



Money Matters

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Weekly insights into generosity, Conference finances, and being stronger together.

This week's Offering

***Acting Associate Conference Minister serving Chicago Metropolitan Association,
Rev. Dr. Terrill Murff brings this week's thoughts on Money***

The winds of Pentecost have blown, and tongues of fire have fallen on those of us who have been waiting. Waiting seems to take “forever”... especially when we are not sure when the end is not in sight. We are waiting for a return to an uncertain “normal.” No one knows what this uncertain normal should or will look like. However, ...we wait. As we “wait” I read information from the Chicago Data Portal indicating that 41.7% of Chicagoans have been vaccinated for COVID-19. The wait to gather “In-Person” again is coming to an end. Smaller congregations have already started to re-gather. Medium size congregations are planning their re-gathering services.



Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have been told that the best way to fight the COVID-19 virus was to be vaccinated. As a matter of fact, many scientists believed that the best way to eliminate the COVID-19 virus is to be vaccinated. Three companies have developed vaccines to fight the COVID-19 virus... the wait is over.

As churches have begun planning the return to “in-person” worship services. Congregations have patiently waited for the winds of change to blow. Many members who are returning to “in-person” worship, on the other hand, want things to be the same as they were. The winds have blown, and we now have a better ability to fight the devastating effects of the COVID-19 virus because of the newly developed vaccines.

The more people who receive the vaccines are helping us to become... “stronger together.” The stronger we are together the better we can support the ministries of the Illinois Conference. The ministries of the Illinois Conference need financial support from our local churches in the form of Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM).

We are now past the halfway point of 2021. As we review the OCWM contributions to date, we are behind last year’s contributions. We have applied for the Payroll Protection Program (from the Federal government, and we will not be receiving a loan/grant for 2021. We desperately need our churches to “step in” and contribute to the ministries of the Illinois Conference with your OCWM contributions.

We are really encouraging those churches who have not yet given, to consider contributing to the ministries of the Illinois Conference, which are wider than their current reach. In order to do an effective, life-transforming ministry... money really matters.



And we Celebrate!!!

The diversity of all of God's children!



Picture credit: [Open and Affirming Coalition UCC](#) (Facebook Page)



Who we are

The Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ is made up of all of the churches, members, clergy and covenant partners affiliated with the United Church of Christ in the northern half of Illinois. The shared work of the Conference is funded primarily

DONATE NOW

Support the work of the Illinois Conference with your gifts today!

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