



Community UCC

We're worth our words

e-CommuniGram

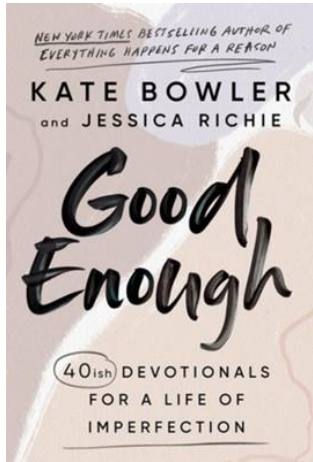
Volume 64, Issue 3 – March 1 – March 31

Just Peace, Progressive, LGBTQ Open & Affirming Congregation

Letters from Leah

Lent 2025 -- *Good Enough: Embracing the Imperfections of Life and Faith*

We live in a culture bent on definitions of a good life as continuous upward mobility—climbing ladders of prosperity with increasingly fabulous experiences that we can post to ever-more-likable social media accounts. We may comb the shelves of the self-help section in search of just the right formula to gain success. Perhaps we even gravitate towards spiritual leaders who promise great rewards if we only do “the right thing.” But life happens, right? Most times we are not moving upward but trying to repair the rung we’ve just slipped from. So what if we stopped climbing and started fertilizing, watering, and blooming right where we find ourselves? Welcome to a Lent of affirming a faith in which we are blessed, *regardless*, and where we can lean into embracing our “good enough” lives.



Much of this series draws on the wisdom of Kate Bowler’s book *Good Enough 40ish Devotions for a Life of Imperfections*. If you would like to order a book to follow along you can by going to

<https://katebowler.com/books/good-enough/#order>

Here's what you have to look forward to during the Lenten Season:

- **March 5**, Ash Wednesday the scripture text is Matthew 6:1-6, 16:21. The theme of the day is *Perfectionism is impossible. Transformation isn't*. Jesus used the word “hypocrite” to describe those who put on airs in public to make people believe that they were holy, that their religious practice was... well... perfect. But their hearts were actually not in the practice, rather in the rewards that public approval could bring them—which is here today, often gone tomorrow. Sometimes it is life itself that robs us of the shiny, perfect life that we had planned for ourselves. A diagnosis. A broken heart. A lost opportunity. This Lent, rather than change for “the best,” we’ll seek to gain momentum one day at a time, “to reach for a faith that is never perfect, but good enough” (Bowler/Richie).
- **March 9**, First Sunday of Lent, with scripture text being Luke 4:1-3 and the theme of the day *Ordinary lives can be holy*. We find ourselves hungry for many things that we believe will bring us satisfaction. The devil lays a bet that Jesus will jump at the chance for glory, fame, and the quick fix. Who wouldn’t? But Jesus keeps up the pithy one-liners long enough that the Tempter just has to slink away. What are the temptations that catch your ear, singing out promises that your life should be more special than it is? What if ordinary life is already holy—as is?

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- **March 16**, Second Sunday of Lent, scripture reading is Luke 13:31-35, and the theme of the day is *So much is out of our control*. Even Jesus got dang frustrated when folks didn't behave as he would have liked. We probably aren't receiving death threats from Herod as Jesus was, but our wellbeing could be threatened by the idea that if we just try hard enough, are nice enough, say just the right thing, life will always go our way. We run around in so many directions, trying to herd the chicks into some imagined semblance of perfect formation (have you ever tried to herd chicks?). What if we could let go of needing all things and all people to be "just so" and instead learn to dance with the unfolding of that which is not ours to control?
- **March 23**, Third Sunday of Lent. We'll look at Luke 13:1-9. The theme of the day is *Lots of things can be medicine*. Oh, the shame of the unproductive fig tree. Cut it down! Make room for a more dedicated and hard-working fig tree! Who among us is living up to our fullest potential? The productivity experts these days can diagnose what's wrong and sell us the antidote in 3 amazing sessions for a low-low price that is guaranteed to turn our lives around. But the gardener offers an alternative medicine—nurture it slowly, letting it soak in the manure all around until it can get the good stuff out of it. Lying fallow and getting fertilized with laughter and tears at the crappy stuff of life can help heal what ails us and that is sometimes productive enough.
- **March 30**, Fourth Sunday of Lent and Luke 15:1-3, 16-32 is the scripture of the day. The theme of the day is *We often believe we are the problem*. The Prodigal Son lives high on the hog and then famine strikes in the land of his dream vacation. And so he heads home, tail between his legs, expecting that he has lost it all. To his surprise, his extravagant failure is met with extravagant love and grace. We can be pretty hard on ourselves when things don't go as planned. Guilt, shame, and fear of being seen as a failure can leave us wallowing in the pig pen. Our delusions of a perfectible life keep us disappointed in ourselves. Truth is, life is a big ole risk every single day and facing whatever each day holds is not only good enough, but worthy of love and grace.
- **April 6**, Fifth Sunday of Lent and John 12:1-8 is our scripture reading. The theme of the day is *We are fragile*. Jesus speaks the words no one wanted to admit: he was not always going to be around. "Oh, don't say that," so many of us have said to a loved one who speaks the truth about the fragility of life. Perhaps we get uncomfortable because it reveals the precious nature of the present moment, laying bare the beauty and horror of it all. The indescribable pain we know we will one day face invades our senses like a pervasive perfume, inescapable. What if we stopped denying the limited nature of our lives and breathed in deeply the fragrance of vulnerability?
- **April 13**, Palm/Passion Sunday we'll look at Luke 19:28-40. The theme of the day is *You are a group project*. Jesus orchestrated a low-budget parade into a city where he knew his days were numbered. "Get me a colt," he said. Not a steed. Not a float. A young, green donkey (not the color, that's horse-speak for not-ridden-a-lot-yet). And folks gathered and his friends started some liturgical shouting that ticked off the local priests. Life is hard and we all need friends and sometimes big, loud, praying that will not be messed with. We are created for interdependence. So all our hiding and pretending that we are "perfectly fine" all on our own just won't work. Get on the donkey when you need to and let people lay down their cloaks for you and make some noise for you. 'Cause you know you'll do it for them too when the chips are down.
- **April 19**, Good Friday our scripture reading for the day is John 18:1-19, 42 and the theme of the day is *Even today, God is here and somehow, that is good enough*. Some days are just lousy and that doesn't even begin to cover it. The first recorded use of "guode friday" was in the South English Legendary, a text from 1290. Calling a day "good" was a way to denote a time of holy observance, not judge it as a pretty solid "8" on the scale of fabulousness. What if even our lousiest days could be experienced as a holy observance of the reality that this *is* life? Perhaps the "good news" in the midst of the devastation is that God is buried with us in our deepest pain, wrapping us, holding us until we can move through that birth canal once again into renewed life.
- **April 20**, Easter Sunday we'll read John 20:1-18 and the theme of the day is *A Good Enough Faith*. Easter is tricky when it comes to faith. We come for the happy ending—the "and then they lived happily ever after." The resurrection story proclaims hope over despair and life over death, yet we know that life continued, and continues for us, as a story of spiking heartbreak moments that are not forever fixed. The nature of being created for love is that we will always hunger for more, that there is never enough life and love to satisfy. And endings are often too soon. But perhaps a good enough faith is one that moves through the chronic nature of being incurably human with an eye for resurrection moments that assure us that this good enough life is worthy of our amazement.



Ashes to Go



Lent begins Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Receive the Imposition of Ashes and Communion from Pastor Leah and Pastor Nicole on the corner of 6th and Daniel from **11:45am to 1:00pm**, or for inclement weather, on the porch of the 6th Street door.

Unable to stop by during the day, join us for **Ash Wednesday worship at 7:00pm** Wednesday, March 5 in the Sanctuary.

Daylight Savings Time

Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 am **Sunday, March 9**. Remember to turn your clocks forward 1 hour on Saturday before retiring for the evening or you will be late for worship on Sunday. It is also a good time to check the batteries in your smoke detectors.



Community Building News



The Identity Ministry Team and Community Building Ministry Team are working together to offer **new CUCC t-shirts** this year. Keri Evans has graciously agreed to design a couple shirts for us to vote on. We plan to have the shirt designs ready for you to **vote for your favorite** one at the **Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 20th**.

But first, we need your help! Keri would like to get some theme/saying ideas (for front and/or back of the shirts). If you have an idea for a theme and/or saying for the front or back of our new CUCC t-shirts, please send your idea to Keri Evans at: 217-714-4760 (text) or kevans1984@yahoo.com (email) by **Sunday, March 16th**.

We hope you will plan on attending the Easter Breakfast and vote for your favorite shirt! After the top vote getting shirt is selected, we will let you know shirt prices and begin taking orders for shirts.

-Keri Evans, Identity Team

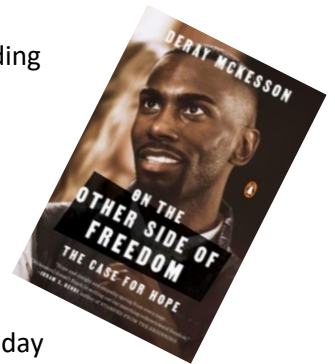
- Peg Wade, Community Building Team

Pub Theology News

Pub Theology, the CUCC book group, is about to begin a new read. Starting March 4, we will be reading *On the Other Side of Freedom: The Case for Hope* by DeRay Mckesson.

"In August 2012, twenty-nine-year-old activist DeRay Mckesson stood with hundreds of others in the streets of Ferguson, Missouri, to push a message of justice and accountability. These protests, and others like them across the country, resulted in the birth of the Black Lives Matter movement. Now, in his first book, Mckesson draws from his own experiences to offer a new framework for understanding the nature of oppression and exhorts all Americans to dismantle the legacy of racism."

If you'd like to join us reading this book, we meet in the Fellowship Hall downstairs on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm. Come join us. Contact Tom Ward at wardt508@comcast.net to be added to the Pub Theology email list.



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Mission Ministry

News from your Mission Team

Hello good people of CUCC! We have a couple of important things happening in the month of March, and we want you to know about them!

CUCC Adult Mission Trip!



Mission Trip

We are happy to report that we have **13 people** signed up to attend our mission trip in mid-March! We will be *leaving bright and early on March 15th* to carpool down to Asheville, NC and will be working with our friends at Land of the Sky United Church of Christ. (We will also be making the church our home away from home while we are down there!) Our mission will be to help in whatever way we can with flood recovery efforts for the many, many people who were affected by floods after Hurricane Helene last fall. Recovery efforts will be going on for years, and we are hoping to do a little part toward that end. We will *return on March 20th*. We are having an **orientation meeting** for those going on the trip on **Sunday, March 2nd**, right after worship, and will be **commissioning the team** of participants during worship on **March 9th**. If you were not able to go with us this time, we hope that you will pray for us while we are gone! We'll be excited to share more about what we learn and do on the trip with you when we get back.

Lenten Project

If you are a person who has thought you have to “give up something” for Lent, we have an alternative for you! As has become our tradition during the past few years, perhaps you can do something instead that will help raise funds for some very present needs in our world at this moment. Our **CUCC Lenten Project for 2025** is ready to go with a theme of “**Thrive and Flourish**”! We will be raising funds for 2 important causes. The first of these is related to our Mission Trip. We will be raising funds for **Land of the Sky United Church of Christ’s Flood-Recovery-Fund**. This will enable them to have funds available for the many things that come up as people rebuild their homes and livelihoods. Secondly, we will raise funds for the “**New American Welcome Center**” here in Champaign County. This organization works to co-create a community where all immigrants can thrive and flourish. Although the Welcome Center has a number of valuable programs, one of the programs which they are currently ramping up are the “Know Your Rights” workshops and canvassing. They want to be sure that immigrants in our community are well aware of their rights if they are stopped by law enforcement or Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers (ICE) and are working hard to get the word out in a variety of languages. (Incidentally, if you see one of these workshops publicized near you, you may want to go to it - Jeanne went to one last week and learned a LOT!) Having some additional funds at their disposal will help to facilitate these workshops and materials used as well as paying for others to staff the office as regular staff are out in the community.

Our goal for the “Thrive and Flourish” Lenten Project is \$6000, and whatever funds are raised will be divided evenly between these two causes. In the past, some people have set aside some money every day or every week during Lent. Others choose to make one donation during the campaign. Whatever works best for you will be most welcome! If you want to donate, you can do so in one of the following ways:

1. Write a check to CUCC with the words “Lenten Project” on the memo line.
2. Put Cash in one of the offering envelopes you find in the pews - be sure to mark on the envelope that it is for the Lenten project and if you'd like to be credited for the donation, be sure to put your name and address.
3. Donate on the church website, by going to community-ucc.org and clicking donate. By March 9th there will be a tile available which will enable you to specify your donation for the Lenten Project, and we hope you will make use of it!

We hope to bring individuals from the two groups to help us learn more during Lenten mission moments.

-- Jeanne and Patty



Springside Dinners

The date for the Springside Dinners this year will be Sunday, March 30th. The dinners provide a venue for getting to know members of the congregation in an informal setting. Please consider participating, the dinners are a lot of fun.

The dinners all take place on the same night, **March 30th**, and run from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. A certain number of congregation members offer to host a dinner in their home and to prepare a dinner entree. Once the number of interested participants has been determined, 5-8 participants are assigned to each host. The host then contacts the participants to let them know the location of the dinner and asks the participants to bring something to contribute to the dinner (appetizer, bread, salad, vegetable, dessert). *One last rule, no church business is to be discussed; the purpose of the dinners is to have time to learn more about individuals in our congregation and to have fun.* The dinners are open to all church members, friends, visitors, college students and youth.

If you would like to participate, please fill out the form included in the newsletter and return it to the church office no later than **Sunday, March 16th**. You can also text or email the required information to Peg Wade at 217-369-0474 or peg.wade@comcast.net There will also be forms available at the sign-up table in the parlor during the end of February thru mid-March. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Peg at the email, phone or text listed above.



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The Springside dinners follow a few simple rules. The dinners all take place on the same night, in this case, **Sunday, March 30th and run from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** A certain number of congregation members offer to host a dinner in their home and to prepare a dinner entrée. Once the number of interested participants has been determined, 5-8 participants are assigned to each host. The host then contacts the participants to let them know the location of the dinner and asks the participants to bring something to contribute to the dinner (appetizer, bread, salad, vegetable, dessert). *One last rule, no church business is to be discussed; the purpose of the dinners is to have time to learn more about individuals in our congregation and to have fun.*

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If you would like to participate, please fill out the form below and return it to the church office no later than **Sunday, March 16th**. You can also email the required information listed below to Peg Wade at peg.wade@comcast.net There will also be forms available at the sign-up table in the parlor during March. If you have questions about the dinners, please contact Peg at the email address above or text or call her at 217-369-0474.

Springside Dinner Participation Form

I am interested in attending the **Springside Dinner on March 30, 2025, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** (If you want to attend the dinner with a partner, spouse or friend please only fill out one form and list both names.)

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Dietary or other restrictions or allergies: _____

Need transportation _____ Can provide transportation _____

Am willing to host a dinner in my/our home: yes _____ (can host _____ number of guests, including hosts)

Other comments:

Please return the bottom half of this form to the office no later than Sunday, March 16th.

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Hospitality Team Catch the St. Patrick Spirit



In the Spirit of St. Patrick's Day, we encourage you to wear your green on Sunday, March 16 and invite you to bring your favorite green baked goodies and snacks to share after service. Contact Rocio by phone or text at 217-418-6185 with questions.



Hospitality Team Game Night

Mark your calendar and plan to join us for Hospitality's F³ "Friendly, Fun, Friday" Game Night on Friday, March 28 from 6:00-9:00pm.

Bring a friend

Play some games

Enjoy some pizza & drinks

You are welcome to bring a snack to share or a game to play. The Hospitality Team is seeking game station hosts. To volunteer to be a game station host or for questions contact Rocio by text or phone at 217-418-6185.



Notes from your Music Director



I hope you are looking forward to our Lenten season of music. Below you will find the March choir schedule:

- 3/2 Choir sings during worship
- 3/5 Ash Wednesday service - choir rehearses at 6:20PM
- 3/9 Choir sings during worship
- 3/12 Choir rehearsal 7PM
- 3/16 Choir is on break; soloist and piano during worship
- 3/19 No rehearsal - Spring break
- 3/23 Choir sings during worship
- 3/26 Choir rehearsal 7PM
- 3/30 Choir sings during worship

As always, new singers aged 14+ are welcome to join us at any time once or regularly, and younger singers should contact me about special opportunities. If you plan to sing with us on a Sunday, please attend Wednesday's rehearsal. We rehearse Wednesdays@7PM in the basement choir room, and on Sundays, singers should pick up music in the choir room and be ready to sing in the sanctuary at 9:30. I can offer learning tracks if reading music is an obstacle for you. Email me to be added to the choir email list where I send reminders and give access to music learning tracks.

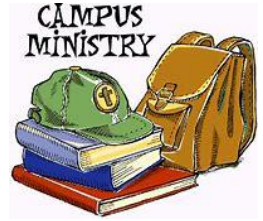
Contact me for more information about music at CUCC: 203-605-3830, music@community-ucc.org

Campus Ministry

Celebrating and Building from Queering Faith



Thank you to everyone who helped make our 8th Queering Faith event a meaningful and inspiring evening! With 73 attendees, including 21 students (3 high school and 18 college/graduate students), we created a welcoming space for deep conversation and connection. We are especially grateful to so many church members and students who volunteered their time and energy to make the event run smoothly. We definitely got out the message – “You are loved.” Check out the [wonderful article the Daily Illini](https://dailyillini.com/life_and_culture-stories/2025/02/09/queering-faith-event-reconciles-gender-identity-god/) did on the event at https://dailyillini.com/life_and_culture-stories/2025/02/09/queering-faith-event-reconciles-gender-identity-god/



Building on this momentum, our Queering the Bible Study — co-hosted with St. Andrew’s Church and Campus Ministries — meets Mondays at 3 p.m., offering students a space to explore scripture through a queer-affirming lens. We’re also looking forward to our Spring Retreat on March 14-15, another opportunity for students to grow in faith and community.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our campus ministry — it truly makes a difference in the lives of these students!



Youth Ministry

Youth @ Queering Faith & Exciting Faith Formation Opportunities



Before the Queering Faith event, we hosted Youth @ Queering Faith, a special gathering where three of our high schoolers and their parents engaged in open conversation with three LGBTQ panelists from our congregation. This was a unique opportunity for the youth to ask honest questions about faith, gender, and sexuality in a supportive, affirming space. Afterward, they were ready to hear Rev. Malcolm Himschoot’s story of resilience and heartbreak retold in his

book, *Reading Secrets*.

Looking ahead, we’re excited to launch a reimagined Confirmation program that focuses on Faith Basics, offering a fresh approach to exploring Christian identity and beliefs for middle and high schoolers. We also invite everyone to our *intergenerational class*, “What’s Lent?” taught by Pastor Nicole on **Sunday, March 2, from 9-10 a.m.** in the parlor, where we’ll learn about this sacred season and how you can practice it in your home.

Thank you for supporting our youth as they ask big questions and grow in their faith!

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**John Bandy Center
Spiritual Gift Workshop April 6**



To suit the needs of the congregation better, we have shifted the Spiritual Gifts Retreat to a Workshop.

Join us on **Sunday, April 6** following worship for a Spiritual Gifts Workshop. Light snacks will be provided; however, you are welcome to bring a brown bag lunch to eat during the workshop.

Spiritual Gift Inventories will be available for pickup **Sunday, March 2**.

Please complete the Inventory and return to the gray bin in the office for **scoring** by Pastor Leah and Pastor Connie no later than **Sunday, March 30**.



Beautify the Worship Space for Easter



As Ash Wednesday and the Lenten season quickly approaches it is time to think about ordering flowers to beautify the worship space for Easter Resurrection Worship. Order forms to purchase Lilies, Hyacinths, Tulips, or Daffodils will be in the worship bulletins **March 9, 16, and 23. March 23 is the deadline to place your order for Easter Flowers.** Please make checks payable to CUCC with Easter Flowers noted on the memo line.

Jubilee Cafe

Jubilee Café requires many volunteers to make everything run smoothly. If you would be willing to volunteer, anyone older than 14 is welcome to come and help at Jubilee Café. There are still many open slots on many of the Monday nights volunteer list. Please look at the list and consider volunteering. If you are willing to volunteer, go to the sign-up link at <https://tinyurl.com/mry8wbum> contact the office info@community-ucc.org for more information.

Date	Meals Served
2/3/2025	81
2/10/2025	84
2/17/2025	85
2/24/2025	94
Meals Served	344



February 3, 2025 -- I love to stop and just take in the room at [Jubilee Cafe CUCC](#). At any given moment, I can look around and see people of every age, every gender, every skin color, every socio-economic status, every sexual orientation, and so many different religions. Tonight I heard four different languages in this room. And, friends, this is America. I love it.

Eating together, especially in these post pandemic days when we all got far too comfortable with takeout, is a radical act. Creating community with strangers, in these distrustful days, is a radical act. Serving people, in this age of selfishness, is a radical act. Creating a space where we say we will serve you and love you no matter who you are, in a moment when so many people are undoing who they are, is a radical act. These ordinary things are made extraordinary by our collective power. Where are the radical acts happening in your life?

Tonight our guests feasted on a cheese and veggie quiche with roasted potatoes and turnips, plus a green salad on the side. We offered a variety of desserts including brownies, housemade apple bread pudding, blueberry cobbler, and a pumpkin pie with whipped cream. It's the beginning of the month and today was gorgeous. We think those two things combined for a slower night. We served 65 hot meals and 16 heat at homes.

A special shout out to the UIUC student group Interfaith in Action for coming in on Sunday and making desserts.

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

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Upcoming One-Time Events

Mark your calendars for these CUCC events!

Saturday, March 1 – Monday, March 31



Sunday, March 2, 9:00am: Intergenerational Class *What is Lent?* with Pastor Nicole in the Parlor

Sunday, March 2, 10:15am: Traditional Hybrid Worship, Transfiguration Sunday

Sunday, March 2, 11:30am: Mission Trip Orientation Meeting

Wednesday, March 5, 11:45am – 1:00pm: Ashes to Go corner of 6th and Daniel St.

Wednesday, March 5, 7:00pm: Ash Wednesday Worship

Thursday, March 6, 7:00am: Men's Breakfast at restaurant to be determined. Contact Tom Ward.

Sunday, March 9, 2:00am: Daylight Savings Time Begins, turn clocks forward one hour

Sunday, March 9, 10:15am: Traditional Hybrid Worship, First Sunday in Lent with Commissioning of Mission Trip Team

Monday, March 10, 12:45pm: Staff Meeting

Tuesday, March 11, 8:30am: Just 4 Fun BBREFFAS monthly breakfast gathering at Perkins. RSVP to Rocio.

Wednesday, March 12, 5:00-7:00pm: Campus Ministry Cooking with Anna and Carmen

Friday, March 14: Campus Ministry Spring Retreat

Saturday, March 15, 8:00am: Mission Trip Team leaves for Asheville, NC

Sunday, March 16, 10:15am: Traditional Hybrid Worship, Second Sunday of Lent – wear green, share green treats

Tuesday, March 18, 11:30am: CUCC Retiree's Monthly Lunch Outing at Bunny's Tavern in Urbana

Tuesday, March 18, 6:30pm: CUCC CLB Monthly Meeting

Thursday, March 20: Mission Trip Team returns to Champaign, IL

Sunday, March 23, 10:15am: Traditional Hybrid Worship, Third Sunday of Lent

Monday, Monday 24, 9:00: Articles due for March eCommuniongram

Friday, March 28, 6:00-9:00pm: Friendly, Fun, Friday Game Night

Sunday, March 30, 10:15am: Traditional Hybrid Worship, Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 30, 6:00-8:00pm: Springside Dinners at various locations around Champaign-Urbana



Be sure to check CUCC Facebook page for updates.

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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 Thursday, March 6, 2025**, for breakfast.

Contact Tom Ward if interested in attending as the gathering location is still being determined.

Anyone who identifies as a man is welcome to join us for breakfast, although it was reported that some renegade wives joined the men for breakfast in January.

~Tom Ward (wardt508@comcast.net)

Just 4 Fun BREFFAS



We had **9 folks** gather for breakfast on February 25 at Perkins. Our next Just 4 Fun BREFFAS breakfast gathering is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 11** at 8:30am. Everyone is invited to attend. If you would please RSVP if you're coming it will help us know how many tables, we'll be needing. You can text Rocio @ 217-418-6185 OR call and leave a message. Remember you are still welcome to join us whether you RSVP or not ...orders will be placed by 8:45am to be cognizant of everyone's time. Thank you all for participating and gathering in community.



CUCC Retiree's Monthly Lunch Group



Retiree's Enjoy Lunch Together

We had 13 retirees at our lunch on February 18th at Smith Burgers in downtown Champaign. I think we all agreed that their burgers rank among the best in the C-U area. We also enjoyed celebrating Nancy Elliott and Sue Osborne as we sang Happy Birthday to them.

Our next lunch will be on **Tuesday, March 18th** at Bunny's in Urbana. Watch for an email from us in March. - Roger & Peg Wade



Worship Ministry

Liturgy is defined as the work of the people, the community gathered for worship. This is one of the reasons Liturgists, Greeters, Ushers, the Choir, and others participate in the leadership of worship. Worship is not just the pastor's role. Many voices add richness to the worship experience for all.

To sign-up online to serve as an usher or greeter, scan the QR Code or go to <https://tinyurl.com/cuccgu>

Sign up to serve as liturgist, usher, or greeter on the paper the sign-up sheets for March and April 2025 located in the Parlor.



Raise Right



When you purchase gift cards from Raise Right you save yourself the trouble of going to a store to purchase a gift card and help Community United Church of Christ. Think of Raise Right for your gift giving needs for graduation and other spring events.

To create a **Raise Right** account, go to the <https://www.raiseright.com> and click on the "signup" button to begin the process of "Joining" an existing program and then enter Community United Church of Christ's enrollment code number: **279D2C266L1L9** to complete the process.

If you encounter any problems during your enrollment process, call 1-800-727-4715, option 3 for assistance or contact Jen Robbennolt at Jennifer.robbennolt@gmail.com. The previous Raise Right Tips have been collected into one document and are attached here for your reference.



RaiseRightTips.pdf

Kelly's Kitchen

The mission of Kelly's Kitchen is "promoting healthy nutrition in the whole community, with a focus on providing education on ways to access healthy food, explore employment possibilities in the food and beverage industry for people with disabilities, ensure food security, and learn healthy preparation techniques.

CUCC's very own **Eva Houston** is a member of Kelly's Kitchen. Eva graduated from the University of Illinois where she received her Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Science and studied food systems. As a wheelchair user, Eva enjoys being an advocate for the disability community while making a difference in the national food system. Eva invites the CUCC community to explore Kelly's Kitchen webpage at <https://www.kellys-kitchen.org/> and explore and participate in all the options offered by Kelly's Kitchen.



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Volunteer Opportunities

CUCG Team	Opportunity	Contact	Contact Info	Online Sign-Up
Worship Team	Technical Help	Office Manager	info@community-ucc.org	
	Usher, Greeter	Office Manager	info@community-ucc.org	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0B4EAAAC2AA1FD0-worship
	Liturgist	Worship Ministry		Paper Sign in Parlor
Prayer Team	Team Member	Office Manager	Info@community-ucc.org	
Children's Ministry	Event Planner/Leader	Rev. Nicole Havelka	nicole@ucccampusministry.org	
Jubilee Café	Meal Prep, Cook, Clean-up	Office Manager	info@community-ucc.org	https://tinyurl.com/JubileeCafe-Volunteer



Zoom Meetings

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=UmMwdW01ZFhmV0hpZmxrRWNIUmhwdz09	+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)



Contact CUCG:

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