



World Communion Sunday Resources: Prayer, Scripture, Music, Liturgy, Children's Moment, Mission Moment, Sermon Sparks, Communion, Benediction

World Communion Sunday is this Sunday, October 5th. We invite you to use some or several of these resources in your virtual or in-person worship. This year's World Communion Sunday resources highlight three powerful scriptures that remind us of our unity in Christ.

From **1 Corinthians 12:12–27**, we learn that the church is like one body made of many different parts, each important and needed. **Psalms 133:1** celebrates how good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in harmony. And in **John 17:21–23**, Jesus prays that all believers may be one, just as He and God are one. Together, these passages invite us to celebrate our differences while remembering the unity we share at Christ's table. [Link to World Communion Sunday Resources](#)

Please Remember in Your Prayers this Week...



Holy Ghost UCC, Darmstadt-

Rev. Tarrah (Jasen) Vaupel

[Submit prayer requests here](#)



St. Mark's UCC, DuBois

Retired Pastor-

Rev. Robert (Doris) Utke

Please keep Rev. Kenneth Knobloch, his wife Jean, and their children in your prayers as Rev. Ken has been moved to Randolph County nursing home and is now under hospice care.

Please continue to pray for Rev. Tarrah Vaupel, an authorized minister of our Conference, and her family as they recover from a devastating fire at their home.

"When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for catch.'"

-Luke 5:4



61st ISC Annual Meeting

**Saturday,
October 18, 2025**

**St. Paul UCC
Belleville, IL**

~Register Since the deadline has passed, please get in touch with Julie Riechmann, our Conference registrar, directly at riechmann@iscucc.org or 618-357-1809 as soon as possible. We need a final count for the caterers this week.

~Download Delegate Packet [HERE](#). Please note, printed copies will not be provided at the Annual Meeting.

~Mark Your Calendar and Find Your Route, if you haven't already done so, to join us on **Saturday, October 18th** at **St. Paul UCC, 115 W B St, Belleville, IL 62220** and prepare to make some waves as we go **INTO THE DEEP**! Hope to see you there!

SCHEDULE OF THE DAY:

8:30 am	Doors Open and Check-in Begins
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Opening Session
9:30 am – 9:45 am	Break / Visit the MarketPlace
9:45 am – 11:00 am	INTO THE DEEP Worship in the Sanctuary
11:00 am - Noon	Updates and Celebrations
Noon – 1:30 pm	Lunch / Visit the MarketPlace
1:30 pm – 1:45 pm	State of the Conference Address
1:45 pm – 2:45 pm	Business Session
2:45 pm – 3:00 pm	Break / Visit the MarketPlace
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	Resourcing Sessions
3:45 pm – 4:00 pm	Break / Visit the MarketPlace
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Closing Worship

*Please note new time of Friday Meet & Greet Event >**RSVP today!**

2025 ISC Annual Meeting Event Meet and Greet

Rev. Shari Prestemon, UCC Associate General Minister



Friday, October 17th
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
St. Paul UCC Belleville, IL

It's not too late!
r.s.v.p. to dkesner@iscucc.org





Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering This Sunday, **October 5th**, is the [Neighbors in Need offering](#) which supports ministries of justice and compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting UCC justice ministries. In 2025 the Neighbors in Need Offering supported 26 grant recipients across the UCC who were engaged in projects of direct service and advocacy. While many of our churches collect the offering on part of World Communion Sunday, contributions to this offering can be collected on any Sunday during the calendar year. Thank you for your support and generosity!

Chili
COOK-OFF

BENEFIT FOR
REV. TARRAH VAUPEL FAMILY

Location: Trinity United Church of Christ
5698 Biddleborn Rd., Biddleborn, IL

Date: Sunday, Oct. 19
Time: 11 - 3
Cost: Donations
All proceeds go to the Vaupel family

chili, desserts, bounce house, and more!

Rev. Tarrah Vaupel (pastor at Holy Ghost UCC Darmstadt and Trinity UCC Biddleborn) and her family of 7 recently lost their home to a devastating fire. Her congregation is hosting a chili cook-off among local churches to benefit the family as they navigate this difficult journey.

VIRTUAL TIX NOW AVAILABLE

CONVERGENCE MUSIC PROJECT'S
CONVERGING 2025
OCTOBER 15-18 | COLUMBUS, OH

REGISTER NOW

The Convergence Music Project

Saturday, October 15-18, 2025

Convergence Music Project is about new music for a just and generous expression of Christianity.

It's getting close. Do you have your tickets yet? Join us in Columbus Oct. 15-18 or get a virtual ticket and join us online.

For more info on Speakers and Artists visit <https://www.cmpconverging.com>



UCC Disabilities Ministries' Access Sunday resources help congregations craft a service of inclusive welcome on Oct. 12

by [Donna Jackson](#) | published on Sep 30, 2025

A typical Sunday morning for an able-bodied person often includes walking up stone steps and opening with ease a heavy wooden church door. Once in the sanctuary, a seat is taken in a narrow pew, and a small-print Bible is skimmed through for the day's Scripture lesson. Soon, the music begins playing and the sounds of the choir fill the sanctuary.

But for the [44.7 million Americans living with a disability](#) — that is one in four people — a typical Sunday morning is anything but typical. There are the challenges of the steps, the struggle with a heavy door, the maneuvering of narrow pews, the inability to read the small-print Bible and hear the choir sing or the pastor preach.

Every second Sunday in October, the United Church of Christ invites congregations to take part in observing Access Sunday — a day to remember the very things in worship that are taken for granted.

In preparation for **Access Sunday 2025, held on Oct. 12**, the [United Church of Christ Disabilities Ministries](#) has created a comprehensive list of resources, available [here](#). [>>Read entire article](#)



Disability Justice in Congregational contexts Part I: What is Disability and What is Ableism?" You're invited for a 3-part series to go deeper into the All Church Read, "Building Up a New World: Congregational Organizing for Transformative Impact," focusing on Chapter 5, "Disability Justice in Congregational Contexts" with current and former members of the UCC Disability Ministries Board. [Register](#)

- Oct 2, 2025 02:30 pm Part I
- Oct 9, 2025 02:30 pm Part II
- Oct 16, 2025 02:30 pm Part III

Future of Faith: Grace in the Wilderness Oct 6, 2025 2:30 pm

Between fascism, genocide, war, famine, environmental collapse, and uncertainty about our relationships and what we are called to be in such a time – we find ourselves deepening or returning to our faith. [Register](#)

What's Next Series: How Art Deepens and Enriches Worship in Divided Times Oct 13, 2025 02:30 pm We'll be joined by Rev. Marshela Salgado-Solorio for an engaging online conversation exploring how art can deepen and enrich worship. [Register](#)

ISC Hunger Action Team - Facing Hunger in Your Community



The Hunger Action Team would like to recognize ST. PAUL, WATERLOO for their "COMMUNITY BLESSING BOX" It's a 24 hour Mini Food Pantry stocked with nonperishable food and hygiene products. Heartfelt thanks to St. Paul member, IAN SCHERLE, who constructed the "Blessing Box" for his Eagle Scout Project. Ian wanted to provide a discreet and accessible way for people to get the help they need, while encouraging others to pay it forward. "Take what you need, leave what you can". St. Paul members are invited to share donations to keep the Blessing Box replenished.

Ensuring that those in need will continue to have access to food and hygiene items. Thanks, St. Paul, under the leadership of pastor and teacher, Rev. Kyle Timmons. Such a blessing!

In sharing your stories of being in service to others, you shine God's Light to all of us in the ISC and beyond! Click below...

[...to share stories of fighting hunger in YOUR community](#)

FALL FESTIVAL DuBois Center

Sunday, Oct 5
from 11-5



Family-Friendly Event FREE Parking FREE Admission



Great Food Trucks!

Tater Headz Fry, Dizzy's Wheels, and more!
Plus local non-profits with Kettle Corn, Spiral Potatoes, & Sweet Treats!

Activities for EVERYONE!

Pony Rides, Hay Rides, Crafts @ the Kids Korner,
Pontoon Boat Rides, Rope Making, Silent Auction, and...

Over 40 Crafters & Artisans



Live Music

1:00 Sheltered Reality (on the BB Court)
2:15 Emery Bass (on the main stage)
3:30 Venedy Band (on the BB Court)

No ATM on site! Cash only for DuBois Center activities
We love pets, but only service animals are welcome



The Camp and Retreat Center of the Illinois South
Conference of the United Church of Christ

2651 Quarry Rd. DuBois, IL

www.DuBoisCenter.org



Crafters/makers

Tees & Trees
Makin it on Main Street
Bigley Creations
Second-generation Ceramics
Always Enough
Glass on Glass Designs
C.N.Dickey Woodworks
ZIENA Boutique
Cro-J Crafts
Cozy Corner
Uncle Randy's sweets and more
Vinyl & Threads
Vintage Young 'Un
Hippie Child Creations
Leedle Bees Shack
Pocket Change
D&B family farm
Abby's Spare Time
Lezlee's Stamped Books
T and C Unique Stones
Brazeau Hills Lavender Farm
Stiches by Marge

Demonstrators

Blacksmith
Heartland Ropemakers Guild

Food Items:

POCKET TACOS (in Oak Lodge)
Sweet Treats
Tater Headz Fry Co
Dizzy's Wheels
Lil Buddies (no longer Lil Buddies BBQ)
Lori Winters
Okawville Heritage House
Nashville UCC (selling ice cream)
Kettle Corn from Zion UCC and St. Joe Waterloo

Music

1:00 PM – Sheltered Reality (performing on the Basketball Court) High-energy percussion routines that will have you clapping along—plus an inspiring message of success for all.

2:15 PM – Emery Bass (performing on the Main Stage)

3:30 PM – Venedy Band (performing on the Basketball Court)

Creations by Joni
Love By Livi/ Painted Fox Threads
Mary Jane Crafts
Rovals Decor
CrunchCrazy



Your unique silent auction baskets will benefit our wonderful ISC camp and retreat center. Baskets can be dropped off at St. Paul UCC, Waterloo 9:00am - 4:00pm through Thursday or DuBois Center or brought to DuBois the **morning before or day of**. Contact Audrey Hicks 618-939-8673 or audhicks@hotmail.com with any questions. Didn't prepare a basket? Come out on Sunday and bid!!!



Messy Church Family Retreat is November 21-22nd! Join us for interactive worship designed for every age and all types of families - plus some DuBois activities!

Check out the details and register at-
<https://duboiscenter.org/retreats/dbc-retreats/>

Council for Health and Human
Services Ministry News



Are you a senior-serving community organization in one of the following counties?



Apply today for the
Seniors Community Fund!



The Seniors Community Fund (in partnership with [Deaconess Foundation](#)) is now accepting applications!

Organizations serving seniors in Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois can apply for up to \$30,000 to support projects focused on:

Safety

Transportation

Health navigation support

Applications are due **Friday, October 17 at 11:59 PM.**

Apply today at bit.ly/SeniorsFund2025 or read more

at <http://chcmisouri.org/seniors-community-fund-now.../>.



Dear UPK Families,

Welcome back to a new school year at Uni Pres Kindercottage! September is always such a special month as we welcome our little learners, reconnect with families, and prepare for a year filled with growth, discovery, and joy.

This year, our focus is on developing young learners through a fun learning curriculum and building stronger partnerships to help support our mission. At UPK, we believe education begins with relationships – between teachers and children, families and staff, and our center and the wider community. Together, we can ensure that each child feels loved, supported, and encouraged to reach their full potential.

We are excited about the learning opportunities and special events planned this fall, including our pumpkin patch field trip, family literacy night, and fall health screenings. Please keep an eye on our monthly calendar for updates and important dates.

Thank you for entrusting us with the care and education of your children. Your partnership means so much to us, and we look forward to walking alongside you this school year.

With gratitude and excitement,

Aimee Washington-Hart
Executive Director
Uni Pres Kindercottage



Join us for a hauntingly fun night of **GloBingo** to raise critical funds for Behavioral Health services in our community! Dress in your most ghoulish glow gear, grab your neon daubers, and get ready to support Hoyleton Youth and Family Services.

Every game helps us bring light, hope and healing to those battling challenges. Costumes are encouraged, compassion required. Click [HERE](#) to purchase tickets.



Nov.18

Thank you so much [Dinnius Photography](https://www.signupgenius.com/.../20F094EA9AF23A3F94...) for hosting this photography fundraiser for us! Folks can sign up at 618-655-0177 or online <https://www.signupgenius.com/.../20F094EA9AF23A3F94...>

Would you like a beautiful portrait to give as a Gift this Holiday Season?

Support [St. John's Community Care](https://www.signupgenius.com/.../20F094EA9AF23A3F94...) with a portrait fundraiser just in time for the Holidays! (15% of our packages will go back to St. John's.) The dates are Nov.11-

Our ISC Churches News + Events

REGISTER CLOSES NOV 3rd!

Illinois South Conference
presents

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

NOVEMBER 14TH-15TH

AT DUBOIS CENTER
OVERNIGHT & DAY ONLY
OPTIONS!

Saturday Only Retreat (incl. lunch)	\$30 (per participant/adult)
Saturday Only Retreat (Incl. 2 meals breakfast & lunch)	\$45 (per participant/adult)
Overnight (Friday - Saturday Afternoon)	\$85* (per participant/adult)

Horseback Riding available as add-on option. \$25 for trail ride.

* Contact the Illinois South Conference Office if scholarship assistance is needed.

TEAM-BUILDING . LUNCH . OPTIONAL OVER NIGHT

DISCOVER WHAT IT MEANS TO BE FEARFULLY AND
WONDERFULLY MADE!

Confirmation Retreat 2025

Registration will open
August 1, 2025.

Questions?
Contact Jill Mayer
(jill@stpaulonline.org or
618.978.7123)



WURSTMARKT DINNER & COUNTRY STORE: Saturday, October 4, 2025 from 9:00 AM to 12 Noon St. John UCC, 21 N. Walnut Street, Trenton, IL will have a 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 5, 2025 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM** we will have a drive-thru Wurstmart dinner of pork sausage, roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, sauerkraut, green beans and pie. Price per dinner is \$15. Drive thru will have two lines - one through the alley and the other through the city parking lot. Follow signs for directions.

St. Paul Fine Arts
CONCERT SERIES

SHANNON GOMEZ

More than Wonderful

GARY HUMPHREY

In Concert

OCTOBER 5, 2025

3:00 PM

St. Paul UCC
200 N. Main St.
Waterloo, IL 62298
www.stpaulonline.org

Benefits go toward
St. Paul Fine Arts
Concert Series

Free Concert
A free-will offering
will be accepted.

TRINITY UCC BELLEVILLE

15th Annual

HALLOWEEN

SPOOKTACULAR TRIVIA NIGHT

OCTOBER 11

AT 6:00 PM

(DOORS OPEN @ 5:15 PM)

Proceeds benefit the
Belleville Interfaith
Food Pantry
and Trinity UCC
Wider Missions

**COSTUME
CONTEST**
FOR ADULTS &
KIDS
(NO FULL MASKS)

**BASKET
RAFFLE!**
BRING A SPOOKY
SNACK!

50/50
DRAWING!

WITH ADVANCE RESERVATIONS:
\$10 + 2 FOOD ITEMS / ADULT
\$5 + 2 FOOD ITEMS / CHILD

AT THE DOOR TICKETS:
\$15 + 2 FOOD ITEMS / ADULT
\$10 + 2 FOOD ITEMS / CHILD

47 NORTH DOUGLAS
BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS

FOR QUESTIONS OR ADVANCE RESERVATIONS,
CONTACT DEBJOVAAG@AOL.COM

FALL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY - OCTOBER 11, 2025

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

CHRIST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
200 SOUTH 3RD STREET, DUPO IL

**SOUPS, SANDWICHES
HOMEMADE PIES**

YARD SALE

**HOMEMADE
CAKES, COOKIES
CANDY AND JELLY**

**PRIZE DRAW
AND
BASKET RAFFLE**

**QUIZ DRAWING
AT 2:00 PM**

CRAFTS!

Crafters & Vendors Wanted – Table space \$20
For more information, please call 618-286-4211

Evangelical UCC - Highland

**ANNUAL
SAUSAGE
SUPPER**

DRIVE-THRU ONLY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025

Noon-7pm
2520 Poplar St. Highland, IL

Meal Includes: Sausage(1lb), sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, and a dessert

\$14/Dinner
Cash, Check or
Credit Cards Accepted

For questions call
618-654-7459

Friedens UCC - Troy, IL

ANNUAL FALL SAUSAGE DINNER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2025

11:30A-4:30P

-DRIVE THRU ONLY-

Dinners are \$15/plate

Menu Includes: Grilled Pork Sausage, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Sauerkraut, Green Beans, and a Dessert

Questions: 618-667-6535 friedensucc@friedensucc-troy.org

Friedens United Church of Christ
207 E. Center St, Troy, IL 62294

Wurstmarkt

Dine-In Carry-Out Drive-Thru

Thursday, October 16, 2025

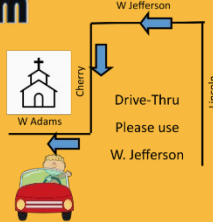
3:30-7 pm

Crafts 12-7:30

Adult Ticket \$15
Child Ticket \$8

O'Fallon United Church of Christ

206 West Adams St., O'Fallon, IL 62269
(618) 632-3496 www.ofallonucc.org



33RD ANNUAL WURSTMARKT

Dine-In is Back! Come in or swing through the Drive-Thru!



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19TH 11A.M.-3P.M.

Pork Sausage, sauerkraut, real mashed potatoes, apple sauce, green beans, & choice of dessert (gluten-free and sugar-free options)

ALL MEALS \$15

**ST. PAUL UCC,
123 E DEE ST, LEBANON, IL 62254
(618) 537-4991**

Click to submit your EVENTS + NEWS to the Weekly Connection

Opportunities + Resources

[Part Time Organist/Pianist - Friedens UCC Marissa](#)

[Part-time Music Leader - St. Paul UCC Pinckneyville](#)

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 Directors, contact **Jason Petry** or **Leah Petry** at director@DuBoisCenter.org or (618) 787-2202 ext. 2 for Jason or ext. 3 for Leah.

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.

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](#)

