



# Community UCC

*We're worth our words*

Volume 55, Issue 06 - November 1, 2018

A Just Peace, Progressive, LGBTQ Open & Affirming Congregation

## e-Communigram



This month's newsletter features:

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- Campus Ministry-pg. 5 ● Membership Database Renewal-pg. 6 ● Annual Hanging of the Greens-pg. 10 ●
- Christmas Caroling-pg.10 ● Thanksgiving Service-pg. 14

### Letter from Leah

For several months, your Church Life Board has opened their meeting with a Generative Question and discussion of that question. What's a Generative Question? Here's what they aren't: they aren't detail questions, or inquiries about the to-do list, or even programmatic queries. No, Generative Questions are the kind of questions that prompt us to take the long view, the bird's eye view, or, in church terms: the balcony view. When asked and wrestled with, Generative Questions help us step over the threshold from the practical, where we get bogged down with details, to the expansive and creative. There, we are reminded of our purpose, our vision, and beckoned into the future.

What I love about using these questions to frame our work as a Board is that our meeting begins from a place of inspiration and possibility because they set us free from old patterns, self-prescribed limitations, and judgements. Instead of moving into our agenda to tend to fiduciary and strategic concerns from a place of rote, we engage those concerns from a different location in the landscape of our common life together, where we have considered to what higher purpose we are called.

Listening to the CLB's discussions, I have been curious about how you might answer some of the Generative Questions. How would you answer these?

- If our success, as CUCC, was completely guaranteed, what bold steps might we choose?
- As a church, what's the deeper purpose (the big "why") that is really worthy of our best efforts?
- What assumptions about ourselves, as a church, do we need to test or challenge?
- What will be most strikingly different about our church in 5 years?

For the month of November, each of these Generative Questions will be posted on paper in the zigzagging hallway leading from the office to the west entryway. You are invited to write answers on the papers. Come back and check the posters often. Another person's response might prompt a new insight in you.

Currently, we have a task force, formed after our September Summit, working with engineers to determine the scope of building repairs and potential renovations. We also have a task force taking a hard looking at our staffing needs particularly in light of Pastor Connie's upcoming retirement. Thirdly, we have a task force

working with consultants who will assess our congregation's capacity for a capital campaign which may include the funding of both a building campaign and future program staff. If we, as a church, meet these tasks from a place of rote, held captive by the way we have always done things or by our norms, we will only approach these tasks from one perspective. But, if we are able, as a whole church, to think expansively about these Generative Questions, and more as they arise, we will be able to meet these tasks from the balcony view to which our broader purpose beckons.

Have you ever been up in our balcony? CUCC doesn't have a traditional balcony in the back. We have a choir loft – a balcony that faces the congregation. If you've not been up there before, I would invite you to go up to our balcony in November. See how you get a different view of our church? What do you notice? What can you see from this vantage point that you can't see from the place you always sit in the pews. How does this view change your thinking about our church? That's what Generative Questions do when we ask them: they give us a different, more expansive and full perspective.

Blessings,

*Leah*

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### **November Worship Calendar**

Sunday, November 4 - All Saints, Ingathering and Pledges due, Blessing of the Campus Home Program

Sunday, November 11 - Pastor Leah is not planning this service until after the election is over.

Sunday, November 18 - Thanksgiving worship and a special time of fellowship following service to celebrate our pledge total.

Sunday, November 25 - Reign of Christ Sunday - John 18:33-37

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### **Daylight Saving Time - Sunday, November 4**



It's that time! Don't forget to set your clocks back 1-hour at bedtime on Saturday night, November 3. Daylight Saving Time is also the best time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

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### **All Saints Celebration & Ingathering - Sunday, November 4**

We all encounter Saints over the course of our lives. Sunday, November 4, we will be remembering these unique and inspirational people. Bring photos or keepsakes of loved ones who have passed away, and we will light candles in their honor.

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## Stewardship Pledge Cards due Sunday, November 4

A friendly reminder that 2019 Stewardship pledge cards are due Sunday, November 4. If you didn't receive Stewardship information and would like to, please contact the office at 217-344-5091 or email Rachel Wallace at [info@community-ucc.org](mailto:info@community-ucc.org).

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## Fireside Dinners - Sunday, November 4

Fireside Dinners will be held on Sunday, November 4.

Please watch your inbox for an email detailing where you'll be dining.



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## Moderator's Musings

Hi Community,

I thought I would start this month's info with some lyrics to a song I've listened to nearly daily lately. Some of you may already be aware of the song, but I'd like to repeat it now. It's called "I am the Fire" by Halestorm.

"Am I brave enough?  
Am I strong enough?  
To follow the desire  
That burns from within  
To push away my fear  
To stand where I'm afraid  
I am through with this  
'Cause I am more than this  
I promise to myself  
Alone and no one else  
My flame is rising higher"



Friends, we're in trying times. Truth be told, we've been in trying times for a while. And things just keep coming. Every day is something new and disheartening. My ask and reminder to you right now is to breathe and take care of yourself.

As I'm typing this to you, I've closed a week that's been full of anxiety and oddities. My work life has been really busy lately, and I've been struggling to find the balance between my personal life, work life, and being a present citizen. I've needed the reminder myself that sometimes self-care means stopping, pausing, and intentionally looking for things to be grateful for. Also, that it's ok to not be ok, and I don't need to be perfect. It's actually not possible to be perfect, and all we need to do is love ourselves and one another.

The season is kicking off soon that reminds us to be thankful for what we have. Whether its publicly or not, I'd ask you to look at all the things you're thankful for, no matter how big or small. In thinking of all those things, let that be your resolve to continue fighting against all the hate. We are strong, and we will not be silent. One of the best things about this community is our capacity and ability to love. Let's never lose that.

Best,  
Kristy Brownfield

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## From our Director of Youth Ministries

Dear Community,

This month has been filled with activities for our youth including Confirmation classes, Youth Sunday School and Youth Group.

In Confirmation class, we are learning about what it means to explore our faith, identify places to seek wisdom, learning it's okay to ask what questions and what it means to be a progressive Christian.

In Sunday School, we have discussed stewardship - giving of our time, encouraging the sharing of our resources and gifts with others.

In Youth Group, we learned more about each other and who we are as individuals. We were reminded that we are each unique. We celebrated that we are God's beloved and made in God's image.



*2018-19 CUCC Confirmands - Photo Courtesy of Jessica Smiley*

We are planning to go to the Elevate Trampoline Park in November. For more information about the park, you can go to <http://www.elevatechampaign.com/>.

We will have Confirmation class during the worship service on November 4th and 18th. Youth Sunday School (6th-12th grade) will take place on November 11th and 25th following the Children's Moment.

Blessings,  
Jessica Smiley

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## Campus Ministry – Thursday Open Houses – Snacks Needed

The Campus Ministry Board hosts open houses every Thursday for the college students to stop by and grab a snack, relax, visit with other students, do homework or just simply hang out. If anyone would like to provide a snack for a Thursday in November or December, please contact Peg Wade at [peg.wade@comcast.net](mailto:peg.wade@comcast.net) or



## Campus Ministry at Community United Church of Christ

369-0474. Snacks that seem pretty popular include: cheese & meat trays, crackers, cheese and/or sausage sticks, grapes, clementines or orange cuties and of course any homemade goodies. If it doesn't work for you to bring the snacks on Thursday, you can bring them anytime that is convenient for you – the church office is open Monday-Thursday from 9am-3pm or if those times are not convenient, let me know and I can meet you at church to let you in. Thanks!

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## Campus Ministry's Campus Home Program

The Campus Home Program, which began last year, matches interested campus ministry students and CUCC individuals/families together in a friendship partnership to enjoy contact at mutually agreed upon times. Students are often far away from home & their family and college life can sometimes be very stressful and lonely. The Campus Home Program provides an opportunity for students to enjoy family, friendships, & conversations. We had a "Get to Know You" Pizza Party in the Park event in October and we are excited to report that we have 15 students and 14 families participating this year (2 families have 2 students and 1 student has 2 families). We will have a Blessing of the Campus Home Program and participants in church on November 4.

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## CUCC Student Lunch Sign-Up

Please open your hearts and choose a date to show some hospitality to our college students and feed them lunch while getting to know them. You may host them at your home or in our church. Go to the Sign-up Genius link and choose a date to help us plan lunches for the school year. Several date are still open this fall and many dates are open January-May, 2019. Let us know how we can help you! [Click here to sign up!](#) -Blessings,  
*Chelsey and David Gerstenecker*



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## CUCC 2018 Membership Database Renewal



We are migrating our data to the Breeze Church Management Software platform. We believe this platform will allow us to maintain communications more efficiently than ever before and help future-proof our membership database. Essentially, this software will help us to stay in contact with each other and maintain our covenant of community. Initially, we need accurate information entered in the online registration form. Once the foundation of the database is made, members will be able to update their information freely. This includes preferred contact methods, changes in the family, and pictures for our directory. Check out Breeze by clicking [here](#). If you have any questions about this, feel free to contact Josh Smith about the new software by emailing him at [clerk@community-ucc.org](mailto:clerk@community-ucc.org). Thank you for your help!

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## Special Building Appeal

In the summer of 2016, we undertook a Special Building Appeal to pay for repairs and improvements to the church that were completed in 2008. Those improvements included our wonderful new kitchen, which has allowed Jubilee Cafe to become a place of nourishment and fellowship for so many in our community. The pledge period ended in the summer of 2018. Members and friends of this congregation pledged a total of \$64,210. As of last month, we had received a total of \$58,959. Thanks to everyone who gave so generously. If you haven't completed your pledge, we ask that you do so as soon as you are able. If you have any questions about your pledge or giving, please contact David Willcox at [financial-secretary@community-ucc.org](mailto:financial-secretary@community-ucc.org). Thanks again from your pledge co-chairs, Patrick Keenan and Grant Robbenolt.

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## Summit Staffing Task Force Update

The Summit Staffing Task Force members include the following individuals, Sophie Keely (chair), Kathy Lee, Pat Mannen, Harvey Welch, and Patrick Keenan.

Our initial meeting was held on October 9, 2018 where we reviewed the items identified by church members present at the Church Summit Meeting in September. Rev. Gregg Carlson participated by phone. Key topics discussed included Christian Education, Pastoral Care, and our church Music Ministry.

We also established meeting times for the next 3 months which will be held twice a month in October, November and December after church. Ongoing conversations will take place through E-mail Correspondence and telephone.

Our second meeting on October 21, 2018 included ongoing discussions around the 3 key topics named above and we began working and developing a Christian Education Survey; please keep your eye out for this survey as we will need everyone's participation (even if you don't have children). We will also be developing a survey for the Music Program. These surveys will be sent out between now and December of this year. We also identified key people we will invite to our meetings to discuss these topics.

If you have any questions regarding this Task Force please contact any of the members named above.



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## Neighbors in Need Offering---\$835

On Sunday, October 7th and Sunday, October 14 we received the Neighbors in Need offering to support ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of these funds support the [Council for American Indian Ministry](#) (CAIM) and two-thirds is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM). Your generous donations helped raise \$835.00 Thank you for your support!

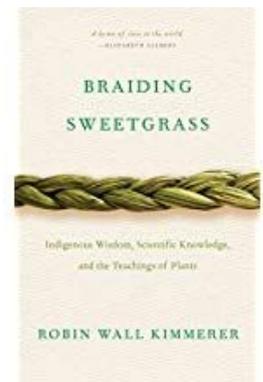


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## Pub Theology

A total of seven books were nominated in September at our first get together of the fall season:

1. Rather, D. (2017). *What Unites Us: Reflections on Patriotism*
2. Kimmerer, R.W. (2015). *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants.*
3. Menakem, R. (2017). *My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending our Hearts and Bodies.*
4. Aslan, R. (2013). *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth.*
5. Junger, S. (2016). *Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging.*
6. Brown, B. (2017). *Braving the Wilderness: The Quest for True Belonging and the Courage to Stand Alone.*
7. Westover, T. (2018). *Educated: A Memoir*

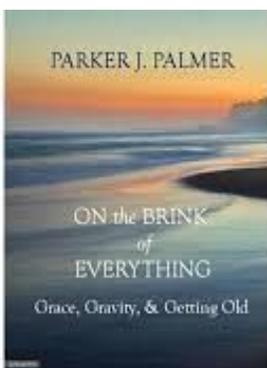


Currently we are reading *Braiding Sweetgrass*. If you would like to join us for any of our book discussions, please buy the book from your favorite bookseller and join us on Monday evenings in the church parlor at 7:15pm. We go about an hour. We'd love to have you join us. –Tom Ward

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## Spiritual Life Book Discussion

Interested in meeting once or twice a month to read and discuss a book about the spiritual life? Pastor Connie



has been reading Parker Palmer's new book *On the Brink of Everything: Grace, Gravity and Getting Old* and thinks there could be some great conversation about it. While realistic about its challenges, Palmer also celebrates the gifts that come with growing older in his usual accessible and engaging style. This book isn't just for "old people," but also for anyone who wants to approach the inevitability of aging with grace and wisdom, whatever their age. **UPDATE:** Our discussions will launch on **Tuesday, November 6**, at 1pm. We will meet this time in the food court of Lincoln Square, with future locations to be determined by the group. We will be looking at the Prelude and first two chapters. - Pastor Connie

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## Prayer Shawls

Available now is a "yarn library" for anyone interested in checking out skeins to knit or crochet and returning a finished shawl. It's a wonderful lap activity for the cold-weather. There's no due date or set timeframe. The finished work can be as simple or elaborate as you desire. Beginning knitting is as comforting around one's shoulders as a project from a connoisseur! Also, several how-to and pattern books are available.

Shawls will continue to be made with donated materials, upcycled and repurposed fabrics, as well. Feel free to contact Elena Kasper, prayer shawl coordinator, at [eakasper@gmail.com](mailto:eakasper@gmail.com) if you are interested.



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## Strong of Positive Journey Group

We have a new "Journey" group starting for parents and loved one of LGBTQ+ persons! The word "journey" is a perfect way to describe where we all find ourselves. There are starts, detours, exits, on-ramps, rest stops, wanderings, emergencies, break-downs and arrivals. Whew! That's exhausting and exhilarating! Good news! We're not on the journey alone! God is with us. He is here! He has brought us into this community to help each other.

No one ever expects life to be radically different from our expectations but those are our expectations, not God's plans. We're on a journey with our LGBTQ loved one. Buckle up, let's lean on God and each other to stay Strong & Positive!

A couple of things about this group:

- \* this is a safe place. Anything you want to share, ask, vent or question is ok.
- \* this is a confidential place. Whatever you say will not be discussed with outsiders (unless you express intent to harm yourself or others).
- \* this is an affirming place. Everyone is at a different place on this journey. We will try to guide each other.

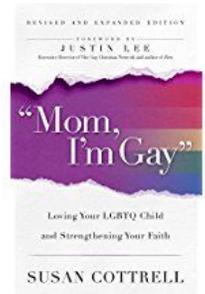
**What:** a group for support and to connect people with LGBTQ loved ones.

**How:** reading and discussing helpful resources listening to each other and praying for each other. We will begin by doing a book study on *"Mom, I'm Gay"* by Susan Cottrell

**Why:** meet together for support.

**When/Where:** TBD -- please sign up in the foyer on the sign up sheet on or before November 8 and Nancy will be in touch to set a schedule.

**Who:** Nancy Smith is the convener of this group. You can reach her by contacting the CUCC office at [info@community-ucc.org](mailto:info@community-ucc.org).



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## Volunteer Opportunities are Endless at CUCC!



Liturgists, Ushering, Jubilee Cafe, Campus Ministry and much more will surely keep you involved at CUCC. Check out the following links and sign-up for whatever strikes your fancy---we'd love to have you!

Ushers: email [info@community-ucc.org](mailto:info@community-ucc.org)

Coffee Hosts: email [info@community-ucc.org](mailto:info@community-ucc.org)

Liturgists: [Click here!](#)

Campus Ministry Student Lunch Sign-Up: [Click here!](#)

Jubilee Cafe: [Click here!](#)

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## Newcomers Wanted!

Whether you are brand new to CUCC, or have been coming for a long time but never officially joined, we want to get to know you better! We are planning a fall newcomer group, and would love to have you as a part of it.

Our newcomer group is set up in 4 sessions. The first session is great even for people who are not interested in membership at present, but want to know more about the United Church of Christ, and Community UCC in particular. If you think you might be ready to consider membership or to learn more about

ways to plug in to CUCC in ways that feed your soul, the other 3 sessions would be really helpful. We traditionally have held these sessions on Sundays, 2 of them right after church, and the other 2 on Sunday evenings. We usually eat as we talk, because, well...who doesn't enjoy sharing a meal around the table? This session, we are wondering if we should again meet on Sundays, or if there is a time that would be more convenient for most of you.

If you are interested or have questions, would you please let me know so that you can be involved in that decision making process? You can either catch me after church (I'm up in the choir loft most Sundays), or call 217-344-1619, or send me an e-mail at [jeawa@comcast.net](mailto:jeawa@comcast.net). Looking forward to meeting you hearing your story! -*Jeanne Ward, Welcome Facilitator*



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## Church Fundraising with Scrip---Just in Time for the Holidays!

### Saves Your Time and Money

With Scrip, you're paying face value and you're getting face value. You raise money by changing your payment method, which means no more time spent buying or selling fundraising products, or planning and hosting events.

### Rebate Earnings Are Tax Deductible

CUCC Scrip Coordinators have set up the program so that rebate donations qualify as charitable contributions so you can get a tax deduction on your earnings.

**The Most Convenient Church Fundraising Idea**

With over 750 retailers, electronic and reloadable gift cards, MyScripWallet, and an online payment system, Scrip is an easy fundraising idea that helps CUCC.

Earn money every day on the purchases you’re already making just by paying with a gift card you ordered from ShopWithScrip. Many, many retailers in the CU area participate in the Scrip program. Here are just a few:

<p>Ace Hardware AMC Theaters Applebee’s Barnes &amp; Noble Bath &amp; Body Works Best Buy</p> 	<p>Binny’s Blaze Pizza Chili’s Chipotle CVS Dick’s Sporting Goods</p> 	<p>Dunkin Donuts Gordon Food Service Home Depot HomeGoods Lowe’s Meijer</p> 	<p>Panera Sam’s Club Starbucks Target Walgreens Walmart</p> 
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**\*\*\*UPDATE\*\*\*** For the upcoming holiday season we will shift our focus to ordering physical gift cards. Laura Stevens and Brittany Mahanan will be set up after church on Sunday, November 4 and Sunday, November 11 to take your gift card orders. Gift cards must be paid for at the time of ordering. Cash or check only, please. Gift cards will then be available for pick-up on Sunday, November 18 for all of your Black Friday shopping.

Brittany and Laura can still enroll you in the program on an as-needed basis in order to be able to use an e-wallet.

Scrip fundraising gift cards could be used to buy your holidays gifts or they could be the gifts themselves! You can also use those gift cards to purchase your holiday decorations, food and more! Who doesn’t love a gift card? You’re supporting CUCC in the process!

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**Jubilee Cafe News---1 Year Later**

On October 1, 2018, Jubilee Café celebrated its first year of serving students and community members each Monday night. Since our first meal on October 1, 2017, we’ve had the opportunity to meet new guests and volunteers, connect with numerous community partners, and work to reduce hunger and food insecurity in and around the Champaign-Urbana area.



## Jubilee Cafe at Community United Church of Christ

Jubilee Cafe is serving double the number of guests from last year! In 2017 we served 38 guests on the 4th Monday in October. In 2018 we served 76 guests on the 4th Monday in October. That means we are in need of more volunteers to help cook, serve, host, greet, and clean up. Please sign up as extra shifts have been added. Click [here](#) to volunteer your time. - *Johnell Bentz, Jubilee Café Manager*

Rev. Vinny Santanelli will  
be playing live music on  
at Jubilee Cafe on  
Monday, November 12.  
Come join the fun!



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### All Church Hanging of the Greens and Pizza Supper - Friday, November 30

We will be “Hanging the Greens”, trimming the Sanctuary Christmas tree and the Fellowship Hall tree on **Friday, November 30**. We will begin at 5:30pm with a quick pizza, salad, cookie supper and then begin decorating after we eat. Everyone is invited! Please let us know by November 23 if you will need childcare. Email Peg Wade at [peg.wade@comcast.net](mailto:peg.wade@comcast.net)



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### Annual Christmas Caroling on the CUCC Steps - Wednesday, December 5



Whether you have a great singing voice or not, we welcome everyone to join us outside on the east steps of the church on **Wednesday, December 5** anytime from 4:30pm – 6:00pm We will be singing Christmas Carols and handing out cups of homemade hot chocolate to UI students and staff as the leave school/work for the day. This is a really fun way to spread holiday cheer from CUCC to our UI friends and neighbors. Hope you will join in!

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## Poinsettia Order Forms

Order forms will be available in church bulletins every Sunday in November. Deadline to order will be Monday, November 26, 2018.



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## Do you know someone in need? Resources HERE!

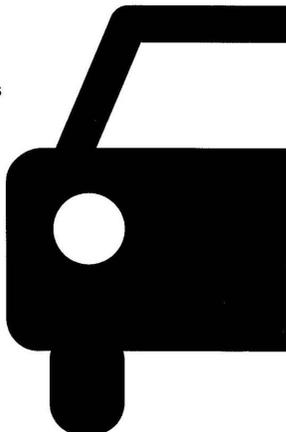
C-U at Home engages and mobilizes our community to house and support the most vulnerable homeless on their journey of healing and restoration. There are many great resources on the C-U at Home website which can be found by clicking [here](#). The Phoenix Drop-In Center, Transitional Housing, Transportation Ministry, Street Outreach and Education Advocacy are just a few. See fliers below for current C-U at Home services and fundraising events. Also United way of Champaign County has compiled at Winter 2018-2019 Services guide. Guide will be available at CUCC or download your own copy by clicking [here](#).



## Transportation Ministry

We assist individuals in getting to treatment centers or emergency shelters that are within a 3 hour radius of Champaign.

If you enjoy driving and would like to volunteer with us in this capacity, please contact us at 217-819-4569. We require a valid license and insurance from all volunteer drivers.



**One Winter Night** is C-U at Home's annual event that provides a powerful opportunity for our community to **learn about homelessness, raise awareness for our friends without an address,** and experience a bit of what it might be like to live outside, overnight, in the **coldest part of winter.**

Box dwellers commit to spending **12 hours outside in a cardboard box** in downtown Champaign and raise \$1,000 for C-U at Home. You can also get involved by **volunteering, becoming a business sponsor, or donating!**

### GET INVOLVED!

**Box Dweller**  
Embark on an unforgettable 12 hours of sleeping in a box, and raise funds ahead of time to help the homeless.

**Business Sponsor**  
Endorse One Winter Night with your business and get your logo on box stations, banners, and programs.

**Volunteer**  
Help with set-up, box dweller registration, hospitality, street team, and more!

**Donate**  
Donate securely online, send in a check, or drop off cash.

**COULD YOU SURVIVE?  
FREEZING, ON THE STREETS,  
IN A CARDBOARD BOX, FOR  
JUST ONE NIGHT?**



For more info see [www.cuathome.us/one-winter-night/](http://www.cuathome.us/one-winter-night/) or call 217-819-4569

Saturday, November 17 you're invited to:

After 16 years of Intentional Interim/Designated Ministry

**Reverend Deborah Owen**

is returning to Called/Settled Ministry

Please come celebrate with her as she is

**Officially Installed as**

**Lead Minister**

**St. Peter's United Church of Christ**

**Saturday, November 17, 2018**

**3: 00 p.m.**

Sanctuary of St. Peter's United Church of Christ

905 S. Russell St.

Champaign, IL 61821

(One block SOUTH of Westview School on Russell St.)

Reception to Follow

Fellowship Hall of St. Peter's United Church of Christ

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Child care provided – please R.S.V.P. with number and age of children  
[office@stpetersucc.com](mailto:office@stpetersucc.com) or 217-356-3635 by November 7.

\*

For faith leaders, feel free to vest as you feel comfortable.  
For Singers, you are welcome to join the choir.

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Many thanks to previous congregations served in Indianapolis, Independence, MO, Champaign, Rantoul, Bement, Westville, Monticello, Danville, Paxton, Hoopston, Lockport, and Urbana, AND to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Illinois/Wisconsin, the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois, and the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ)

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“Bear with me a little longer and I will show you that there is more to be said in God's behalf.”

Job, chapter 36, verse 2

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## Thanksgiving Worship - Sunday, November 18

On November 18 we'll have Thanksgiving worship and a special time of fellowship following our service to celebrate our pledge total.



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## Third Annual Interfaith Alliance Thanksgiving Celebration - Sunday, November 18 at 3pm

After our special Thanksgiving service on Sunday, check out the Interfaith Alliance Celebration at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. See flier in this Communigram.

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## Calling All Singers of All Ages: You're Invited to Participate in the Interfaith Alliance Thanksgiving Celebration

Dear Music directors and Faith leaders,

I am excited to share that we will be gathering an intergenerational choir for our 3rd annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration to be held on Sunday, November 18 at 3:00pm at Krannert - Great Hall.

I have chosen the piece - Let There Be Peace On Earth arr by Hawley Ades (SATB Shawnee Press) to sing as a group as well as a simple benediction "Draw The Circle Wide (from the Methodist Worship & Song #3154). My vision is to have children begin the piece in unison for the 1st 2 phrases and then all join in the four part harmony. We will also adjust the lyrics a bit to be more inclusive "with God as creator, family all are we. Let us walk with each other, in perfect harmony." I think that it will be easy to make those changes.



We will have a rehearsal one hour prior to the celebration (2:00pm) at Krannert. I am interested in getting a number idea of how many singers might be joining us so that I can inform the Krannert staff about how many choral risers we will need.

The Interfaith Alliance will be sending out a flyer shortly to announce this celebration, but of course we musicians like to plan ahead! Can you please announce to your group this week? I would be ever grateful if you could respond back to me with a tentative number.

I know there are many more faith groups that should be invited but this was my first attempt to gather a group. Please share with anyone you know.

Looking forward to hearing from you and getting started with this celebration preparation. I will be happy to speak to anyone who has a question about the music portion of the celebration. My email is [audrey@champaignfaith.org](mailto:audrey@champaignfaith.org) and phone 217-722-4448.

Thank you for your assistance with getting the word out!

Blessings,

Audrey Vallance  
Music Director  
Faith UMC  
[audrey@champaignfaith.org](mailto:audrey@champaignfaith.org)

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### **CU Men's Shelter**

The CU Men's Shelter will open for the winter season on Monday, November 12, 2018 and operate 7 days each week through March 31. Last year, over 4.5 months of operation, they were able to provide 5,069 nights of shelter to 187 different people, averaging 38 men per night. Faith UMC will continue to administer the independent non-profit CU Men's shelter, but will be using C-U at Home's space at the Times Center (70 E. Washington in Champaign). CUCC will be providing snacks for the men at the shelter during opening week. If you'd like to get involved and/or donate click [here](#). Once you've opened the webpage visit the *Outreach* tab for more information about the shelter.



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### **First Mennonite Church hosts a public talk by Marcos Knoblauch of Colombia Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT)**

Learn how the Colombia Peace Agreement has impacted lives. Engage with CPT's work to transform violence and oppression. Refreshments will follow the talk. The event is free and all are welcome to attend.

Where: First Mennonite Church of Champaign-Urbana When: Wednesday, November 7, 7pm Address: 902 West Springfield Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801 Ph: 217-367-5353 Email: [office@fmc-cu.org](mailto:office@fmc-cu.org)

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### **CUCC Ongoing Monthly Events**

Sunday-Classic Worship at 10:15am

Monday-Jubilee Cafe 5-6:30pm

Monday-Pub Theology 7:15pm in Parlor

4th Tuesday (November 27) - CUCC Retiree's Lunch 11:30am (location TBA)

4th Tuesday (November 27) - CUCC Canteen Run prep 3-5:00pm

2nd Wednesday (November 14) - Just for Fun Breakfast at Perkins on University Ave. 8:30am

1st Thursday (November 1) - Men's Breakfast at Urbana Gardens Family Restaurant 7:00am

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## Did you miss worship?

Don't fret if you missed worship last week, or even a month ago! Sermons are recorded live each Sunday and can always be found [here](#) via our YouTube channel. You can enjoy numerous sermons in the comfort of your own home. Just give us a couple of days to get the previous Sunday uploaded.

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## Mark your calendars for these upcoming CUCC events!

**Tuesday, November 13** - CLB Meeting at 6:30pm

**Sunday, November 18** - Special Thanksgiving service

**Friday, November 30** - All Church Hanging of the Greens & Pizza Supper at 5:30pm

**Wednesday, December 5** - Christmas Caroling on CUCC Steps at 4:30pm

**Sunday, December 9** - Summit recap after worship

**Tuesday, December 18** - CLB Meeting at 6:30pm

**SAVE THE DATE**

## The Third Annual Champaign County Interfaith Alliance Thanksgiving Celebration



## UNITED in our DIVERSITY!

**When: Sunday, November 18, 2018 at 3 pm**

**Where: The Krannert Center of Performing Arts  
In Foellinger Great Hall, 500 S. Goodwin Avenue, Urbana, IL**

Please come and join in our fellowship of people living in harmony and celebrating a season of thanks. Here you'll find good friends, good will, and good music provided by an Interfaith Children's and Adult Choir.

Questions—Please contact us through our Facebook Page—  
Interfaith Alliance C-U or call 217-359-3631

Attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable foods to donate to the Eastern Illinois Foodbank.

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## Milwaukee to Host General Synod in 2019

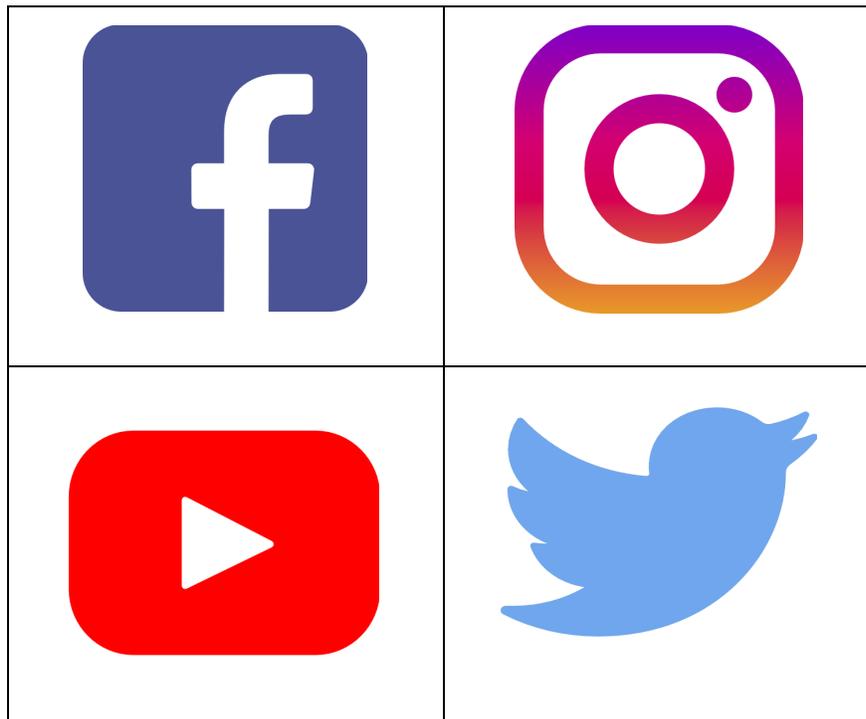
It will be the first time a General Synod will be held in Wisconsin. Aside from being known for its breweries, bratwurst and its cheese, Wisconsin is home to Harley Davidson motorcycles, the Green Bay Packers and the world's largest music festival.



Wisconsin Conference Minister the Rev. Franz Rigert said, "Wisconsin, and Milwaukee in particular, are so much more than that. You'll find a thriving arts scene, a revitalized historic district and big city attractions." [Click here for full article.](#)

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Find CUCC online!



Contact us:  
805 S. Sixth Street, Champaign, IL. 61820 | 217-344-5091 | [www.community-ucc.org](http://www.community-ucc.org) | [info@community-ucc.org](mailto:info@community-ucc.org)  
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday | 9am - 3pm