



From the Acting Conference Minister

"Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." (Ephesians 4:1-3)



Char Burch

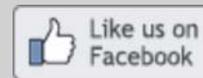
Humility? Gentleness? Patience? This is not easy in our world filled with division and injustice. It is not easy when we are convinced we are right and need to challenge those who have a different perception. It is difficult to have humility, gentleness and patience! But perhaps in the midst of the challenge, the key is to focus on "bearing one another in love."

The Illinois Conference is in the midst of conversations about how best to be a "conference together." The Sustainability Committee has been listening to individuals and groups about what people hope from our life together as a conference, remembering that there is no "them" without a "we".

The Conference is also in a leadership transition. On Oct. 29, Rev. Justo Gonzales will begin as Interim Conference Minister, providing insights and guidance through the transitional time.

Transition can be confusing, but it is also a wonderful opportunity! It is a time to re-consider using the words of St. Paul, "your calling to which you have been called" -- a calling as an individual Christian, as a church, as a conference. What does it mean to work together?

The Apostle Paul knew of divisions, of differing opinions, but he also knew that it is a focus on the Spirit that can unite and make a difference. The Illinois Conference has



QUICK LINKS

- [Illinois Conference UCC](#)
- [Chicago Metropolitan Association](#)
- [Eastern Association](#)
- [Fox Valley Association](#)
- [Western Association](#)
- [Prairie Association](#)
- [Pilgrim Park Camp](#)
- [Tower Hill Camp](#)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ASSOCIATION FALL MEETINGS**
- Chicago Metropolitan and Fox Valley Association**
Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018;
Union Church of Hinsdale
Hinsdale, Ill.;
[more info will follow.](#)
- Eastern Association**
Saturday, Sept. 15, 2018
St. John's UCC,
Kankakee, Ill.
[Click here for more info](#)
- Western Association**
Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018
St. John UCC,
Minier, Ill.;
[more info will follow](#)
- Prairie Association**

within it pastors, lay leaders, and local churches that are amazing and filled with a spirit that can lead and encourage all of us to move forward, calling upon the Spirit of God.

My time with you as the "Acting Conference Minister" is coming to a close. It has been an honor to be among you during this short time and to work with a very dedicated staff. You will be in my prayers, and I will be excited to see how God keeps moving within the Illinois Conference, leading to newness while calling for faithfulness to your calling.

Blessings,
Char Burch
Acting Conference Minister

Report from the Interim Associate Conference Minister for Stewardship and Church Vitality

"Behold I am about to do a new thing..." (Isaiah 43:19a, NRSV)

This verse has become my mantra while working with you, the congregations and pastors of the Illinois Conference. Even when I hear and see the concern among folks about their church's future or frustration and anxiety about the world around us, I believe that God is still doing new things, for example:

- We just completed a **21st Century Stewardship** Workshop with 27 churches getting ideas and inspiration from speakers Rev. Michael Piazza and Rev. Eugene Grimm;
- Nine of our local churches across the Conference are receiving **consultation and coaching** from either the Center for Parish Development (CPD) or the Center for Progressive Renewal (CPR);
- Our **Visiting Disciples** ministry of building connections with churches is holding its third orientation and training session on Saturday, Sept. 22, at Covenant UCC in South Holland;
- We are starting several new **CCOP (Clergy Community of Practice)** groups that give pastors



Rev. Michael Piazza leading workshop on "21st Century Stewardship Technology and Millennial Generosity".

Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018
First Congregational UCC
Marseilles, Ill.
"Drawing on Deep Wisdom"
with
Rev. Dr. Kirsten Peachey
and Nancy Sayer;
[more info will follow](#)

**Faith In Place:
Green Team Summit**
Saturday, Sept. 22, 2018,
10:00 a.m.
Field Museum,
Chicago, Ill.
[Info and registration here](#)

**Israel and Palestine:
A Weekend for Peace
and Justice**
Sept. 22 and 23, 2018,
[Click here for more info](#)

**8th Annual
Women's Retreat
"Biblical Women of
Power, Persistence and
Perseverance"**
Sept. 28 - 29, 2018
Pilgrim Park Camp
26449-1340 N. Avenue
Princeton, Ill.
[Click here for registration](#)

**UCC for Mental Health
WISE Congregations
for Mental Health
Conference**
Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018
South Congregational
Church, UCC
41 Central Street
Andover, MA
[Info and registration here](#)

**UCC Day of Elmhurst
Football**
Saturday, Oct. 6, 2018
(See article)

**27th Annual Conference
Association of Trained
Intentional Interim
Ministers (ATIIM)
"Finding Renewal in
Conflict Transformation"**
Oct. 10-11, 2018
Starved Rock Lodge and
Conference Center
Starved Rock State Park
Utica, Ill.
[Info and registration here](#)

**SAVE THE DATE
Clergy Day Away
Speaker:
Rev. Dr. Emily C. Heath**
Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2018
Pilgrim Park Camp

- needed support and learning;
- **Grant applications** for revitalization and renewal from the **LEEAP** (Local Evangelism, Envisioning and Planting) Committee are on the Illinois Conference website. DEADLINE Oct. 1, 2018!
 - **Exciting Fall Association meetings** of high participation and spirit are happening all over the Illinois Conference (Eastern on Sept. 15, CMA, Fox Valley, and Western on Oct. 20, and Prairie on Nov. 3);
 - A **Clergy Day Away** retreat with Still Speaking author Rev. Dr. Emily C. Heath is scheduled Nov. 7, at Pilgrim Park.

And, I can't say enough what hopefulness I have found, as I have traveled to churches encouraging and facilitating a process of revisioning and revitalization. I am ready and available to come to your church to partner with you and the Holy Spirit, sharing resources that can equip your congregation for ministry in this changing world.

God is still doing new things! Thanks be to God!

Faithfully,
 Rev. Dr. David Russell
 Interim Associate Conference Minister
 for Stewardship and Church Vitality

(see article)

Mission Trip: Church World Service Disaster Center & Heifer International
 Little Rock, Ark.
 Nov. 10 - 16, 2018
[Info and registration here](#)

Visit the
 Illinois Conference
 Website for
[Upcoming Events](#)



Announcement from the Illinois Conference Council

The Illinois Conference Council joyfully announces The Rev. Justo Gonzalez II as our Intentional Interim Conference Minister, beginning Oct. 29, 2018. Rev. Gonzalez currently serves in a dual role within the Michigan Conference, UCC, as Southwest Area Minister, where he resources approximately 50 congregations, and two Associations in West Michigan, as well as Conference Coordinator for Latinx Ministries.

From Rev. Justo Gonzalez:

"I am excited about joining with you, the People of God in the Illinois Conference, as your new Intentional Interim Conference Minister. Together we will be in conversation, look inward, and discern and discover where God is leading us as a conference. I am an in and out of the box thinker who believes in always exploring the options we can't even imagine at this time. Discernment, listening, discovering and being open to the varied voices among us is vital to serving God, lifting up the Risen Smiling Christ and being in relationship with each other.

I am also a covenant guy. We are in covenant with each other and must always work to strengthen our bonds and to mutually support our varied ministries and hold each other accountable at all levels. I am not an expert and am not an "I have all the answers type of guy." I am a pastor and coach.

I do know that that our collective wisdom is vital to discerning God's will as we live into our future together. I am certain that the wisdom we need to move us forward already exists among us. You are the experts of your reality, cultural context and community. I will lean on you to learn, and I will embrace the wisdom you bring to the table. I am committed to making sure that everyone is welcome and has a voice at the table.

Our diversity of cultures, languages, orientations, values, beliefs and experiences

makes us unique. These excite me as a Latinx pastor. I look forward to engaging in conversations and to sharing one-on-one with you. Expect to see me throughout the conference. Relationships are important to me, and I want to get to know you. Yes, I truly mean YOU.

My commitment to you is to be a brother in Christ and to partner with our associations, churches, conference staff and other constituents to make sure we are listening, asking the right questions, discerning together and responding to your needs. I look forward to meeting folks in our rural, urban, and suburban communities and to learning and growing with you.

Thank you for all you do and for being a local expression of the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ in your community."

Rev. Justo Gonzalez was recommended to the Conference Council after an extensive search by the Interim Conference Minister Search Committee, chaired by Illinois Conference Immediate Past-President Michael Linder (Fox Valley Association). Committee members included Conference Council members Rev. Charlene Hill and Juanita Bradley (Chicago Metropolitan Association), Frank Figueroa (FVA, youth representative), Mary Newcomb (past president, Western Association), Rev. Tom Ewing (Personnel Committee Chair, Eastern Association), and Rev. Kim Wood (current president, Prairie Association). The Committee was staffed by Rev. Lee Albertson from the National Offices of the United Church of Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit. A huge thank you to the entire Search Committee for its dedication and hard work and for bringing us an extremely qualified and innovative candidate in a very short time frame.

While Rev. Gonzalez will not officially come onto staff until the end of October, you may see him around the Illinois Conference occasionally before then, as he takes time to work with Acting Conference Minister Rev. Char Burch and conference leadership in preparation for his time here. We are excited by the experience, compassion, and enthusiasm he brings to the Illinois Conference, and we encourage you to get to know him as he partners with us in ministry. We also invite you to keep Rev. Gonzalez, Rev. Burch, the Illinois Conference leadership and staff in your prayers as we move into this new phase of the ministry of the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ.

Eastern Association Fall Meeting will gather in Kankakee

The Eastern Association will gather for their fall meeting at St. John UCC in Kankakee on Saturday, Sept. 15. We have the special honor of hosting Carrie Newcomer, a Grammy-winning songwriter, recording artist, performer and educator. Carrie has written many wonderful songs, as well as poetry and essays, some in collaboration with Parker J. Palmer. Carrie will be leading a "mini-retreat" entitled "*The Beautiful Not Yet: Hope, Hard Times, Faithfulness and Possibility.*" "Hope is holding in creative tension all that is, with all that could and should be, and everyday taking some action to narrow the distance between the two."



Presenter Carrie Newcomer

Registration begins at 12:30 p.m., with a first session from 1:00 p.m. - 2:10 p.m. A second session with Carrie is from 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 4:30 p.m. and a concert will follow, featuring Carrie Newcomer and Gary Walters at 6:00 p.m. Registration is through Connie Owens in the Western Association office. [Click here](#) for registration and meeting information.

News from the Eastern Association

We welcome new Clergy to our Eastern Association Family who have recently begun new ministries or have been recently called to their new positions:

Rev. Ken Kline was called to serve as Senior Pastor of St. John's UCC in Mokena and began ministry in June. His Service of Installation will be held on Sunday, Sept. 23, at 3:00 p.m. at St. John's.

Rev. Cyndy Ash will be Ordained and Installed as the called Pastor for Jubilee Farms UCC on Saturday, Sept. 29, at 4:00 p.m. on location at the Farm in Clinton.

Rev. Deborah Owen will be Installed as the called Senior Pastor of St. Peter's UCC in Champaign on Saturday, Nov. 17, in a 3:00 p.m. service of worship.

Rev. Dennis Gartung began new ministry at Zion UCC in Arthur in June. Dennis and his wife, Ruthie, had previously served Payson Congregational UCC in the Western Association.

Rev. Kyle Timmons was recently called to become the new Pastor at St. Peter's UCC in Grant Park and will begin his new ministry there Dec. 1, 2018. Kyle and his family will be moving to Illinois from Ohio.

We also want to share our warm thanks and well wishes with Rev. Ryan Travis, who has been recently called to new ministry in Pennsylvania. Ryan has served as the Pastor of First Congregational UCC in Decatur. His last Sunday will be Sept. 30. We are grateful for the ministry of Rev. Tim Rhodes who served as Interim at St. John's in Mokena prior to Pastor Ken's arrival and to Rev. Jan Johnson who will conclude her Interim ministry at St. Peter's in Grant Park on Sept. 30.

Western Association holds Fall Meeting in Minier

The Western Association Fall meeting will be held at St. John UCC in Minier on Saturday, Oct. 20. Registration for the meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. and will feature a program entitled: *"The Best Of..."* The morning will begin with worship where Rev. Char Burch, our Acting Illinois Conference Minister will be our Preacher. There will be two sessions of workshops for attendees to choose on such topics as: Mission Trips, Stewardship, Great Reads and Media, Faith Formation and Curriculum Selection, and Budget Planning and Financial Practices. After lunch there will be a time for the whole group to share *"The Best Of..."* practices in our local churches. Departure time for home will be by 1:30 p.m. Registration materials will soon be sent to our churches with a registration deadline of Oct. 12.

News from the Western Association

The Western Association welcomes Rev. Leah Kabira, who has been called to serve as Pastor at Community UCC in Morton, beginning on Sept. 11. Leah will be Ordained in a service of worship on Sept. 23, in her home church in the Fox Valley Association. A service of Installation will be planned for a time later this fall at Community in Morton. We are thankful for the Interim ministry of Rev. Chuck Maney, whose last Sunday in Morton was Aug. 26.

Member-In-Discernment Katie Reinig, a member of First Congregational UCC in Springfield, was approved for Ordination, pending a call, at a recent Ecclesiastical Council held on Aug. 12, in Springfield. Katie seeks ministry as a Chaplain and brings many wonderful gifts with her caring and compassionate spirit.

Rev. Judy Kennedy, who has served as the Designated Pastor at Congregational UCC in Pekin, has been asked by the congregation to become their Settled Pastor. We rejoice in this relationship that has been developed.

From the Sustainability 2 Mission and Structure Task Force

The Sustainability 2 Mission and Structure Task Force has been hard at work gathering information to answer the following questions:

Do we have a viable Structure in place for the conference?

Do we have a viable Mission in place that churches can support and that supports and equips churches?

To date, we have met a variety of demographic groups, leadership and ministry teams from each of the associations, and staff conference-wide. We still have, due to the pattern of their gathering schedule, a couple of groups with whom to meet. After more than a year of activity, we will complete our extensive listening process in October.

As we wrap up the first phase of our explorations, we are preparing for phase two. We will compile the information gathered to present to the Conference Council. Then, we will invite them, relying on God's guidance, Christ's example, and the Holy Spirit's movement, to engage in a visioning process that starts with the question:

Where does the Illinois Conference need to be 5 years from now?

We have received a lot of information and ideas from frank conversations conference-wide. We believe that all the input shared will offer a great foundation for this time of reflection and discernment. Our goal in this next phase is to envision a mission and structure that will create a sustainable environment to support and empower the vital and diverse ministries of the congregations and non-parish settings that are, together, the Illinois Conference.

We are excited that the beginning of this second phase coincides with the arrival of our incoming Intentional Interim Conference Minister, Rev. Justo Gonzalez. His skills and experience will be both incredibly helpful and extremely valuable to the process. As usual, God does work in mysterious ways, and on God's time, not ours.

Thank you to all the people who have already participated in our conversations or added wisdom and insight to the information gathered thus far. Should anyone have additional thoughts or ideas to share, please don't hesitate to send an e-mail to any member on the Sustainability 2 Task Force. Members include [Janice Blickan](#); [Rev. Terrell Murff](#); [Rev. David Russell](#); [Rev. Emily Snowden](#); and [Rev. Kim Wood](#).

And, thank you to every person who is part of the Illinois Conference for your continued patience as we move through this process together. Please, pray for the Conference Council, the Conference staff, and the entire Illinois Conference as, together, we discern God's call for us moving forward.

Opportunity to explore immigration issues

BorderLinks is located in Tucson, Ariz., where the sanctuary movement began 30 years ago. It was founded as the educational arm of the sanctuary movement, providing experiential education about migration justice issues, helping church and university delegations from around the U.S. develop an in-depth understanding of the root causes of migration, the hazards migrants face, and what can be done to support migrants around the U.S. They bring to the forefront of the debate the voices of people who are

directly affected by U.S. immigration policies. BorderLinks is helping strengthen migrant justice efforts around the country through education.

This is an opportunity to walk desert trails and witness immigration court proceedings, meet with a wide variety of groups in Tucson, participate in workshops on the complex immigration topics. Delegations sleep in their dormitory and eat meals in their kitchen. For more details, check their website www.borderlinks.org.

LEEAP announces 2019 Funding Cycle

Our Conference Local Evangelism, Envisioning and Planting/LEEAP extends to our churches and associations an opportunity to request funding for new church starts and the revitalization of existing congregations.

If you and/or your church wish to submit a request, please contact the Illinois Conference at (708) 344-4470; e-mail ilconfdavid@gmail.com. The application can be downloaded by going to the Illinois Conference website (www.ilucc.org). **The deadline for a request for calendar year 2019 is Oct. 1, 2018.**

MissionInsite information

EMBRACING OUR NEIGHBORS: Enrollment is open for local churches that are ready to use technology to embrace their local community residents. [MissionInsite](#) is a Church Demographic Program that provides information about local residents from a variety of sources. The enrollment fee to participate in this program is \$15.00 annually. Contact our Conference office, Carmen Torres, at (708) 344-4470 or ilconfcarmen@gmail.com for more information and to enroll your church.

Opportunity to connect with churches

Church members who want to make connections with other churches,

You're invited!

To a VISITING DISCIPLES Orientation and Training

On Saturday, Sept. 22, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Covenant UCC, 1130 East 154th Street, South Holland.

For more information, contact Rev. Dr. David Russell, Associate Conference Minister for Stewardship and Church Vitality at ilconfdavid@gmail.com.

Grace Cafe returns to Elmhurst churches for its 12th Season

On Sept. 24, Grace Cafe returns to the Elmhurst community for its 12th year. Grace Cafe was started in 2007, as an ecumenical mission project to provide a free hot meal to anyone in the community and is currently supported by 15 Elmhurst churches whose members provide two dinner gatherings per month for their guests. This year offers 16 opportunities for fellowship and sharing a meal, from Sept. through May 2019. Community members who



Community members come together for dinner and conversation at Grace Cafe.

are facing a tight budget or are eager to share a delicious dinner, warm companionship and conversation with other folks are invited to come to Grace Cafe. Families are welcome! Doors open at 4:30 p.m.; meals will be served starting at 5:00 p.m. and concluding at 6:30 p.m. at the Elmhurst churches listed below. No reservations are needed and meals are free of charge to anyone who would enjoy them. For additional information, please contact Bethel United Church of Christ at (630) 279-4040.

The Grace Cafe schedule for 2018-2019 is as follows:

2018

Sept. 24, Epiphany Lutheran Church, 314 W. Vallette
Oct. 8, St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, 893 N. Church Rd.
Oct. 22, St. Peter's United Church of Christ, 125 Church St.
Nov. 5, Elmhurst Presbyterian Church, 367 Spring Rd.
Nov. 19, Christ United Methodist Church, 920 Swain Ave.
Dec. 3, Redeemer & Immanuel Lutheran Churches, 345 S. Kenilworth
Dec. 17, First United Methodist Church, 232 S. York Rd.

2019

Jan. 7, Visitation Church, 779 S. York Rd.
Jan. 21, St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, 893 N. Church St.
Feb. 4, Immaculate Conception Church, 217 S. Cottage Hill
Feb. 18, Redeemer Lutheran Church, 345 S. Kenilworth
March 4, Yorkfield Presbyterian Church, 1099 S. York Rd.
March 18, Episcopal Church of our Savior, 116 E. Church St.
April 8, Mary Queen of Heaven Church, 425 N. West Ave.
April 29, First Congregational United Church of Christ, 235 S. Kenilworth
May 13, Bethel United Church of Christ, 315 E. St. Charles Rd.

UCC Day at Elmhurst Football

UCC DAY at ELMHURST FOOTBALL



ELMHURST

Saturday, October 6
Tailgating at 11:00 a.m.
Kickoff at 1 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION!

Friends,

Join us on Saturday, **October 6** at Elmhurst College - Langhorst Field for a fun day of fellowship and football!

The Elmhurst College Bluejays will take on the Washington University of St. Louis Bears in this NCAA Div. III matchup!

Everyone is welcome!

Admission is free, but registration is required. RSVP to Naomi Else at iiconfnaomi@gmail.com by **Tuesday, October 2** with the number of people attending, and whether or not you plan to join the tailgating at 11 a.m.

Tailgating is completely bring-your-own lunch, and alcohol is **not permitted**.

This event will not be rescheduled due to inclement weather.

Clergy Day Away is back!

“CLERGY DAY AWAY”

Join us for a day of relaxation and reflection

November 7, 2018 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Pilgrim Park Conference Center
 26449 1340 N. Avenue, Princeton, IL 61356-8790

with **REV. DR. EMILY C. HEATH**

Our reflection leader will be the Rev. Dr. Emily C. Heath, known by many of us as a contributor to the “Still Speaking Devotionals”. Emily is also the pastor and teacher of Congregational UCC, Exeter, New Hampshire; chaplain to the Exeter Police Department; and contributor to the Christian Century and Huffington Post’s Religion section. Emily’s books “Glorify: Reclaiming the Heart of Progressive Christianity” and “Courageous Faith: How to Rise and Resist in a Time of Fear” will be available for purchase.

Cost for Wednesday: \$45 which includes continental breakfast available from 8:30 a.m., lunch and snack.

Cost with an Additional Retreat day: \$94, arriving Tuesday afternoon, includes Tuesday supper, overnight room (double occupancy), Wednesday breakfast, lunch and snack.

Join your colleagues for the opportunity to fellowship, reflect together, and even take a walk in the woods.

* This event is being underwritten by gifts to the Leadership Development Fund through the Major Gift Initiative Campaign.



[Click here](#) for additional information and registration form.

UCC Conference Disaster Ministries update

Great Central U.S. Shake Out. Please put Oct. 18, 2018, 10:18 a.m. on your calendars. The Illinois Conference is a registered participant in this exercise.

People from all around the nation will practice how to [Drop, Cover, and Hold On](#) -- the key steps to surviving an earthquake. An earthquake can strike anywhere at any time. Whether you are at home, at work, or on vacation, being prepared is the best way to survive and recover quickly from a quake.

Illinois is located on the second most active fault line in North America.

The main goal of [Shakeout](#) is to get everyone prepared for a major earthquake, so use this earthquake drill as an opportunity to learn what to do before, during and after an earthquake. Also, take this time to review your personal and professional emergency plans. For more tips on how to prepare, protect and recover, visit www.ready.illinois.gov.

Roger Dart
 Conference Disaster Coordinator

CTS sponsors two-day workshop to grow your Ministry

Chicago Theological Seminary is sponsoring another two-day workshop Oct. 25-26, 2018, focusing on sustaining, expanding and planting your ministry. IMI (Innovative Ministry Incubator) is the engine that will help you take the next step to grow your Ministry.

We know you are clear about what God has called you to do but are you struggling with how to bring it to life or to sustain it in this new era of Public Theology? We have the essential tools you need to grow your ministry. For new ministries and new church plants, IMI will help you build a strong foundation. For existing ministries, the IMI program is designed to help you build out and broaden your ministry.

Join us and discover how to apply fundamental business strategies using social media, marketing, technology, finances, and management techniques.

Register at www.ctschicago.edu/imi.

Hope to see you there.

God Bless,
Minister Aris D. Simpson
Master in Divinity-Chicago Theological Seminary May 2018

UCC Medical and Dental Plan Rates and Enhancements

We are pleased to announce the following premium rates and plan enhancements for the 2019 plan year, effective Jan. 1, 2019, from the UCC Pension Boards.

- UCC Non-Medicare Health Plan: 2% increase
- UCC Medicare Supplement Plan: 2% increase
- UCC Dental Plan: 4% increase
- UCC Vision Plan: no change
- UCC Life Insurance & Disability Income (LIDI) Plan: no change

The following benefit enhancements are also approved as of Jan. 1, 2019.

UCC Dental Plan:

- The Annual Benefit Maximum per person is increased from \$1,800 to \$2,000
- Annual Preventive Services (e.g., cleanings and examinations) do not reduce the Annual Benefit Maximum

UCC Vision Plan:

- The Annual Allowance for frames and contact lenses is increased from \$140 to \$150

The exact rates will be posted later this fall.

[Dental 750 Open Enrollment](#)

Open enrollment for UCC Dental Plan 750 will be available from Oct. 1-31, 2018, for coverage beginning Jan. 1, 2019.

Coverage is available to:

- individuals who are employed by a UCC church or UCC-related entity; and
- retired clergy or lay employees who previously were employed by a UCC church or UCC-related entity.

After one year in Dental Plan 750, participants automatically upgrade to Dental Plan 2000, with enhanced benefits.

UCC Church Building and Loan Fund offers resources

NEW services from Church Building and Loan Fund to help you with your church's mission, including stewardship and repurposing resources. Read more [HERE](#) or contact CBLF Regional Mission Interpreter Chuck Blaisdell at blaisdellc@ucc.org.



Seeking Assistance

Do you like to discover historical tidbits about churches? Maybe you can help!

The Conference office is seeking a volunteer to sort through files from closed churches and pull out documents for archives. The files are located at the Illinois Conference office in Westchester. If interested, please contact the Conference office (708) 344-4470.

Clergy Resources

2019 Compensation Guidelines are now available on the Illinois Conference website, [click here to view](#).

Employment Opportunities

To view employment opportunities within the Illinois Conference [click here](#).

Conference e-mail and website information

Listed below are the e-mail addresses and the website information:

Illinois Conference general e-mail: ilconferenceucc@gmail.com

Acting Conference Minister Char Burch: ilconfchar@gmail.com

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ilconfjames@gmail.com

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Please visit the Illinois Conference website at www.ilucc.org.

The Illinois Conference now is on [Facebook](#); look for us.

Also, [online giving](#) now is available on the website.

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Our Church's Wider Mission

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