

**September 19, 2023** 



#### **Forgiveness**

We claim it is one of the core tenets of our beliefs as Christians when we recite the Apostles Creed: "I believe in the forgiveness of sins." We proclaim it is one of the unifying principles in the United Church of

Christ when we join our voices in our Statement of Faith: "He promises to all who trust him forgiveness of sins and the fulness of grace." We seek God's strength to receive it and share it with others every time we pray the Lord's Prayer, regardless of what words we use. Yet, the practice of forgiveness is difficult.

In the lectionary Gospel reading for this past Sunday, Matthew 18: 21-35, we read an interesting interchange between Jesus and Peter, one of the disciples. After teaching about the principles of dealing with conflict in the community of faith, Peter says, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"

I don't know about you, but I hear a tinge of disbelief, cynicism, and maybe even sarcasm in Peter's voice, sort of like, "Ok, that's all fine and good, Jesus. But what if another member of the church sins against me??? How often should I forgive them? I mean, there must be a limit.

Because it sounds like you are suggesting that I should keep forgiving the person who is offending me, like what, seven times?" Depending on the translation you are reading from, Jesus' response is either "Not seven times, but seventy-seven times." or "Not seven times, but seventy times seven." The number is not important; either way, it is a "mic drop" moment, because what Jesus suggests is radical grace.

In asking how many times he would be expected to forgive another, Peter throws out what would be a ridiculous number in the Jewish law of pardon, which

Prayer list for Sept 24-30, 2023

Church & Pastors







-Granite City St. John UCC, Rev. Karla (Rev. Charles Preston)

Frost (left)

Retired Pastor
-Rev. Michael and Elizabeth
Marx, Sr., Owensboro, KY

# 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.

requires only three times. We can relate to Peter because we know forgiving isn't easy. When we say we believe in forgiving sins, let's be honest; we mean God should forgive OUR sins. God forgive our debts. God forgive our sins. But, when we experience the failings, mistakes, disappointments, and mess-ups of others, we struggle to move toward forgiveness. It is easier to stew, hold on, and become resentful, bitter, or even vengeful.

It is easier to walk away. It is easier to cut the people out of our lives. It is easier to disengage with those who disagree with us or those who we feel have wronged us. It is easier to convince ourselves it is more important to be right than loving. We rehearse, rehash, and nurse all the ways we feel we have been wronged. Yet, all this does is imprison us in anger.

As author Anne Lamott eloquently said, "Not forgiving is like drinking rat poison and then waiting for the rat to die."

As those who claim to be committed to the life and teachings of Jesus, we are called to forgive as Jesus forgave. C.S. Lewis put it this way, "To be a Christian

- -Keep the **mother of Pastor** Norma Patterson in your pravers 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 & **Lelvnna 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
- -Pray for the churches and individuals dealing with storm and fire damage.

means to forgive the inexcusable because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you."

This week, I encourage you to think about a situation in which you have been struggling with letting go. What hurt have you been harboring and holding on to? What is something that needs to be released in your life? Who do you need to forgive?

Consider God's mercy. How often have you experienced God's mercy, forgiveness, and grace? Did you earn it? You might feel like the person who hurt you doesn't deserve forgiveness. But that doesn't matter. Grace is a gift that we have not earned or deserved. We are called to offer the same grace God offers us. May we forgive as Jesus forgives us.

Blessings, Rev. Shana Johnson, ISC Conference Minister



#### **Smithton St. John's United Church of Christ**

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and the Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ Invite you to the installation service of **Rev. Brian Damrow** as their Pastor and Teacher 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.



National Preparedness Month is an observance each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies

that could happen at any time.

Know what disasters and hazards could affect your area,

how to get <u>emergency alerts</u>, and where you would go if you and your family need to evacuate. Make sure your family has a plan and practices it often.

Observe National Preparedness Month by assembling Church World Service Disaster Kits. Go to <a href="https://cwskits.org/">https://cwskits.org/</a> for complete kit information and supply lists. Two drop-off locations are available this fall:

LifeWise St. Louis, 1321 So 11th St., St. Louis, MO 63104.

Bethlehem UCC, 6400 Oak Hill Rd, Evansville IN 47725. Contact Andrea for appointment at 812-499-8755 or agoose123@aol.com.

Contact the ISC Disaster Relief Coordinator, Priscilla Self, for more information or possible help with completed kit pick-up and delivery at 618/318-0083 or pjj48@hotmail.com.

**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...

"Women of St. Paul, Waterloo": collecting food donations for Local students in need. Free school breakfast/lunches are not accessible on weekends and holiday breaks. Partnering with Monroe County House of Neighborly Service, benefiting students in need from Waterloo, Columbia, Valmeyer, Hecker and Prairie Du Rocher. "Neighbors helping neighbors"!

SEPTEMBER is National Preparedness Month

**Support for Growers and Those in Need of Food** - Illinois has allocated \$28 million to support local farmers and combat hunger in the state through the USDA's Local Food Purchasing Assistance (LFPA) program.

#### What is LFPA?

LFPA's mission is to strengthen the Illinois food system over the next two years by purchasing food at fair market value from socially disadvantaged growers and producers. The best part is that community members in need will receive this food at no cost. Illinois is committed to sourcing 100% of LFPA products from socially disadvantaged growers and ensuring that culturally responsive, locally-grown foods are accessible to food-insecure communities.

#### **How Can You Get Involved?**

Calling all growers, producers, and food access organizations in Illinois! The LFPA program has \$28 million from the USDA to purchase food from growers and producers and distribute it for free through community outlets such as nonprofits, food pantries, schools, and childcare centers. Together, we can work towards creating a resilient and equitable food system in our region.

<u>Take Action:</u> To get involved and learn more, please visit the official LFPA website: <u>LFPA Program</u>. You will also find an attached flyer for additional information.

**Application Details:** The Illinois Local Food Purchasing Assistance application is now officially LIVE! Awards will range from \$150,000 to \$2.5 million to purchase food from

socially disadvantaged growers and producers and distribute it to underserved communities. If you are interested in participating, it's essential to collaborate with a lead agency that will apply on your behalf. The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) will host technical assistance calls for lead agencies to review the application and address any questions. We highly recommend that you attend at least one of these calls to ensure a successful application.

<u>Connect and Learn More:</u> If you're new to LFPA or have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to the program at <u>uie-lfpa@illinois.edu</u>. They will connect you with partners in your region who can provide guidance and support. Additionally, there are virtual office hours available on Tuesdays from 11 AM - 1 PM from July 25th to October 31st. Email <u>uie-lfpa@illinois.edu</u> for the Zoom link!

This is a fantastic opportunity for us to enhance our local food sourcing efforts and contribute to our community's well-being. I encourage you to explore LFPA and consider how it aligns with your organization's goals. Click <a href="here">here</a> for a flyer.











# ISC Annual Meeting & After Glow Event Made Possible in Part by the following sponsors:

United Church of Christ Church Building & Loan Fund (logo above)

**Cornerstone Fund** (logo above)

**Insurance Board of the UCC** (logo above)

The Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ (logo above)

**United Church Funds** (logo above)

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

Want to Sing? - Our keynote musician, Rev. Monty Jackson, is extending an invitation for singers of any congregation to join the all-Conference choirs, which will be featured in the worship services at the Annual Meeting. If you would like to be a part of the Annual Meeting choir, please plan to attend the workshop Rev. Jackson will offer on Saturday, October 14, 2023, from 10 am to noon at St. Peter's UCC, Red Bud. The more....the musical merrier!

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. <u>Here</u> is a list to tell you how many delegates can be sent from your church. Send your delegate names, addresses, and emails to <a href="mailto:jriechmann@iscucc.org">jriechmann@iscucc.org</a>.

Click here to register online. Click here to download a paper registration form.

#### **Be Prepared!**

Tuesday, October 17 by Zoom 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 <a href="here">here</a> 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. Click <u>here</u> for an offering flyer to share with your church.

#### Plan Now for Noisy Offering-Hoyleton Youth & Family Services

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

Here's the plan...

- Each ISC church asks its members to donate with change.
- 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.
- Designate a representative from your church to present the money 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.



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**Hoyleton** Youth & Family Services

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**Companionship Workshops** - Companionship is a program that trains people to respond compassionately when they encounter folks dealing with mental health challenges. You can find out more about the program at <a href="mailto:pathways2promise.org/companionship">pathways2promise.org/companionship</a>.

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 <a href="mailto:timdp811@agtelco.com">timdp811@agtelco.com</a>, 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.



On Sunday, September 17 at 3 pm, Rev. Jonathan Bangera was installed as the Pastor and Teacher for Columbia St. Paul UCC. A beautifully-decorated reception followed the installation service. Let



us all welcome Rev. Bangera to the ministry of Illinois South Conference. Photos left show the reception (top) and Rev. Bangera (bottom). Photo to the



right is the group of pastors participating in the service. First row (I to r) Rev. Bill Groennert, Rev. Brian Damrow, Rev. Jonathan Bangers and Rev. Shana Johnson. Second row (I to r) Rev. Julie Kies, Rev. Fred Wehrenberg, Rev. Todd Mushaney, Rev. Mary Beth Hartenstein, Rev. Tim Darmour-Paul and Rev. Paul Thompson.

#### **Help Us Promote Fall Festival**

Here are some bulletin inserts that could help bring people to Fall Festival and the



fall retreats at DuBois Center. Please make them part of your Sunday worship bulletins. Thanks.

Fall Festival - 2-up - Black & White Fall Festival - 2-up - Color Fall Festival & Fall Retreats



#### **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!



## **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.

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!





#### Volunteers Needed for Fall Festival - October 1

Our Fall Festival is only possible because of the efforts of countless volunteers. 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 <a href="here">here</a>. If you have any questions, email us at FallFestival@duboiscenter.org.

#### Fall Schedule for Retreats at DuBois Center

Mother-Daughter Retreat - October 6-8, 2023

- 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

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

Horse Retreat - October 21-22, 2023

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

Ride Day / Camp Day - November 4, 2023

- **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.

Click here to register for any of the fall retreats.

# CHHSM Invites Workshop Proposals for 2024 Annual Gathering Focused on Collaboration and Innovation



Collaboration takes center stage at the 2024 CHHSM Annual Gathering to be held March 12-14, 2024, at the Live By Loews Hotel in St. Louis. The theme of this 86th Annual Gathering is "Collaboration as a Gateway to Innovation." CHHSM also invites proposals for workshops that will help attendees to the Annual Gathering explore the theme and build professional skills. Read more »

#### **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 more information, click <a href="here">here</a> for a flyer and sign up form.



#### 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.

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 <u>here</u>.

## Unleashing Potential invites you to Art & Soul XIII, Unleashing Potential's 13<sup>th</sup> 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 <a href="mailto:jrussell@upstl.org">jrussell@upstl.org</a> or call 314-561-3346. Purchase tickets or secure your sponsorship by going to their website at <a href="mailto:upstl.org/up-events/art-soul-xiii/">upstl.org/up-events/art-soul-xiii/</a>



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 inperson 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 of a Community Engagement Specialist. Click here for the job description for this Illinois-based position for CWS.

## What's Happening in Illinois South Conference

**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 <u>here</u> 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: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83707336906">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83707336906</a>

Date and time: Wednesdays at 12:30 pm

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



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 <u>here</u> 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; play starts at 7 pm. Cost is \$10/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 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 of 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.

New Baden Zion UCC will hold a Quarter Auction on Sat, Sept 30 at the New Baden American Legion. Doors open at 6 pm and auction starts at 7 pm. Auction for designer handbags, jewelry, toys, gift cards, tools, appliances, and more. For more information, call 618-588-4135 or go to their website

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 <a href="website">website</a> or Facebook <a href="page-2">page</a>. For reservations, contact <a href="measurements-debigovaag@aol.com">debigovaag@aol.com</a>.

Belleville St. Paul UCC will hold a Crafty Mania (All Day Crafting) on Saturday, Oct 14 from 9 am - 4 pm. They are looking for vendors as well as attendees. Cost is \$35 which includes lunch, snacks, crafting space, attendance prizes, and vendors in the afternoon. Vendors will be creating and selling. Tickets for raffle items will be available for purchase. Proceeds to benefit youth group & missions of the church. For more information, contact 618-233-3303. Pay online <a href="here.">here.</a>

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 <a href="here">here</a> for the complete position description. Please direct questions and resumes to <a href="mailto:pastormichelle@stpaulucc.org">pastormichelle@stpaulucc.org</a>

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 Ischuepbach@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 <a href="mailto:jriechmann@iscucc.org">jriechmann@iscucc.org</a>. For **Rev. Shana Johnson**, ISC Conference Minister, contact her at <a href="mailto:sjohnson@iscucc.org">johnson@iscucc.org</a> 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





