

**Central Southeast Ohio
Association,
Ohio Conference
March 21, 2018**



**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

God is still speaking,

CSEmail Newsletter

[Subscribe to the CSEMAIL Newsletter Here](#)



Quick Links

2018 Calendar of Events

**CSE Authorized
Clergy and MID
Directory**

**CSE Pulpit Supply
List**

**CSE Church
Directory**

DCAM Meeting

Saturday, April 14th
1p
Grace UCC, Lancaster

Calendar of Prayer

March 25, 2018
Move United Church, Columbus

**CSE Departments,
Council and
Committees**

**2018 Calendar of
Prayer**

**MESA COM
& MOM Information
and Manuals**

**CSEOA
Website**

**Save the Date!
CSEOA Spring Annual Meeting
Saturday, May 5th
9:30a-1:30p @
Mid-Ohio Food Bank
3960 Brookham Dr
Grove City, OH 43123**

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

CSEOA JOB POSTING

**for the Position of
Administrative Minister**
[Click Here for Description and Details](#)

It's Time to Register for Camp



[Click Here For Details](#)



Herb Goetz

Prayers for a a quick and full recovery from a hip replacement surgery needed after a recent fall.

YEARBOOK REPORTING TO THE UCC

NATIONAL DATA-HUB!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! to the 19 church staff members who found time to report to the UCC National Data-Hub their 2017 data concerning attendance, membership, finances, & ministerial support.

As you know, church staff was unable to upload OCWM and the 5 for 5 Offerings to the Data-Hub. In Ohio, the Association Staff inputs this information for each church from the year-end reports at the Association Office and will show the 5 for 5 offerings in the 2018 National Yearbook. The yearbook will be available for purchase through the UCC Resources approximately June of 2018.

Order Your Yearbook and Directory Today!

Order online at uccresources.com

Looking for access to real-time church and ministerial data?

Subscribe to Access UCC for just \$19.99 per year!

Available at uccresources.com

Great Lakes Regional Youth Event Elmhurst College, Elmhurst Illinois July 5-8

A Just World For All: Your Voice Matters

Greetings Brothers & Sisters in Christ! I am reaching out to you on behalf of the planning committee for the UCC Great Lakes Regional Youth Event. The attached is a letter of invitation for this summers event that includes the link for registration. Please distribute to the masses; all clergy and lay leadership throughout your conferences and help us to spread the word! Blessings ~ Kim

GLRYE Co-Chairs

Rev. Emily A. Davis emily@fcc-cl.org

Rev. Kimberlee Whisler-Vasko kimberlee2964@icloud.com

[Click HERE For Letter of Invitation](#)

[Information and Registration](#)

Interim Minister 3-Day Training

At Camp Christian
May 8-10 & November 13-15

Register online at ccinoh.com

Boundary Training 2018 Register Now

Authorized ministers in the CSEOA

One of the requests of our authorization and standing is to stay current with Boundary training and Anti-racism training. This requirement is every 3 years for both. I would ask you to check when was the last time you had both of these trainings, if it is more than 3 years, I would invite you to sign up for the training at Camp Christian with the Disciples of Christ on April 18 for Anti-Racism training and April 19 for Ethical Boundary training.

Following through on our expectations of growth and being in compliance with our authorization is very important, for ourselves, for our places that we work, and for our call. So please check your schedule and sign up, and if you don't remember, it probably has been too long.

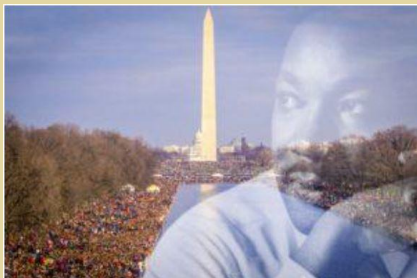
Thank you for all the wonderful and hard work that you do as an authorized minister in the CSEOA on behalf of the United Church of Christ.

Mindy Quellhorst

Rev. Melinda Quellhorst
Pastor Grace United Church of Christ
Member of DCAM

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

UNITE to End Racism April 3-5, 2018



ACT NOW: Unite to End Racism is both a rally and a call to action, organized by the National Council of Churches with partners: the National African American Clergy Network, Conference of National Black Churches, Sojourners, Franciscan Action Network, Churches Uniting in Christ, and Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, and its member communions.

The Ohio Council of Churches invites you to join us in a transformational journey, beginning this April. Join us on a transformational journey!

- ◆ Awaken to the truth that racism is evil and hurts us all
- ◆ Confront racism through truth-telling and action to right the wrong
- ◆ Transform the hearts, minds, and behaviors of people and institutions.

[READ MORE](#)

[Register Here](#)

25 seats, \$75 each, left on a bus departing from Cleveland [CLICK HERE](#)

17 seats, \$75 each, left on a bus departing from Columbus [CLICK HERE](#)



MARCH 24 IN WASHINGTON, DC
AND YOUR COMMUNITY

MARCHFOROURLIVES.COM

March For Our Lives

First Congregational UCC, 444 E Broad Street, Columbus graciously invites youth and their adult companions to spend the evening of March 23, at the Church. Provide your own travel and dinner arrangements. Arrive at the church anytime after 6:00 pm. Bring sleeping bags, air mattresses, cots, and personal toiletries.

[Read More](#)

[Register Here](#)

Advocate to End Gun Violence in Your Community

[GET IDEAS HERE](#)



IMAGINING A NEW CONFERENCE

OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE IDEAS, DREAMS AND CONCERNS

The Conference Vision Team wants to hear from you!

Your opinion and reflection are essential to the shaping of the future work and ministry of the United Church of Christ in Ohio, West Virginia and Northern Kentucky.

The visionary goal of this effort is to create **"one nimble and responsive judicatory that is faithful in mission and responsible in stewardship."**

These "imagining" sessions will help create a new day of effective and efficient ministr

The remaining discussions are scheduled as follows:

March 20 - Tuesday - Orchard Hill UCC, Chillicothe - 6:30 pm
(This session will be streamed; viewing details will be announced soon)
March 24 - Saturday - St. John's UCC, Newark - 10 am

Members of the Vision Team will be present at each session to share developments so far and to invite your reflection and suggestions.

Currently serving are: Patricia Battle, Dan Busch, Dan Doty, Mark Frey, John Gantt, Cathy Green, Tom Kagy, Ian Lynch, Carl Robinson, Jared Ruari, Karl Ulrich, Terry Williams.

Other members of the Conference serve on one of three working groups studying "Best and Standard Practices Resource," "Form and Structure Plan," and "Finance and Stewardship."

Being Church Together

"Connecting local churches together in mutual ministry"

"Responding to national and global disasters"

"Church camp and youth events"

"Supporting local churches and ministers with the search and call process"

"Ecumenical outreach and cooperation"

"Ministering to local church pastors"

"Consultation for situations when a local church needs help"

"Prophetic witness"

These are just a few of the responses that the Vision Team has heard during Listening Sessions

Questions, Comments or Ideas? Email ocuccvision@gmail.com



The Vision Team Needs Your Input!

Please click on the link below to access a survey asking you for your ideas and input about the future of the conference. All responses are appreciated!

[CLICK HERE TO SUPPLY INPUT](#)

Giving Voice to LGBTQ Older Adults Conference GEN SILENT



**An Exploration of a Vital Topic, with a Film
Screening and Workshops
Saturday, April 14th - 9:30a-3:30p
North Congregational UCC
2040 W Henderson Rd, Columbus OH 43220**



United Church Homes' Ruth Frost Parker Center for Abundant Aging and North Congregational UCC, Columbus, are co-sponsoring the Giving Voice to LGBTQ Older Adults Conference from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. April 14 at North Congregational, 2040 W. Henderson Road. The conference will include the premier of "Gen Silent," a documentary asking six LGBT seniors if they will hide their lives to survive. Workshops are planned on long-term care planning, elder abuse, advocacy and services and spiritual challenges and opportunities for communities.

[Informational Flyer](#)

[Agenda](#)

[Register Here](#)



Spring Lantern Fellowship Women's Retreat

April 20-22, at Camp Mohaven

Click the link below for information about the Spring Lantern Fellowship Women's Retreat. The retreat will be held at Camp Mohaven and registration is available at

www.onlineregistrationcenter.com/lantern (note: registration is not handled by the Ohio Conference).

[DETAILS HERE](#)

MESA Memo Items

Sabatical Best Practices
Ministry of COM's
Fitness Review Tab Training
Ministerial Code
Marks Assessment

Click below for details and dates of above

[ZOOM Training Available](#)

Churches Currently in Transition....

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

"Viriditas" A devotion by Molly Baskette



"When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, 'Do you believe that I am able to do this?' They said to him, 'Yes, Lord.' Then he touched their eyes and said, 'According to your faith let it be done to you.'" - Matthew 9:27-28

I remember the first time I realized, about 32 winters in, that the trees where I lived in New England lacked foliage fully six months out of every year. For half of my life, I had been walking around in a Spartan moonscape. What a recipe for depression!

And yet, every spring, over several magical days, nature delivered on her promise to move the dial from "apparently dead" to "most certainly alive." Forsythia arrived on the scene like so many jazz hands. Fetal maple leaves emerged damp and exhausted from twig-ends.

The most wondrous part of the blossoming is that new life emerged from such a sorry-looking source. Dead branches didn't fall off, making way for new young shoots. The branches themselves grew young again. The shivering gray sprays of rosebush greened from within. External cues—warmth, and the angle of the sun—catalyzed a change within every tree, shrub, square foot of earth.

The visionary medieval abbess Hildegard of Bingen spoke often of "viriditas," the greening of things from the inside out as physical things respond to the Divine energy unleashed on the world.

This story of Jesus healing the blind ones is a story of viriditas. Jesus might be magic, but even he can't perform miracles without the active participation of the one who would grow greener.

"Do you believe that I am able to do this?" he asks the blind ones. In their simple answer lies everything: "Yes, Lord." The "Lord" recognizes God's power. The "Yes" recognizes ours.

What in you has seemed defoliated and dead for a long time? What spring have you been waiting for, passively? Can you put your face in the sun, and let it call to a hidden, dormant power in you? Can you believe that Jesus is Lord of Life, and has the agency to heal anyone—even you?

Prayer

God, with every YES I have, with everything that is inside of me waiting to burst forth, green me. 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...

March - Finding Significance as a Small Church

April - Church Energy Use: Can We Harness Hope?



[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](#)

