



Community UCC

We're worth our words

Volume 59, Issue 10 - October 1 - 31, 2020

A Just Peace, Progressive, LGBTQ Open & Affirming Congregation

e-Communigram

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Announcements from the Moderator

Worship

At our September meeting, the CLB discussed plans for worship in the coming months and decided that we should continue to worship remotely at least through Sunday, November 29. CLB will discuss plans for December worship at its meeting October 20. We are committed to making worship as safe, equitable, and accessible as we possibly can. If you are encountering problems joining the remote worship services, please let me know. And thank you for the many ways that you support remote worship and the work of our church.

Annual Meeting

At our September meeting, CLB decided that the safest way to hold the annual meeting of the church in January is to do so remotely. We are making plans to host the meeting using Zoom and will do everything that we can to maximize participation. If you have any concerns about connecting to the meeting, please let me know.

~ CUCC Moderator Jon Ebel, jebel@illinois.edu

Letter from Leah

Maybe you saw the articles and twitter threads that started to emerge mid-September, the ones that reminded all of us that we are six months into a global pandemic, amid a crisis of justice inextricably interwoven to our country's lived legacy of racism, under the auspices of an administration that grows more fascist by the day, as we barrel towards an election, and that feeling burnout in the midst of all this is normal. While that article affirmed what I was feeling, it also left me with questions about how to proceed.

Yes, our worship series based on Adrienne Maree Brown's work is helping me shape the way I shape change. My perspective shifted further a few weeks ago, when I heard a sermonette given by UCC National Staffer, the Rev. Elizabeth Dilley. You may remember Dilley from my sabbatical 5 years ago. She was a guest preacher for CUCC that winter. She and I, along with several other clergy folk from various settings across our denomination, were invited in September to offer up a word during one of the

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Thursdays for the Soul broadcasts being offered from the UCC these days. We were all invited to speak about the word that keeps coming up, over and over again in our preaching. (If you missed that broadcast, the link is at the bottom of this article.) She was speaking specifically about the seismic shifts and changes in American Christendom but are applicable to life in these United States generally. Dilley's words reminded me that there's a different way to go about life during this challenging time. Since this challenging time has no real end in sight, I would do well to recalibrate how I live. We are meant to have life and have it abundantly, even in, perhaps especially in challenging times.

Friends, make a decision now about how you want to live so that no matter what befalls us, you have a way through. Here are her words:

Maybe you feel like the Israelites, stuck in the wilderness subsisting on manna and quail and wishing you could go back to the way it was before you set on this crazy journey. But you know as well as I do, as well as those Israelites knew: beyond a certain point, there is just no going back to the way things used to be. We've reached that point in American Christianity where we must acknowledge our new reality. We are no longer what we once were. We aren't going back. But we don't really know yet where we're headed.

So consider this: as the Israelites traveled in the wilderness, people still married and had babies. Children still delighted in catching a glimpse of a rabbit or a snake, teenagers still snuck away to discover thrills away from the prying eyes of parents and grandparents. People still fell in love and saw the sojourn as an adventure rather than a punishment. The manna and quail were still a fresh delight to SOMEONE in the traveling party, even four decades in. Trees still flowered and flowers still bloomed. There was joy. There was dancing. Even in the wilderness, there was dancing.

Here's my challenge to you this morning: while others around us lament the new reality of American Christianity with keening wails, or rage, rage against the dying of the light, or throw up their hands in despair, **let us be among those who dance.** We are a remnant of what we used to be – praise God! No longer are people populating the pews primarily because social convention dictates, they should, but because we experience God in this sacred space, among sacred people. No longer can we sustain ministries whose life span has ended just because "we've always done it that way." Hear these words not as death, but as resurrection and liberation.

If ever we were strong and powerful and influential by the world's standards, we by and large are not so now. Let us celebrate that we have been newly liberated from the false trappings of power and the corruption that accompanies "worldly influence." Let us celebrate that we are living on the margins, because margins are where the interesting stuff happens. The doodles. The dreams. The nitty-gritty stuff.

We can celebrate that we in the UCC are a remnant people, chosen by God's grace – because we remember that Paul also wrote that "God chooses what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chooses what is weak in the world to shame the strong, God chooses what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of the Lord." We are a remnant church, part of a remnant denomination, foolish and weak and low and despised by the world's standards – but chosen to magnify the power and joy and love of God.

So let us join as a remnant people to remember that the only way for us to survive and to thrive in this new reality is to rely fully on God for our future. Let us remember what great-grandma Gertrude and all of our forebears in faith knew: when we

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are forced to rely on God, God shows up, pours out, and gives it all. And we in turn are filled to overflowing, and able to work and live and minister in ways we never thought possible before, ways we never imagined. We won't look like what we used to – great-grandma Gertrude might not recognize us today – but thanks be to God, God has a future for us full of life and hope!

So let us join together as a remnant people to let God create through us a future of justice, mercy, compassion and peace upon this earth! And let us boast in the Lord's power to create beauty and wholeness from scattered, leftover pieces such as ourselves. Let us dance!

To view all the Sermons That Keep Preaching, click here:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMirlwFmBL8&list=PL6VgfHt6zEy7yDgdSE-fLLYEVaNBM2943&fbclid=IwAR22NR0u9dWFWJLj4ggDvxhL5_wC7FOPZfUjC7XrX2iXYnx6uLmFgzKASzE

Blessings,



Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser



Fall Worship Series Continues!

WEEK 4

Date October 4, 2020 (This is also World Communion Sunday)
Theme Being One Body: Interdependence and Decentralization
Sacred Text I Corinthians 12: 12-27
Book Chapter Chapter 6: Interdependence and decentralization

WEEK 5

Date October 11, 2020 (This is also Stewardship Sunday)
Theme Cultivating Hope: The Pace and Pathways of Change
Sacred Text TBA
Book Chapter Chapter 7: Nonlinear and Iterative

WEEK 6

Date October 18, 2020
Theme Be like butterflies: resilience and transformation
Sacred Text Matthew 28:1-20
Book Chapter Chapter 8: resilience

WEEK 7

Date October 25, 2020
Theme Shaping Tomorrow Towards Abundance
Sacred Text Matthew 5:1-15
Book Chapter Chapter 9: creating more possibilities

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WEEK 8

Date November 1, 2020 (Also All Saints Communion Sunday and in-Gathering of Pledges)
Theme Coevolution: I am because you are, we are because they were
Sacred Text Revelations 7:9-17 ? or, if focusing on “soma” -- Acts 9, Romans....?
Book Chapter Chapter 12: spells and practices for emergent strategy

#wearitdontshareit

You have probably heard this tag line frequently on local TV and radio these last few months. It is the tagline for the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District. We are saying it here at CUCC too as we strongly encourage everyone to wear a mask when going out in public, when meeting others, like a friend, perhaps a friend from church for a walk or a picnic.



Absolutely everyone coming into the church building must wear a mask, sanitize their hands, and keep six feet apart.

Wearing a face covering is a sign of love, love for ourselves and for our neighbors. Wearing a mask, social distancing by six feet, and staying home when we do not feel well is the only way to care for each other in this new normal we find ourselves living in.

Stay healthy, wash your hands often, wear your mask when going out in public, meeting others, and coming into the church building.

Moderator Musings

“We know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.” Romans 5:3-4

“As a religious problem, the problem of suffering is, paradoxically, not how to avoid suffering but how to suffer, how to make of physical pain, personal loss, worldly defeat, or the helpless contemplation of others’ agony something bearable, supportable--something, as we say, sufferable.” Clifford Geertz

I admit that it’s weird to open these reflections with a quote from the Apostle Paul followed by a quote from Clifford Geertz. The former was an intrepid ancient evangelist, a remarkable theologian, and a clear-eyed observer of himself and others. Many see him as the founder of Christianity. The latter was a twentieth-century anthropologist who worked in Indonesia and North Africa, studying Islam in two distant corners of the so-called Muslim world. His thoughts on Islam and religion more broadly continue to shape the work that people in my field, the academic study of religion, do.

As different as their lives and worlds were, both Paul and Geertz felt it necessary to reflect on the experience of suffering and the meaning-making around it. Their words were in my mind this morning because, like many, I have been suffering and wondering, almost every day, how to make that suffering sufferable. Some of this suffering is born of personal circumstance, but by far the greater portion has to do with the world around me, around us. One worry gets added to another; gutting pieces of news arrive daily, new avenues for anxiety open up. And with this torrent comes a deepening sense of helplessness.

In our current context, I’m not sure how to feel about Paul’s words. Surely, he meant well. But to me he seems like that person who tells you in the depths of your pain that God never gives you more than you can handle, or the one who wants to move you

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through your suffering to a brighter, happier, more hope-filled place, and to do so quickly. What Paul wrote about the path from suffering to hope may well be true for some, but he takes a lot for granted. For now, I'm finding more solace in what Clifford Geertz revealed, namely that the work of making sense of pain gets done in Java, in Morocco, in Champaign-Urbana, and in all places where we find people. In other words, there is something universal about these experiences, and that whether we feel their presence or not, we have billions of fellow travelers on this road.

Pondering the Struggles of the Journey with You,
~Jon

Stewardship – Cultivating Hope

From the Stewardship Co-chairs:

Plans are underway for this year's Annual Stewardship Campaign. The Co-Chairs this year are Elizabeth Shack and Marilou Hinrichs (though others are helping along the way with mailings, contacts, messages, etc.). During this time we will be asking you to assess what you might contribute and pledge in terms of time, talents, and treasure in support of our church, its future plans, its projects, and its missions. The theme this year is "Cultivating Hope." Throughout the campaign we'll be talking about how our gifts cultivate hope, shape the future, and transform our lives and the lives of others. During the "Call to Offering" every Sunday from now into November we'll be hearing from various congregational members and friends about how they have experienced the transforming work of our church. We ask that you spend some time thinking of your own examples. How have you witnessed the cultivation of hope through the work of the church? What can you do to invest in this transforming work?

On October 11 we'll celebrate the kickoff to the Annual Stewardship Campaign. You'll be receiving a stewardship packet by mail. In the packet you'll learn about how the work of the church has continued during this time of COVID-related separation. You'll also receive pledge information. Our church's annual budget is based on the financial resources we expect to receive in the coming year and your pledge is an important part of that. On November 1, we will have a "Stewardship Ingathering" service (a time we typically bring together our pledges and place them in the offering plate). Because we still won't be meeting in person, we ask that you make your pledge through an on-line form (available soon at the top of the church's website, <http://community-ucc.org>) or by mail with the form included in your packet. As always, financial gifts can be made on-line through the "Donate" button on the church's website or by mailing them to Financial Secretary, Community United Church of Christ, 805 South 6th Street, Champaign, Illinois 61820. We look forward to hearing from you and sharing the work of the church with you as, together, we Cultivate Hope.

~ Elizabeth Shack and Marilou Hinrichs



Campus Ministry

Help Welcome Our Students, Saturday, October 10

We will once again provide hot dogs to welcome back our students (on a smaller scale and in a safe and socially distanced manner, but we will still show our love and support for the students).

We plan to have the hot dogs ready for students to just pick up between 4:30 - 6:00 p.m on Saturday at the northeast entrance of our parking lot, much like Jubilee Cafe does. They will simply stop by outside and pick up a bag that contains a hot dog, bag of chips and condiment packets from the serving table. We will also have small bottles of water out on the table for them to pick up and CUCC/Campus Ministry informational fliers if they wish.

Rules for all volunteers:

1. You must wear a mask.
2. You must wear plastic gloves (provided) if you are touching food.
3. You must practice social distancing, inside and outside.
4. No hugging. 😊

If you feel you would like to help and also feel ok about helping either inside in the kitchen or fellowship hall or helping outside (and agreeing to follow the above rules), we would love for you to volunteer and help welcome the students.



Here are the volunteer opportunities for you to consider:

INSIDE

3:30 -5:30 p.m. 1 person needed (assist Randy Musser in the kitchen, boiling and cooking hot dogs on griddle)

3:30 - 5:30 p.m. 2-3 people needed (put hot dogs in buns & wrap them in foil paper- 1 person per table in fellowship hall)

INSIDE/OUTSIDE

4:00 - 6:00 p.m. 1 person needed (be a runner - bring pans of wrapped hot dogs from fellowship hall to steam trays outside)

OUTSIDE

3:30 - 6:00 p.m. 6 people needed (help Nate and students put up tent, bring 4 tables outside, set up steamers on tables outside, put condiment packets and chips in brown paper bags and then add wrapped hot dogs to the bags and put out on serving table (maybe 10 bags out at a time) for students to pick up. Serve as greeters from a distance.

6:00 - 6:30 p.m. 3 people needed Clean Up (take tent down, wipe down tables and take them back inside, bring in any leftover food, bring in steam trays and take to downstairs kitchen to be washed, etc.)

- Please contact Peg Wade at peg.wade@comcast.net or text or call at 369-0474 if you wish to volunteer and please indicate which duty/time you prefer.

Thanks everyone! While we hope to have several volunteers help, we also **totally** understand if you really don't feel safe doing so. It's such a hard and crazy time!

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Ministry Opportunities at CUCC Volunteers Needed

CUCC Team	Opportunity	Contact	Contact Info	Online Sign-Up	Article
Worship Team	Edit Videos	Office Admin	Info@community-ucc.org		
Worship Team	Technical Help	Office Admin	infor@community-ucc.org		
Worship Team	Liturgist	Chase Skye Susan Pawlicki	chaseskye7@gmail.com spawlicki2@hotmail.com	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fadaf2aa1fa7-liturgistseptemb	
Worship Team	Greeter	Chase Skye or Susan Pawlicki	chaseskye7@gmail.com spawlicki2@hotmail.com	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fadaf2aa1fa7-greetersseptembe	
Worship Team	Hymn Leaders & Other Music for Worship	Music Director Musician	music@community-ucc.org bclark87@gmail.com	https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1VRO-hpyuH5Exip52Jzr4JxOXsUJe1HZxzhefK7nlass/edit?usp=sharing	
Prayer Team	Team Member	Office Admin	Info@community-ucc.org		
Children's Ministry	Event Planner/Leader	Julie McClure	jemclure4@gmail.com		Page 12
Jubilee Café	Meal Prep, Cook, Clean-up	Johnell Bentz	johnell.bentz@gmail.com	https://tinyurl.com/JubileeCafe-Volunteer	Page 8
Grounds Team	Lawn Mowing	Matthew Hart	matthewlorenhart@gmail.com	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0449A5AF2CA1FB6-community	



Upcoming One-Time Events

Mark your calendars for these CUCC events!

Thursday, October 1 – Saturday, October 31



Thursday, October 1, 7:00am: Men's Breakfast

Sunday, October 4, 10:15am: Breakout Room during worship for Youth 6th-12th grade

Wednesday, October 7, 7:00pm – 8:00pm: Chime Choir

Saturday, October 10, 9:00am – 12:00pm: Fall Clean-up at CUCC

Saturday, October 10, 3:00pm – 7:00pm: Help Welcome Our Students

Sunday, October 11, 10:15am: Breakout Room during worship for Pre-K – 5th grade

Sunday, October 11, 10:15am: Stewardship Kickoff Sunday

Wednesday, October 14, 7:00pm – 8:00pm: Zoom Choir

Sunday, October 18, 1:30pm: Youth Group Meeting by Zoom

Tuesday, October 20, 11:30am: Monthly Retirees' Luncheon, Picnic at Hessel Park – weather permitting, otherwise Zoom

Tuesday, October 20, 6:30pm: Church Life Board Meeting,

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/815146054?pwd=UmMwdW01ZFhmV0hpZmxrRWNIUmhwdz09>

Meeting ID: 815 146 054 Password: 697698 Dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Wednesday, October 21, 7:00pm – 8:00pm: Chime Choir

Friday, October 23, 6:30pm: All Church Zoom Halloween Party

Friday, October 23, 7:30pm: A Progressive Drive-By Trick or Treat Porch Event

Saturday, October 24, 9:00am – 12:00pm: Fall Clean-up at CUCC Rain Date

Monday, October 26, 9:00am: Articles for November Communigram Due

Tuesday, October 27, 4:00pm-5:00pm: Canteen Run, Kitchen

Wednesday, October 28, 7:00pm-8:00pm: Chime Choir

Sunday, November 1, 2:00am: Daylight Savings Time Ends – remember to change your clocks



See the chart below for re-occurring events and Zoom meeting information. Be sure to check the CUCC Facebook page for updates.

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Weekly Zoom Meetings and Events at CUCC

Event	Day	Time	Meeting ID	Passcode	Dates	Join Zoom Meeting	Dial by Your Location
Worship	Sun	10:15AM	391 847 803	788969	7/5-12/27	https://zoom.us/j/391847803?pwd=ZmNvaHJYZm1uUUQrdTNBd2NRZThDZz09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Youth Group (6 th -12 th grade)	Sun	1:30PM	402 056 418	578953	7/5-12/27	https://zoom.us/j/402056418?pwd=SkIXaFBUMIBZQ0lvNTFhVhWeVF0QT09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Pub Theology	Mon	7:00PM	954 5707 0801	902078		https://illinois.zoom.us/j/95457070801?pwd=WmlBN3AyVkFiTFBDUUtLMjNuZ0t4Zz09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Choir	Wed	7:00PM	326 389 912	854849	8/5-12/30	https://zoom.us/j/326389912?pwd=ZExZVWZqRkl4dFRvZEgrckVnMkY2Zz09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
CUCC Community Drop-In Hour	Thu	12PM (Noon)	947 196 457	735760	7/9-12/31	https://zoom.us/j/947196457	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Monthly Zoom Meetings and Events at CUCC

Men's Breakfast	Monthly 1st Thu	7:00AM	989 7544 0361	328404	7/2-12/3	https://illinois.zoom.us/j/98975440361?pwd=UDlyMXFKU3ozVmN2M0tUL1ZJjVUT09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
CUCC Retirees' Luncheon	Monthly 3 rd Tue	11:30AM	935 3696 7862	103227	8/2-12/3	https://illinois.zoom.us/j/93536967862?pwd=VndiN0Nab1FVcG5VWUdRWTViV29oZz09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

A Note from CUCC's Music Director

Hi, friends! Another season of unusual music-making has begun, and I could use your help. *We are currently in search of someone to videotape some upcoming musical projects by chime choir.* Please let me know if this is a way you could serve our church.

Please reach out if you have interest in making a one-time or regular musical contribution. We are always looking for:

- Chime choir participants
- Virtual singing choir participants
- Members to lead hymns as a group or as individuals
- Ideas for permissible music that can be shared during worship



We have a gracious and open community, and *we would love to hear whatever type of music inspires YOU.*

In collaboration,
Kathy Lee, music@community-ucc.org

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Commissioned Minister of Congregational Health

Health Reminder:

During this pandemic time, there are many ways we are taking care of ourselves, including paying increased attention to the health of our minds, bodies, and spirits. So, remember, this is the time of year to add one more item to your "TO DO LIST". It is time to talk about flu immunization and receive a vaccination.



Public health officials are recommending that 65% of Americans receive the flu shot this season. This is a higher percentage than normal, with the goal being to reduce the impact on the health care system by decreasing the number of persons needing medical care for the flu, in addition to the COVID-19 patients needing care.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends the flu immunization for everyone over 6 months of age. The only persons who should NOT receive it are babies younger than 6 months, and persons who have had a life-threatening allergy to the vaccination. The CDC also recommends **getting your flu shot before the end of October**, before the flu starts to spread. Mark your calendars now!

~ Linda Morgan, CUCC Commissioned Minister of Health



Fall Clean-up Day

Fall is upon us and unfortunately the Pandemic did not kill off all the weeds growing around the church nor did it stop the leaves from falling off the trees. With this in mind we will be having a fall clean-up day at the church on Saturday 10/10/2020 from 9:00 until around noon. This will involve a lot of raking, pruning, and weeding. Anyone who wishes to volunteer to help will need to wear a mask and try to social distance from one another. I would ask that you let me know if you can come for at least a portion of the time so that I can plan accordingly. If the weather is too bad that day the alternate Saturday will be 10/24/2020. Please email me at matthewlorenhart@gmail.com.



Thanks,
Matthew Hart
Grounds Chairman
Community UCC

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Construction Update

The work on our church building has continued over the past month!

- The new granite steps for the parking lot side entrance have arrived! They will be installed by our masonry contractor in the next two weeks.
- The collapsed window well at 510 Daniel has been replaced by the masons. This completes the work at 510 Daniel, which included repairs to the crumbling chimney, replacement of the back stoop, exterior paint touch-ups, and the new window well.
- The work on the tile roof over the sanctuary continues and beautiful copper flashing has been installed. See photo attached.
- The new roofing on the southwest corner and maintenance updates over the office on the north side should be happening in the next couple of weeks.

~Grant Robbenolt



CUCC Office Hours

Just a reminder that the CUCC church office and building remain closed currently. However, I continue to work Monday through Wednesday 9AM – 3PM from home. I am checking both email and voice messages throughout those hours. On Thursday, I work from the CUCC office from 9AM – 3PM. If I can help you with anything your ministry is working on, please do not hesitate to be in touch. ~ Carla Rush, Office Admin

Jubilee Café

To follow social distancing rules, we have cut the number of volunteers. We have been fortunate to have a steady group of volunteers, but there are occasional openings.

IMPORTANT COVID-19 INFORMATION:

- If you have recently been around large groups (classes, social events, protests, etc,) please delay volunteering at Jubilee Cafe until you know you do not have COVID-19.
- If you have not consistently worn a mask in public, please **DO NOT** sign up to volunteer at Jubilee Cafe.

If you are healthy and under age 60, please sign up to volunteer here: <https://tinyurl.com/JubileeCafe-Volunteer> Other volunteer opportunities exist as well. Please contact Johnell Bentz, johnell.bentz@gmail.com, for more information.

~Johnell Bentz

Date	Austin's Place (Women's Shelter)	DREEM Driven to Reach Excellence & Academic Achievement for Males	Hot Meals & Heat at Home	Total Meals
9/7/2020	0	0	27	27
9/14/2020	0	0	53	53
9/21/2020	0	0	37	37
9/28/2020	0	0		
Total Meals	0	0		

Meal Train

Participating in a CUCC Meal Train is important and relatively easy to get involved in and is one of the ways that we care for each other. A Meal Train is activated when a member of our CUCC community has a health problem or surgery, a new baby, or another life event during which having some meals provided would be helpful. Not surprisingly, this comes up on an irregular schedule. But it usually happens a handful of times each year. When it does, a message goes out to those who have opted to be on our Meal Train mailing list, explaining the need, and providing a calendar of dates on which meals are needed. Recipients of the message then determine whether they are available to provide a meal on one of the available dates and signs up to do so. They then drop off a meal on the designated date and time. Easy! And, oh so helpful. Many hands make light work and help to make sure that we can provide all the meals that are needed. If you would like to join the mailing list for our CUCC Meal Trains, please let Jen Robbennolt (jennifer.robbennolt@gmail.com) know and she will add you to the list. Thanks!

~ Jennifer Robbennolt



Pub Theology



The book discussion group we call **Pub Theology** is discussing the book Emergent Strategy, the same book that is being used as the basis of the worship series running from September 13 – November 1.

Pub Theology meets at 7:15pm Mondays. Find Pub Theology Zoom [here](#).

If you would like to be added to the Pub Theology mailing list, email Tom Ward at wardt508@comcast.net and he will add you to the list. Anyone is free to join us.

~Tom Ward

Community Building & Hospitality Team

**ALL CHURCH ZOOM+
HALLOWEEN PARTY
Friday, October 23rd, 6:30 p.m.**

Join the fun –here's the scoop:

First on zoom....

- there will be **costume parade** for everyone
- **fun music to sing and dance** to for everyone
- a **game & scary story** for everyone

Then around 7:30 p.m....

- we will have a **Progressive Drive-By Trick or Treat Porch Event:**
 - we invite church members to participate by providing simple treats or treat bags on their porch for our kiddos after the party.
 - we Invite families to get in their cars after the zoom party and go to several homes (a list of homes and addresses will be provided) and pick up their special treats from our church member homes.
 - If you would like to participate and have **treats out on your porch** (with porch light on) between 7:30 and 9:00 p.m.(after the zoom party), please email Peg Wade at peg.wade@comcast.net or call or text her at 217-369-0474 no later than Wednesday, October 14th. We can then give you an idea of how many kiddos might be coming to your home.



If you would like to drive your kiddos around to church member's homes to pick up treats after the zoom party, please email Peg Wade at peg.wade@comcast.net or call or text her at 217-369-0474 and also let her know how many kiddos there will be in your vehicle no later than Wednesday, October 16th.

DON'T MISS OUT – JOIN THE FUN!

~Community Building/Hospitality

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Retiree's Lunch



While wearing masks and socially distancing, 13 CUCC retiree's enjoyed lunch, conversation, laughter, and beautiful weather at Hessel Park on Tuesday, September 15th. We hope to try another outdoor lunch on **October 20th**, weather permitting.

~ Peg Wade

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, October 20**. The plan is to gather in Hessel Park once again, weather permitting. Otherwise, we will gather by Zoom.

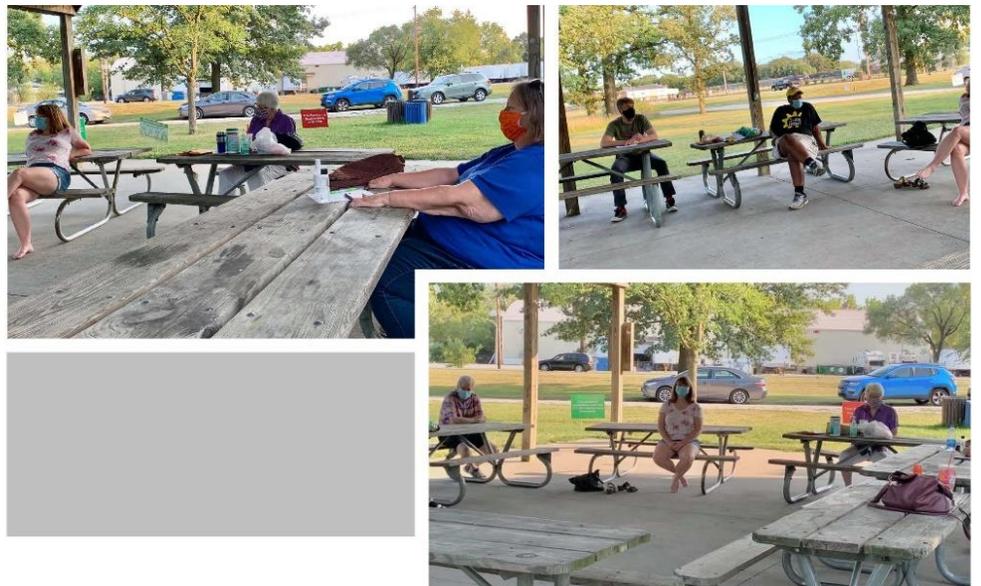


Individuals Together

Ambucs Park was the setting for a Picnic in the Park for the Individuals Together group on Saturday, September 5th. Seven persons enjoyed this event. We were each able to sit at our own table (see pictures) to remain the recommended 6feet apart. We even enjoyed a "socially distanced" game together called "Who Am I"? It was a welcome way to enjoy other's company in a safe manner.

This group is for anyone who lives alone, for any reason, whether part-time or full-time. For questions about the group, contact Linda Morgan Commissioned Minister of Health at 649-3778.

~ Linda Morgan



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Children and Family Ministry

On **Sunday, October 11th**, CUCC kids are invited to join another **breakout room** during worship. All kids **PreK-5th grade** will be invited to move to the breakout room for a Sunday School lesson and then return to worship when the lesson is completed. This does require multiple devices. It is completely up to you and your child as to whether they feel comfortable joining a breakout room or not. However, we hope they will give it a try! It worked really well last month and we're looking forward to meeting again

~Julie McClure



Youth Group

It has been wonderful to see the youth again during the month of September. We are going to have a **youth breakout room** in Zoom on **October 4th** during worship for youth 6th-12th grade.

We will also have youth group (by Zoom) on **Sunday, October 18th at 1:30 p.m.**

If you have a child that is an incoming sixth grader or a student in 7th-12th grade that is new to CUCC, I invite you to send me your email address so I can keep you up to date on youth activities. If you have any questions, you can reach me at jessica@community-ucc.org or by phone (email/text) at 217-552-8063.

~ Jessica Smiley



Outdoor Ministries Needs Your Support

Dear Friends,

As 2019 ended and we **approached the new year**, Pilgrim Park and Tower Hill were ready to open their doors and hearts to provide their guests a special place for relief from the busyness of life, a special place where God's presence is obvious, **providing moments full of life**, of joy, of hope, and of warmth.

But... **2020 has been an exceptional year** and unfortunately not in a positive way. In March we foresaw a stoppage of planned events and tasked ourselves on how we could bridge the gap in our fiscal budget. We responded by cutting back on staff, watching every penny, even offering our facilities to families for vacation rentals in safe and practical ways. This change in direction to bring in cash flow has been effective but is still **far short of the anticipated funds**.

Today we are asking you for an investment in our youth, that these camps will be here tomorrow. Give a potential camper the chance to hear God's voice, to hear it in the wind, the waves of Lake Michigan or the babble of the creek, and in the laughter of other campers. You can **connect a child** to a camp experience and a different life to bring them **"out of the ordinary and into the Sacred"**.

We have sincerely appreciated your support in the past and prayerfully anticipate your continued support.

Reverend Tracy Heilman, Site Manager, **Tower Hill Camp & Retreat Center**

Mitch Kloster, Site Manager, **Pilgrim Park Camp & Conference Center**



You can donate directly online at these links:

<https://outdoorministries.campbraingiving.com/>

<https://towerhill.campbraingiving.com/>

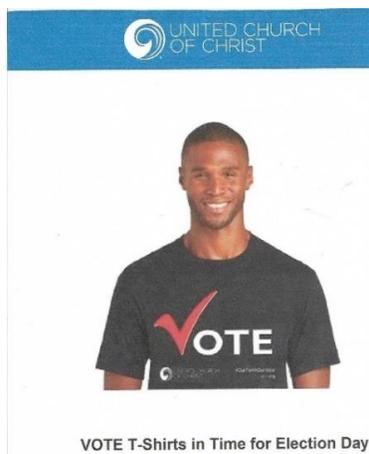
<https://pilgrimpark.campbraingiving.com/>

Again.... we appreciated your support and **prayerfully hope you support** this fund-raising event.

Our Faith Our Vote – T-Shirts and Yard Signs

From the email: Be the Church with UCC yard signs, including the new VOTE and A Just World for All. Black Lives Matter and Be a Blessing signs are also available. Election Day is just around the corner! Remind others to participate in democracy and exercise our right to vote with these new Vote t-shirts. VOTE face masks also available. Shirts and signs feature UCC logo and #OurFaithOurVote hashtag. T-shirts available in sizes Small - 3XL; shipping September 17. Make purchases at this website:

<https://www.uccresources.com/collections/vote>



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Contact CUCC:

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Office Hours: Monday - Thursday | 9am - 3pm