

**Central Southeast Ohio Association,  
Ohio Conference  
December 12, 2018**



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
God is still speaking,

**CSEmail Newsletter**

[Subscribe to the CSEMAIL Newsletter Here](#)

The Association Office is open Tuesday from 10:00a - 1:00p or by appointment.  
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.



*Family of God,*

*During this second week of Advent celebration and expectation, may your heart and mind be open to seeing and receiving more deeply the fullness of Christ's Peace - intended for us all.*

Your Association Pastor,  
Rev. Patricia Battle

## Quick Links      2018 Calendar of Events

**CSE Authorized  
Clergy and MID  
Directory**

**CSE Pulpit Supply  
List**

**CSE Church  
Directory**

**CSE Departments,  
Council and  
Committees**

**2018 Calendar of  
Prayer**

**MESA COM & MOM  
Information and  
Manuals**

**MOM/COM Zoom  
Training Registration**

**2018 Online  
Training for COM**

### **CSEOA Council Meeting**

Saturday, January 12, 2019  
9:30a-12:30p

### **DCAM Meeting**

Saturday, January 12, 2019  
1p

### **DPAM**

Wednesday, January 9, 2019  
9:30a-3:30p  
David's UCC, Canal Winchester

### **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:

January 22, 2019

at 11:30 at

the Ikea restaurant (I 71- Gemini Exit).

### **Calendar of Prayer**

#### **December 16, 2018**

Westerville Community UCC, Westerville

#### **December 23, 2018**

Zion UCC, Delaware

#### **December 30, 2018**

Zion Reformed UCC, Thornville

**CSEOA  
Website**

## **OCWM Contributions**

Just a REMINDER:

Contributions received through January 10, 2019 will be credited to year 2018.  
Contributions after January 10, 2019 will be processed into year 2019.

Thank You

Steve Flenner  
Treasurer

**Westerville Community UCC  
Scholarships Awarded**

## 2018 Scholarship Recipients



Derrionna Watson, Zharia Williams, Gregory Carson



Thanks to the generosity of the Westerville Community United Church of Christ congregation, our scholarship winners were sent to college with all the things they need to be successful. Thank you to the WCUCC for sponsoring our College Supply Drive again this year!

For the past several years, Westerville Community UCC (WCUCC) has supported the Community for New Directions (CND), a Columbus organization "dedicated to helping families build a bridge to a brighter tomorrow." At its November fundraising luncheon, three teenage scholarship winners shared their college dreams to the attendees. WCUCC members funded the scholarships to these deserving young persons.

## Share Your Story



You and your ministry share God's love in profound ways, especially this time of year. Whether it's Christmas caroling with your congregation, sharing a meal with a neighbor, or collecting food for food pantries, we want to hear your story!

[Details here](#)



## WISDOM CONVERSATIONS: Our Narratives of Aging

United Church Homes' Ruth Frost Parker Center for Abundant Aging will host the annual Wisdom Conversations event for all those who work in ministry with older adults in January at Parkvue Community, Sandusky.

Pre-Event Sunday, January 6th 7-9p  
Workshops Monday, January 7th 9a-4p

[READ MORE HERE](#)

[DETAILS AND REGISTER HERE](#)

# Oberammergau - Passion Play and Holy Lands - June, 2020 - Can you join us? There are still 10 seats open.

Dear Friends,

There is still time to join us

The Passion Play is performed in a small village in Germany once every ten years. It is an all-day event. We would take 9 days to see the Holy Lands (the early itinerary in attached above). On Day 10 we would fly to Munich and see the city and Dachau Concentration Camp. Day 11 would be the Passion Play with Day 12 being a trip to Ettal Abbey Linderhof Castle. We return to the USA on Day 13.

Are you interested in going? Please email me back – [tahrens@first-church.org](mailto:tahrens@first-church.org), or call with questions, 614-228-1741, ext. 13.

I hope we can travel together.

Love and blessings,

Tim Ahrens

[VIEW ITINERARY HERE](#)

## "Exodus: Moving through the Transitions of Life and Faith"



Dear friends,  
Grace and peace to you in the name of God.

I hope this email finds you well. I have missed the opportunity to teach and to learn with you. Moving through the autumn season this year, I felt a missing piece. That missing piece was all of you growing

together in faith on our journey of life.

I'm offering a class which begins in eight weeks. I hope you can join me. I would love to be together again with all of you. Below you will read the name of the class, the dates and location of the class, and a small introduction. There is also a sign-up link for you if you choose to join us. If you are able, I hope you join us beginning Monday night, January 7, 2019.

**"Exodus: Moving through the Transitions of Life and Faith"** will be offered on the first Monday nights of January, February and March from 7-8:30 p.m. at Congregation Tifereth Israel, 1354 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio. Those dates are January 7, February 4, March 4.

The class is open to all people of all faiths who are facing transitions in life. I define transitions as "the psychological acceptance of change." What are you facing? What changes are happening in your life? The birth of a baby? The death of loved one? The loss of health or the loss of a job? The end of a dream? What transition are you facing?

Using the Exodus story as our grounding, we will look at the transitions of our lives. If you are interested in signing up, please go to this link and do it.

Keep in touch.

Many blessings to you,

[Click here to register](#)

If you have questions, call 614-228-1741, ext. 13 or email me - [tahrens@first-church.org](mailto:tahrens@first-church.org).

Sign up now and Save the Dates!

Take care,

Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**June 21 - June 25 2019**

<http://synod2019.org/>  
[Register Now!](#)

When the 16 members of the General Synod Nominating Committee begin reviewing a field of candidates to join the United Church of Christ Board of Directors in January 2019, they hope to select people with great minds and skills, and a passion to serve, no matter their age and experience level.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

**The Faith Formation Task Force of the  
Ohio Conference UCC, Presents**

**Learn It, Live It, Share It**

**February 27 & 28 2019, Columbus Ohio  
Come Experience Lillian Daniel**

[DETAILS HERE](#)



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
God is still speaking,

**Calendar of Events  
What's Happening Now and in 2019**

[See News and Events HERE](#)

[A letter to the UCC Family of Faith: We can't let evil prevail](#)

## **Clergy Compensation Guidelines 2019 Ohio Conference UCC**

The clergy compensation guidelines for 2019 are in. They were approved at the conference meeting in September. We include them here for your budgeting process for next year.

[Download Guidelines 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
- **Grace UCC, Lancaster** is in the process of beginning their search for a new minister.

# "Who Are You" a devotion by, Vicki Kemper



*"If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" - Acts 11:17*

How often, when standing at the crossroads of hope and fear, have you let your cold feet keep to the safest path? How many times have you gotten the signals crossed, thinking God's life-changing word was for someone else? How many possibilities have you rejected, thinking this is all there is?

When called to love someone different or expand your understanding of God, have you, like the apostle Peter, said, "Absolutely not! That's against my religion!"?

Thank God the Spirit is not so easily put off. When God comes she pulls out all the stops and works every angle to reach our small, scared, or inattentive hearts.

For all we know, God had been trying to get the everyone's-in message to Peter for some time. Finally, after a disturbing dream, the seemingly random appearance of strangers, a holy green light, and an encounter with a would-be believer, Peter cannot help but connect the dots. He has to acknowledge that God has been made manifest yet again, and he understands he'd best get out of the way.

This is the good news of Advent: that even when we close the doors of our hearts, Jesus will keep knocking. That when we bar the door and disconnect the bell, Spirit will build a window. That when we're not paying attention, God sometimes plays the drama queen.

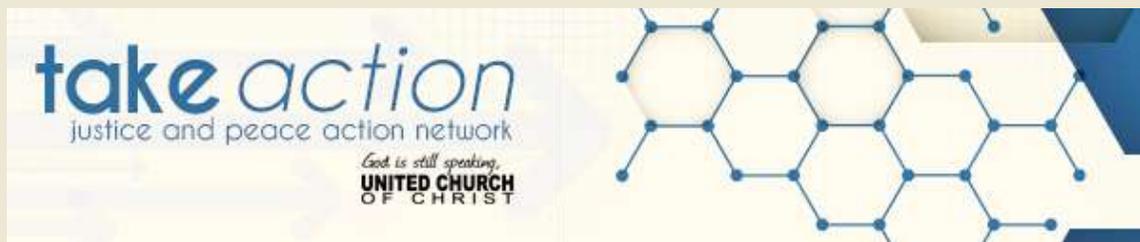
But why miss today's dose of life abundant?

Watch: Looking everywhere for God's love. Listen: For the ever-freshness of the good news. Show up: With all your heart. Follow: Though you know not where this new life will lead you.

Who are you to hinder God's advent here?

## **Prayer**

**Whatever it takes, Lord Jesus, come into this world again with your ever-expansive love. And may I not get in the way.**



[Click Here to view December/January Newsletter](#)

## From Climate Reports to Moral Imperatives

Join us for Environmental Justice webinar on January 9, 2019.  
Rev. Jim Antal, Katherine Hayhoe and Naomi Oreskes will be featured.  
[Details and register here](#)



### 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...

[December](#) - Getting to Know Our Neighbors

[January](#) - Defining Church Vitality: Let Me Count The Ways

[February](#) - What Is Contemporary Worship?



[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](#)**

