

**Central Southeast Ohio Association,  
Ohio Conference  
June 27, 2018**



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

**CSEmail Newsletter**

[Subscribe to the CSEMAIL Newsletter Here](#)

The Association Office is open on Tuesdays from 10a - 1p or by appointment.  
I will normally respond to your phone/email messages  
within 24 hours of receipt Monday through Thursday. Messages are not checked Friday - Sunday  
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](mailto:debras@ocucc.org)



**Quick Links**

**2018 Calendar of Events**

**CSE Authorized  
Clergy and MID  
Directory**

**CSE Pulpit Supply  
List**

**Vision Team Meeting for CSEOA**

Saturday, July 7th  
10a-12p  
Advent UCC

**Council Meeting**

Saturday, July 14th  
9:30a-12:30p  
First Congregational Church  
444 E Broad St, Columbus 43215

**DCAM Meeting**

Saturday, August 11th

**CSE Church  
Directory**

**CSE Departments,  
Council and  
Committees**

**2018 Calendar of  
Prayer**

**MESA COM &  
MOM Information  
and Manuals**

**2018 Online  
Training for COM**

**CSEOA  
Website**

1p  
Grace UCC, Lancaster

**DPAM Meeting**

Wednesday, July 11th  
9:30a-3:30p  
David's UCC, Canal Wincheste

**Female Clergy Lunch**

(We invite female clergy in the Ohio Conference to meet monthly for lunch, fellowship, sharing of resources and support.)  
We plan to meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month in the Columbus area.  
Our next gathering is:  
June 26th  
at 11:30 at  
the Ikea restaurant (I 71- Gemini Exit).

**Ohio Conference  
Annual Gathering**

September 28th and 29th  
Westerville Community UCC

**CSEOA Annual Fall Meeting**

Saturday, October 27th

**Calendar of Prayer**

**July 1, 2018**

Search Committee of Ohio Conference

**July 8, 2018**

CSEOA Department for Congregational Vitality

**July 15, 2018**

Little Muskingum Congregational Church,  
Marietta

**July 22, 2018**

Mt. Carmel UCC, Clearport

**July 29, 2018**

North Congregational UCC, Columbus

## **Meet our New Transitional Conference Minister: Rev. David Long-Higgins**

Dear Friends,

Your Board of Directors held a special meeting on June 11 in which we approved Rev. David M. Long-Higgins as our new Transitional Conference Minister. He will begin his ministry with us on September 1.

Rev. Long-Higgins graduated from Heidelberg University, in Tiffin, and from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. He is currently the Senior Pastor at David's United Church of Christ in Canal Winchester, Ohio, where he has served since 1996. He has been active in the wider church, most notably serving on the Global Ministries Board for the past nine years, three years on the Wider Church Ministry Board, and two years on the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ. He has also been active within Central Southeast Association and the Ohio Conference.



The Search Committee was impressed with Dave's passion, spirituality, and a deep understanding of the current reality within the Ohio Conference. It was also impressed with his communication skills, both in person and in writing, and felt these would be critical as the conference considers the recommendations from the Vision Team.

Please join me in welcoming Dave to this new role within the Ohio Conference!

Grace and peace,

Cathy Green  
Moderator, Ohio Conference

**Ohio Conference  
Restructuring Vision Meeting  
For CSEOA  
Saturday, July 7 from 10:00 am - noon**

**Advent UCC  
2303 N Cassady Ave  
Columbus OH 43219**

The presentation by the Ohio Conference Visioning Team for the restructure of a conference for our churches in Ohio, Northern Kentucky and West Virginia will be held at Advent UCC at 2303 N Cassady Ave Columbus, 43219 on Saturday, July 7th at 10:00am.

You and members of your churches are requested to attend, to be a part of hearing what is proposed. You will get to ask questions, as well as provide feedback to the Vision Team members. There is no cost but we do request you register so we can have enough materials on hand for everyone.



[View Vision Team Proposal HERE](#)

[\*\*Register Here\*\*](#)

**End of Life Seminars  
Wednesdays July 11, 18, 25  
7-9p  
North Congregational UCC**

The Caring Ministry Team of North Congregational UCC, located at 2040 W Henderson Rd, Columbus invites you to participate in a free three-session seminar that will help you consider the ethical and legal issues surrounding end of life care.

[DETAILS HERE](#)

**The Concert for Children at the Border  
Sunday, July 1st 3-5p**

## Hosted by North Congregational Church

Music that makes a difference – top Columbus songwriters present The Concert for Children at the Border. The event, hosted by North Congregational Church at 2040 Henderson Rd, Columbus, is raising funds for Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES), providing legal counsel for children incarcerated by Homeland Security on the border with Mexico.

[DETAILS HERE](#)



**Soon to be Ordained!**

**Council has approved  
DPAM  
recommendations to  
ordain...**

**Nick Knoblauch**

**Joanna Samuelson**

Saturday, October 20th at 2p  
North Congregational, Columbus

**Beth Staten**

Saturday, September 22nd at 10:30a  
Sponsored by Move United  
at Zion UCC in Delaware

**Congratulations!**

**Chicken Noodle Social**  
**St Michael's UCC, Baltimore**  
**July 19th, 4-7p**  
[Click HERE for Details](#)

**Dublin Community Church**  
**United Church of Christ**  
**is looking for**  
**Part-Time Youth Leader**

[View Job Description HERE](#)



**United Church Homes,**  
**Friendship Village of**  
**Columbus**  
**Seeking a Chaplain**

[View Position Requirements Here](#)

**Ohio Conference**  
**Visioning Team Update**





### **New Vision Team Documents**

The Wider Church Visioning Team has released a brief update of its work following the Conference-wide listening sessions. You will find the update and a draft of a purpose, vision, and mission statement on the Ohio Conference website under the tab "A New Vision." The new documents are listed near the top of that page (also linked below) under "Association Meeting Documents."

[Click Here to View](#)

[View Vision Team Proposal HERE](#)

**Ohio Conference Annual Gathering  
September 28-29 Westerville Community UCC  
Invitation From Ken Medema  
See and Hear more from Ken at the  
Gathering!**



## Churches Currently in Transition....

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

## Come Worship with Us!

Open and Affirming (ONA) is the United Church of Christ's (UCC) designation for congregations, campus ministries, and other bodies in the UCC that make a public covenant of welcome into their full life and ministry to persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.

Find an ONA Church Near You

<https://openandaffirming.org/ona/find>



 **UCC RESOURCES**  
the hub for all things UCC



### UCC DESK CALENDAR 2019

One free calendar is shipped to each church and all retired clergy.\*

This popular, 18-month (July 2018 - December 2019) planning calendar for the UCC is 8.5" x 11" and spiral-bound. Includes:

- Complete lectionary readings for every Sunday
- Special mission offering dates
- Special observances
- Directory of national staff

Pre-Order your 2018-19 Desk Calendar

[Here](#)

\*Retired clergy: please check with your Conference if you don't receive one.



**Volunteer:**  
**Summer Communities of Service**  
[Apply Here](#)

**UCC Series: History, Theology and Polity  
for Congregations and Committees**



Each learning session includes a facilitator guide, video, resources, and activities to help folks explore the unique history, governance structure, and theological commitments of the UCC. You can access all the lessons and resources through this site, as well as download any files you need.

The complete facilitator guide is also available for purchase.

[Click HERE to Explore](#)

**Creation Justice Webinars**



## Successful Climate Action

For this month's [Creation Justice Webinar](#), the UCC has teamed up with 350.org and the Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth. Masada Disenhouse from 350.org will share about how faith communities can make a difference on climate through local campaigns. She will talk about inspiring past successes as well as current efforts to transition our society away from fossil fuels.

[Sign-up today for this webinar!](#)

## "Asking For Help" a devotion by, Jennifer Brownell



*"A young man named Eutychus, who was sitting in the window, began to sink off into a deep sleep while Paul talked still longer. Overcome by sleep, he fell to the ground three floors below and was picked up dead. But Paul went down, and bending over him took him in his arms, and said, 'Do not be alarmed, for his life is in him.' Then Paul went upstairs, and after he had broken bread and eaten, he continued to converse with them until dawn; then he left. Meanwhile they had taken the boy away alive and were not a little comforted." - Acts 20:9-12*

Between work and parenting and caring for a disabled husband, being the protagonist in my life story is sometimes tiring. "Ask for help," my friends tell me. I wonder how people do that. Usually asking for help just seems like one more thing to add to the long list.

Last week, I prepared to drive my husband to the emergency room after a negative reaction to a medication. For the chronically ill or disabled like Jeff, hospital visits aren't that unusual and the visit was really quite routine, in its way.

"Ask for help," I remembered. So, on the way out the door I did something I don't usually do. I sent a short text to three soul friends, asking them to pray. All day, our friends kept us company with notes of love, offers of food, even a real live visit. By the end of the day when Jeff was discharged with a plan in place, I noticed I felt less weary and more uplifted than I usually would after a day in the hospital.

Eutychus appears only once in the Bible story. It's amazing we even know his name, because he never speaks or acts in any meaningful way. All he does is fall asleep and then need help. And yet, his need mobilizes those who care for him to acts of healing, compassion and gratitude.

Eutychus, the protagonist of the story, didn't do anything but need his community, and that was enough. Maybe one day we will know that it is enough for us, too.

### Prayer

**Dear God, help me ask for help. 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...

**June** - Making the Nursery a Place of Belonging

**July** - Inviting Informing and Including Newcomers

**August** - How to Raise Money for Your Community Projects



**[COM Training online](#)**

**[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?](#)**

**[NEW UCC Ministerial Code](#)**

## **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](mailto:debras@ocucc.org)

**Reverend Patricia Battle,**  
**Association Pastor**  
*Office Hours by Appointment*  
Email: [patriciab@ocucc.org](mailto:patriciab@ocucc.org)  
Call or Text: 614-531-8240

**Joan Davidson,**  
**Association Registrar**  
Email: [joand@ocucc.org](mailto:joand@ocucc.org)  
Cell: 419-934-3713

---



**[ABOUT THE NEW LOGO](#)**

**[All UCC LOGOs are Available Here](#)**

