



Community UCC

We're worth our words

e-Communigram

Volume 61, Issue 4 – April 1 – 30, 2022

A Just Peace, Progressive, LGBTQ Open & Affirming Congregation

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Letters from Leah

In his invitation to participate in an Interfaith Passover Seder, Rabbi Alan Cook reminded local religious leaders that spring is chock full of religious high holy days. For our Jewish siblings, Passover begins the evening of April 15 and concludes April 23. For our Muslim siblings, Ramadan spans a whole month, from April 2 to May 2. Our Wiccan siblings celebrated Ostara with the Spring Equinox. Our Hindu siblings celebrated Holi on March 18, although, on the U of I campus, it gets celebrated a little later. Our Baha'i siblings marked the end of a 19 day fast on March 21 by celebrating Naw Rúz. We, who are Christians, have been immersed in the season of Lent since Ash Wednesday on March 2. Lent, of course, is the season of penitence and preparation for the events of Holy Week and Easter. This year, Holy Week kicks off on Palm Sunday, April 10, and continues thru with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and finally Easter on April 17. The Spring is full to the brim and overflowing with holiness.

And I wonder, as I walk through aisle after aisle of plastic eggs, candy, and pastel-colored baskets, what does our Springtime set of Holy Days really matter to the world? Because – real talk – if the only thing the world knows about Easter is the Easter bunny, Jesus will still love us, but he's going to be disappointed. Likewise, if the world does not experience the power of the resurrection in actual, tangible ways, then what does it matter? Crucifixions are a dime a dozen in this broken world that is entrenched in its own brokenness. Crucifixion looks like invasion, war, gun-violence, and increasing military budgets. Crucifixion looks like food desserts, homelessness, underfunded schools, and underappreciated teachers. Crucifixion looks like suppression that shows up as toxic masculinity, structural racism, and the legislation of morality. Crucifixion looks like student debt and medical debt. It looks like anything that doesn't lead to abundant life.

And, so, I wonder -- what does it look like to BE a resurrection people in a crucifixion world? I want to invite you to think deeply about this question and to do so in concrete ways. What would it look like for our church to live out the resurrection in concrete, tangible ways? There will be opportunities for you to answer this question throughout Holy Week and the Easter season. Look for those – and don't hold back! The grave is empty, death no longer has a hold – what do we have to fear?

Holy Week at Community United Church of Christ

- **April 10, 10:15am** Hybrid Palm Sunday Worship – “Even the Stones Cry Out” – Luke 19:28-40
- **April 13, 10:00am** Spy Wednesday a [Facebook Live](#) Conversation with Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser and Rev. Nicole Havelka talking the realities of betrayal.
- **April 14, 5:00pm** Maundy Thursday Prayer Stations in the sanctuary, **6:30pm** Communion

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- **April 15, 7:00pm** Good Friday Worship – “It is Finished” – John 19:1-30
- **April 17, 10:15am** Hybrid Easter Festival Worship – “New Life is Right Here” – Luke 24:1-12

Decorating the Sanctuary at Community United Church of Christ during Holy Week

The Worship Team has several opportunities for you to help decorate the sanctuary for worship throughout Holy Week. The more hands, the lighter the work.

- **Sunday, April 10** – following worship – tear down Rainbow flags.
- **Thursday, April 14--** following Maundy Thursday worship – tear down Maundy Thursday, set-up Good Friday
- **Friday, April 15** – following Good Friday worship – tear down Good Friday, set-up Easter

Blessings,



Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser



Moderator Musings

We are so excited to be moving toward Easter with fewer Covid cases locally, and more singing and socializing in church. The first Sunday when so many of us were back in person, singing together with our choir up front felt like an encouraging shift in our pandemic. Knowing that things can change, we will continue to look at local cases and adjust our safety requirements as needed, but we were happy to update our Covid Protocols last month so we can have more clarity on singing, soloing, and socializing in the parlor or out on the town. Please review those updated protocols in the bulletin or on our website, and feel free to ask me if you have any questions.

Erin Ewoldt

erinicolewoldt@gmail.com



Save the Date - All Congregational Conversation

We are looking for your creative ideas, input, and inspiration! Now that we no longer have another church renting space every Sunday, we have a structural change to our budget. We are looking forward to meeting together in a fun, creative space to come up with ideas on how we can fill that hole. Come to Hessel Park Pavilion on **Sunday, May 22**, between 3-5pm for treats, collaboration, and idea stations. And we have not forgotten the kids, there will be activities for them during the time that the parents are deep in conversation. More details to come in the May Communigram.

Updated Covid Protocols, Spring 2022

CUCC is so grateful to be in a season of lessening COVID cases and freely available vaccines and boosters. However, we acknowledge that our community has beloved members still ineligible for vaccines (under age 5) or not fully protected due to immunocompromised health, and our faith asks us to care for the most vulnerable.

With that in mind, our Spring 2022 Covid Protocol Recommendations are:

- Continued masking in the sanctuary during services for all attendees in pews, and continued masking inside the church.
- Spacing in pews between families or friend pods is recommended
- All normal entrances and exits at the building are allowed
- Congregants are able to leave the pews at dismissal as they are ready, no usher dismissal is required

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While the [CDC Community Level](#) for Champaign County is low, the following exceptions are permitted:

- Two people can be unmasked at the chancel or choir loft at a time. They will be spaced at least 10 feet apart and 10 feet from the congregation. If one of those two people is singing, the other may not sing.
- Six people may sing in the choir loft together, provided they are masked.
- One unmasked soloist may sing in the choir loft.
- Congregational activities that include eating and drinking, like coffee hour, or dining together, or socializing together outside of church are permitted, as these are opt-in events at the attendee's own discretion. We recommend still wearing masks together indoors unless actively eating or drinking.

We will monitor these levels weekly and reassess these protocols as Covid cases increase or decrease within our community.

Warmly,
Erin Ewoldt

Letters for Confirmands

Dear Community,

We are collecting letters for all the Confirmands. As you may recall, a special part of our final Confirmation workshop with the Confirmands on **April 24th** is asking caregivers, sponsors, congregation members, other family members and friends to write a "Love Letter" to each of the Confirmands. The Confirmands will read these letters during the workshop.

We need your letters on Sunday, April 24th. Confirmands will be reading the letters on April 24th during the Confirmation workshop.

This letter should be very positive and life-giving. This letter may have a lasting impact for years to come. While some of the Confirmands are still deciding whether to be confirmed, they are all going through the process. This coming-of-age ritual is about the journey, not the destination, and they all need your love, support, and care.

Ideas for things to write about might be:

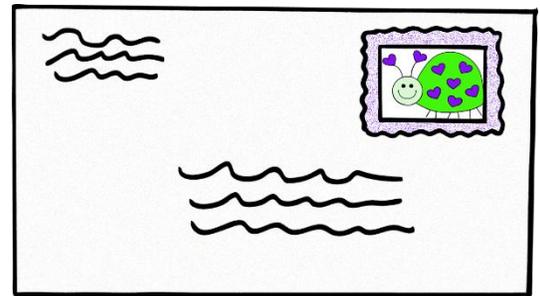
- Some of the things that make you proud of the youth
- The hopes and dreams you hold out for him/her
- How happy you are that he/she has chosen to be confirmed
- Anything else you've always wanted to say, but just didn't get around to
- Caregivers have shared some creative love letter ideas includes adding pictures or cards.

This letter should be very positive and life-giving. The letter is kept a SECRET until it is given out at the workshop. So, write your letter, seal it, and put the youth's name on the outside and place it in the shoebox outside of my office door.

The **2022 Confirmands** are: **Isaac Ewoldt, Miranda Isaacs, JJ Lee, Kaleb Kasper, Camille Kloster, Emalynn Radek, Chloe Robberts-Mosser, Oscar Tomkin.**

Thank you for supporting our Confirmands!

Blessings,
Jessica



Mission Ministry Full to the Brim Lenten Campaign

Our main focus in March (which will extend through April) has been the "Full to the Brim Lenten Campaign." This is our campaign to erase medical debt for some of those who need it the most. We set our goal to raise \$8,000, and as of April 3 we are at \$8,000.49. We will soon have an updated goal to share with you, so please be on the lookout. Thank you to all of you for this great work and support! If you'd like to make an online donation, please visit this link:

<https://ripmedicaldebt.org/campaign/community-uccs-full-to-the-brim-lenten-campaign/>

To donate with a check, make it out to the church, and be sure to include the campaign in the memo line. If your household has one of the jars, feel free to bring that in whenever it is ready or on Easter Sunday when it will be set on the altar with the other filled jars.

Be on the lookout! We will have a survey to share sometime in April. We would like your input as to where our efforts (time, talent, and money) should be focused in the community.



John Bandy Center for Spirituality and Faith Dedication

Please join us Sunday, April 24, as we dedicate the space and ministry of the John Bandy Center for Spirituality and Faith. Following a brief liturgy of blessing and hope during the worship service that morning, we will have light refreshments to enjoy in the parlor as you come explore the collection and learn about upcoming opportunities for small groups and in-person activities. There will also be some "freebies" for you to take if you like. Our children's corner will also be open, with a special art project for the kids.

Friends and members of CUCC are invited to check materials out for 3 weeks. You simply choose what you want and then sign it out using the card inside, placing the card in the file box on the table. Then, return the items in the labelled bin when you are done, and we will reshelve. There are no overdue fines, but we hope that you will be respectful of others by returning things on time.

CUCC was John's church home for almost twenty years. His family is happy to be able to share this gift with the congregation in his memory and in honor of the love and care extended to him and later to Pastor Connie when she came to CUCC as well.



Middle Ages BBQ

At CUCC there are social functions for students and retirees...it's time for those somewhere in the middle to hang out! Join us for a backyard BBQ. We'll fire up the smoker and have a couple of home brews on tap, and we'll have water and other non-alcoholic beverages too. Bring a dish to share (please mention in the comments of the sign-up genius) and whatever else you might like to drink. Please sign-up

We are working on childcare for those with young kiddos, so you can have an evening of adult conversation.

Date: Friday, May 6, 2022

Time: 6:00pm-9:00pm

Location: The McClures

2614 Rachel Road, Champaign, IL 61822

Sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C48ADAC2EABF49-middle>



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Stroll for Your Soul



It's Spring! Time to Stroll for Your Soul!

Spring is on its way, and it's time to get moving again! May brings the annual invitation to Stroll for Your Soul. This Prayer Bench resource runs for 21 days, with an email each morning offering some motivation to move and some inspiration for reflection and prayer. *You do not need to subscribe to the other Prayer Bench resources to be part of Stroll.* Samples of past daily emails will be

available at the dedication of the John Bandy Center for Spirituality and Faith.

This year, the Center plans to host a weekly walk during Stroll for those who are interested. We will work with those who indicate interest to find a time and place. You can sign up for Stroll and/or the walks in the Center or by emailing Pastor Connie (connie@community-ucc.org) by May 1.

Please watch the Sunday yellow sheet for more details as we receive them.



Parish Nurse



Parish Nurse, Johnalene Radek, shares the following educational opportunities:

Monthly Community Education Series

Register at <https://carle.org/events> to receive a Zoom link by email after registering.

Email CommunityHealth@carle.com with questions.

Each class will be held from 6pm to 6:30pm

April 12 – High Blood Pressure (Spanish Session)

April 26 – Food Allergy Myth Busters

Our Whole Lives Seeking Instructors

Our Whole Lives is a sexual education curriculum designed for children and adults that helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their relationships, sexual health, and behavior. With a holistic approach, Our Whole Lives provides accurate, developmentally appropriate information about a range of topics, including relationships, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, sexual health, and cultural influences on sexuality. Many UCC Churches teach this curriculum and becoming an OWL instructor requires training. If you're interested in exploring the possibility of getting training to teach OWL at CUCC or want to have input into which age groups, we would like to focus on please contact Alison Anders at amanders@illinois.edu or 206-719-5651. We need several instructors with a variety of genders/orientations if we are going to offer this curriculum at CUCC.



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Newcomers Group

Are you relatively new to Community United Church of Christ? Or maybe you've been attending for a while but would like to learn more about how the church works and what our values and beliefs are based on. Maybe you are interested in figuring out how you might plug-in to the church now that we're back to meeting in person. Perhaps you are even thinking you might like to become an official member! If any of these things is true, then the upcoming CUCC Newcomer Group may be for you.

The Newcomer Group will be meeting in-person at the church building. Our first session will be Sunday evening, April 24th, so that we can put names with faces and so that we can find out what you really want to learn about the church. Pastor Leah will then make her "CUCC 101" and "UCC 101" presentations, great overviews of our local congregation and the United Church of Christ as a whole.

Then we'll continue over the next three sessions to learn more about you, the church, and where you can fit in. We're a busy church, so we'll skip around on dates as you can see below. Read on to find out more about what is included, and then if you are interested, please send us your contact information so that we can be sure to keep you in the loop. You can e-mail us at either iamozzie99@yahoo.com or suelathedoula@gmail.com or text or call at **217-841-8070**. (Feel free to leave a message, and we'll get back to you.)

Session 1 - Sunday, April 24th at 6:30pm - CUCC 101, UCC 101 – After a short "meet and greet" this meeting will be an opportunity to find out more about how the UCC is organized, what our core beliefs are, and something of our history. We will also look at the basic structure of our local church, CUCC, and answer questions you may have about the church. If you just want to find out about the church, you may **only** want to attend this meeting. If you would like to pursue getting more involved, or becoming a member of the church, then sessions 2, 3, and 4 are for you.



Session 2 - Sunday, May 1st - Opportunities to Plug-In at CUCC - Leaders from our Ministry Teams will come to this meeting to talk to you about their roles here at CUCC and opportunities for participation in the life and ministry of CUCC.

Session 3 - Sunday, May 15th - How do Your Gifts and Talents Mesh with CUCC? - Partners in Faith who are members of the church will be invited to this meeting to meet each of you and begin connecting with you. We will look at the spiritual gifts each of us brings to CUCC and talk about the values we have as individuals and as a community. We'll begin to look at ways to get connected to the church and its work.

Session 4 - Sunday, June 5th - Committing to CUCC - Partners in Faith who have been paired with you will again attend this meeting. We will share faith stories, discuss what a commitment to the church means and answer your questions about membership. For those who have decided to join the church, plans will be made for a New Member Sunday.

We are anxious to get to know more about you and to share our stories with each other! Looking forward to seeing you soon!

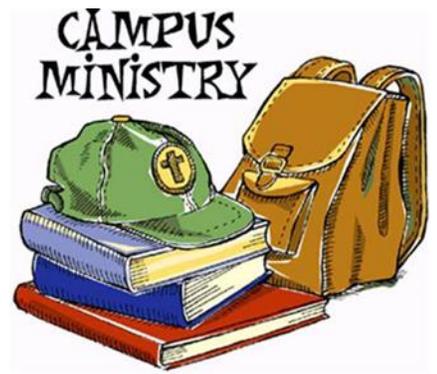
John & Sue Osborne - Welcoming Committee



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Campus Ministry

Campus Ministry sincerely hopes you were able to find some way to enjoy Rev. Ann Kansfield's visit, be that one Friday for the main Queering Faith, on Saturday for the brunch, on Sunday for worship, or Monday for Jubilee Cafe! It has been a busy and packed weekend full of memories. Lots of people pitched in to make it happen, from students to church members and of course staff. Campus Ministry was able to sell copies of Ann's books, which Ann signed as well! Thank you to everyone who purchased one and helped support Campus Ministry. Ann talked about her personal journey, her experiences, and how she lives authentically into her life. We at Campus Ministry hope that Queering Faith 5.0 helped you live more authentically and boldly into your faith and identity. Thank you again for all your support CUCC!



During the pandemic CUCC, Rev. Kanfield's congregation Greenpoint Reformed, and Rev. Sara Wilcox's congregation Land of the Sky Asheville, NC shared several joint Zoom worship services. When Rev. Ann Kansfield was invited to be the guest speaker at Queering Faith 5.0, Rev. Sara Wilcox made her way to Champaign, IL from Asheville, NC.

With Rev. Sara Wilcox in attendance we had a great turnout of 69 adults and 2 children in the Sanctuary and 20 devices connected to Zoom for a Total of 91 people/devices participating in Queering Faith 5.0.

-Rev. Nate Brantingham
(He, Him, His)
Director of Campus Ministry
UCF at Community UCC
(509) 434 9356



Rev. Ann Kansfield, Queering Faith 5.0 Guest Speaker



Rev. Ann Kansfield and Rev. Leah Mosser-Robberts



Rev. Sara Wilcox, Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser, Rev. Ann Kansfield presiding at the communion table on April 3, 2022

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Have You Updated Your Breeze Data Yet?

In 2018, CUCC migrated the church data to the Breeze Church Management Software database believing this software would allow us to maintain communications more efficiently than ever before and help future proof our membership data and to stay in contact with each other maintaining our covenant of community as then clerk, Joshua Smith wrote.

Many of you participated in the data collection and transfer to Breeze. However, there has never been a solid plan for implementing new members and friends into Breeze. They have just been added by Breeze admins so the data about these new folks is only what the admins were able to collect when the new folks made a financial donation or asked to be added to CUCC's phone list.

Breeze has many functions that we are not even using that could be used including tracking worship attendance. Currently we have several people who manually record those who attend any given worship service.

During the Lenten Season, we are asking you to update your Breeze data for **yourself and every member of your household (only include children that reside with you and are school age)**.

To access Breeze:

- Go to CUCC's web page community-ucc.org and click the "Breeze Login" button at the top of the page. That will take you to the Breeze login page.
- Enter your username and password to access your Breeze data.
- If you do not remember your password, click the "Forgot Password" link, and enter the email that you think Breeze would know about. If that email address is associated with your login, you'll get an email letting you change your password. (And *maybe* create a new login if you hadn't responded to an earlier invitation?) It will be from domain breezechms.com, so check your spam/junk folder if you don't see it. Note that if Breeze doesn't recognize that email it won't tell you, and no link will be sent.
- If you get the email, great, you can use it to recover your account.
- If you don't see a password reset email, we'll need to send you a new invitation. Send an email to who@where and we'll have Breeze (re)send an invitation to you.

To update your data:

- Click on your name (ex. Carla Rush) to access your Profile and data.
- On the Profile screen you will see 7 headers in bold type – Main, Family, Church Relationship, Education and Work, Communication, Spiritual Gifts, and Membership Status.
 - By hovering over the Header (ex. Communication) a blue banner appears with the words "click to edit section".
 - Clicking on the "click to edit section" brings up a list of items that you can now update or input data. In the Communication section it asks for Phone, Cell, Work, Email, Address
 - When finished inputting data/updating be sure to scroll back up to the Communication header and click "save" to update the data just entered.
- Each section works the same – hover over the header and the blue banner appears with the words "click to edit section" appear.
- The most important sections to update/input data to are: **Communication, Main, Family.**
- It would be helpful if you could update all 7 sections of your profile as time permits. You can always save your data and return when time permits. No need to do all of the work at one time.

Important:

- Please contact Carla at the church office at info@community-ucc.org or 271-344-5091 if you encounter any problems while accessing or updating your Breeze data.

Happy Breezing, all.

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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	Hot Meals & Heat at Home
3/7/2022	80
3/14/2022	53
3/21/2022	85
3/28/2022	101
Meals Served	319

Fool's Spring graced us in Champaign over the weekend. Tonight, we are back to freezing temps and a dampness in the air that chills you to the bone. I didn't wear my long johns to Jubilee Cafe CUCC and regretted it immediately. B, one of our regulars without a permanent address who we haven't seen in a while, came by. We loaded him up on hand warmers. He'll need them tonight and throughout the week. D also stopped by. He appreciates your prayers and kind thoughts, especially for Mom who decided to leave home. She is traveling from Ukraine to Poland -- the journey is long, dangerous, and filled with uncertainties. Dad is within the age range where he must stay behind. This is a tenuous, frightening time. Keep praying, friends, and lend your support. Tonight we served 54 creamy Italian sausage pasta bakes with carrots, bread and butter, plus 18 vegetarian frittatas and sides, plus 8 heat at home meals. Desert choices were chocolate cake, rainbow cake, cheesecake, and brownies. [#fromtheground](#)
Community UCC, Champaign, IL

Tonight, Jubilee Cafe CUCC served 51 meatloaf meals and 13 vegetarian meatloaf meals (made with our own housemade meat substitute). Meals were served with potatoes au gratin and mixed veggies. We also served 21 heat at home meals. For dessert we offered a housemade cinnamon roll bread pudding, chocolate mousse cake, or chocolate cake.

Guests were happy to be out and about in the warm weather and sunshine tonight.

University students gathered on the church's front porch to eat. Pastor Nate handed out donuts to passersby -- we had 3 bins worth. We hope tonight's comfort food dinner brings some comfort to our guests, especially those without a permanent address. It is going to get cold again later this week and we always hope they are able to stay warm and dry.

[Community UCC, Champaign, IL](#)
[#fromtheground](#)

Upcoming One-Time Events

Mark your calendars for these CUCC events!

Friday, April 1 – Saturday, April 30



Friday, April 1, 7:00pm: Queering Faith 5.0

Saturday, April 2, 10:00am – 12:00pm: Queering Faith Student Brunch

Sunday, April 3, 10:15am: Confirmation Class in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, April 3, 11:30am – 12:00pm: Lunch before Confirmation Workshop (FH)

Sunday, April 3, 12:00 – 2:00pm: Confirmation Workshop for Confirmands and Sponsors (FH)

Thursday, April 7, 7:00am: Men's Breakfast at Urbana Garden Restaurant

Sunday, April 10, 10:15am: Confirmation Class in Fellowship Hall

Thursday, April 14, 5:00pm: Maundy Thursday Prayer Stations in Sanctuary

Thursday, April 14, 6:30pm: Maundy Thursday Communion in Sanctuary

Thursday, April 14, 7:00 – 8:00pm: Health and Wellness Team Virtual Caregiving Town Hall Meeting (registration required)

Friday, April 15, 7:00pm: Good Friday Hybrid Worship (in-person and on Zoom)

Saturday, April 16, 10:00am: Spy Wednesday a Facebook Live Conversation Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser and Rev. Nicole Havelka talking the realities of betrayal

Sunday, April 17, 10:15am: Traditional Hybrid Easter Worship

Tuesday, April 19, 11:30am: CUCC Retiree's Monthly Lunch Gathering at Fiesta Café in Champaign

Tuesday, April 19, 6:30pm: CUCC CLB Meeting

Sunday, April 24, 10:15am: Campus Ministry Leading Worship

Sunday, April 24, 10:15am: Dedication of John Bandy Center for Spirituality and Faith and the Parlor

Sunday, April 24, 10:15am: Confirmation Class in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, April 24, 12:15 – 2:00pm: Confirmation Workshop for Confirmands and Sponsors in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, April 24, 6:30pm: Newcomers Group Session 1

Monday, April 25, 9:00am: Articles for May Communigram due to Office Manager

Saturday, April 30: Individual Together Activity – time and activity to be determined

Events Happening in May – be sure to mark your calendar:

Sunday, May 1, 11:30am: Kona Ice in Parking Lot

Friday, May 6: 6:00pm – 9:00pm Middle Ages BBQ at The McClures – please sign-up on the sign-up genius

Sunday, May 8, 10:15am: Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, May 22, 3:00 - 5:00pm: All Congregation Conversation at Hessel Park



Be sure to check the CUCC Facebook page for updates.

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Mission Ministry Trauma and Resilience Initiative



Karen C. Simms
Executive Director
Trauma & Resilience Initiative, Inc.
1905 N. Cunningham Ave. #303
Urbana, IL 61802

January 27, 2022

Dear Community United Church of Christ,

We at TRI are truly grateful for your generous donation of \$175 given to TRI on November 30, 2021. Our tardiness does not reflect our sincere thankfulness for your support. A separate receipt can be found on the second page.

Champaign County, like many communities across the nation, continues to experience record violence. Your donation has been used to support families via our Community Violence Response Team because the comprehensive supports provided are currently underfunded by other revenue streams.

In 2021, we provided direct support for over 115 individuals affected by gun violence. Donations allow us to meet the needs of individuals who are not currently covered by other funding streams. Some of the needs we were able to assist with were helping families displaced by gun violence find temporary housing support and move into new homes; paying for food, gas, and other necessities for out-of-town families while they provided care for family members in hospitals or long-term care facilities; and offering grief resources, over 40 hours of counseling and mental health support, and countless hours of emotional and social support to youth and families in the CU community. We also provided summer employment opportunities for four youth via our Peer Ambassador program.

Thanks to generous donors like you, we were able to support seniors affected by COVID-19 and chronic stress as well as families affected by gun violence in Urbana, Rantoul, and areas outside the City of Champaign. TRI continues to work to engender resilient communities through the adoption of trauma- and justice-informed practices, policies, and procedures in all aspects of a community's services.

Please reach out to us with any questions or to connect with other opportunities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Crawford Simms".

Ms. Karen Crawford Simms
Executive Director, TRI

Individuals Together

Individuals Together, CUCC's social group for persons who live alone, met on Saturday, March 26 for dinner at Farren's. We took a break during the winter, so it was great to see each other, eat good food, laugh, and get re-acquainted. It seems we learn more about each other each time we meet.

In order to get a date on the calendar, we set the date for our **next event for Saturday, April 30**. The activity will be decided soon, so if you have any preferences, please let us know.

If you are someone who lives alone for ANY reason, whether full time or part time, you are most welcome to join us for our (usual) monthly gatherings. Please contact Linda Morgan, Commissioned Minister of Health, if you have questions or would like to be added to our email list. Linda's number is 217-649-3778.



Men's Breakfast

The Men of CUCC meet the first Thursday of each month for breakfast. For the past two years, that's been on Zoom. But beginning in April, several of us are planning to go back to Urbana Garden Restaurant in Urbana. Join up at 7:00am on April 7 for breakfast if you feel comfortable venturing out to eat. We'd love to see you in person. anyone



~Tom
Tom Ward
Urbana, IL
wardt508@comcast.net

CUCC Retirees Monthly Lunch Group

Hi friends,

Thirteen people enjoyed lunch and conversation at Stango Cuisine at the Lincoln Square Mall for the CUCC Retiree's March Luncheon on March 15.

The Retiree's Monthly Lunch Group will meet on Tuesday, April 19, 11:30 am at the Fiesta Café in Champaign. We hope to see you there.

-Roger & Peg





IS COMING!

COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, May 1st

11:15am to 12pm

25% of ALL SALES go back to the CHURCH

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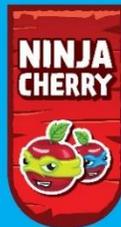
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Care Team News

On March 14, Pastor Leah, Pastor Connie, Linda Morgan (Faith Community Nurse), and Marilou Hinrichs (Care Team Chair) visited with long-time members, Bob and Sue (Shirley) Scaggs. We presented them with quilted prayer shawls and then shared communion with them and their daughter, Cassandra. Bob and Sue will be moving to their son Damon's home in Lincoln, Nebraska. We wish them well as they make this transition to a new phase of their lives. Thank you to the Prayer Shawl Ministry (coordinator, Elena Kasper) for providing the beautiful shawls. We'd also like to thank the Jubilee Cafe team and drivers for providing many Monday night meals for the Scaggs in recent months.



In Driver Ministry news, John Osborne has agreed to coordinate the driver volunteers for Champaign and Savoy in addition to the Urbana area that he has already managed for several years. Thank you, John.

The Healing Music Ministry would like to thank Rev. Connie Bandy for her very generous donation of 90+ CDs from her late husband, John's, eclectic collection. There is sure to be music in this collection that will touch the hearts and memories of everyone we visit with this ministry.

Worship Ministry: Liturgists, Greeters, Ushers Needed



Get Involved in Worship

The Worship Ministry Team is seeking Liturgists, Greeters, and Ushers for February and March 2022. Volunteer for one or all three of positions by accessing the Sign-Up Genius Links below or speak to one of the Worship Co-Chairs, Susan Pawlicki or Tina Cowsert.

Liturgist: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fadaf2aa1fa7-liturgist2>

The liturgist leads portions of the worship service including reading the scripture lesson. All information is sent ahead of time so there is time to practice before the worship service.

Greeter: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fadaf2aa1fa7-greeter2>

The role of the greeter is to welcome folks as they arrive for the worship service and assist them in finding their way around the building.

Usher: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fadaf2aa1fa7-usher2>

The usher escorts folks into the sanctuary and ensure they are seated socially distanced from the group sitting in the pew in front and behind them. Directions are provided. Ushers also count and record the physical number of people attending a worship service.



April 2022 Worship Assistants

	April 3	April 10	April 17	April 24
Liturgist	Leah Robberts-Mosser	Doug Irwin	Brin Schuler	Johnalene Radek
Usher	College Students	Tom Ward	Elizabeth Shack	
Greeter	College Students	Tina Cowsert	Eileen Gebbie	

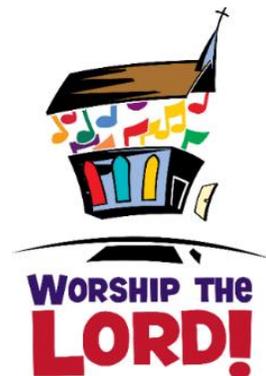
Notes From Your Music Director

HALLELUJAH! JOIN US!

Please consider this your gold-plated invitation to join the choir in singing the Hallelujah Chorus on Easter Sunday! Confident and new singers alike are invited to join us for a special rehearsal Wed. April 13 at 7PM to work on this fun piece. Friends and family members are welcome!

I have many resources available that I can send to folks ahead of time to help them learn or refamiliarize themselves with their part. Please email me so I can send them ahead of our 4/13 rehearsal.

On Easter Sunday, we'll need singers to join us at 9:30AM to prepare for Sunday's service. We will continue to sing masked and distanced. If you have questions about COVID-safety and singing, please contact me.



APPRECIATION

As always, I am so thankful to our Sound Team who has made our music accessible for those worshipping outside the sanctuary. You may notice improvements in the quality of our audio and video stream now that some long-awaited equipment has arrived. Thanks for your work, sound crew!

Sincerely,

Kathy Lee, Music Director, *she / her / hers*

music@community-ucc.org | 203-605-3830

Children and Family Ministry

Hello CUCC families-

Over the past month, we've been working through the Sanctified Art Lent curriculum, and exploring the same scriptures and ideas that the grownups are doing in church. The kids, as always, have brought some amazing insights to our discussions. They had some very strong opinions on the story of the Prodigal Son! It's been wonderful to see some returning faces (or partial faces) in Sunday School...this last Sunday we had 9 kids!



As Sunday School attendance becomes more consistent, we have a greater need for adults who can serve as shepherds. To do this role, you just need to be patient and enjoy spending time with kids. No planning needed! The more folks we have willing to sign up for a Sunday, the more that frees up our leaders to spend some of their Sundays in the pews. We can be better teachers if we're able to spend time in worship. Below is our sign-up link for April. If you would like to be added to our shepherds list for subsequent months, you can email Julie at jemcclure4@gmail.com.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C48ADAC2EABF49-april>

During April, we will have Sunday School on April 3rd, 10th, and 24th. Easter Sunday will be a kids in worship day.

Happy Easter to all! He is Risen!

Julie and Alison



Youth Group

Our youth have enjoyed spending time together during Youth Sunday School and Confirmation classes. We had our second Confirmation workshop in which we learned more about prayer. We learned the acronym - ACTS - Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication. These are four elements of prayer that can help us be intentional in our prayers to God. We reviewed



the Lord's Prayer and discussed the meaning behind it.

Below is our schedule for the Sundays in April:

April 3: Confirmation Class starts at 10:15 a.m. in the CUCC Fellowship Hall

Following the worship service, Confirmands and Sponsors are invited to participate in lunch (everyone is invited to bring a dish to share) in the CUCC Fellowship Hall. The Confirmation workshop will start at 12:00 p.m. and conclude at 2:00 p.m.

April 10: Confirmation Class starts at 10:15 a.m. in the CUCC Fellowship Hall

April 17: Easter Sunday – all will remain in worship today

April 24: Confirmation Class starting at 10:15 a.m. in the CUCC Fellowship Hall

Following the worship service, Confirmands and Sponsors are invited to participate in lunch (everyone is invited to bring a dish to share) in the CUCC Fellowship Hall. The Confirmation workshop will start at 12:00 p.m. and conclude at 2:00 p.m.

Take care,
Jessica

Introductions of our Confirmands and Sponsors:



Camille Kloster is an eighth grader. She likes drawing and making things for her cats. She likes the snacks at CUCC. She has three cats. Camille's Confirmation Sponsor is Sue Osborne.



Oscar Tomkin is in seventh grade at Urbana Middle School. He enjoys the swimming team. He also enjoys snacks at CUCC. He enjoys reading. Oscar's Confirmation Sponsor is Tom Ward.

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Ministry Volunteer Opportunities at CUCC

CUCC Team	Opportunity	Contact	Contact Info	Online Sign-Up
Worship Team	Technical Help	Office Admin	infor@community-ucc.org	
Worship Team	Liturgist	Susan Pawlicki or Tina Cowsert	spawlicki2@hotmail.com tcowsert@illinois.edu	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fadaf2aa1fa7-liturgist2
Worship Team	Greeter	Susan Pawlicki or Tina Cowsert	spawlicki2@hotmail.com tcowsert@illinois.edu	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fadaf2aa1fa7-greeter2
Worship Team	Usher	Susan Pawlicki or Tina Cowsert	spawlicki2@hotmail.com tcowsert@illinois.edu	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fadaf2aa1fa7-usher2
Worship Team	Hymn Leaders & Other Music for Worship	Music Director	music@community-ucc.org	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	
Jubilee Café	Meal Prep, Cook, Clean-up	Johnell Bentz	johnell.bentz@gmail.com	https://tinyurl.com/JubileeCafe-Volunteer



Weekly Zoom Meetings and Events at CUCC

Event	Day	Time	Meeting ID	Passcode	Join Zoom Meeting	Dial by Your Location
Worship	Sun	10:15AM	391 847 803	788969	https://zoom.us/j/391847803?pwd=ZmNvaHJYZm1uUUQrdTNBd2NRZThDZz09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Daytime Meeting	Any	Anytime	815 146 054	697698	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/815146054?pwd=UmMwdW01ZFVmV0hpZmxrRWNIUmhwdz09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Youth Group (6 th -12 th grade)	Sun	1:30PM	402 056 418	578953	https://zoom.us/j/402056418?pwd=SklXaFBUMIBZQ0lvNTFUNVhWeVF0QT09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Evening Worship & Other Gatherings	Any	6:30PM	847 5319 7334	675757	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84753197334?pwd=ZENQVDNjY0RQMWxNVXRjd2w3WDFVZz09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Pub Theology	Mon	7:15PM	954 5707 0801	902078	https://illinois.zoom.us/j/95457070801?pwd=WmIBN3AyVkFiTFBDUUtLMjNuZ0t4Zz09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Choir	Wed	7:00PM	326 389 912	854849	https://zoom.us/j/326389912?pwd=ZExZVWZqRkl4dFRvZEgrckVmQkY2Zz09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Monthly Zoom Meetings and Events at CUCC

Men's Breakfast	Monthly 1st Thu	7:00AM	829 1216 9514	636040	https://illinois.zoom.us/j/82912169514?pwd=NE9OR1dNaE9nOGZldTINUnR1SjlVUT09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
CUCC Retirees' Luncheon	Monthly 3 rd Tue	11:30AM	935 3696 7862	103227	https://illinois.zoom.us/j/93536967862?pwd=VndIN0Nab1FVcG5VWUdRWTViV	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)



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Uniting Pride Prom May 6

The event is held at the University YMCA in Champaign. Doors will open at 6pm for those interested in dressing up or having their hair or makeup done early, and the dance party begins at 6:30. The event will end at 9:30. The wonderful folks at Tricoci University assisting with hair and makeup.

The dance itself will begin at 6:30, with tunes provided by the marvelous DJ Silkee. The theme is "Iconic," and students are welcomed to dress up in honor of their favorite queer icons— past or present, fictional, or real. Masks will be required. RSVP at the link below.



[Queer Prom RSVP \(google.com\)](#)

Also, we're overjoyed to announce that **this event is now open to all middle- and high-schoolers who can make it, not just those in Champaign County**. For those in need of financial assistance to make the trip, we've set up a travel fund. The link below is for travel fund assistance for those outside Champaign County.

[Queer Prom Travel Fund \(google.com\)](#)

Want to help make this a night to remember?

We're looking for volunteers to chaperone the event and donations of formalwear to stock up our wardrobe. If you're interested in either, please reach out to montgomery@unitingpride.org for more details. We appreciate your support!

Sola Gratia Farm Annual Spring Plant Sale!



Jubilee Café partner, Sola Gratia Farm announces their annual spring plant sale just in time for Mother's Day and spring planting. Here is the information you need to visit the farm and purchase flowers, vegetables, or herbs starts for your garden.

It's that time of year when we lift our heads a bit more towards the sun, our steps quicken, and our green thumbs start twitching a bit. What better way to celebrate the first day of Spring than by announcing this year's Annual Spring Plant Sale!

This year, we are growing even more vegetable and herbs starts for your garden and we'll be sourcing our flowers from Urbana's very own Country Arbors Nursery!

Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted as well as LINK tokens, available at both Urbana and Champaign farmers markets.

Mark your calendars for **May 6-15**, open 9a-5p. We'll also be offering **farm tours** during the plant sale on **Saturdays May 7 and 14** at 10a, 12p and 2p. Come learn more about your community vegetable farm! Spring has SPRUNG!

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Contact CUCC:

805 S. Sixth Street, Champaign, IL. 61820 | 217-344-5091 | www.community-ucc.org | email: info@community-ucc.org
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday | 9am - 3pm