



Community UCC

We're worth our words

e-Communigram

Volume 61, Issue 9 – September 1-30, 2022

A Just Peace, Progressive, LGBTQ Open & Affirming Congregation

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Rally Day

Hello CUCC families!

School has begun, and that means it's time for Sunday School to resume at CUCC! We are so excited to welcome your kids back.

Weekly Sunday School will begin on **September 11th, Rally Day**. Pastor Leah will be handing out bibles to kids who did not receive one last year and will offer a blessing to our leaders and shepherds and all of the kids that will be participating in Sunday School this year.

Speaking of kids...we would love to know who we can expect this year! If you plan to have your kids attend Sunday School this year, even if it's not every week, please fill out the form so we have an idea of possible numbers and ages of kids. It will help us plan for the year.

[Google Form](#)

If your child did not receive a new bible last year, please email Julie at jemcclure4@gmail.com so we can get one ordered.

Interested in helping in Sunday School? We are building our list of leaders and shepherds. Leaders take charge of the lesson each week (lessons are provided for you!) and shepherds assist as needed. If you feel like you could serve once a month, twice a month, or even want to be a fill-in person as needed, email Julie at jemcclure@gmail.com. Teens and Campus Ministry students are welcome!

Julie McClure
Alison Andres

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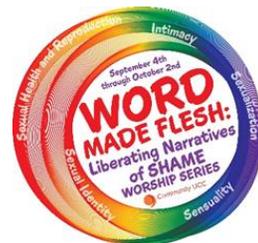
Letters from Leah

When we committed to becoming an OWL congregation, the most common response I got from CUCCers was, “Of course. Why haven’t we done this before?” That tracks given our long history of and public commitment to justice. Make no mistake: being a congregation that uses any of the Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education curricula is a matter of justice. The United Church of Christ national setting staff person responsible for the OWL program, Amy Johnson, is not a program director, nor a curriculum advisor. She is the Minister for Sexuality Education and Justice, Health and Wholeness Advocacy for our denomination...thanks be to God.

This sort of justice work is needed now, more than ever. OWL’s facilitator’s training manual affirms, “Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education and Sexuality and Our Faith curricula are refreshing, bold antidotes to a culture that is conflicted about sexuality and, therefore, saturated with mixed messages and misinformation. The curricula provide an opportunity to step back, reflect, and evaluate these messages, so that participants and their families can more effectively act on and communicate their religious and sexual values. Our Whole Lives and Sexuality and Our Faith create a partnership between the family and faith community, and they help parents fulfill their role as their children’s primary educators. The curricula support and nurture four sexuality values: Self Worth, Sexual Health, Responsibility, and Justice and Inclusivity. Participants learn how to embody these values in their own decision making and relationships and how to support others’ efforts to do so.”

OWL is an ecumenical justice venture between our denomination and the Unitarian Universalist Association. “Our religious heritages in the United Church of Christ and the Unitarian Universalist Association compel us to create safe settings where people can come to understand and respond to the challenges facing them as sexual beings. As faith communities, we promote justice for all people, and we affirm the dignity of every individual, the importance of personal responsibility, and the interdependence of us all.” Our UUA neighbors in Urbana are also hosting OWL classes this year. In fact, five of our teachers went to training with some of theirs and we are thrilled to have partners in this work for consultation and collaboration.

Implementing this program is an incredible commitment of time, money, and energy from our congregation. It seemed only fitting that we spread the wealth of that investment more widely. That’s how our fall worship series came to be. Between now and the first Sunday in October, a new worship series, Word Made Flesh: Liberating Narratives of Shame will explore what it means to be an embodied, sexual being and the ways in which common Christian narratives have perpetuated ignorance, indignity, misogyny, and heteronormativity among other injustices. The themes are based on the five circles of sexuality (see diagram) and will lift up the OWL program values of self-worth, sexual health, responsibility, justice and inclusivity. Each week, we will have A Word from the Therapist, as we hear from Rev. Jennifer Aull, co-pastor of Greenpoint Reformed UCC, Brooklyn, New York. (You will remember Pastor Jen from our joint Pentecost and Epiphany services. You might also recall that Rev. Aull is Rev. Ann Kansfield’s spouse.) In addition to being a pastor, Rev. Aull is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and a Certified Sex Therapist. It will be so good to have her clinical viewpoint in the theological mix. No doubt, these weeks will raise more questions than they will provide answers. At the end of each worship service, you are invited to submit questions. Rev. Aull and I will be answering those questions in the future. Please note, also, that while we are currently offering classes for 6th-10th graders, we plan to have a high school cohort in the future, and because people have asked only half joking, “Are there OWL classes for adults?” sending a few folks to be trained to lead the young adult and middle age/older adult curricula.



Here’s what you have to look forward to in worship over the coming weeks.

Date	Theme	Scripture
September 4	Word Made Flesh?: The Irony of a Disembodied Faith in an Incarnational God (Circle of Sexuality: Sexual health and Reproduction)	John 1:1-14
September 11	Do not press me to leave you: Caring, Vulnerability, and Trust (Circle of Sexuality: Intimacy)	Ruth 1
September 18	Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Mary: The Four Women of “sorted sexual histories” in the Genealogy of Jesus and why they matter (Circle of Sexuality: Sexualization)	Matthew 1:1-18a

September 25	<p>“Your Body is a Temple” and Other Churchy Phrases that Have Messed Us Up</p> <p>(Circle of Sexuality: Sensuality)</p>	<p>Song of Solomon 4-5:1</p> <p>Mark 14:3-9</p>
October 2	<p>“...And Jonathon loved him as he loved his own soul”: CUCC’s Annual LGBTQ+ Pride Celebration</p> <p>(Circle of Sexuality: Sexual Identity)</p>	<p>1 Samuel 18:1-4 and Genesis 37:3-4</p>

Blessings,



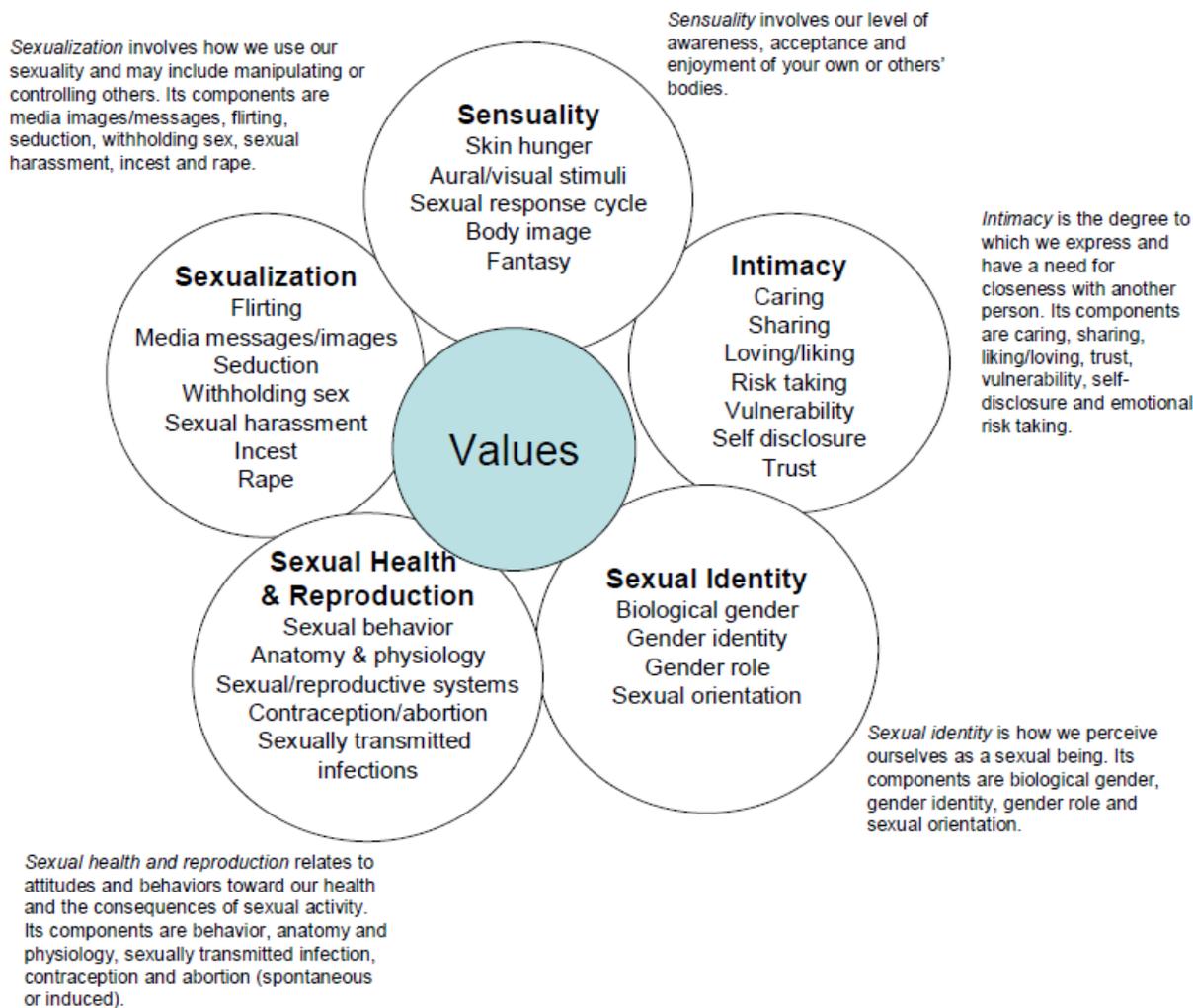
Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser



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The Circles of Sexuality

Sexuality encompasses nearly every aspect of our being, from attitudes and values to feelings and experiences. It is influenced by the individual, family, culture, religion/spirituality, laws, professions, institutions, science and politics.



Campus Ministry

Campus Ministry extends a warm welcome to students returning or just arriving at UICU and are so glad you all found Campus Ministry and CUCC.

September 9 – 11 Campus Ministry retreat

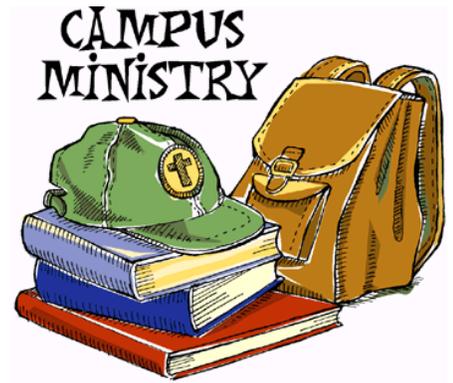
September 18th a CUCC Family is hosting the Campus Ministry students.

Campus Ministry gathers every Monday evening following Jubilee Café for the Jubilee After Party in the Parlor.

It sounds like Campus Ministry is off to a great start for 2022-2023.

Contact Pastor Nate Brantingham for more information about Campus Ministry.

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



CUCC Grounds Mowing Opportunities at CUCC

"Hi everyone. I know you are all dying to help with mowing, trimming, and trash pickup around the church and at 510 Daniel this summer. With that in mind I have created a sign-up genius. There is a mower and a trimmer to use at the church or you are welcome to bring your own equipment if you wish. Please go to this link to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0449A5AF2CA1FB6-mowing>

Thanks, Matthew



CROP (Hunger) Walk 2022

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

2022
CROP Hunger Walks

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

CROP Walk is a Church World Service program to raise awareness about food insecurity and to raise funds to combat it. It's an annual activity that's been going for at least 50 years. Donors are asked to sponsor walkers who do a six (or 3) mile walk in town. (Six miles is the typical distance a rural African woman walks each day to bring home water.) Money raised is used in our local community, in our nation, and around the world.

The 2022 walk is Sunday, October 2 and the walk starts at First Presbyterian in Urbana.

Register to walk or sponsor a walker at this link

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/team/community-ucc-3> or using the QR Code.



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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, September 18th** following worship, 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, September 18th at 11:30am - 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, September 25th at 11:30am - 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, October 2nd at 11:30am - 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, October 9th at 6:30pm - 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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OWL Schedule

6th-10th grade, 2022-23



Our Whole Lives helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their relationships, health and behavior in the context of their faith. It equips participants with accurate, age-appropriate information in six subject areas: human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior, sexual health, and society and culture. It provides not only facts about anatomy and human development, but helps participants to clarify their values, build interpersonal skills and understand the social, emotional and spiritual aspects of sexuality.

Some parents have asked questions about the curriculum itself. We are happy to show you the curricula. Each workshop is interactive, fun, and engaging. Assure your youth that they will not sit and be lectured to for hours.

If you are a parent of an OWL youth, please prioritize the following dates on your calendar. You want your youth to get the most out of this experience.

Date/Time/Location	Chapters
September 22, 6-8 pm	Parent Orientation 1: Program Overview
October 8, 5pm thru October 9, 4 pm, location TBA (times may differ depending on location)	1: What is Sexuality?
	2: Examining Values
	3: The Language of Sexuality
	4: Anatomy and Physiology
	5: Personal Concerns about Puberty
	6: Body Image
October 23, 11:30-3:15 (lunch until noon)	7: Gender Identity
	8: Gender Expression, Roles, and Stereotypes
November 13, 11:30-3:15 (lunch until noon)	9: Sexual Orientation
	10: Guest Panel
December 11, 11:30-3:15 (lunch until noon)	11: Sexuality and Disability
	12: Healthy relationships
	Parent orientation 2: Mid-Session Questions and Video Preview
January 7, 5pm thru January 8, 4 pm, location TBA (times may differ depending on location)	13: Relationship Skills
	14: Sexuality, Social Media, and the Internet
	15: Bullying and Bystander Responsibilities
	16: Redefining Abstinence
	17: Lovemaking
	18: Consent Education
January 22, 11:30-3:15 (lunch until noon)	Make up day (if needed)
February 12, 11:30-3:15 (lunch until noon)	19: Sexually Transmitted Infections
	20: Pregnancy, Parenting, and Teenage Parenthood
March 5, 11:30-3:15 (lunch until noon)	21: unintended Pregnancy Options
	22: Contraception and Safer Sex
April 2, 11:30-3:15 (lunch until noon)	23: Sexual Decision Making
	24: Communicating with a Sexual Partner
April 16, 11:30-3:15 (lunch until noon)	Make up day (if needed)
May 7, 11:30-3:15 (lunch until noon)	25: Self-care, Celebration, and Closure
May 21, 11:30-3:15 (lunch until noon)	Make up day (if needed)

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CUCC's Annual Sidney Dairy Barn Event

Bike/Drive/Kickball at Witt Park/Pizza in the Pavilion/Ice Cream Event

You won't want to miss this really fun event for all ages. Here is the schedule (please feel free to come to all of it or any part of it you wish) on **Sunday, September 25th**:

2:30 p.m. Bikers meet Tom Ward at the southwest corner of the Urbana Meijers parking lot (Be sure to have a light or some type of reflector on your bike as it may be getting dark on the ride home. Helmets are also recommended).



4:00 p.m. Drivers and bikers meet up at Witt Park in Sidney (306 Witt Park Road, Sidney)

4:15 p.m. Play a game of kickball, play at the playground or just relax, visit and cheer on the kickball folks.

5:00 p.m. Enjoy pizza and veggies in the park pavilion



5:45 p.m. Head to the Sidney Dairy Barn for ice cream and more visiting

At least by 6:30 p.m. Bikers head back to Urbana

News from the John Bandy Center

Photography as Prayer

You are invited to join our Photography as Prayer group Wednesday, September 14th, at 10 a.m. at Pekara on Springfield and Prospect. We will be sharing our experience with the fourth practice from the Photography as Prayer free app, "What You Don't Like." The app suggests, "Being clear about what displeases you is equally important as becoming clear about what pleases you. So today look for things you don't like, whatever they may be... You may feel a little like Oscar the Grouch, but it's fun." By doing this, we sharpen our skills of observation and learn how to articulate those observations visually. When we are clear about what we don't like, we can be more prayerfully open to changing-- the things we don't like and ourselves as well. We will also meet on September 25, location and practice to be announced later-- please check your weekly email and the yellow sheet on Sunday.



Biblical Self-Defense for LGBTQ Folk and Allies

Ever noticed how certain Biblical passages get used as weapons against LGBTQ folk? Learn the history and context of these so-called "clobber passages" AND learn what scripture passages affirm the goodness and worth of gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, transgender, and queer people at "Biblical Self-Defense for LGBTQ Folk and Allies" on **Wednesday, October 5, 2022, at 7:00pm at the Champaign Public Library Robeson Pavilion Room C.**

This year, the UP Center innovated with their workshop offerings. Pastor Leah will be serving on a panel on **Tuesday, September 27, 6:00pm – 9:00pm**, in-person at The Spurlock Museum or on the Uniting Pride's Facebook and YouTube links. We are proud to offer Biblical Self-Defense following Pride Weekend in CU.



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2022 CU Pride Fest Volunteers Needed

The CU Pride Fest is fast approaching. This year's Pride Fest is Saturday, **October 1, 2022**.

Once again, CUCC will be participating in both the Parade and hosting a booth at the festival.

The **Identity Team** (Keri Evans and Ramon Oswald, co-chairs) have identified many ways for you to participate and support the Pride Fest this year.



The **Identity Team** invites you to take several sheets of **rainbow hearts** home to cut out (on the table at the back of the sanctuary). Please return the cut-out hearts to the church office by September 28th. The hearts will be handed out at the **CU Pride Parade** on **October 1**.

Again, this year, CUCC will be well represented at **CU's Pride Fest**. We will **march in the parade** and hand out rainbow hearts.

- Need a person with a pickup truck
 - To drive in the parade
 - Need people to march in parade as able or ride in the truck (limited space) and handout rainbow hearts

Community United Church of Christ's **Booth** with the ever-popular **prayer door**

- Need people to help pick-up supplies from CUCC for the booth and deliver to festival and help set-up booth
- Need people to man booth throughout the day
- Need people to tear-down booth and load supplies from the festival and return them to CUCC at end of festival

Prayer Door

- Needs to be painted white on one side and medium gray on the other side
- Painting can be done any time in September before the CU Pride Fest

To volunteer, click on the Signup Genius link below or scan the QR code. Contact Keri Evans at kevans1984@yahoo.com with any questions or if you need help signing-up to volunteer. Thank you in advance for volunteering and supporting CU Pride Fest 2022.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4EAF928A5FBCF8-2022>



Help our Jubilee Guests and Support the Youth at the Same Time!

On Sunday, **September 18, from 5:30-7:30**, the youth group will be doing a supplies scavenger hunt for Jubilee Café. Here's how it works: look at the following supply list and decide what you'd like to donate to Jubilee. Sign up to be a scavenger hunt location – by signing up you must commit to being home on Sunday, September 18, from 5:30-7:30. That evening, each team of youth will be assigned a list of CUCCers to visit. They will collect supplies at each house. All supplies have point values. At the end of the evening, when all supplies are collected, we will tally the points and declare our Jubilee guests as the winners. It will be fun! Here's the list:

- Boxes of tampons
- Multi packs of wash cloths
- Rain ponchos (available at the Dollar Store)
- Unopened travel sized shampoo
- Unopened travel sized conditioner
- Unopened travel sized body wash
- Unopened travel sized toothpaste
- Adult sized coats and jackets



Talk with your CUCC neighbors and friends – pool your supplies and sign up accordingly. The youth will only be out and about for a little over an hour – let's help them make the most of their time. Sign up to be a collection site by contacting the office.

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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

August 15, 2022 -- Welcome back, students! Today began a week's worth of move in days at UIUC. We're glad to welcome our 50,000 favorite neighbors back. We served 54 chicken tex-mex lasagnas with a cucumber-tomato salad, plus 19 vegetarian versions of the same, and 9 heat-at-home meals. Our desserts were tres leches cake and chocolate mousse cake. We offered a plethora of vegetables from [Sola Gratia Farm](#), including banana peppers, okra, tomatoes, potatoes, cucumbers, green beans, onions, and more. Sweet corn was generously provided by researchers from the UIUC. We had a few vegetables and fruits that came in such small quantities, we didn't put them on the menu, but offered them to families, including two of the cutest watermelons ever.

Last week, CUPHD [Julie Pryde](#) dropped by to talk with me about evolving covid prevention measures, brought condoms for us to hand out, and brought a stack of info for us to give to guests. Folks listened to me explain what each pamphlet was and took what they needed -- never make assumptions about what you think people need - that was affirmed tonight for sure. The info was so popular, we needed to make more pamphlets mid-way through the night. People picked up information on PrEP (which reduces your chance of getting HIV from sex), Monkey Pox prevention and quarantine guidelines, needle exchange, opiates, and all the services CUPHD offers. Knowledge is power and I'm so grateful CUCC gets to provide people with life-saving information about their health and well-being.

I wonder what would happen if more churches resourced their communities like this. Too often, churches are silent about public health. And, some churches actively work against public health efforts -- oh churches, cut it out. People die when you decide to play morality police. If you are church person, would you check to see how your church can support public health in your community?

[#fromtheground](#)

[Community UCC, Champaign, IL](#)

Date	Hot Meals & Heat at Home
8/1/2022	59
8/8/2022	61
8/15/2022	82
8/22/2022	89
8/29/2022	123
Meals Served	414

Jubilee Café Looking for Volunteers

Jubilee Cafe is looking for volunteers. There are three options for volunteering. Serve & Clean-up 4:30pm -7:30pm, Prepare & Pack 3:30pm – 6:30pm, or Dishwasher/Kitchen Help 4:30pm – 7:30pm. Volunteers should be 18 or older and wearing a mask is required.

Questions: contact Johnell Bentz, jubilee.cafe@community-ucc.org.

Sign up

link: <https://m.signupgenius.com/#/showSignupUp/4090e45a5ae2caa8-volunteer12>

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Upcoming One-Time Events

Mark your calendars for these CUCC events!

Thursday, September 1 – Friday, September 30



Thursday, September 1, 7:00am: Men's Breakfast at Urbana Garden Restaurant

Wednesday, September 7, 7:00pm: Choir Rehearsal Resumes

Saturday, September 10, 8:45am – 1:30pm: Hallowing Our Days — A Retreat for Aligning Our Time Post Pandemic offered by the John Bandy Center for Spirituality and Faith

Sunday, September 11, 10:15am: CUCC Sunday Hybrid Classic Worship and Rally Sunday – Sunday School begins, new Bibles given out, Blessing of Sunday School Teachers

Sunday, September 11, 11:30am – 12:30pm: Youth walk to Cocomero

Wednesday, September 14, 10:00am: Photography as Prayer Group at Pekara

Sunday, September 18, 11:30am: Newcomers Group Session 1

Sunday, September 18, 5:30pm-7:30pm: Youth Jubilee Café Scavenger Hunt

Tuesday, September 20, 11:30am: CUCC Retired "Cool Kids" Lunch Gathering at Maize, Champaign

Tuesday, September 20, 6:30pm: CLB Monthly Meeting

Thursday, September 22, 6pm-8pm: Parents Orientation for Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education

Sunday, September 25: Photography as Prayer Group

Sunday, September 25, 11:30am: Newcomers Group Session 2

Sunday, September 25, 2:30pm: Sidney Dairy Barn Bike/Drive/Kickball at Witt Park/Pizza in the Pavilion/Ice Cream Event

Monday, September 26, 9:00am: September eCommunigram Articles Due

Tuesday, September 27, 6:00pm-9:00pm: UP Center Panel Discussion at The Spurlock Museum with Pastor Leah as a Panelist

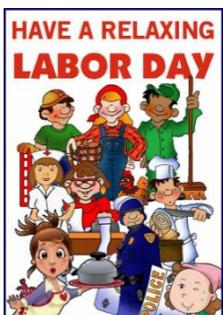
Coming in Early October:

Saturday, October 1: C-U Pride Fest and Parade

Sunday, October 2: 2022 Crop Walk

Wednesday, October 5, 7:00pm: Biblical Self Defense Workshop at the Champaign Public Library led by Pastor Leah

Be sure to check the CUCC Facebook page for updates.



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Mission Ministry

Volunteer Opportunity

Uniting Pride (UP center) is offering a way to help with this year's Pride Fest. They are creating a Peace Team, which is a group of volunteers who get training in de-escalation tactics to help keep Pride Fest safe for everyone. The training takes place from 12:00 - 4:00 pm on Saturday, September 17 and Sunday, September 18 via Zoom. The training is free if you sign up for a volunteer shift during Pride Fest. You can take the training without signing up for a shift, however, it is \$65. For more information (and a list of shifts to volunteer for), please visit <https://www.unitingpride.org/peaceteam>.

Neighbors In Need Offering Upcoming

One of our 5 for 5 offerings with the national United Church of Christ (UCC) is coming in October. **The Neighbors In Need** offering supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States, and this year's focus is **economic justice**. Be on the lookout for more information in coming weeks, and we will collect for this offering on **Sunday, October 2, and Sunday, October 9**.

Caminos Program Needs

Caminos Program through Cunningham Children's Home (which provides a temporary home unaccompanied immigrant minors until they can be reunited with family) continues to have needs that we can help with. They continue to need the items that are on the wish list we've sent out previously. But in addition, they need some bicycles, bike locks, and bike helmets. The email we received from Cunningham says: "We could use 3 adult/big kid bikes, 24-inch to 26-inch wheel size. Gently used or new bikes are welcome. We also need bike locks and new or never used bike helmets. We will also accept bikes as small as 18-inch wheels, but the majority of our youth are bigger and can universally use the larger or adult bikes." So if you have a gently used bike or are willing to purchase one, or a helmet or bike lock, this would be a great place to donate them! Jeanne or Kristy would be happy to help with pick up from you and transportation to Cunningham - just let us know!

Plants for Trauma and Resilience Initiative, Inc.

One of the local organizations that CUCC chose to partner with during our survey this spring was the Trauma and Resilience Initiative, Inc. This group in Champaign does much in the community. Their current focuses are:

- Educating and training individuals, families, organizations, groups and communities to increase the understanding of trauma, trauma informed care, resiliency, recovery, wellness and justice informed practices & principles.
- Increasing the support options that increase the capacity of communities to take care of their of their own and work to ensure that communities have community based, trauma informed, and culturally responsive neighborhood based tools, resources, services and supports
- Striving to impact community violence by supporting survivors, those impacted by community violence, and advocating for justice informed practices and activity working with stakeholders and leaders to address adverse community experiences and promote building resilience communities

In meeting with Karen Simms, Program Director, she suggested several ways that we might become involved. We will share more of those in the future, but for now, we wanted to get started with something that might be kind of easy! Trauma and Resilience Initiative is moving into a new office space: they are renting the parsonage building from Emmanuel Episcopal Church and are in the process of turning it into an amazing space for training, for therapy, for families to come when they have needs, etc. The building is full of windows, and Karen says that they would love to have a lot of plants to make the space green, homey, and inviting.

There is also an outside bed on the north side of the building that we are hoping to help with in order for it to be an inviting welcome to their space. More on that later.

For now, we will be accepting donations of inside plants of varying sizes and shapes. A few things are important: **the plants should be relatively low maintenance!** Although Karen says they will definitely be able to keep them watered, they honestly don't have time to do a lot of fussing! **Be sure that the plants you donate are in a nice container!** Karen was fine with a variety of colors, and they don't need to be expensive or fancy pots, but please be sure they are clean and that they have a saucer so the wooden sills are not damaged by water. The windows are on the south, west, and north sides of the building, but there is some

tree cover, so although the plants should get quite a bit of light, **they should probably not be plants that require bright sunlight.**

If you have or purchase plants to donate, we would be happy to get those from you and get them to Trauma and Resilience Initiative, Inc. We will take two shipments of plants over. A first shipment of plants was delivered on August 21. A second shipment will be made sometime in early September, and Kristy will be gathering plants for that. Please contact her if you have plants so you can coordinate a time for her to get them. Thanks for helping us help this organization become as welcoming and comforting as possible!

Mission Ministry Roundup and Thank You!!!

5k For Climate Justice

Thank you to everyone who participated in some way for the 5k for climate justice! We were able to raise **\$830** and had a total of 16 people participate.



One Great Hour of Sharing

Thanks to CUCC's very generous giving, we raised **\$420** for **One Great Hour of Sharing**, one of five special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ that CUCC participates in. This offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development of ministries of the UCC in the wider church ministries.



School Supply Collection



With CUCC's generous donations of school supplies, **30 school kits** were prepared and packed for Church World Services. Good job CUCC!

Your Mission Ministry Team Leaders,
Kristy Brownfield and Jeanne Ward



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Men's Breakfast

The Men of CUCC meet the first Thursday of each month for breakfast. Join us at 7:00am on **September 1** for breakfast if you feel comfortable venturing out to eat. We'd love to see you in person. Anyone who identifies as a man is welcome.



~Tom Ward
Urbana, IL
wardt508@comcast.net

CUCC Retired "Cool Kids" Monthly Lunch Group

This group gathers the third Tuesday of each month for lunch, fellowship, and fun. Contact Peg or Roger Wade if you would like to be added to their mailing list.



The September Retired "Cool Kids" Monthly Lunch will be Tuesday, **September 20, 2022**, at 11:30am at Maize in downtown Champaign.

News from the Hospitality Team

On Sunday, August 21st CUCC hosted our annual Quad Day Hot Dog Giveaway in the church parking lot after the worship service. As our church always does, we gave the students a warm welcome back to campus and handed out 416 all beef dogs, 42 veggie dogs, lots of cups of ice-cold water, as Pastor Leah gave out many You Are Loved stickers. Twenty-four volunteers helped out by doing one of these jobs in 1 of 2 shifts: grilling hot dogs, wrapping them in foil and cleaning up inside, being a runner, setting up or cleaning up outside and handing out the dogs and water while extending our CUCC welcome. Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers for making this hot dog giveaway day another successful and fun event. As always, we appreciate YOU!

The Hospitality Team
Peg Wade
Randy Musser



Individuals Together



On Saturday, August 27, 4 of us (including 2 guests) of the Individuals Together group dusted off our miniature golf skills at the Old Orchard Lanes in Savoy. It was a beautiful evening to be outside and while no one made a "Hole in One", we did have a fun time!

Individuals Together is CUCC's fellowship group for persons who live alone, for any reason, either part-time or full time. If you'd like to be on the email list for this group, please contact Linda Morgan, Commissioned Minister of Health at 217-649-3778.

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Opportunities to Serve as Liturgists, Greeters, and Ushers Abound



Get Involved in Worship

The Worship Ministry Team is seeking Liturgists, Greeters, and Ushers for August 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.

Liturgist: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fadaf2aa1fa7-liturgist5>

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-greeter5>

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-usher4>

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 the worship service.



September Worship Assistants

	September 4	September 11	September 18	September 25
Liturgist	Johnalene Radke			
Usher	Peg Wade			
Greeter	Campus Ministry Students			

A note from your Music Director

Hello, CUCC family! I am excited to resume choir and offer musical opportunities for your participation and enjoyment in the coming year. My goal is for choir to be a welcoming and rewarding experience for singers of all abilities. If you'd like to join us, the requirements are:

- vaccination
- mask
- attendance at Wednesday rehearsal to sing with choir on Sunday (contact me for exceptions)
- willingness to sing a variety of musical styles
- flexibility and grace for yourself and other musical participants



Our first rehearsal will be Wed. September 7; please be ready to sing at 7PM in the sanctuary. Sunday morning call times are announced Wednesday nights. Contact me with any questions you may have or to be added to our choir email list: music@community-ucc.org.

I hope to sing with you soon!

-Kathy Lee (she/her): music@community-ucc.org / 203-605-3830

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Youth Group

In this interim time of youth ministry at CUCC, Pastor Leah is working with the youth to plan fun and engaging events. Parent and other adult chaperones are needed. Please see the QR code or signup genius link listed here to sign up. In the meantime, parents, be sure you are part of the Group Me and mark the following dates on your calendar. Thanks to Kathy Lee for setting up the Group Me!



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0B4EAAAC2AA1FD0-chaperones>

Date, Time	Event	Chaperones	Notes
9/11, after church-12:30	Walk to Cocomero	2 needed	Youth should bring their own money to buy frozen yogurt
9/18, 5:30-7:30	Jubilee Café Scavenger Hunt	4 drivers needed	Congregation needs to sign up to participate
10/2, worship	Youth help serve communion	no	Youth should be at church at 9:45 am
10/16, After church-2 pm	Game day: Bring your favorite board games!	2 needed	Youth
10/30, 5-8:15 pm	Movie night: Harry Potter	2 needed	Potluck; bring pillows or something comfy for the floor
11/6, time TBA	Elevate trampoline park	2 needed	Details TBA
12/4, 5:30-7:30	Bigger, Better Scavenger Hunt	4 drivers needed	

Youth Sunday School teachers are needed. We are using a video-based curriculum. You press play and facilitate a conversation following. We plan to have a pared back schedule using a team of three teachers who rotate each month. If you are interested, please see Pastor Leah.

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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	spawlicki2@hotmail.com	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fadaf2aa1fa7-liturgist5
Worship Team	Greeter	Susan Pawlicki	spawlicki2@hotmail.com	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fadaf2aa1fa7-greeter5
Worship Team	Usher	Susan Pawlicki	spawlicki2@hotmail.com	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fadaf2aa1fa7-usher4
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



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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=VndIN0Nab1FVcG5VWUdRWTvIVhttps://illinois.zoom.us/j/93536967862?pwd=VndIN0Nab1FVcG5VWUdRWTvIV29oZz09	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)



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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