

**Central Southeast Ohio Association,
Ohio Conference
September 5, 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 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**

**CSEOA
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 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

Bridges of Grace UCC, West Virginia's New Phone number is 304-729-4043,
Please update your contact list.



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](#)



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



- 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.

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](http://www.ucc.org/nin) to find everything your congregation needs for a successful offering:

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



United Church Homes' Center for Abundant Aging

recognized with LeadingAge Ohio Aging Services Impact Award



United Church Homes' Ruth Frost Parker Center for Abundant Aging is the recipient of the 2018 Aging Services Impact Award from LeadingAge Ohio.

Read More [HERE](#)

Pictured on the left are Rev. Beth Long-Higgins, executive director of the Ruth Frost Parker Center for Abundant Aging, and Rev. Kenneth Daniel, president and CEO of United Church Homes.

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](#)

Your Vote Counts



[See Current UCC Constitution and By-Laws HERE](#)

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

The vote will be requested at the Ohio Conference Annual Gathering September 28-29, 2018.

Vision Team Report An Introduction to the TCM from John Gantt

Here is a summary of the Vision Team report. As promised at special Association meetings the Vision Team prepared this brief overview of its proposals. A longer version is also being prepared and will be posted [here](#) when it is available. We invite delegates and visitors to Annual Gathering September 28-29, in Westerville to make notes of questions and comments for the discussion sessions which will be part of Annual Gathering this fall. Here is the report: [Web version](#).

Ohio Conference Annual Gathering September 28-29 Westerville Community UCC



Read More and Register Here NOW!

Fare Well From Interim Conference Minister John Gantt



FARE WELL

I mean more than just goodbye and thanks for the opportunity to share a journey with you, Ohio Conference of the United Church of Christ.

And I do not mean a farewell like the one in the timeless "Sound of Music" when the children give each other a gentle kick in the ... pants, as they sing. Remember?

Nor is my farewell meant to signal a resistance to or escape from what is yet to happen, such as the poignant scene in the same musical when the Von Trapp family refused to be party to values they cannot accept:

My farewell is a more a literal "fare thee well."

I mean it to be a goodbye which prays that in the days ahead the congregations, clergy, lay members, and whatever judicatory refinements there may be, will flourish in faithfulness, responsiveness, and collaboration - with one another, and more importantly, with God.

It is a prayer that Christ's church in this area will build a covenantal community which depends less on autonomy and favors more the call to accountability.

When this issue of Connections shows up in your inbox, it will be the last opportunity I have to comment about life and faith in the Ohio Conference. A final report of activity and observations will be shared with the Board of Directors at the end of August, and a more lengthy recounting of these past two years will be in reports prepared for the September Annual Gathering.

So I offer
not just farewell as in goodbye,
but truly, beloved family of God -
MAY YOU FARE WELL!

Shalom!
John M Gantt, retired-again!



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.

"First Day of School" a devotion by, Jennifer Brownell



*"May our sons in their youth
be like plants full grown,
our daughters like corner pillars,
cut for the building of a palace." - Psalm 144:12*

We gather the children at the door on the first day of school – their faces shining or scowling, in new school clothes or tattered jeans, with fresh haircuts or last year's shag. As we take the yearly picture, we notice how fragile they are, and how resilient. And whether we heave a sigh of relief or feel a twinge of unexpected sadness as we watch them walk away, we pray that both their resilience and their fragility will guide them.

Our ancestors prayed for the children, that they would grow into plants and pillars – beautiful and robust, wise and powerful. We pray those old prayers too, and other new prayers besides.

These new prayers for the flourishing of our children may fill us with anguish, as when we pray that they dodge both bullies and bullets. These new prayers may fill us with grief, as when we pray for those already caught in the path of destruction, who will not see another first day of school this year, or any year. These new prayers may fill us with a small but steady thrum of hope, as we pray for the children already building the foundations of new structures to replace the crumbling old ones.

The children are gathered at the doorway. We take their pictures. And then we send them off to school with old prayers, and new ones, tucked into their backpacks next to their freshly sharpened pencils and their brown bag lunches. It is all we know how to do. It is all we have ever known how to do.

Prayer

Holy One – Here are the children. Bless them in all the old ways and all the new ones. Amen.



[Click Here to view September 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...

September - **Checking Up on Clergy Health**
Assessing the Cost of Sacred Work

October - **Don't Disagree, Deliberate**
How to Lead Community Conversations in Your Church



[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](#)

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[ABOUT THE NEW LOGO](#)

[All UCC LOGOs are Available Here](#)

