

March 24, 2026



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## Reflections From Our Conference Minister

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It is Sunday evening, and I'm writing from my hotel room at the Hyatt Regency Indianapolis in the heart of downtown. There's something a bit nostalgic about this place, as it is the same hotel where our 34th General Synod stayed in 2023.

This week, I will be attending "The Gathering," a conference that brings together faith-based human service organizations across five traditions—Mennonite, Methodist, Presbyterian, Quaker, and United Church of Christ. Within the United Church of Christ, many of these organizations are in covenant with one another through the Council for Health and Human Service Ministries (CHHSM), a collective that is rooted in a shared Christ-centered vision of compassion, justice, and service.



I arrive here not just as an attendee, but as a participant in CHHSM's 2025–2026 class of the Nollau Leadership Institute. This week marks both an ending and a beginning: my final Nollau sessions, the presentation of my capstone project, and the celebration of graduation.

The Nollau experience has been more than a continuing education opportunity; it has been a journey of reflection and transformation. Through study, retreats, and rich, interactive sessions, I have been stretched and grounded in equal measure.

We have explored not only ideas but also the deeper rhythms of leadership through readings, podcasts, art, poetry, embodiment rituals, and sacred practices.

In online gatherings and peer check-ins, I have found connection, accountability, and the profound trust that emerges when one is courageous enough to be vulnerable with others.

In learning the Mennonite practice of circles of trust, I have rediscovered the quiet power of listening with full presence to others and to the still, guiding voice of the Holy Spirit.

And most of all, I've been reminded that the One who created me and called me into this ministry is still calling me to show up authentically, to keep learning about myself, and to remain open to the ways God can and will work through me.

For many years, I had thought about applying to the Nollau program but talked myself out of it, thinking I would not have the time or resources to commit. But this time, I made it a priority, applied to the program, and have been richly blessed.

I share this with you as an invitation to consider how you might create space in your life to grow as a follower of Jesus—becoming the servant leader Christ is calling you to be. Now more than ever, the world needs leaders who lead with compassion, humility, self-awareness, and a steadfast commitment to care for all God's people.

Be attentive to the opportunities the Spirit places before you. If something sparks your interest or gently nudges your spirit, pay attention and lean into a "yes." I am confident, as I have experienced myself, that it will be an experience you will not regret.

-Rev. Shana Johnson  
Conference Minister

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Please Remember in Your Prayers this Week...

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St. Peter's UCC, Stone Church



St. John's UCC, Summerfield

Rev. Philip (Kate) Barbier

Retired Pastor- Rev. Kevin (Shellie) Strope

[Submit prayer requests here](#)

UCC Global, National, +Regional News



# ISC Day of Discipleship 2026

A heartfelt **THANK YOU** to:

· Our Keynote Speaker and workshop presenter, Rev. Dr. Jeff Moore, challenging us to consider that whether we are immersed in a sacred sunrise along the Nile River, enjoying a double-double yoker breakfast in Corinth, or playing Dart Ball in the basement of an ISC church- it is **all the same** when we are being the people of God **together** and that we are made better when we are **together!**

· Our Workshop Leaders, Rev. Jennifer Sowell & Amanda Voegele, Dr. Jill Mayer & Andy Mayer, Rev. Tim Powers-Reed & Eileen Hoag, and Rev. Tim Harrison, for sharing their time, expertise, and dedication in strengthening the church in the areas of outreach, and youth programming, as well as strengthening worship through poetry, liturgy, and music.

· Our ISC Conference Gatherings Team: Norma Borgmann, Douglas Eichen, Eileen Hoag, Rev. John Pawloski, Rev. Tim Powers-Reed, Pastor Norma Patterson, Nancy Wagner. Your vision and energy made this gathering truly special!

· All those in attendance *and* those strengthening us in spirit

**And finally, to our amazing host church, St. John UCC, Mascoutah, and their many volunteers for their heart, soul and incredible hospitality. Your tireless work made this event a success-thank you for serving!**

***We are Stronger Together, Illinois South Conference!***



## ISC Clergy Retreat

## April 28<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> 2026

2026 Clergy Retreat: Time Well Spent

*"Be careful, then, how you live, not as unwise people, but as wise, making the most of time." --Ephesians 5:15-16a*

The Local Church Ministries Team invites all Illinois South Conference clergy to gather at DuBois Center for a day of spiritual renewal and connection. The retreat will be led by Rev. Betsy Happel, a retired UCC pastor from the Missouri Mid-South Conference.

**Dates:** Tue, April 28th at noon to Wed, April 29th at noon  
Day events with overnight options

**Location:** DuBois Center

**Focus:** Reflect upon how we intentionally and wisely use our time to make a lasting impact in our own lives and in the lives of those we serve. The retreat will include discussion, prayer, shared meals, optional group and individual activities, reading, rest, fellowship with colleagues, and time in God's creation.

**Cost:** \$55 for the day (this includes programming & meals)  
\$115 for the day and overnight (this includes programming, meals, & lodging)

Registration deadline is Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>

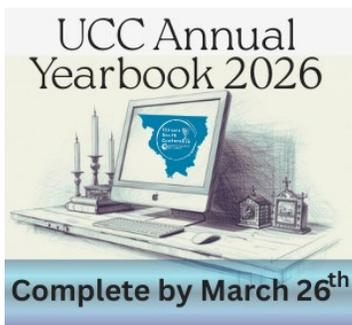
Follow the link to register

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/bvacjds>

### **Rev. Betsy Happel - ISC Clergy Retreat Leader**

Betsy Happel (she/her) is a certified spiritual director who has been mentoring and encouraging others for over 30 years. Centering on the mantra, "Be yourself and the world you love will come to you," she enjoys accompanying seekers as they explore their passions and gifts, notice holy synchronicities around them, and journey through significant transitions of life. Betsy is certified in Spiritual Direction through the Haden Institute, and serves as a mentor in Haden's Spiritual Direction training program. She earned her MDiv degree from Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis following twenty years in the human resources field. Before retiring from settled ministry in 2023, Betsy served as Pastor at Red Top Christian Church (DOC) in Hallsville, MO; and Kirkwood UCC in the St. Louis area.





## UCC Database is open for Yearbook information entry

Thank you to the churches that have completed their Yearbook Reporting! We have nearly half of our churches that need to enter their data! Instructions were emailed again to the churches' email addresses on **Monday March 9<sup>th</sup>**. If you need the instructions emailed to someone else, please let Debbie know. Our goal is to be done by March 26<sup>th</sup> – questions please email Debbie at [dkesner@iscucc.org](mailto:dkesner@iscucc.org).  
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!**  
ISC Staff



## Eden Spring Convocation 2026

The Church needs prophetic imagination.  
The world needs transformative leadership.  
Join us **April 9–10** for Spring Convocation 2026 at Eden Theological Seminary — in person or online.  
On Thursday, we gather for:

- Pre-Convocation Workshop: Church Planting & Growth in the Progressive Christian Movement
- Opening Reception

• Worship honoring the life and legacy of Walter Brueggemann

On Friday, we continue with:

- EBAA Breakfast
- Keynote Address by Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney — A Womanist Imaginary
- Global response from Rev. Dr. Allan Boesak
- Panelists Rev. Dr. Dietra Wise Baker, Rev. Dr. Raquel Lettsome, and Rev. Dr. Cassandra Gould
- Lunch and storytelling celebrating Walter Brueggemann
- Closing session: Womanism Embodied Practice and the Prophetic Imagination

This is more than a convocation.

It is a call to re-imagine ministry.

It is a space to belong, to lead, and to thrive.

Be in the room where theological imagination meets faithful action.

Be part of the conversation shaping congregations, communities, and the world.

Registration is now open. Secure your place today!

<https://www.eden.edu/events/spring-convocation-2/>



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

**Mission Moments** Use Mission Moments every week to tell a story about your congregation's connection with the wider church. Each issue – which is designed to be inserted with your newsletter or Sunday worship bulletin – is an effective way to inform your members about what they make possible through their gifts to Our Church's Wider Mission.

Current Mission Moments: [March 2026 – May 2026 \(doc\)](#)



## Opening the poetic space in churches: UCC launches online poetry

**collective** by [Donna Jackson](#) | published on Mar 24, 2026

From Genesis to Revelation, **one-third** of the Bible is filled with poetry, beckoning souls to soar, sigh and sing. The ancient texts, particularly within the Old Testament, awaken slumbering emotions and set loose new ways of living in the world. [Read](#)



## UCC GMP visits Puerto Rico to celebrate the retirement of one leader and meet the new head of communion for the IEUPR

by [Renee DeLuca](#) | published on Mar 24, 2026

Puerto Rico was the setting for a celebration of the retirement of the Rev. Edward Rivera Santiago and the welcoming of the new head of communion for Inglesia Evangelica Unida Puerto Rico (IEUPR), Pastor General Rev. Rafael Garcia Toro. United Church of Christ General Minister/CEO Rev.

Karen Georgia Thompson participated in the event in late February, and shared in the solidification of the relationship between the IEUPR and the UCC. [Read](#)



### 'It's time for the church to be courageous': Minnesota Conference lawsuit gains clergy access to those detained by ICE by [Kayla Berkey](#) | published on Mar 24, 2026

On Friday, a federal district court ruled that faith leaders must be granted entry into the Whipple Federal Building near Minneapolis to offer pastoral care to those detained by ICE.

The ruling is a preliminary injunction for a lawsuit filed on behalf of the [Minnesota Conference of the United Church of Christ](#), together with the Minneapolis Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and a

Jesuit priest.

"This lawsuit attends to the heart of our call to be present for those who are in pain and suffering," the Minnesota Conference Board said in a statement. "We proudly stand with our siblings to say that the government cannot politicize our faith; they cannot bind hope and love and mercy because of a political agenda."

### 'To remind them they are not alone'

[Read](#)

**A REPORT**  
from the **United Church of Christ Board**



### Report to the Church from the Board: March 2026

by [Jasmine Quinerly](#) | published on Mar 17, 2026

What a view for the March 12-14, 2026 United Church of Christ Board to be held in the National Office [1300 E. 9th Street](#) in Cleveland, Ohio. This meeting was held on the new 12th floor, a place where the space felt like home. The Board of Directors of the United Church of Christ Corporation, Justice and Witness Ministries (a Covenanted Ministry of the United Church of Christ), and Wider Church Ministries (a Covenanted Ministry of the United Church of Christ) each represented in each meeting of the UCCB and is a meeting of each of these corporations. [Read](#)



### Making Friends with Grief

by [Bentley deBardelaben-Phillips](#) | published on Mar 19, 2026

"There is some strange intimacy between grief and aliveness, some sacred exchange between what seems unbearable and what is most exquisitely alive," writes psychotherapist Francis Weller in his book, *The Wild Edge of Sorrow: Rituals of Renewal and the Sacred Work of Grief*.

The more years I am given to live, the more I understand his words. Like most people, I have faced profound challenges in my life. Not long ago, I had a bout with cancer. Thankfully, I am now cancer-free. Still, that diagnosis disrupted a life I thoroughly enjoyed. Additionally, it forced me to face mortality, as such diagnoses do, whether I wanted to or not. [Read](#)



### Church Planting & Growth in the Progressive Christian Movement

If you're thinking about what's next for the church, this is a conversation you don't want to miss.

Join the Walker Leadership Institute at Eden Theological Seminary for a workshop designed to equip leaders, organizers, and faith communities with practical tools for ministry in today's changing landscape.

Church Planting & Growth in the Progressive Christian Movement with Rev. Osagyefo Sekou and Rev. Matt Miofsky.

Together, they will explore bold strategies for cultivating new faith communities, strengthening existing congregations, and leading with purpose in the progressive Christian movement.

**Thursday, April 9, 2026 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

Attend online or in person at Eden Theological Seminary.

Come ready to learn, connect, and be part of shaping what the church becomes next. [Learn more](#)



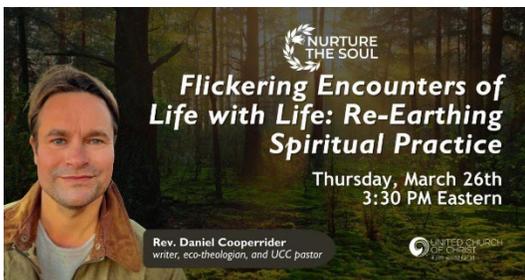
**The United Church of Christ Musicians Association** has been serving UCC church musicians for over 30 years, and they aim to expand services to as many churches as possible over the next few years. For more information, visit the [UCCMA website](#), and [Read the letter from the UCCMA](#).

**UPCOMING SATURDAY SHARING CONVERSATIONS**  
**March 28 – UCCMA Conference 2026: The Inside Scoop** with Conference Director Andrew Blosser



### April 25th: Earth Summit

To ground and inspire us as people of faith in difficult times, the Jim Antal Keynote Lecture will be delivered by the Rev. Dr. Kenneth Samuel, a renowned advocate and organizer for justice in the Atlanta, Georgia area. This two-and-half-hour summit will additionally feature a panel discussion of leading voices on issues of energy justice. The summit will take place on **Saturday, April 25th at 12 pm CT**. Gather church members to watch together or connect on your own. [Register now!](#)



### Flickering Encounters of Life with Life: Re-Earthing Spiritual Practice

**Mar 26, 2026 02:30 PM CT**

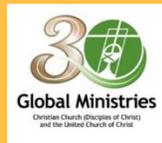
Whether we participate in organized religion or not, we often feel closest to God or the sacred when we're outside and in rapport with the natural world. This is not surprising, as when we trace our lineages back, we find ancestors who practiced earth-based spiritualities. In this conversation on "re-earthing spiritual practice," we will draw from Daniel's two books—"Speak with the Earth and It Will Teach You: A Field Guide to the Bible" and "Live Each Season as It Passes"—as well as Daniel's experience co-founding an outdoor "wild church" community, to trace an evolution in theology of nature

beyond the dominion and stewardship paradigms, and towards relationship and reciprocity with the more-than-human world. [Learn and Register](#)



## Global Ministries

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
and the United Church of Christ



## VOICES OF THE JOURNEY

### Courage Among Us

by [Shari Prestemon](#) | published on Mar 22, 2026

**"I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)**

The John F. Kennedy Library Foundation announced its annual "Profile in Courage" awards

last week, naming two awardees who were unlikely to land on any other list together: the Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell and the "people of the Twin Cities of Minnesota".

Caroline Kennedy and her son, Jack Schlossberg, said in their statement about the awards: "This year's honorees represent the courage of those who serve in all areas of government—and those who believe in it. Without public servants of integrity committed to maintaining the highest standards of institutional excellence and independence like Chair Powell, and citizens willing to put their lives on the line to hold America to its promises, our democracy can't survive. This year we honor the courage of those who didn't seek elected office but have demonstrated moral courage across our society." [Read](#)

### Now Hiring: Development Officer (Hybrid – Indianapolis, IN)

Global Ministries is seeking a relationship-driven Development Officer to help grow fund development efforts and connect generosity to global impact.

In this role, you'll cultivate donor relationships, lead campaigns, and support work advancing justice, reconciliation, and peace in partnership with Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and United Church of Christ.

Learn more: <https://ow.ly/yjPe50YviGV>

### Now Hiring: Controller (Hybrid – Indianapolis, IN)

Disciples Overseas Ministries is seeking a skilled and mission-driven Controller to lead financial operations and support global ministry work.

In this key leadership role, you'll oversee budgeting, financial reporting, audits, and internal controls while collaborating with partners like United Church of Christ. This position plays a vital role in ensuring strong stewardship and advancing impactful work around the world.

We're looking for someone with strong accounting experience (CPA preferred), a deep understanding of nonprofit financial practices, and a commitment to collaboration, equity, and the mission of the Church.

Learn more and apply: <https://ow.ly/PAJs50YvImY>

## 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. During Lent, St. Paul members are invited to share donations to replenish the Blessing Box. Ensuring that those in need will continue to have access to food and hygiene items. Hebrews 13:16 tells us "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God". Thanks, St. Paul - under the leadership of pastor and teacher, Rev. Kyle Timmons. Neighbors helping neighbors!

**By 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...**

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

## News from DuBois Center



### **WISHLIST WEDNESDAY is here!!**

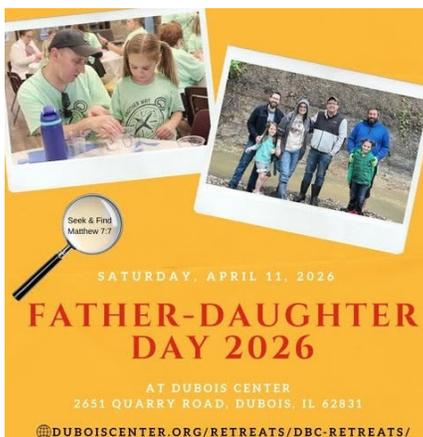
As we get ready for the summer season, we take inventory of things that tend to get overlooked as time goes on. This week, our focus is in Hammocks, Bug Nets, and Outdoor lights!

After enhancing Deer Run's Hammock Village last year, our hammock excursions have been a huge hit! We are now in need of a few more hammocks AND the mosquito/bug nets to make sleeping outside in the summer more pleasant!

Also, solar powered outdoor lights are included for areas that need them, including around walkways and campsites that just need a little light.

If you'd rather purchase any of these items elsewhere, that is fine too! Just let us know so we can arrange drop off or pick up! Monetary donations to the cause are also welcome!

Our current Wishlist is found at: <https://a.co/0gHfHUGc>



**Join us for our  
Father-Daughter Day  
Saturday April 11th  
9am-4pm**

We'll have brunch, fun camp activities, and faith-time with Rev. Phil Barbier! We'll be exploring Matthew 7:7, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

For more information or to register: <https://duboiscenter.org/retreats/dbc-retreats/>

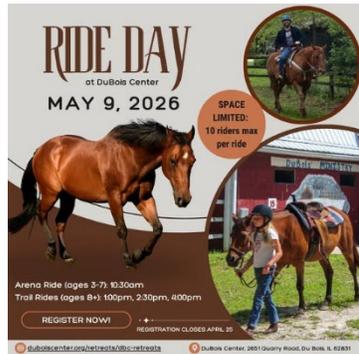


### Join us for Father-Son Retreat! April 24-26!

Fishing, archery, boating, and test out our new slingshots! Rev. RJ Morgan will be leading us through faith times centered around the story of David and Goliath!

For more information or to

register: <https://duboiscenter.org/retreats/dbc-retreats/>



### Ride Day - Saturday, May 9th

Our spring ride day is two months from today. Sign up for a ride time that fits best with your busy schedule!

Arena Ride: 10:30am. Ages 3-7 with an adult walking alongside the horse.

Trail Rides: 1:00pm, 2:30pm, 4:00pm. Ages 8+.

For more information and to sign

up: <https://duboiscenter.org/retreats/dbc-retreats/>

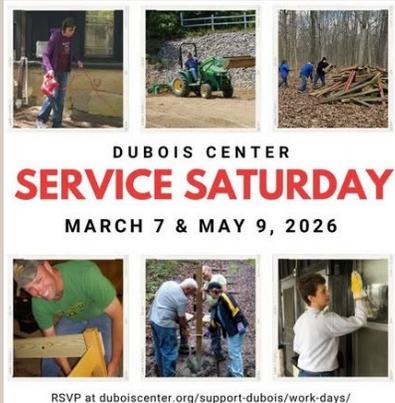
### DuBois Center needs your TLC!

#### Service Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>

Youth and adult fellowship groups, families, individuals, everyone is invited to lend a helping hand as we prepare our facilities for the busy spring and summer season. Projects vary, depending on the skills of workers and the weather, but a tired muscle or two and a great sense of satisfaction are guaranteed. There is wood to be stacked, leaves to be raked and buildings to be cleaned and painted. There are carpentry projects, as well as others requiring special skills. The work may not be glamorous, but it makes a BIG DIFFERENCE!

We'll provide lunch, so please [RSVP here](#) so we can make sure we have enough food for everyone! Check out the links below for more information:

- [Typical Schedule and What to Bring](#)
- [Directions and Map to DuBois Center](#)



### MORE than just another SUMMER JOB!

Energetic, child-focused, fun-loving with a heart for ministry – sound like you or someone you know? Consider whether an amazing summer at DuBois Center might be the opportunity you have been looking for. We are looking for dedicated individuals ages 18+ to be cabin counselors/activity leaders! FAITH. FUN. HARD WORK. GREAT FRIENDS. LONG HOURS. AMAZING MEMORIES. Gain practical experience, build your resume and make a difference in the lives of hundreds of kids! Job descriptions and application packets are available at [duboiscenter.org/summer-camp-staff/](https://duboiscenter.org/summer-camp-staff/). Season runs May 26 – July 24. Questions? Contact us at [director@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto:director@DuBoisCenter.org) or 618-787-2202

## Summer Camp Registration 2026!

[More info](#)

[Register](#)



# 2026 Summer Camp Schedule Updates

Camps are filling up quickly!  
Register soon at [DuBoisCenter.org](http://DuBoisCenter.org)

The grade listed next to each camp is the grade campers will have completed as of Summer 2025

	Main Camp	Rustic Village
June 14-16	Discovery (1st-3rd) <b>ALL: Almost Full</b>	
	Settler (3rd-5th) <b>ALL: Full</b>	Horse Play (5th-7th)
June 14-19	LIT Camp (11th-12th) Leadership in Training	Outback (7th-9th) <b>BOYS: Full</b>
June 17-19	Camp Quest (1st-3rd) <b>BOYS: Almost Full</b>	
	Settler (3rd-5th)	Splash (5th-7th)
June 21-26	Art Explosion (5th-8th) <b>BOYS: Closed</b>	Saddle 'Em Up (7th-9th)
	Base Camp (6th-8th) <b>GIRLS: Full</b>	
June 24-26		Rustic Sampler (4th-6th)
June 28-30	Just You & Me <b>ALL: Full</b> (Adult & Child ages 5-8)	
July 5-10	High School Week on Rustic (9th-12 <sup>th</sup> grades)	Drenched <b>GIRLS: Almost Full</b> Wrangler <b>GIRLS: Almost Full</b> X-Plore <b>GIRLS: Almost Full</b>
July 12-14	Discovery (1st-3rd) <b>ALL: Full</b>	<b>BOYS: Full</b>
July 12-17	Settler (3rd-5th) <b>ALL: Full</b>	Trekkin' It (5-7 <sup>th</sup> ) <b>GIRLS: Almost Full</b> Giddy Up (6-8th) <b>ALL: Full</b> Dunk'd (7-9 <sup>th</sup> ) <b>BOYS: Full</b> <b>GIRLS: Almost Full</b>
July 15-17	Quest (1st-3rd) <b>GIRLS: Full</b>	
July 20-22	Just You & Me (Adult & Child ages 5-8)	
August 7-8	Rainbow Camp (all ages)	

DuBois Center is the Camp & Retreat Center of the Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ.

Mark Your Calendars  
**AUGUST 7-8, 2026**  
**RAINBOW CAMP**  
An LGBTQIA+ Friendly, Family Camp Experience!  
At the DuBois Center in Dubois, Illinois

For more information  
<https://duboiscenter.org/retreats/rainbow-camp/>

## Council for Health and Human Services Ministry News



Experience Nollau

### Nollau Leadership Institute Class of 2026-27 Enrollment The Council for Health & Human Service Ministries (CHHSM)

1st Retreat: May 18-22, 2026

2nd Retreat: October 5-9, 2026

CHHSM Annual Gathering: March 15-19, 2027

The Nollau Leadership Institute is [CHHSM's](#) signature program. Enrollment is open, and find the [short online application](#) here. A limited number of tuition scholarships are available to help offset the cost of the program.

Grounded in the health and human service organizations of the United Church of Christ, this program offers a unique space in which to experience leadership formation. Through retreats, online interactions, and peer mentoring, this program supports leadership formation through a variety of learning modalities and within a community of practice. Learn more about the [curriculum here](#).

**Details:**

The program consists of two in-person retreats at Bellwether Farm, online interactions in between the retreats, and an additional day of programming at the 2027 CHHSM Annual Gathering, which includes the commissioning of the class as [Diakonal Ministers](#).

**2026-27 Schedule:**

1st Retreat: May 18-22, 2026

2nd Retreat: October 5-9, 2026

CHHSM Annual Gathering: March 15-19, 2027

**Location Information:**

Retreat Center: [Bellwether Farm](#), 4655 SR-60, Wakeman, OH 44889

Annual Gathering: Location to be announced in March 2026.

**Emmaus Classic Golf Tournament**

Get ready for another round of excitement at the Emmaus Classic! Mark your calendars for Friday, April 24, 2026, and enjoy a day on the greens with an earlier start time—so you can kick off your weekend in style. [Learn more and Register](#)



**EMMAUS CLASSIC**

Benefitting the Men and Women of Emmaus



**CAREGIVER CONNECTION**

**Date:** Saturday April 11th, 2026

**Location:** St. Johns UCC, Faith Hall  
222 Goethe Ave, Collinsville, IL 62234

**Time:** 8:30AM-12:30PM

**Topics:**  
\*Legal  
\*Caregiver Wellness  
\*Guide (Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience)

**Continental Breakfast and lunch gift card included.**

**Adult Day Services provided by:**  
St. John's Community Care

**Registration Required:**  
Call AgeSmart at 618-222-2561

**AGESMART** COMMUNITY RESOURCES    **ST. JOHN'S** COMMUNITY CARE    **HOSPICE** OF SCOTTLAND, ILLINOIS, INC.



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Add fulfillment to your life. Come join our team helping aging and disabled adults. We are in need of:

Receptionists  
Program Assistants - help with games/crafts  
Craft Assistants

You choose a time, we'll find a place.

If interested, please call  
St. John's Community Care  
618-344-5008

**St. John's Community Care Volunteers Needed!**

St. John's CC is in great need of volunteers to serve as receptionists, program assistants, and/or to assist with craft activities, and craft clean-up.

Call 618-344-5008 to volunteer!



**frühling market**

**SATURDAY**  
**MARCH 28, 2026**  
9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Have your cameras ready for pictures with the Easter bunny!!  
Pet Photos Welcome

ST. JOHN UCC  
2901 NAMEOKI RD  
GRANITE CITY IL 62040  
618-877-6060

HAPPY EASTER

A colorful flyer for a spring market. It features a pink bicycle with baskets of flowers, a pink bird, butterflies, and a 'Happy Easter' banner. The text is in a mix of fonts, with 'frühling market' in a large, stylized script.

Please join us for our  
Maundy Thursday Worship Service  
with

## The Last Supper Tableau



*An inspirational hour in the Upper Room where we hear the disciples' testimony of the Master.*

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 7:30pm**

**Christ United Church of Christ  
200 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Dupu IL**



**TEXAS ROADHOUSE**

**DINE TO DONATE! FUNDRAISING NIGHT**

**10% DONATION NIGHT**

Support Trinity United Church of Christ by presenting this flyer to the Shiloh, IL location and Texas Roadhouse will donate 10% of your total food purchases to Trinity United Church of Christ!

Support **TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**THUR., APRIL 09 4 - 10PM**

Scan the barcode on this flyer or enter the 7-digit code before checking out using the tableside Ziosk or Mobile App. This is the only way to ensure sales are credited to our group! Ask a Legendary Roadie for assistance if needed.

(618) 628-8811  
1412 CENTRAL PARK CIRCLE  
SHILOH, IL

**Click for Full Flyer**

HFNIPEL

A flyer for a fundraising night at Texas Roadhouse. It features the restaurant's logo, a '10% Donation Night' banner, and a barcode. The text is in various colors and fonts, with a green and white color scheme.

## ST. PAUL UCC RUMMAGE SALE

**& Bake Sale!** 115 W. B Street - Belleville, IL *Activity Center (Gym)* (Across from Franklin School)



**INSIDE RAIN OR SHINE!**

**SALE DATES**  
**Fri., Apr. 10 4-7pm & Sat., Apr. 11 9am-12pm**

A colorful illustration of various household items for sale, including a lamp, a globe, a dress, a teapot, a chair, and a birdcage. A sign in the center lists the sale dates and times. The background is white with a light blue border.

**150 YEARS**  
*Shining Brightly*  
O'FALLON UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**150th Anniversary Event** April 15, 2026 • 206 W Adams St. • 6:30 PM

**Brian Keller**, president of the **O'Fallon Historical Society**, will speak on the history of this church and its impact on the social development of O'Fallon. Question and answer period will follow. Refreshments will be available.



**EvUCC to Host “Raise the Roost!” Auction & Chicken Dinner [Full Flyer HERE](#)**

Highland, IL — Evangelical United Church of Christ (EvUCC) invites the community to join us for our annual *Raise the Roost!* Auction and Chicken Dinner on **Saturday, April 18**, at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Highland. This beloved community event combines great food, great fun, and great generosity to support EvUCC’s ministries and mission. Doors open and the silent auction begins at 5:00 PM. Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM and the live auction will begin at 7:30 PM. Guests can purchase individual tickets or fill a table of 8. We encourage larger parties to have one person place a single order for the entire group. [Raise the Roost: EvUCC Dinner Auction 2026 Tickets, Saturday, Apr 18 from 5 pm to 9 pm | Eventbrite](#)



*EvUCC Auction committee members show featured items, including a quilt from Rosemary’s Fabrics and an autographed football and bobblehead from Detroit Lions tight end and Highland native Sam LaPorta, along with just a few of the hundreds of items that are being collected for the event on April 18 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Highland, IL.*

ST. PAUL UCC PRESENTS

*Christian Illusionist*  
**JARED HALL**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 7:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 3:00 PM**

Kids 10 & under: Free (ticket required)  
Adults: \$10

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact the church office or scan the QR code.

**618-939-7123**

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Tickets can be picked up at the St. Paul UCC church office in advance or held at Will Call on the day of the show.

200 N Main St | Waterloo, IL | 618-939-7123 | [www.stpaulonline.org](http://www.stpaulonline.org)



## Are you interested in Pulpit Supply?

Reach out via email to the  
ISC Committee  
on Ministry Co-chairs.

Rev. Lisa Hart- [lisa@revhart.net](mailto:lisa@revhart.net)  
Mark Walz- [mewalz5925@hotmail.com](mailto:mewalz5925@hotmail.com)



If you are reading a print version of the ISC *Weekly Connection*, consider scanning the QR code or click [HERE](#) and subscribe to receive upcoming issues straight to your email inbox. Not only does this ensure you won't miss an issue but it gives opportunity to click on the links to full articles, webinar registration sites, and more. It only takes a minute to sign up. Reach out to Missy at 618-654-2125 or [mloyet@iscucc.org](mailto:mloyet@iscucc.org) with any questions or with news for the *Weekly Connection*.

[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](#)

[Part-time Bookkeeper - St. John UCC Fairview Heights](#)

[Part-time Facilities Manager - St. Paul UCC Belleville](#)

[Contemporary Band Leader - St. Paul UCC Waterloo](#)

[Contemporary Keyboard Musician - St. Paul UCC Waterloo](#)

[Part-time Administrative Assistant - St. John UCC Trenton](#)

[Part-Time Secretary/Bookkeeper- Friedens UCC Irvington](#)

## 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](mailto:dkesner@iscucc.org).

For communicating within the Conference, the Conference website, Facebook page or Weekly Connection, contact **Missy Loyet** at [mloyet@iscucc.org](mailto:mloyet@iscucc.org).

For DuBois Center Co-Executive Directors, contact **Jason Petry** or **Leah Petry** at [director@DuBoisCenter.org](mailto: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](mailto:jriechmann@iscucc.org) or (618) 357-1809.

For Rev. Shana Johnson, ISC Conference Minister, contact her at [sjohnson@iscucc.org](mailto: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.*

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