

**Central Southeast Ohio Association,
Ohio Conference
November 28, 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 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
Directory**

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

**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
Website**

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 2, 2018

Trinity UCC, Thornville

December 9, 2018

CSEOA Personnel Committee

December 16, 2018

Westerville Community UCC, Westerville

December 23, 2018

Zion UCC, Delaware

December 30, 2018

Zion Reformed UCC, Thornville



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.

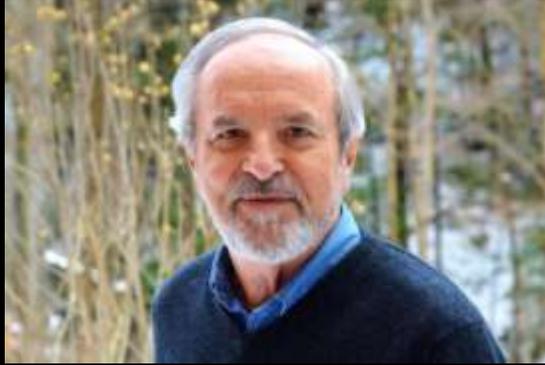
Please RSVP by Dec. 2 by email,
nicolepickens1@gmail.com
or call (419) 677-8999.

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



Creating a Soulful Life

Presented by:
The Burkhart Center
The C.G. Jung **Association** of
Central Ohio
The Older Adult **Ministry** of
First Community Church

**First Community Church, 1320 Cambridge Blvd., Columbus OH 43212
Will Host Thomas Moore, author of the number one New York Times
best-selling book,
*Care of the Soul: A Guide for Cultivating Depth and Sacredness in Everyday
Life,*
Mr Moore will be our Key Note Speaker on Friday, November 30th and a
Workshop will be available on Saturday December 1st**

His Friday evening keynote address, 7 – 8:30 pm in the Grandview/Marble Cliff church's sanctuary is entitled "Creating a Soulful Life," based on his life's work of reintroducing the meaning of "soul" as a path toward living a more human life in the world. Moore will also present an interactive workshop on Saturday, December 1, from 9 am – 1 pm, on "Ageless Soul: The Lifelong Journey Toward Meaning & Joy," the title of his most recent book.

[Read More](#)

[Register HERE](#)

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.

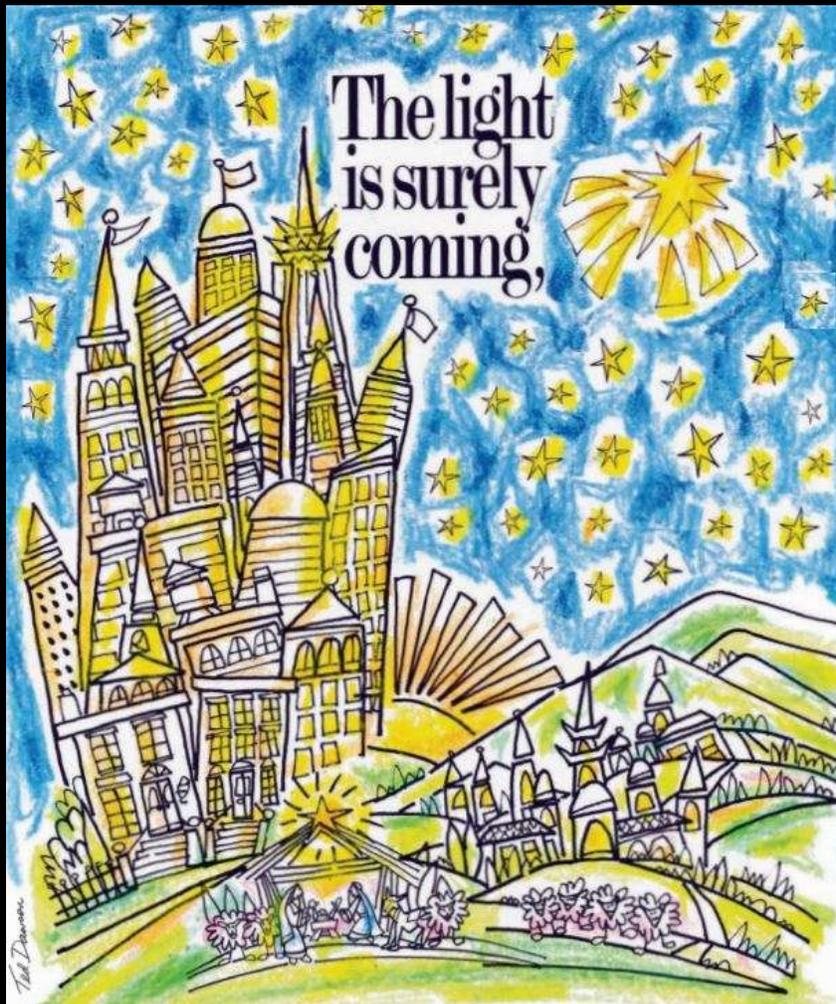
Sign up now and Save the Dates!

Take care,

Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens

UCC The Christmas Fund 2018 (Veterans of the Cross)

For over a century, the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund has been a tangible expression of God's love and light in the world. Year after year, United Church of Christ (UCC) members and congregations have reached out in kindness, compassion, and gratitude to those who have faithfully shepherded our Church in the past and who now find themselves facing unexpected financial needs.



[Find your resources HERE](#)



[Download the coloring book HERE](#)



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](#)

Conference Minister Rev. David Long-Higgins Words of Reflection

A Compelling Question...

....When we are saddened and maddened, what is the call for gladdening the heart, not only personally, but vitally in the wider communities of which we are a part? Toward what vision is God through Christ Jesus calling us in this season of the life of the world, local and global? I believe that much of how we live is shaped by the definitions we carry either consciously or unconsciously. I have been contemplating much about what we mean as followers of Jesus Christ when we use the word justice. I would like to suggest my working (as in unfinished and always in refinement) definition to encourage you in your thinking about this dimension of the Christian life.

Here goes: Justice is the work toward an arrangement of life where all God's children can live into their full human humanity and empowered by God's agape love may freely use their gifts without fear for the upbuilding of the common good and the good of the whole creation, so that all may flourish, sharing in God's abundance and joy!

What would it look like in our personal, local, association, conference, national and global settings of the church if we were to engage the world with this kind of heart and mind? An equally important question, it seems to me, is this one: "What kind of encouragement is needed to foster this kind of loving motion in ourselves, in our local congregation and other settings of ministry and in the life of the world?"

It seems to me this is where God's gift of covenant relationships in our various settings is and can be even more vitally important, especially in a cultural season of polarization and parochialism. In the coming weeks and months, I look forward to forming with you a new clarity of response to these questions (and many more, I am sure). I am especially interested in knowing from you what your compelling questions, hopes, and dreams are for the way in which you sense God leading you to be agents of Christ's love in the world.

[READ MORE HERE](#)



**Camp Templed Hills
NOW ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS FOR 2019**

[Brochure 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](#)



**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.

"Leaning Into the Dance" a devotion by, Kaji Dousa



He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "All who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

- Luke 18: 9, 14b

Wikipedia [claims](#) that the UCC is "liberal-leaning."

I wonder what this means.

Some would say that it implies a certain party affiliation on the blue/red divide.

But I wonder if the Wikipedia contributor has visited many of the UCC churches I've served, where the community learns how to dance carefully around divisive political terminology so that certain things just aren't mentioned. I wonder if they've seen just how practiced, how cautious so many of our communities are in ensuring not to alienate one another because we know that there are people in the room who disagree with us politically.

Is this what it means to "lean" liberal?

How is it "liberal" to affirm that trans people exist and are beloved of God?

Why is it "liberal" to celebrate love that builds up and does no harm, in its many forms?

I'm not sure what, exactly, constitutes a "liberal" church.

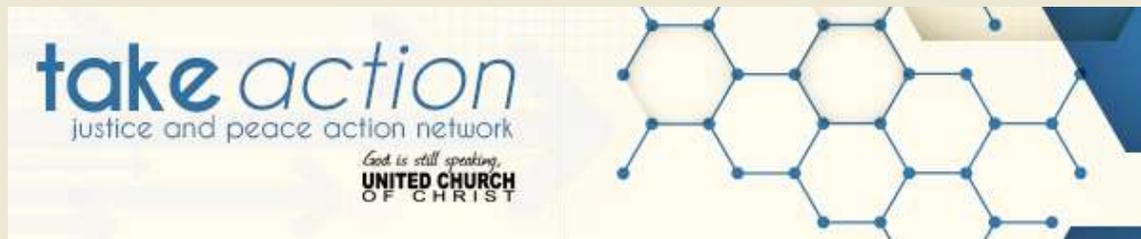
But I do have an idea of what it means to follow Jesus and to embrace each other as created in the image of God. We cannot "trust in" identities that separate us from our call to love in the name of Jesus. But loving means noticing and setting aside the things that harm.

In following Jesus, I believe that we are called to lean, yes. But to lean into the tough places, to notice our collective shortcomings so that we can, for the love of God, do better.

We live in a world that requires transformation. That transformation will come not dancing around, but rather, dancing with—when we can. Even with the ones with two left—or right—feet, I guess.

Prayer

Bless our faith, for you are the Lord of the Dance. Amen.



[Click Here to view November 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...

[November](#) - How To Develop Habits for Well-Being

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



[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](#)

