

May 14, 2024



Remember in Your Prayers this Week...

In a heartwarming celebration of faith and resilience, we honor the recovery of **Pastor Norma Patterson's mother**, who has overcome numerous health obstacles. This past Sunday, a special Mother's Day, marked her triumphant return to church for the first time since 2022, sparking immense joy within her family and church community. Pastor Norma, deeply touched by the outpouring of love, expresses her profound gratitude for the abundance of beautiful cards, kind wishes, and heartfelt prayers that have surrounded and uplifted her family during this challenging journey. Thank you to all!



-East St. Louis Good Shepherd of Faith UCC
Pastor Norma Patterson



-Dupo Christ UCC
Rev. Todd (Suzanne) Mushaney

-Retired Pastor Rev. Allen (Lynn) Reiter, Hamel, IL

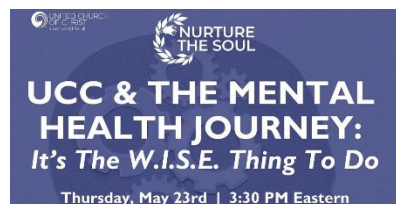
Excitement is Building!

Just on the other side of summer, we will gather as a conference of delegates, pastors, members and visiting guests. Please mark your calendars with great anticipation of the **60th Illinois South Conference Annual Meeting** **Saturday, October 19, 2024**

More details about this year's theme, schedule of events and registration details, and more coming soon!



UCC International, National, + Regional News



Nurture the Soul: UCC and the Mental Health Journey: It's the WISE Thing to Do

MAY 23, 2024 | 3:30PM - 4:30PM

The World Health Organization definition of mental health is "state of mental well-being that enables people to cope with the stresses of life, realize their abilities, learn well, work well, and contribute to their community... it is a basic human right." The Mental Health Network

W.I.S.E. program, (welcoming, inclusive, supportive and engaged) provides a path for congregations, associations, conferences, and nonprofit organizations to join to reduce stigma and promote mental well-

being. Come learn how to become W.I.S.E. and hear the stories of those who have taken this journey. [Register HERE](#)

Strengthen the Church May 19th

God calls us into community. God desires for us a big, inclusive, expansive, welcoming community. One where "no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome."

Our **General Minister & President Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson** calls this a "big tent" community. God wants our congregations and our whole Christian movement to be a "big tent" where all can be genuinely welcomed.



The Strengthen the Church Offering supports congregations and initiatives that help us live into the United Church of Christ's "big tent" vision. Funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and renewal initiatives in existing congregations. Your conference and the national ministries work together to use these funds for projects that matter now and for the future of our movement.

Through this offering, we further our commitment to being a multi-racial/multi-cultural church that is accessible to all.

Please join with people across the UCC in promoting the Strengthen the Church Offering on **Sunday, May 19, 2024**. [Download promotional materials resources here.](#)

ISC Hunger Action Team



The ISC Hunger Action Team would like to recognize: Zion UCC, Marion for their "SHINE" free summer lunch project. Grab and Go meals for children and teens are available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays all summer from 11:30a to 12:30p at two locations in Marion. Questions? Contact Zion (618) 997-5190. Thanks, Zion, for your continued support of local families in need - under the leadership of pastor and teacher, Rev. John Holst. Such a blessing!

[Click here & share your food insecurity outreach stories with the ISC HUNGER ACTION TEAM.](#)

News from DuBois Center

The Entrance to Your Amazing Summer is Here!----->

Are you ready to make a lasting impact on young lives and create unforgettable memories? DuBois Center is looking for passionate, dedicated individuals to join our 2024 Summer Staff team. We are seeking male-identifying cabin counselors ages 18+, a Waterfront Coordinator age 20+ with lifeguard experience, and a Summer Camp Co-Coordinator age 20+ with camp experience. As a member of our team, you will have the opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of children while gaining valuable leadership and teamwork skills. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to be part of something truly special. Reach out to our Program Director, Sarah Harding, at program@duboiscenter.org and take the first step towards a fulfilling and rewarding summer.



There is still time to register for upcoming camps! Check out our openings for the week of June 9-14 below.

Outback (completed 5th-7th grade): Openings for Girls

Movin' & Groovin' (completed 5th-7th grade): Openings for Boys & Girls. Register Now at www.duboiscenter.org



Council for Health and Human Services Ministry News



The Council for Health &
Human Service Ministries
United Church of Christ

Eden Theological Commencement Ceremony Friday, May 17th 5:30pm - 8:00pm

in the Schroer Commons on Eden's campus. Doors will open at 5:00pm. **RSVP HERE** for watching a live stream of the Commencement Ceremony. You are invited to join us for a reception after the ceremony.



Seeking Supplies for New Hoyleton Homes

Our six new therapeutic residential homes in Hoyleton are almost ready to help youth in care. From kitchenware to art supplies, your support will help us turn each house into a home. If you would like to help, please check out our wish list here: <https://www.walmart.com/.../59de880e-8f6d-49a8-a89e...> These items are suggestions, as we need to supply a total of 36 bedrooms, 12 bathrooms, and 6 kitchens. Thank you!

Our ISC Churches News + Events

Annual Valmeyer St. John UCC Golf Tournament Saturday, May 18th at the Acorns Golf Links. Four person scramble with 8:00am Shotgun Start. \$100/golfer- skins, mulligans, and lunch included. Contact Brad Ripplemeyer (618)580-4166 or Dan McCarthy (618)593-6971 for more information. Click **HERE** for registration form.



Concordia UCC Chicken Dinner Sunday, Jun 2 11:00am - 3:00pm Dine-In or Carry-Out fried chicken dinner with sides and dessert \$15 per adult, \$8 ages 5-10, under 5 free. Quilt Raffle tickets on sale \$5 each. 7600 State Rt 163 (3miles north of Millstadt) (618) 476-3377

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR CHURCH'S EVENTS + NEWS](#)

Opportunities + Resources

Godfrey Evangelical UCC Seeking a Nursery Worker for Sundays from 9:45 am to 12:00 pm during the months of September thru May; In June, July and August from 9:45 am to 10:00 am. The children needing care are ages infant through 2 or 3 years. Pay rate is \$25 per hour, which will be paid every 2 weeks. Please contact Pam Kasten at pkasten59@gmail.com with questions or to express your interest.

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.

Pinckneyville St. Paul UCC in Search of 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.

Grantfork UCC Seeks Assistant Organist or Pianist to play for their 10:15 am worship service once or twice a month. Prelude, Postlude, and two or three hymns. Please contact Grantfork UCC at (618) 675-2595 if interested.

New Baden Zion UCC -Part-time Organist/Pianist/Music Director

Seeking a part time musician to fill several different roles. The person who fills this position will play at weekly services, along with various special services such as Ash Wednesday, weekly Lent services, etc. Additional possible responsibilities include selecting weekly service music and hymns, directing an adult choir, coordinating special vocal and/or instrumental music, and serving on the worship team. Keyboard skills and church choral experience as a singer or director are preferred. To apply or for additional information, contact Rodney Washburn at rodneywashburn1@gmail.com.

St. Paul UCC, Lebanon, IL- Part-time Organist

St. Paul UCC Lebanon, IL, is praying that God will bless the search for a part-time organist willing to share their love of music through worship services (two per Sunday morning) including special services, accompanying the choir, & collaborating with Music Ministries. Specific details regarding pay & benefits can be discussed by calling Patty Cornell (618)920-3661. A video can be sent to office@stpaullebanonil.org.

St. John's UCC of Smithton, IL is Seeking a Part-Time Music Director for 10-15 hours per week. The Music Director will select, play and lead music for worship services. They will collaborate with the worship committee and pastor, and also establish opportunities for other music-related activities within the church. St. John's has a new Boston upright piano and new Rogers Imagine 235 Digital Organ, as well as 3 octaves of Suzuki hand chimes and an established chancel choir. Organ and piano experience are required, & vocal experience is preferred. To apply or for additional information, contact the church at sjohnsucc@att.net.

Administrative/Financial Secretary Christ United Church of Christ in Dupo, IL is seeking a part-time Administrative/Financial Secretary for approximately 24 hours/week during office hours. The church Administrative/Financial Secretary is responsible for Day to day financial and administrative duties; Receive, deposit, record and report all General Fund Giving amounts; Perform Weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual financial reports for the congregation and for the conference office; and maintain and filing for the church records and documents. Please email resume to Melissa Reichert, Vice President, to reichrt@htc.net or mail resume to Christ United Church of Christ, 200 South 3rd Street, Dupo Ill 62239, Att: Melissa Reichert by May 31st. To view more go to:

[Christ United Church of Christ's Facebook page](#)

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 **Missy Loyet** at mloyet@iscucc.org.

For DuBois Center Interim Executive Director, contact **Jason Petry** at director@DuBoisCenter.org.

For DuBois Center registration for upcoming events and camp sessions or ISC program registrations, contact **Julie Riechmann** at

jriechmann@iscucc.org or (618) 357-1809.

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](#) [CHSM](#)

[Deaconess Foundation](#) [Deaconess Nurse Ministry](#) [DuBois Center](#)

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

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

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

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

