Another new liturgical year has begun with Advent. Once again, we have an opportunity to reflect on the significance of Christ's first coming as we anticipate His return. As God's people, even in the midst of the hustle and
bustle, Christ's coming should be our focus. Despite the natural disasters and political climate we may face, through joys or sorrows, we are reminded that we have Hope. The beauty of the Hope we hold so dear is that it's meant to be shared - with the world. Be a light of Hope.

Your Association Pastor....
Rev. Patricia Battle

### Quick Links

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**2018 Calendar of Events**

- **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
    - 11:30 at the Ikea restaurant (I 71- Gemini Exit).

- **Calendar of Prayer**
  - December 9, 2018
    - CSEOA Personnel Committee
  - December 16, 2018
    - Westerville Community UCC, Westerville
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| **December 23, 2018**  
Zion UCC, Delaware |
| **December 30, 2018**  
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**You're Invited to..**

**Nicole Pickens Ordination to Ministry**

2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8, 2018  
at Radnor Congregational Church  
4407 State Route 203  
Radnor, OH 43066

Clergy are welcomed to robe and process; please arrive by 1:30 p.m. for preparatory instructions and prayer. All are invited to wear red to celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit.

Please RSVP by Dec. 2 by email,
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

Job Posting For Position of Registrar for Central Southeast Ohio Association

Pastors and Colleagues,
Attached is the job description for Registrar of the Association. The Personnel Committee asks your help in making this position known to your congregations. We trust there is someone in our CSEOA midst that would find it a good opportunity for them.

Thanks and Blessings,

Jill Dunlap
Personnel Chair

Resumes and inquiries may be directed to:

Jill Dunlap
740-862-4222
jdunlap@rrohio.com

View Job Description 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, 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.

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!

General Synod Nominating Committee calling for candidates for UCCB and Synod Moderators deadline - November 9, 2018

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
Camp Templed Hills
NOW ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS FOR 2019
Brochure HERE

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
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. Application Deadline is December 12th.

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.

"Undivided Attention"

**a devotion by,**
**Vince Amlin**

"Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake ... or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly." - Mark 13:35

My daughter is two-and-a-half and still not talking much. To ease her frustration we've taught her signs for words like "milk" and "clean up," and she's created her own signs for the things she really wants, like...
"music" and "animal crackers."

Nonverbal communication is more demanding than speech. I can't passively listen to her while focusing on something else. And she knows it.

When she has something to say and my head is turned away from her in conversation with someone else or (too often) in communion with my iPhone, she places her hand on my cheek and steers my face toward hers until she knows she has my undivided attention.

God's Beloved Community, too, requires our focus. We've been given work to do in this interim time—the work of justice and peace—and it won't accept less than our all.

Advent is a season for having our gaze gently but firmly redirected. A time to abandon all the shiny distractions that have turned our heads. A call to give our undivided attention to the one who is arriving any minute now, the one who has something vitally important to communicate to us, the one who will not be ignored.

Prayer
Speak Lord, your servant is watching.

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...

November - How To Develop Habits for Well-Being
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Joan Davidson,
Association Registrar
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Cell: 419-934-3713
ABOUT THE NEW LOGO

All UCC LOGOs are Available Here