

At Times of Conflict

If you studied the Gospel lectionary text for Sunday, September 10, or preached on it, I hope you didn't miss several things often overlooked in this reading. The Gospel text for this past Sunday was Matthew 18: 15-20.

In this reading, the Matthean writer recounts Jesus' teaching on conflict. While many translations have imposed the context of the "church" into Jesus' original teaching, we know this was not the word because the church as we refer to it was not yet in existence. Yet, the Greek word is *ekklesia*, which is the spiritual and physical manifestation of the community of God.

In his teaching about the community of God, Jesus names an eternal truth that when the community of God comes together, there will be conflict. Meaning that when believers come together, regardless of their faith, there will be disagreements and differences of opinion. Instead of denying the possibility of conflict, Jesus names the inevitability of conflict.

Then, after naming the inevitability of disagreements and differences of opinion, Jesus outlines a timeless and proven approach to dealing with it when tension arises between people. And hopefully, you know this and practice in your church, the local expression of the community of God.

First, you go directly to the person with whom you are in conflict. Then, if that person cannot listen or understand your perspective or if you cannot listen to that person and understand their perspective, others should be invited in (not to take sides) to hear and help the two persons find a resolution.

If there has been no movement toward transforming hearts, minds, and spirits, then this is the time for the wider community of God to be involved. Finally, if this does not work, surprisingly Jesus also names and accepts that there may be times when a resolution is

Prayer list for Sept 17-23, 2023 Church & Pastors



-Freeburg St. Paul's UCC, Rev. Andrew Lovins (right)

-Pension Board-UCC National Staff, Rev. Krista Betz. Belleville, IL

Retired Pastor

-Rev. Nancy Spier-Lee and Kevin Lee, Dupou, IL

People with Life Concerns

-Please pray for Revs. Earl Menchhofer and Pamela Smith as they mourn the loss of Earl's mother, Edna Beyer Menchhofer, who died August 27 and his brother, Dale, who died on September 7. Edna's funeral was on August 31 at First Congregational Church, UCC in Atlanta and a graveside service will be scheduled for later this month. Click [here](#) for the complete obituary. Revs. Earl and Pamela served several churches in Illinois South Conference prior to retirement. Cards may be sent to Earl and Pamela at 1616 Brandon Glen Way, Conyers GA 30012.

-Keep the mother of Pastor Norma Patterson in your prayers as she struggles with health issues. Pastor Norma

not possible, and if that is the case, then walk away. (As a side note, I find this very similar to Matthew's retelling of Jesus' instructions to the disciples as he sends them out. *"If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet* (Matthew 10:14)."

Yet, before we leave this teaching, take note of the ending of this reading, which is Matthew 18:20. Matthew 18:20 is the kind of verse that can be found on coffee mugs and t-shirts. Matthew 18:20 is the kind of verse we often use referring to the people of God gathering for worship, study, or prayer, especially when we are self-conscious about the small number of people who have gathered for a particular event. When we say or hear, *"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them* (Matthew 18:20)," do we think of conflict? When we are engaged in the hard work of conflict

transformation, how many of us joyfully say, *"Well, you know, as Jesus says, 'For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.'"* When a disagreement or discord arises in the community of God, do we acknowledge how Jesus is in it all, with us in it? Probably not. Most of us are afraid of the tension, the confusion, the misunderstandings, and the hurt. We make it worse when we are scared and don't face it head-on, as Jesus teaches. We make it worse because we talk to everyone else EXCEPT those we should be engaging in conversation.

Yet, consider this:

What if Jesus calls us to the holy work of working it out when there is conflict?

What if Jesus is willing to join us in the muck and mess of the life of the community of God?

What if Jesus is waiting to help transform and renew our hearts and minds so that we can understand one another better?

What if we believed that even in the most challenging moments or seasons of conflict, the community of God could come together to listen, wrestle, and find common ground?

What if Jesus wants us to learn that being loving is much better than being right?

What if what Jesus said is true, *"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."*

Blessings, Rev. Shana Johnson, ISC Conference Minister

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 declines 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.

-Pray for the churches and individuals dealing with storm and fire damage.

Columbia St. Paul United Church of Christ
and the Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ
Invite you to the installation service of
Rev. Jonathan Bangera
as their Pastor and Teacher
Sunday, September 17, 2023, at 3 pm
St. Paul United Church of Christ
127 St Paul St, Columbia, IL 62236

Clergy are invited to robe and wear red stoles and arrive at 2:30 pm to process.
A reception will follow the installation service.





Smithton St. John's United Church of Christ
 and the Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ
 Invite you to the installation service of
Rev. Brian Damrow
 as Pastor and Teacher of Smithton St. John's UCC
 Sunday, September 24, 2023, at 3 pm
 St. John's United Church of Christ
 303 S Smith St, Smithton, IL 62285.

Clergy are invited to robe and wear red stoles and arrive at 2:30 pm to process. A reception will follow the installation service.

Facing Hunger in Your Community

The need for food is year-round. Here are some examples of Holiday Food Drives. **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. To share your efforts to help feed the hungry, contact Kathi at kathi1emery@gmail.com.

The Amazing People of Illinois South Conference...

Red Bud St. Peter UCC will hold a Free Coat Distribution on Sept 16 from 9 am - 3 pm at 415 Madison Ave, Red Bud. A free sack lunch will also be available. It's a wonderful double mission.



Granite City St. John UCC packed 150+ food boxes on Sept 6 to be distributed on Sat, Sept 9. Two times a year, they use funds raised through barbecues and other fundraisers plus items on their "shopping list" donated by

members. Depending on funds and donations available, they give between 150-175 boxes to the first 150-175 vehicles that come through their drive-through line in the parking lot. The "shopping list" includes canned vegetables, soups, stew, chicken, pastas, juice, applesauce, cereal, rice, flour, and more. The committee, chaired by Mike Seibold, organizes the food room and keeps the number of items up to date and scheduled well so that the room can also be used for VBS in June and Sausage Dinner on the 3rd Sunday of October. Photos above.



ISC Annual Meeting & After Glow Event Made Possible in Part by the following sponsors (logos above): United Church of Christ Church Building & Loan Fund; Cornerstone Fund; Insurance Board of the UCC; The Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ ; United Church Funds All of ISC Churches thank them for their generosity. Click [here](#) for a flyer about the After Glow Event.

Pastors ** Lay Delegates **Visitors & Youth - Get Ready for ISC Annual Meeting Saturday, October 21, 2023, from 9:30 am - 5 pm at 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 (left), 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 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.



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

Who are your ISC Delegates from your church? Please identify the official delegates who will represent your church at the ISC Annual Meeting on October 21, 2023. [Here](#) is a list to tell you how many delegates can be sent from your church. Send your delegate names, addresses, and emails to jriechmann@iscucc.org. Click [here](#) to register online. Click [here](#) to download a paper registration form.

Delegate Informational Meetings

Tuesday, October 17 by Zoom or **Thursday, October 19** by Zoom

Delegates will receive Zoom link closer to the Annual Meeting. These meetings' focus will be to present important business information and to answer all questions about Annual meeting including proposed Constitution and Bylaws changes, proposed Budget and the Slate of Nominees. Click [here](#) for copies of materials as they come available.



Offerings for Annual Meeting...

Worship Offering Friends of the Conference

Friends of the Conference is a giving program that offers individuals, groups and congregations the opportunity to make special gifts in support of the mission and ministries of the Illinois South Conference. Gifts received will become part of the Conference Operating Fund.

100% of your gifts to *Friends of the Conference* will remain in Illinois South Conference. Gifts of any size will be gratefully received. Individuals, groups such as women's guilds or men's groups, and congregations may contribute to *Friends of the Conference*. Contributors need not be members of a UCC congregation. Memorial gifts and/or bequests may also be designated for *Friends of the Conference*. Click [here](#) for an offering flyer to share with your church.

Plan Now for Noisy Offering for Hoyleton Youth & Family Services

Hoyleton's work to help build stronger communities in Southern Illinois is not possible without the generosity of their donors.

Please consider making a gift today.

Here's the plan...

- **Each ISC church asks its members to donate** small or large amounts of change during worship on Sunday, October 8, 2023, prior to the Annual Meeting.
- **Take the change to the bank to count.**
- **Write a check for the amount of noisy offering given.** (This will give your church credit for the amount given.)
- **Bring a small amount of change to make some noise during the offering collection at Annual Meeting.**
- **Designate a representative from your church to present the money** during specified times at Annual Meeting.



Highland Evangelical United Church of Christ has Communion sets (right) available for anyone who could use them. There are 8 bread trays and 6 wine/juice trays. Please contact the church office if you are interested at 618-654-7459.

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, November 4, 1:00 - 5:00 pm, at St. John UCC Midway (Moro).

Saturday, November 18, 1:00 - 5:00 pm, at Church of The Good Shepherd UCC in Carbondale.

Registration at least one week in advance is necessary so that enough materials can be ordered. To register, contact Rev. Tim Darmour-Paul, at tmdp811@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.

FALL FESTIVAL FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

October 1, 2023 @ 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!

 DuBois Center News

Fall Festival - Basket Silent Auction - Take advantage of end-of-summer sales to fill a Silent Auction basket for **DuBois' Fall Festival, Sunday, October 1, 11:00-5:00**. Bring your church's, organization's or personal themed basket directly to DuBois or to St. Paul UCC, Waterloo by September 30 or contact Audrey Hicks 618-939-8673 to make arrangements. Thank you in advance for your support of ISC's awesome camp and retreat center!

Donations for Sweet Shop at DuBois Fall Festival! - The Sweet Shop at Fall Festival on October 1 will be located in Oak Lodge this year. We would greatly appreciate any donations of desserts, snacks, breads, cookies, trail mix, etc.

We realize that this will be a bit of a trek for some people to drop off their goodies, so we will have a drop off location close to the entrance of the center. If you have questions, contact Joyce Kniepkamp at 618-567-6276. Thank you for your help.



Volunteers Needed for Fall Festival - October 1 - Our Fall Festival is only possible because of the efforts of countless volunteers. They bake, decorate, set up, take down, drive, lead, greet, direct, park, deliver, clean, serve, and dedicate their time to make this event happen. We are looking for volunteers of all ages and abilities and will be happy to sign off on volunteer work hours for teens. Sign up for a shift or two [here](#). If you have any questions, email us at FallFestival@duboiscenter.org.

Mother-Daughter Retreat - October 6-8, 2023 - This retreat brings the generations together to celebrate and build relationships. Reserve your spots now for our weekend of relaxing and connecting with the moms, daughters, aunts, nieces, or grandmas in your life! With crafts, relaxation, and optional horseback riding, this is just the weekend you need to spend some time with the ones you love! Click [here](#) to register.

- **Lodging:** Main Camp cottages and Hickory Lodge
- **Pricing:** \$140 for adults, \$125 for youth (12-17), and \$110 for children (under 12)

Women's Retreat - October 13-15, 2023 - We had so much fun with this in the spring, it's back in the fall! Unlike Mother Daughter, you can come to this all by yourself or with some other adult friends! Spend the weekend doing anything but 'adulting!' This retreat is all about relaxing, getting away from everyday life, and meeting new friends. No cooking, no stress, just fun and relaxation! The programming is designed as an adult getaway, so we do ask that all registrants are 21 and over. Click [here](#) to register.

- **Lodging:** Hickory Lodge (hotel-like setting)
- **Pricing:** \$150

Horse Retreat - October 21-22, 2023 - 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 – 18 who love horses, this could very well be the highlight of your spring! Click [here](#) to register.

- **Lodging:** Main Camp cottages
- **Pricing:** \$185

Ride Day / Camp Day - November 4, 2023 - The fun of a week at summer camp packed into one day. Come ride horses, shoot archery, make crafts, or play Ga-Ga and nine square.

Parents are welcome to spend the day at camp or register to join in summer camp fun. Contact DuBois Center Office for more information. Click [here](#) to register.

- **Pricing:** \$60 • **Note:** Parents can come hang out at Dubois Center for the day or register to participate. If parents come but don't register, they can bring their lunch or buy lunch at camp for \$12 the day of the event.



Thanks from Uni-Pres Kindercottage

A really big thank you for

the overwhelming support for Uni Pres Kindercottage fundraisers, Laugh out Loud. So many churches and our kindhearted sponsors gave generously. We thank you for being a blessing to UPK as God continues to bless you with the gifts of giving and services. There is still time to give, if you choose to donate today, please send your gift of love to 564 Veronica Ave East St. Louis IL 62205



Fill the Need - Van or Bus for Uni-Pres Kindercottage - Uni Pres Kindercottage Child Care Center is looking for a donation of a 15-passenger van or bus to provide transportation for the children to travel to and from their local schools. For more details, please contact Ms. Aimee Hart, Mr. Antron Rose or Ms. Catrice Garrett at 618-874-6505.

Special Announcement from the Pension Boards for the Officers of the Church and Conference Ministers - The following premium rates and plan enhancements for the 2024 plan year will be effective January 1, 2024. Our continued participation in coalitions sponsored by the Church Benefits Association help the UCC Health Plan realize savings through collective purchasing power achieved in partnering with health benefits plans of other denominations.

Preliminary rate filings show that ACA Marketplace insurers are requesting a median premium increase of 6% for 2024. UCC Health Plan updates remain competitive with, or even lower than marketplace plans.

- UCC Non-Medicare Plan: 3% increase (no change to copays and deductibles)
- UCC Pharmacy Plan: No change to copays
- UCC Medicare Advantage Plan: 1.5% increase
- UCC Dental Plan: 4% increase
- UCC Vision Plan: No change
- UCC Life and Disability Plan: No change

The following benefit enhancements are also effective January 1, 2024:

For the UCC Non-Medicare Plan:

- Annual incentive increase from \$300 to \$500 for participation in Healthy Stewards Wellness Program
- \$0 copay for Insulin
- \$0 copay for Teladoc services

As is our customary practice, churches/employers and individual plan participants will receive detailed information with applicable rates and enhancements for 2024 early this fall. Sincerely, Health Plan Operations - The Pension Boards-United Church of Christ, Inc.

Hoyleton Golf Classic 2023 - Opportunities are waiting for you to sponsor the **Hoyleton Youth & Family Services Golf Classic 2023 on Friday, October 13** at Tamarack Golf Course, 800 Tamarack Lane, Shiloh. For information, click [here](#) for a flyer and sign up form.

Unleashing Potential invites you to Art & Soul XIII, Unleashing Potential's 13th annual gala! - The gala will be on Friday, Oct. 13, 2023, from 6 pm to 10 pm at Third Degree Glass Factory, 5200 Delmar Blvd in St. Louis.

The event features include:

Children's Artwork; Fund the Need; Wine & Spirits Pull; Live Music; UP Highlights
For event information, contact Jake Russell at jrussell@upstl.org or call 314-561-3346.
Purchase tickets or secure your sponsorship by going to their website at upstl.org/up-events/art-soul-xiii/



Are you interested in learning more about **St. John's Community Care Adult Day Program**? Would you like to see the day-to-day activities of their participants and staff?

Come out to their Open House Sept 19 at their Collinsville Location, and Sept 28 at their Edwardsville location, from 4-6 pm!

Due to supply chain issues, the Metro East is in dire need of wheelchairs and rollators! If you have an extra wheelchair or rollator lying around, feel free to drop it off at **St. John's Community Care Wheelchair Drive on Sept 22 from 3 pm - 6 pm!** They will provide snacks and music. Come hang out with us while we collect supplies from the community!

Join **St. John's Community Care at the Collinsville VFW on Sept 23 for their Music Trivia Night!** Proceeds of the evening benefit St. John's Community Care Adult Day Program, Support Groups and Free Medical Equipment Loan Program! Buy tickets or become a sponsor [here](#).

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



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.

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](#).

Learn How You Can Maximize Your Church Property - Join Church Building & Loan Fund at our two-day virtual conference on September 21-22. If your church would benefit from learning how real estate development can better serve your community, this event is for you. They'll connect you with other church leaders along with financial experts to gain valuable insight into how to be better stewards of your property. Click [here](#) for more information.

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: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83707336906>
Date and time: Wednesdays at 12:30 pm Meeting ID: 837 0733 6906.



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 will host a Bunco Night to benefit DuBois Center on Fri, Nov 10. Doors open at 6:30 pm and play starts at 7 pm. Cost is \$10 per person. Seating is limited. Click [here](#) for flyer.



Region 3 - Pat's Closet, a mission of Collinsville St. John UCC (307 W Clay St) provides dresses, suits, shoes and accessories for Homecoming and Prom. The shop is open by appointment (text us) and on Thurs, Sept 13-14 from 3 pm - 6 pm; Sept 20-21 from 3 pm - 6 pm; and Sept 27-28 from 3 pm - 6 pm. Volunteers will be ready to help with small alterations. This ministry is free for students. If you have questions, text Ms. Geisen at 618-588-3675 or Ms. Bossetto at 618-401-0806.

Region 5 - Highland Evangelical UCC will hold its Annual Sausage Supper, It's PIG-OUT Time, on Sat, Sept 30, 2023, from 12 pm - 7 pm. Drive-Thru Only.

Region 8 - Trenton St. John UCC will hold its Country Store on Sat, Sept 30 from 9:00 am to 12 Noon. Country Store with homemade applesauce, pork sausage and quilt raffle tickets for sale. Applesauce will be \$5 a pint and \$10 a quart, pork sausage will be \$5 for 1 pound, raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. On Sunday, October 1 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, they will have a drive-thru **Wurstmarkt dinner** of pork sausage, roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, sauerkraut, green beans and pie. Price per dinner is \$14. Drive thru will have two lines - one through the alley and the other through the city parking lot. Follow signs for directions. Call 618-224-9828 for information.

Region 9 - Belleville Trinity UCC will host its annual Halloween Trivia Spooktacular on October 7 in the church social hall. Doors open at 5:15 pm, and play starts at 6 pm. Family-friendly costumes encouraged. Adults: \$10 and 2 nonperishable food items; 12 and under: \$5 plus 2 nonperishable food items with advance reservation. At the door, entrance fees are

\$15 for adults and \$10 for children in addition to the two food items. Proceeds benefit the Belleville Community Interfaith Food Pantry and Trinity's holiday basket mission. For more info, see the Trinity [website](#) or Facebook [page](#). For reservations, contact debjovaag@aol.com.



Celebrating a Trip to Ireland - A large group from O'Fallon UCC had an amazing trip to Ireland! . On **Sun, Sept 17 during 9:45 am worship at O'Fallon UCC in O'Fallon**, travelers will share photos and reflections about the enriching experience of O'Fallon's travel to the Emerald Isle. Professional musical group "Celtica" will provide traditional Irish music during worship.



Everyone is invited to attend. Photos above. Left is the group photo in front of their hotel, the Breaffy House in Castlebar, and right is an example of Ireland's landscape.

Job Opportunities - Ministry Assistant for Congregational Care and Christian Education Belleville St. Paul is looking for a person to fulfill the position of Ministry Assistant for Congregational Care and Christian Education. The person will provide coordinated support for the Senior Pastor, St. Paul UCC care-giving and wellness ministries, and the congregation as well as to provide program development, implementation, coordination, and supervision of Christian Education, both for children and adults, which includes youth programming. Click [here](#) for the complete position description. Please direct questions and resumes to pastormichelle@stpaulucc.org

Part Time Organist/Pianist - Friedens United Church of Christ in Marissa, IL is seeking a part-time organist and/or pianist. Duties include playing organ and/or piano on Sundays for our 10 am 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, contact Rev. Brett Palmer at 618-295-2004 or marissafriedens@gmail.com.

New Baden Zion UCC - Music Director. This person helps coordinate all aspects of the music program at the church, including but not limited to selecting hymns for weekly and special services, leading an adult choir, coordinating special vocal and/or instrumental music, and may serve as a member of the worship team. Keyboard skills, church choral experience as a singer or director, and a bachelor's degree in worship arts or music are a plus. To apply or for additional information, contact council president Rodney Washburn at rodneywashburn1@gmail.com.

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 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](#)
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