

**Central Southeast Ohio Association,  
Ohio Conference  
August 29, 2018**



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
God is still speaking,

**CSEmail Newsletter**

[Subscribe to the CSEMAIL Newsletter Here](#)

The Association Office is open Monday through Thursday from 9:30a - 2:30p.  
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 [debras@ocucc.org](mailto:debras@ocucc.org) by Friday at 4:30p  
Submit photos in jpeg, png format please.



**Quick Links**

**2018 Calendar of Events**

**CSE Authorized  
Clergy and MID  
Directory**

**CSE Pulpit Supply  
List**

**CSE Church**

**Council Meeting**

Saturday, September 8th  
9:30a-12:30p  
CSEOA Office

**DCAM Meeting**

Saturday, October 13th  
1p  
Grace UCC, Lancaster

**DPAM Meeting**

Tuesday, September 11th  
9:30a-4:00p

[Directory](#)

[CSE Departments,  
Council and  
Committees](#)

[2018 Calendar of  
Prayer](#)

[MESA COM &  
MOM Information  
and Manuals](#)

[2018 Online  
Training for COM](#)

[CSEO  
Website](#)

MTSO

### **Ohio Conference Annual Gathering**

September 28th and 29th  
Westerville Community UCC

### **CSEOA Annual Fall Meeting**

Saturday, October 27th

### **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:

September 25th

at 11:30 at

the Ikea restaurant (I 71- Gemini Exit).

### **Calendar of Prayer**

#### **September 2, 2018**

St. John Evangelical Protestant UCC, Columbus

#### **September 9, 2018**

Our Sister Associations of the  
Ohio Conference

#### **September 16, 2018**

St. John's UCC, Newark

#### **September 23, 2018**

St. Michael UCC, Baltimore

#### **September 30, 2018**

St. Paul UCC, Columbus

**Thank You!**

## *We Are because You are!*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings in the name of the Risen Christ!

As I have reflected on the generous hearts of the faithful people and communities who comprise the Central Southeast Association of the Ohio Conference of the United Church of Christ, my mind has been rolling around that old African proverb, *I am because WE are.*

What a wonderful expression of how we are the collective Body of Christ! Most of us know from experience the truth of the poet John Donne's observation that no one is an island; in the same way, we also know well how individual faith becomes stronger when it is shared in community. So too, are our individual churches stronger when they connect with one with another in shared ministry and common purpose.

Together, as the Gospel of John reminds us, we live as one!

Our Church's Wider Mission is one of the ways in which the United Church of Christ shares its common mission with member churches, not only within the diverse range of Central Ohio, but also within the larger church body of the Ohio Conference and in the national setting. Churches that have supported the Association in the past, and that continue to do so, have allowed your leadership to assist in filling vacant pulpits, nurturing members in discernment and authorizing ordained ministry. In addition, support from local churches has allowed the Association to explore ways we can work together to make the wider Body of Christ more vibrant and effective in spreading the Gospel.

All of our area churches are receiving their midyear giving statements in mail this week, along with a personal "thank you" from me for their generous support of the wider church.

Your Association leadership recognizes and fully understands that sometimes giving beyond the reach of a local parish can be difficult and challenging in the best of times; but we also know, through experience, that like the biblical widow who gave her last two pennies, out of little gifts the grace of God produces abundant blessings. *Just try me*, the prophet Micah hears God challenging.

So this week please accept my appreciation for all you are doing, or contemplating doing, on behalf of the wider church, and as the year continues to unfold, I and the rest of Association leadership pledge to hold each and every church in thanksgiving and prayer. And, please, hold those who guide your Association in prayer as well, that together we may continue to be the Body of Christ in this region.



Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Patricia E. H. Battle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Patricia E. H. Battle  
Association Pastor



## Central Southeast Ohio Association 55th Annual Fall Meeting

### We Will Gather in Christ

**Saturday, October 27th**  
**Zion Reformed**  
**United Church of Christ**  
**8000 High Point Rd**  
**Thornville, Ohio 43076**  
**9:30a-12:30p**



### Nominations Needed For:

#### General Synod Delegates

2 clergy men: 1 delegate under age 19, and 1 age 19-29.

Next year's General Synod Meeting will be in Madison Wisconsin

#### Vice Moderator

Central Southeast Ohio Association Council

(Must be a Lay Person)

If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Melodie Rezac, the chair of the nominating committee.

Rev. Melodie Rezac 740-503-4803 or [rezac.melodie@gmail.com](mailto:rezac.melodie@gmail.com).

**It's Stewardship Time!**



**Get your UCC Stewardship Resources [HERE](#)**

INAUGURAL CONCERT FOR A CAUSE

**TONY ARATA**  
WRITER, "THE DANCE" BY GARTH BRADOCK  
NASHVILLE SONGWRITERS HALL OF FAME

**ERIC GNEZDA**  
CREATOR, BEST SONGS AT THE CENTER

**KEITH LARSEN**  
PEOPLE'S CHOICE WINNER  
NASHVILLE SONGWRITERS ASSN

SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY  
**PARKER MACDONELL**

**Concert for a  
Cause,  
Women in  
Sanctuary**

**Sunday, September 2 at 7:30p**  
NORTH CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
2040 HENDERSON ROAD | COLUMBUS, OH 43220  
\$20 ADULTS | \$40 FAMILIES | UNDER 16 FREE  
BARBEQUE PICNIC AT 5:30PM  
with music by the Columbus Folk Music Society  
ADDITIONAL DONATIONS ACCEPTED | TICKETS AT DOOR  
[See MORE Here](#)



**Soon to be Ordained!**

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

**Nick Knoblauch**

Sunday, September 9th at 4 pm  
St John's, Columbus

**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



**Love of Neighbor**



Greetings,  
We invite you to join the call to participate in the Neighbors in Need Offering! The suggested offering date is Sunday, October 7th. Please visit [UCC Resources](#) to find everything your congregation needs for a successful offering:

- 11x17 Poster
- Leader's Guide
- Offering Envelopes
- Bulletin Inserts (PDF download only)

- Bulletin Covers (PDF download only)
- Activity Book (PDF download only)

All supplies are free and shipped directly to you free of charge. Digital resources can be downloaded at [www.ucc.org/nin](http://www.ucc.org/nin).



### Central Southeast Ohio Association in Partnership with Global Ministries, Christian Mission of Nicaragua

[Donate Today and Make a Difference](#)



## Fall Lantern Fellowship

## Women's Retreat September 21-23 at Templed Hills Camp



### 2018 Fall Program; Three Great Loves: A Just World For All

Planned twice each year by women from the Ohio Conference of the United Church of Christ, Lantern Fellowship is a time when women of all generations come together to enjoy faith, fun, and fellowship in the peaceful beauty of wooded hills and trails where the spirit can find renewal. The planning team hopes you will invite a few friends to share in the wonderful experience of Lantern Fellowship.

[Details and Registration Form 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](#)



## Your Vote Counts





## A Reflection from Interim Conference Minister John Gantt

Here is a link to explore:

[http://www.ucc.org/ucc\\_constitution\\_and\\_bylaws](http://www.ucc.org/ucc_constitution_and_bylaws)

[See Proposed By-Law Changes HERE](#)

The vote will be requested at the Ohio Conference Annual Gathering September 28-29, 2018. Here's the process:

[Read More](#)

## Ohio Conference Bylaws Information for Annual Gathering

Delegates to the Ohio Conference Annual Gathering have a unique opportunity on September 28-29, 2018.

There will be an opportunity to vote on amendments to the United Church of Christ Constitution and on amendments to the Ohio Conference Constitution and bylaws.

Members of the Eastern Ohio Association and the Western Reserve Association have worked patiently and diligently for several years to reshape the ministry of the two Associations. In those years they have combined staff, office location, and adjusted policies and practices so that administration and services of the two Associations function as one Association.

[Read More](#)



**Ohio Conference Annual Gathering  
September 28-29 Westerville Community UCC**



[Read More and Register Here NOW!](#)



## **United Nations International Affairs Seminar For Christian Youth February 22 - March 2, 2019**

The United Nations International Affairs Seminar for Youth challenges youth to learn about international affairs and U.S. foreign policy through study, discussion and presentations in the United Nations Center in New York City and Washington, D.C. It seeks to encourage faith-based critical thinking and reflection through prayer, worship, discussion and community building.

[\*\*READ MORE AND APPLY HERE\*\*](#)

## **Churches Currently in Transition....**

- **Heidelberg UCC, Stoutsville** is in the process of searching for a new minister.
- **David's UCC, Canal Winchester** is in process of beginning their search for a new minister



### 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.

## "Jesus Was a Donor" a devotion by, Dwight Lee Wolter



*"This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." - Luke 22:19b*

Eleven days after doing everything possible to save his life, the family decided to withdraw life support. A while later, someone came out of the operating room and said, "Jim passed away twenty-eight minutes ago, and he has already saved two lives." Jim, like Jesus, was a donor.

After years of silence, the beepers of two people who had never met went off simultaneously. They needed to immediately begin a protocol for receiving a live-saving kidney. Their two lives were forever bound together by the sacrifice of yet another person they had never met, Jim, who had laid down his

life for his "friends" so that they could pick their lives up again. The same is true for those who received his corneas and other parts of the earthly body he no longer needed.

In John 15:13, we hear Jesus say, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." But laying down your life for others does not necessarily entail dying. We lay down our sacrifice of blood for transfusions. We donate our food for the bellies of people we will never meet. In church, we benefit from the sacrificial offerings of ushers, teachers, greeters, the choir and others who contribute to our survival. Just attending church is a sacrifice of the opportunity to stay home on a Sunday morning. We also receive the sacrifices of merciful, living, loving people who lay down their unreasonable demands; unrealistic expectations and harsh judgment.

We can lay down our life for our friends after our death. We can lay down our life for our friends before death as well.

### **Prayer**

**Eternal God, in our living and in our dying may our love be a holy and sacrificial offering to the friends we know and the friends we will never meet. We pray this in remembrance of you.**



[Click Here to view August Newsletter](#)



### **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...

[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

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**Central Southeast Ohio Association**

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UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
God is still speaking,

[ABOUT THE NEW LOGO](#)

[All UCC LOGOs are Available Here](#)

