

May 28, 2024



Remember in Your Prayers this Week...



Fieldon UCC

-Retired Pastor Rev. Earl (Rev. Pamela Smith)
Menchofer Conyers, GA



-Floraville St. Paul UCC
Pastor Matt (Laura) Friz

[Submit prayer requests here](#)

UCC International, National, + Regional News

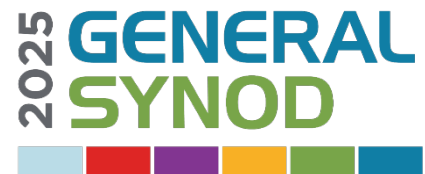
Calling Potential Delegates for General Synod 35

We are looking for a few dedicated church leaders to serve as delegates for General Synod 35, held July 11-15, 2025, in Kansas City, Missouri. While the summer of 2025 seems far off, our Conference recruitment committee will present a slate of nominees for the Illinois South Conference General Synod 35 delegates to our Annual Meeting on October 19, 2024.

General Synod is an incredible opportunity to witness the covenant of the Church and the commitments of the United Church of Christ as a whole.

The gathered assembly of voting delegates is responsible for making decisions concerning speaking to the Church (not for the Church) concerning evangelistic, mission, and justice matters. Voting delegates serve on behalf of their Conference so that they can return and share what they saw, experienced, and learned with the local churches of the Conference.

Delegates will experience intense immersion opportunities before General Synod through pre-meetings, during General Synod as they attend worship services, educational events, committee work, and



business meetings, and afterward through offering resources and follow-up opportunities with the churches of the Illinois South Conference. While at General Synod, delegates quickly discover the days and the distances they will walk are long, but the experience of being a part of the Church at work and wonder will be long-lasting as well.

Currently, the Recruitment Committee is looking to fill the following delegate positions: *1 lay woman, 1 authorized woman, 1 lay man under 30, 1 lay woman under 30, and 2 lay men.* They will also be looking for those who can commit to being alternates. We will need the following alternate delegate positions: *1 alternate authorized man, 2 alternate authorized women, 2 alternate lay men, and 2 alternate women.*

If you are interested in serving your Conference in this capacity, please contact Debbie Kesner as soon as possible at dkesner@iscucc.org so she can share your interest and contact information with the Recruitment Committee.

**Insurance Board
Presents:**

Generative Artificial Intelligence for Churches:



**Managing Risks and
Policy Development**



Date

June 18, 2024



Time

2 P.M., ET via ZOOM

*Registration is limited. A recording will be available on our website after the event.

[Register Here](#)

Heather has served as the General Counsel of the United Church of Christ since 2015. In that capacity, she regularly counsels the corporations of the National Ministries and the Conferences on issues related to governance, religious liberty, intellectual property, tax, employment, and ecclesiastical oversight processes. Before joining the National Ministries, she practiced in two large law firms in Cleveland. She frequently speaks on church law-related matters and maintains a [blog](#) on the UCC National Ministries website.

Unveil the potential and pitfalls of AI in faith-based communities. Join us for an enlightening presentation on the risks and rewards of using generative artificial intelligence in churches and gain valuable insights into policy development for mitigating potential risks. Register now to equip your church with the knowledge and tools necessary to navigate the evolving AI landscape.



Heather Kimmel

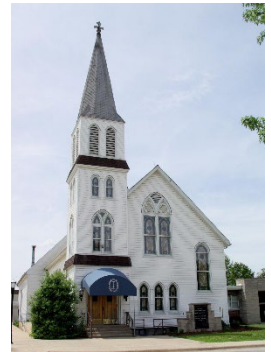
General Counsel
United Church of Christ



The 60th Annual Meeting of Illinois South Conference is set to for **Saturday, October 19, 2024** at Evangelical United Church of Christ in Highland. Embracing the theme of "Jubilee Joy", this year's gathering promises to be a joyous occasion filled with reflection, celebration, and anticipation for what lies ahead. Make sure to mark your calendars and join us in commemorating the rich history, vibrant present, and promising future of the ISC.

ISC Hunger Action Team

The ISC Hunger Action Team would like to recognize: St. Peter UCC, Red Bud for their "Blessing Box" project. The BLESSING BOX MOTTO: "Take what you need - leave what you can". This Mini Pantry, with non-perishable food items, is a blessing to those in need. During summer months, students who qualify for free school breakfast and lunch; won't have access to these meals. St. Peter members are invited to help restock breakfast and lunch items - cereal and canned soup are a priority for local families in need. Thanks, St. Peter. Under the leadership of pastor and teacher, Rev. Cory Hartz. "Neighbors helping neighbors".



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

News from DuBois Center

We still have openings for the following camps:

Week 5: June 23-28

(half week) Discovery (completed 1st-3rd grade) -- openings for Boys & Girls

Splash (completed 5th-7th grade) -- openings for Girls

Settler (completed 3rd-4th grade) -- openings for Boys

Saddle 'Em Up (completed 7-8th grade) -- openings for Boys & Girls

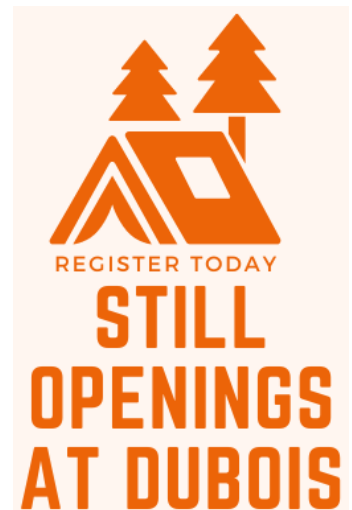
Week 8: July 14-19

Splash (completed 5th-7th grade) -- openings for Boys & Girls

Horsin Around (completed 5th-6th grade) -- openings for Boys & Girls

Settler (completed 3rd-4th grade) -- openings for Boys

Register now at www.duboiscenter.org!





Check out the DuBois 'Merch' at the Camp Store!

When you are at camp this summer dropping off kiddos or volunteering, make sure to check out our new merch! New this year are metal water bottles, embroidered hats, horse t-shirts, and more!

Sunday Check-in Volunteers

We are looking for friendly faces to help with camp check-in on **Sunday afternoons from 1:30-3:30 pm**. Join our welcome team for one Sunday or as many Sundays as you want! Volunteers are needed to help with all parts of the check-in process. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old. Sign up online - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C...>



Dubois Fall Festival Crafters & Makers Needed

We know it's only June, but our Fall Festival Committee is already hard at work planning for the 2024 Fall Festival. This year our annual Fall Festival is scheduled for **Sunday, October 6, from 11 am-5 pm**. Fall Festival is only possible because of the efforts of countless volunteers. They bake, promote, stitch, recruit,

decorate, set up/take down, drive boats, lead tours, greet, direct traffic, clean, serve, and dedicate hours and hours to make it all happen. [Click HERE to check out the details!](#)

Council for Health and Human Services Ministry News



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

Fun In The Sun at Uni Pres Kindercottage!

The children of Uni Pres Kindercottage are thrilled to embark on their summer adventure with a fun-filled calendar of events! Alongside maintaining their academic progress, we have planned several exciting field trips that will allow the children to explore and learn in various ways. To make this summer a success, we are seeking your support. Donations of the following items would be greatly appreciated:

- *Copy paper
- *Jump ropes
- *Water bottles
- *Sippy cups
- *Baby wipes
- *Art and craft kits for ages 5-12
- *Amazon or Walmart Gift cards
- *Playdough
- *Children Board Games ages 5-12

We also warmly welcome volunteers who can contribute by reading to the children, playing games, leading art and craft activities, and engaging in musical activities.

Let's come together to create a fun and positive summer for our little ones! Please reach out to us at your convenience at 618-874-6505. **Thank you for your support!** Aimee Hart, Executive Director

618-874-6505(work) 618-799-1417 (cell)



FOSTER PARENT INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Wed June 26
5:30PM - 7:00PM

Hoyleton Youth & Family Services
FVH Office
8 Executive Dr. Suite 200
Fairview Heights, IL 62208

Our amazing licensing staff will be presenting information on how to become a traditional licensed foster parent, along with licensing and training requirements

RSVP using the QR Code Below or by going to
<https://hoyleton.org/events/foster-care-informational-meeting/>
by June 23, 2024



Contact
licensingworkers@hoyleton.org
or
618-688-4765 with any questions

**Tropical Trivia for Hoyleton's Puentes de Esperanza Friday,
June 28th at Caseyville Community Center**

Calling all beach bums!

Join our beach party and enjoy ten rounds of trivia, games, a raffle, and a silent auction! Don't forget your shades and sunscreen. Bring your favorite snacks and drinks. Soda will be provided. **Doors open at 6:00pm, Trivia starts at 7:00pm** \$200 per table with up to 10 participants, \$10 mulligans (one for each round). Prize for best decorated table! If you are interested in supporting this event with a sponsorship or silent auction donation please contact Christy in the Philanthropy Dept at 618-688-7092 or cschult@hoyleton.org.

[Click here to register, be a sponsor or donate.](#) [Learn more about Puentes De Esperanza HERE.](#)



Caring compassionately for aging and disabled people since 1985

St. John's Community Care Coffee Talk We designed our Coffee Talk sessions to allow time to relax and rejuvenate with other caregivers who understand what you are going through. Staff help to guide conversation, but most of the group discussion is just based on the needs of the people attending. We buy your coffee and you can talk with others about caregiving, or not think about caregiving at all, if that is what you need! **Monday from 9am-10:30am at Verona Coffee Company in Collinsville. Fridays are at Goshen Coffee Roasters in Edwardsville from 10am-11am.**

Our ISC Churches News + Events



Are you looking for VBS materials or to share your VBS resources? The exchange of VBS materials can help elevate your program or another church's program. Click [HERE](#) and send in the following info:

(Church name) will be hosting the **(insert name of the VBS curriculum)** on **(insert dates)** and is looking for churches to partner in sharing resources.

If you are interested, please contact **(insert name)** at **(insert contact information)**

Evangelical UCC Highland is hosting Outback Rock VBS June 3rd-7th. If you are interested in materials, please contact Elaine at evuccvbs@gmail.com.

St. Paul UCC, Belleville, will be hosting the Camp Firelight VBS on June 24th - 27th 6-8 PM . We are looking for churches to partner in sharing resources. If you are interested, please contact Synthia Kalinowski at sktk19876@yahoo.com or Pastor Tim Powers-Reed at 636-248-6468. Thank you!



Friedens United Church of Christ-Irvington will host their 66th annual Ice Cream Social and Pie Auction on Friday, July 19, 2024, from 5-8

PM. Sloppy Joes, Nachos, Brats, hotdogs, chips and drinks are also available for an evening of fun and fellowship. The clergy band, Rivers of Life, will be playing in the sanctuary. All proceeds support youth mission work. 307 S. Third Street, Irvington, IL

[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 The music skills needed 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 10am - 11am 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.

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

For DuBois Center Co-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](#) [CHHSM](#)

[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](#)

