

**Central Southeast Ohio Association,
Ohio Conference
January 10, 2018**



**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**
God is still speaking,

CSEmail Newsletter

[Subscribe to the CSEMAIL Newsletter Here](#)



**A Note from Joan Davidson,
CSEOA Registrar
Yearbook Reporting !**

**Attention Church Staff
Central Southeast Ohio Association, UCC**

It's time once again for the Center for Analytics, Research and Data (CARD) to begin preparing the 2018 UCC Yearbook. All churches of the Association are asked to prepare this information and submit to the UCC National Database.

In preparing to submit your church information, it would be helpful to read the following CHURCH YEARBOOK INSTRUCTIONS and complete the ONLINE DATA ENTRY FORM (page 5) of the Yearbook Instructions before entering the data-hub.

[BEGIN HERE](#)

[CHURCH YEARBOOK INSTRUCTIONS](#)

VIDEO TUTORIALS

The data-hub will be open on January 2, 2018 at noon until March 7, 2018 at midnight. Please submit your data as early as possible to avoid potential delays if you should need assistance.

Step 1. Print or save the **ONLINE DATA ENTRY FORM** and collect information.

Step 2. Log into the UCC Data Hub <https://datahub.ucc.org>
or http://www.ucc.org/research_yearbook

a. Login window

User Name: _____

Password: password _____

The user name begins with our Conference # 52 then your 4 digit church number. (If you only have 3 digits in your church number add 0 in front of your church number)
52 (Conf. #) 0123 (Church #) 520123

Don't know your church number? SEE ATTACHMENT

Password password

**** Follow the "Church Yearbook Instructions" information to complete the online data entries.**

Step 3. "Report of Church Officers for 2018" (*attached*) fill in as much as possible and.....

Step 4. Scan, fax or mail hard copy of the Church Officers Report to the Association office only.

Step 5. When steps 1-4 are complete notify the CEO Registrar by email. joand@ocucc.org

If you have questions or just need help getting started, call Joan Davidson, Registrar. Please do not call the National Office for help. They will refer you back to Joan.

Joan Davidson 419-934-3713

Video tutorials and information sheets: All training materials are available at the following link on the Yearbook and Directory webpage: www.ucc.org/research_yearbook . On this page, congregations can also find a *Definitions Tip Sheet* for reporting categories.

Central Southeast Ohio Association/Ohio Conference UCC, 6161 Busch Blvd. Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43229 Fax: 614-885-8824 joand@ocucc.org

Attachments:

- 1. Church Yearbook Instructions**
- 2. Church Officers for 2018**
- 3. Church Number list**

[4. Eleven Reasons Why Reporting Annual Data is Important](#)

Joan Davidson, Registrar
Central Southeast Ohio Association
Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ
joand@ocucc.org
419-934-3713

Quick Links

2017 Calendar

[CSE Authorized
Clergy and MID
Directory](#)

[CSE Pulpit Supply
List](#)

[CSE Church
Directory](#)

[CSE Departments,
Council and
Committees](#)

[2018 Calendar of
Prayer](#)

[CSEO
Website](#)

IT'S HAPPENING in the CSEOA

Wednesday, January 10th 2018

DPAM Meeting
David's UCC in Canal Winchester
9:30a - 3:30p

Saturday, January 13th 2018

Elders Meeting
David's UCC in Canal Winchester
10a

Saturday, January 13th 2018

Council Meeting
Association Office
9:30a - 12:30p

Saturday, January 13th 2018

DCAM Meeting
Location To Be Decided
1p

Calendar of Prayer

January 14, 2017

Advent Community Church, Columbus

January 21, 2017

Dublin Community UCC, Dublin

January 28, 2017

Congregational UCC, Belpre

If you have news or photos to share and/or dates you would like to add to the calendar to be included in our next CSEmail, please submit to me by Friday at 4:30p
Submit your articles, photos (jpeg, png format please) and attachments to
debras@ocucc.org

Happy New Year !

Faithful Men and Women of God,
I will show you what it's like when someone comes to me, listens to my teaching, and then follows it. It is like a person building a house who digs deep and lays the foundation on solid rock. When the floodwaters rise and break against that house, it stands firm because it is well built. Luke 6:47-48 (NLT)

Happy 2018! By the grace of God we made it! When the floodwaters came in 2017, we were able to stand firm because we laid our foundation on the Solid Rock, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In 2018, may we dig deeper into the word of God and His teachings making sure that we build an even stronger house...so if or when the floodwaters come, we can continue to stand firm.

Seeing God in Everything...see Him as our foundation,

Your Association Pastor

Rev. Patricia Battle

[Get your January Calendar of Praise and Prayer here](#)



Love is Love 2018, Retreat "Together on a Journey" February 10-11 2018

An LGBT and Allies multigenerational event sponsored by North Congregational UCC partnering with the Ohio Conference led by Chris Isaacs and Kim Heimlich

When: Saturday, February 10, 2018 registration 11:00 AM-1:00 PM (lunch provided) to Sunday, February 11, 2018, 1:00 PM.

Where: Temple Hills UCC Camp, Bellville, OH

What: 24-hour event, Safe place of Community for LGBT and Allies

Why: Come together to be in Community with others who are diverse yet affirming

Who: Inter-generational, families, singles, couples; all are welcome. If the What and the Why interest you, it is the place to be!

Cost: Adult - \$56.60 (includes overnight stay and meals)

Student (6-11) - \$33.95

Children (5 and under) – no charge

Registration deadline is January 26, 2018

Registration link: <https://ohioucc.campbrainregistration.com/>

If you need assistance with registration, please contact the Camp Registrar at campregistrar@ocucc.org or 800-282-0740, Ext. 202.

For more information, email your name and contact info to:

loveislove6262015@gmail.com

The Love is Love event is created in a spirit of fellowship, to provide a safe space for conversation as well as an exposure to a camp experience. The weekend is created for LGBT and Allies who would like to be in conversation with others. The event is a multi generational family friendly space.

Templed Hills is located in Bellville, OH. Housing includes indoor plumbing, heat, twin size beds and a roof over your head. Meals will be provided and are included in the cost of the weekend (lunch Saturday through lunch Sunday).

Celebrate Seminary Sunday February 25th

Why Celebrate Seminary Sunday?

Our UCC seminaries are filled with faithful, committed students seeking the skills and wisdom necessary to lead the church in the 21st century. Our congregations need these students. In our region, we are blessed to have three fine UCC seminaries - Chicago, United, and Eden. Each of these seminaries provides quality education for pastors and lay leaders, and they provide research and resources that serve the entire UCC.

How to Celebrate Seminary Sunday:

- Lift up our UCC seminaries and seminarians in prayer, in mission moments, and in your bulletins.
- Post materials about Chicago, Eden, and United Seminaries on bulletin boards.
- Include a special prayer or litany in your service.
- Show a five-minute CUE Seminaries DVD.
- Include a gift to CUE Seminaries in your church budget or to take a special offering.
- DVDs, bulletin inserts, posters, and offering envelopes are available CUE Seminaries website:

<http://www.cueseminaries.org/Main/SeminarySunday>

Boundary Training

If you are an Authorized Minister or MID that needs to complete Anti-Racism Training, you may want to audit the upcoming course at Methodist Theological School in Ohio during JTerm 2018 - Doing Our Own Work: An Anti-Racism Intensive for White People. All you have to do to start this process is contact Registrar, Lee Richards (lrichards@mtso.edu)

Thank you,
MK O'Haver
Chair, DCAM

Here is what 2 previous students had to say about the course:

"From simply stating the fact that I am white to learning about the many histories I did not learn in school of people of color to thinking critically about how to address systemic racism and white supremacy..."Doing Our Own Work" was a game changer. Rev. Dr. Morrison uses an array of tools from the assigned readings to in class poems, music, film clips, and dialogue with partners, in small groups, and as a whole class to have a fully engaged learning space. The class learned from each other, pushed each other to dig deeper, and committed to continue to do what we can in small and large ways to stand up as anti-racists. We have work to do as white people...this is a great class to start on or continue your journey."

- Kris LoFrumento, Director of Student Services, class auditor JTerm 2016

"Doing Our Own Work" provided practical training to confront systemic racism in my own life. The powerful curriculum effectively blends practice, spiritual wisdom, history, great thinkers, and useful ministry resources. The experience taught me how to interrupt and confront systemic injustice in everyday moments. This class has had an impact on me that will continue far beyond MTSO.

- Emily Howard, MDiv candidate 2018

MESA Information for MIDS and Committees on Ministry

[Leave of Absence Info](#)

[Available Scholarships and Grants](#)

[Online Training for Committees on Ministry](#)

Imagining a Different Conference



You are invited to help the Conference Vision Team!

Recently, a team of 15 representatives from Associations and Conference forwarded a report to the Board of Directors. That report imagined different ways to shape the Ohio Conference and its Associations.

The Vision Team declared to the Board of Directors that we need to become "one nimble and responsible judicatory that is faithful in mission and responsible in stewardship."

The Board agreed. And that's where you come in.

[Read More](#)

Wider Church Upcoming Events

Ohio Interfaith Power and Light

an affiliate of Ohio Council of Churches, is asking us to identify persons to be invited to a training event for leadership development and community organizing skills related to climate justice. We need your suggestions for people to contact – by January 10! Please see the attached information pages. The Conference was one of the sponsors for the earlier event called Listening Circles for Communal Life, and is a sponsor of this follow up event.

[Read More](#)





**"The Awakened Soul:
Living at Our Utmost Capacity"
featuring:
Quaker Minister, Writer, & Speaker
PHILIP GULLEY**

Christian Churches in Ohio (DOC) graciously invite UCC clergy and spouses to attend a retreat prepared by their Spiritual Life Committee, featuring Philip Gulley. Retreat dates are February 6-8 with a registration deadline of January 28.

[Read More and Register](#)

Greg Davis, a member of First Community Church, Columbus asks us to consider how to join the Interfaith March for Peace and Justice, an international event planned for April 29. Of special concern is to identify persons in various locations throughout the Conference who will help organize simultaneous marches in their areas.

[Read More](#)

Speaking of Faith...
Spiritual but Not Religious,
Christianity, Islam

Over the next several months Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens will be facilitating this program. We will learn WITH people who practice their faith in each of the above beliefs.

Monday, February 5, 2018 - 7-9pm - **Christianity** - location to be announced.
Monday, March 5 -7-9pm - **Islam** - Noor Cultural Islamic Center, 5001 Wilcox Road, Dublin, Ohio 43016
Bring friends, family, neighbors, co-workers. All are welcome. We need to have folks sign-up so we can plan for food and seating.

Contact [Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens](#) for more information

Churches Currently in Transition....

- **Heidelberg UCC, Stoutsville** is in the process of beginning their search for a new minister.
- **Advent UCC, Columbus** is in the process of beginning their search for a new minister.

"Here Comes the Judge" A devotion by Kenneth L. Samuel



"Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. He shall not cry, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth." - Isaiah 42:1-3

I remember the first time I was summoned to appear in traffic court for a speeding ticket and some unpaid parking violations. I could have just mailed in the fines, but I'd failed to do so in a timely way. I had never been to court, and being in my early twenties I wasn't quite sure what to expect. All the horror stories I'd heard raced through my mind as I sat in the crowded courtroom waiting for the appearance of the judge.

Upon the judge's entry, I breathed a deep sigh of relief. The judge was a member of the church I attended while I was a seminarian at the Emory School of Theology. He was a kindly gentleman, always greeting me with a smile, a firm handshake and words of encouragement. Surely he, who knew me so well, would grant leniency, or perhaps dismiss my violations altogether.

But as he looked down at me from his high and lifted-up position, I heard him say: "Kenneth Samuel, you are guilty as charged. You will pay the maximum fines with interest, because I know that you know better. You've got to be an example for other young people." That was it. Such a nice man, but such a stern judgment. Still, I could not deny the truth of his words or his judgment. After his ruling I was determined to never have to appear in traffic court for neglected violations again.

In the Christian faith, the judge described in Isaiah 1 can be seen as a prototype of Jesus Christ. This judge is first and foremost a servant with a special endowment of discernment. This judge is not boisterous or self-promoting in the streets. This judge possesses a gentleness that will not allow him to even crush a broken reed. Yet the judgments he renders are righteous, true and abiding.

This judge knows us very well. In fact, he loves us dearly. But he has a tendency to chastise those whom he loves, and to hold those of us who know him to even higher standards. His judgments are much more than our punishment. His judgments are really our salvation.

Prayer

Jesus, you are our friend and our judge. Help us to find blessing and correction by relating to you fully as both. Amen.



Have you read the PARISH PAPER?

The Parish Paper is a wonderful resource to which the Ohio Conference has subscribed on behalf of all Ohio Conference churches. Each issue stands alone as a topic of interest and importance to being a living and growing congregation. Check it out...

[January, 2018 - 18 Questions for 2018](#)

[February 2018 - Best Practices for Church Members Serving as Staff](#)



[Constitution and By Laws Adopted 10-25-14](#)

[CSEOA Vision - Future Story 2020](#)

[CSEOA Strategic Plan 2013-2020](#)

[Ohio Conference Website](#)

[Outdoor Ministries](#)

[Member In Discernment Manual Rev. 7 10-9-2013](#)

[How Do I Transfer My Standing?](#)

Staff Contacts

Debbie Smetts,
Association Office Administrator
Central Southeast Ohio Association
6161 Busch Blvd., Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43229-2547
614-885-0722 Ext. 218
Toll Free: 800-282-0740 Ext. 218
Fax: 614-885-8824
Email: debras@ocucc.org

Reverend Patricia Battle,
Association Pastor
Office Hours by Appointment
Email: patriciab@ocucc.org

Call or Text: 614-531-8240

Staff Specialists

Joan Davidson,
Association Registrar
Email: joand@ocucc.org
Cell: 419-934-3713

Reverend Linda Meredith,
Covenantal Elders Specialist
Pastoral Practice Specialist
Email: lindam@ocucc.org
Cell: 740-815-1048

Beverly Holt,
Search and Call Specialist
Email: beverlyh@ocucc.org
Cell: 740-816-2987



ABOUT THE NEW LOGO

All UCC LOGOs are Available Here

