10 am - 12 pm every Thursday. This workshop is taught by professional instructors using a curriculum developed by the University of Minnesota. It is for active caregivers of a family member or friend living at home with dementia. Caregivers learn to create new strategies for caring for the person living with the disease and for themselves to decrease the stress of the caregiver and increase the wellbeing for both. Class size is limited so registration is required. Call 618-344-5008.



Stress-busting for Family Caregivers

St. John's Community Care holds sessions every Monday from 10 am - 11:30 am for 9 weeks. The current session runs until September 25, 2023. The program provides education and support, teaches stress management techniques, and helps caregivers develop coping strategies. Call 618-344-5008 for more information.

St. John Community Care (SJCC) presents Caregiver Coffee Talk at Verona Coffee Company (101 E Main St, Collinsville) every Monday from 9 am - 10:30 am. Caregiver Coffee Talk is for caregivers to come together offering information, resources, and strategies specifically for caring for someone who may be disabled or have other health-related concerns. SJCC invites caregivers to share space and life experiences over a nice hot cup of coffee paid for by St. John's Community Care.

Hitz Memorial Home has multiple open CNA positions available for evening/midnight shifts. Call 618-488-2355 for more information. Or you may apply in person at 202 Belle Street, Alhambra, IL 62001.



Hitz Memorial Home has an immediate opening for a Director of Nursing. Apply in-person at 201 Belle Street, Alhambra, IL 62001. Call for details. 618-488-2355.

Hitz Memorial Home has a vacancy for an: Independent Senior Living Apartment. All utilities are included. Free WiFi and cable. \$700/month. Call for details. (618) 488-2355.

Church World Service (CWS) is in search for a Community Engagement Specialist. Click [here](#) for the job description for this Illinois-based position for CWS.

What's Happening in Illinois South Conference



Save the Date Confirmation Retreat - Sept 16, 2023

The 2023 Confirmation Retreat - Walk in Faith is scheduled for September 16, 2023, at Camp Wartburg at 5705 Lrc Rd in Waterloo, Illinois, from 9 am - 4 pm. There will be Low Ropes Course with Team Building and lunch for \$30 per person. If you would like to add on High Ropes Course, the cost is \$30 more per person. If scholarship assistance is needed, contact the ISC office at 618-654-2125. Click [here](#) for more information or [here](#) to register. If you would like a flyer to share with the confirmands, click [here](#).

Vacation Bible School Schedule

August 4 - 6 from 5 pm - 8 pm; Godfrey Evangelical UCC; *Pets Unleashed* for fids and *Unleashing the Bible* for adults.

August 6, 13, 20, 27, and September 3 at 9:15 am; Alhambra Salem UCC; *Food Truck Party-On a Roll with God*.

Prayer and Lectionary Lunch Hour

Illinois South Conference pastors gather by Zoom each Wednesday at about 12:30 by Zoom. Their time together normally lasts about an hour. All pastors are invited to share and solidify relationships with their pastoral peers in our Conference. Here is the Zoom link:

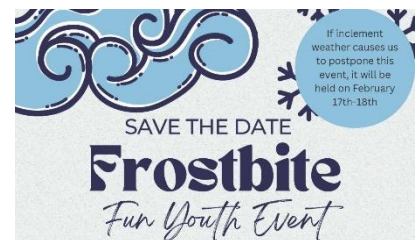
Date and time: Wednesdays at 12:30 pm

Meeting ID: 837 0733 6906. Link to join the Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83707336906>

Save the Date - Youth Event

Frostbite Fun Youth Event presented by the ISC Local Church Ministries Team is scheduled for January 13 and 14, 2024 at DuBois Center. All junior high (middle school) and high school youth are invited to attend. You may attend in one of two ways: Single Day (\$50) on Saturday from 10 am - 7 pm or Overnight (\$100) on Saturday from 10 am to Sunday at 11 am. Click [here](#) for a flyer to share with your church and its youth. *If inclement weather causes us to postpone this event, it will be held on February 17 and 18, 2024.*



Region 2

New Hanover Zoar UCC will hold its Annual BBQ on Sat, Aug 5 from 4 pm - 7 pm at the church, 9103 D Road in Columbia. Pork steak or brat plate with a choice of 2 sides (cole slaw; potato salad; baked beans) or pork steak or brat sandwiches. Entertainment by

George Portz's Friends of Bluegrass. Country Store. Silent auction for baskets. Pie auction at 5:30 pm.

Region 8

Trenton St. John UCC will hold a Rummage Sale on Thurs, Aug 10 from 5 pm - 8 pm (full price); Fri, Aug 11 from 8 am - 1 pm (full price) and 2 pm - 6 pm (half price); and Sat, Aug 12 from 9 am - 1 pm (\$4 brown-bag sale). Handicap accessible. Church basement. Enter through front door. Furniture and big items in front room of the church.

Region 9

Belleville Concordia UCC will hold its Ladies Day Out Event on Sat, Aug. 5 from 10 am - 3 pm. Chicken salad and fruit plates available for \$8. Visit with many vendors and crafters and explore their wares. Enjoy a scrumptious summer lunch. Look for the next book you would like to read at their used book sale. Enjoy or take home some wonderful baked goods. Proceeds go to DuBois Center and Concordia UCC missions. Hosted by the Young Ladies of Concordia UCC.

Trinity UCC in Belleville is hosting a Dining to Donate event at the Shiloh Texas Roadhouse on August 9 from 4 pm - 10 pm. Digital flyers are available at the Trinity [Facebook](#) page. Please join us!

Job Opportunities

Smithton St. John's UCC seeks a part-time Church Administrator for approximately 10-15 hours per week. Candidate must be organized, attentive to detail and proficient in Microsoft Office Suite and have general literacy with technology. A working knowledge of software platforms and social media would be helpful. Candidate will work closely with church leadership to coordinate weekly tasks. Other duties include, but are not limited to, answering phones, sending emails, scanning documents, creating and printing weekly bulletins & monthly newsletters, organizing and reminding volunteers for weekly worship duties, updating the church calendar, updating the electronic sign, ordering flowers at various times of the year and keeping inventory and ordering office & building supplies. The candidate may do many tasks remotely, however one day is required in the office, preferably on Thursdays for 4 to 6 hours. Salary is \$14 per hour. Please send resume to:

brian_damrow@yahoo.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. Their music skills include the ability to play a Wicks 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.

For communicating within the Conference, the Conference website, Facebook page or Weekly Connection, contact **Lynnette Schuepbach** at lschuepbach@iscucc.org.

For DuBois Center Executive Director, contact **Noah McCarn** at director@DuBoisCenter.org.

For DuBois Center Office, contact **Shelby Liggett** at dcinfo@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.

For **Rev. Shana Johnson**, ISC Conference Minister, contact her at sjohnson@iscucc.org or 618-882-8247.

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](#)

