Central Southeast Ohio Association,
Ohio Conference
August 29, 2018

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 by Friday at 4:30p
Submit photos in jpeg, png format please.

Quick Links

CSE Authorized Clergy and MID Directory
CSE Pulpit Supply List
CSE Church

2018 Calendar of Events

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
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,

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.

It's Stewardship Time!
Get your UCC Stewardship Resources HERE

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.

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

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
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.
Staff Contacts

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ABOUT THE NEW LOGO

All UCC LOGOs are Available Here