

“Continuing Testament: Unleashing Our Ministry”
2016 ILLINOIS CONFERENCE CELEBRATION
(52nd ANNUAL MEETING)
REGISTRATION FORM

Return completed form with payment to the Conf. office postmarked by June 6
Embassy Suites, 100 Conference Center Drive., East Peoria 61611

Friday, JUNE 17 - Saturday, JUNE 18, 2016

(Please register **ONLY ONE** person per form, make copies as needed. Thank you!)

NAME: _____ GENDER M or F
(Please print your name...this is how it will appear on your name tag)
MAILING ADDRESS: _____ ASSN _____
TOWN: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
CHURCH/AGENCY: _____ TOWN _____
WORK PHONE: () _____ HOME PHONE: () _____
E-MAIL: _____

REGISTRATION: Please *circle* appropriate registration fee which includes workshops

Ordained Minister (with standing)	\$100	Visitor	\$100
Ordained Minister (non-UCC)	\$100	Youth Delegate	\$55
Commissioned Min.	\$100	Youth Visitor	\$55
Licensed Minister	\$100	Memb. In Discernment	\$45
Lay Delegate	\$100	Exhibitor	\$60
Conf. Council Memb.	\$100	Retired Clergy	n/c
		ONE DAY ONLY	\$50
		Energizers ONLY	\$25

After June 6 all registration fees will be \$5.00 higher, including walk-ins

Registration: \$ _____
Late Fee: \$ _____

HOUSING Reservations by phone: Call **1-800-362-2779 (deadline May 25, 2016)** Ask for Global Reservations; State your check in and checkout dates. Mention: **United Church of Christ Block** and code **UCC** To make reservations on-line: www.embassysuiteseastpeoria.com Select check in and check out dates. Click the blue link that reads “Add special rate codes” Enter **UCC** into the Group Code box; Select Check Availability. Cancellation policy is 24 hours in advance. Free parking...Free Wi-Fi in restaurant and common areas only

MEALS:

FRI DINNER (CHECK ONE)\$47.

- 1) Caramelized Pan Seared Salmon _____
2) Parmesan Crusted Chicken _____
3) Spaghetti Squash Primavera _____

SAT Breakfast

Included in price of sleeping room

Conf. Council memb. b’fast

n/c

n/c

SAT Lunch (check one) \$24.

Adult lunch _____

Ret. Clergy lunch _____ (n/c)

Vegetarian for above lunches _____

MEAL TOTAL: \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

(registration plus meal totals)

_____ I am a youth, my chaperone is:

_____ I am a youth chaperone for:

Complete youth forms at www.ilucc.org

I am willing to participate:

By being a volunteer _____
Helping w/registration _____

I will need:

Vegetarian diet _____
Sign Language Interpretation _____
Child care _____

Fees must be enclosed or by credit card: www.ilucc.org (click on donations, follow directions)
Put an “X” here if paid on-line _____

Please make your check payable to: Illinois Conference

POSTMARK BY June 6:

Illinois Conference Registrar

1840 Westchester Blvd., Suite 200

Westchester, IL 60154

708.344.4470

NO CANCELLATION REFUNDS AFTER June 6, 2016

After June 6, registration will be at the meeting

Select one	ENERGIZER NAME	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
	A-1 <u>The Different Shapes of Youth Ministry</u>	Come learn how both youth and adults working together can plan for practical and relevant youth ministry at your local church. Building or re-energizing your church’s youth ministry using an intergenerational approach provides welcoming opportunities. This approach may be the answer for a church with no Youth or just a few! We’ll share the practice of faith language and the principles and simple steps of engaging youth in their spiritual growth.	<i><u>Facilitator:</u></i> <i><u>Martha Mendoza</u></i>
	A-2 <u>With the Wisdom of Seasons: Tracking our Spiritual Lives</u>	Interior journeys of spirit like the earth’s exterior journey make their way from one season to another. Spiritual lives are not stagnant. They are on the move, characterized by change, embodying a range of experience and emotion. On the brink of the summer solstice, we will listen to the spiral or orbit of the earth’s seasons as a metaphor for identifying and leaning into where we each currently dwell in our spiritual lives. Every repeating season of the year and of spirit offers gifts and challenges that can open our willingness to grow.	<i><u>Facilitator:</u></i> <i><u>Rev. Dr. Martha Brunell</u></i>
	A-3 <u>Growing the Church through Mission Partnerships</u>	Take a trip to Angola, Africa, to learn how your congregation can benefit from partnerships such as the <i>Illinois Conference Angola Partnership</i> . The purpose of this interactive session is to have you journey with us to Angola to discover how your congregation can benefit, grow, and build community, as we answer God’s call to extend our ministry beyond our local communities, and to receive God’s grace, blessings, and love, from a global ministry perspective. Partnerships are vital to the growth of our congregations. This is one trip you don’t want to miss. Tour guides: The Illinois Conference Angola Partnership Team	<i><u>Facilitators:</u></i> <i><u>The Illinois Conference Angola Partnership Team</u></i> <i>“Working together to build the one body of Christ in two different places”</i>
	A-4 <u>Legacy Planning: Making a Difference for the Church’s Mission</u>	What is <u>your</u> future vision for <u>your</u> Church? You are a stalwart member in your church and continue to be very active in participation and financial support. You can be counted on to answer the call. Have you thought of what happens to your church when you are no longer around? Does your church die after you die (everything you’ve worked for goes away)?	<i><u>Facilitators:</u></i> <i><u>The Stewardship Team of the Illinois Conference</u></i>
	A-5 <u>Preparedness: A Mission of Hope in the Midst of Crisis</u>	What happens when a natural disaster occurs in your community? What can we do to prepare for ministry and mission in those places of need? Who can you contact to find out about resources and recovery when your community is challenged by disaster? The Disaster Ministry team of the Illinois Conference will share how we respond both at a state and national level working with both governmental and non-governmental agencies to meet the needs of people affected by disaster. The team will help local churches to plan for preparedness as well as for the process of recovery – hearing from persons involved in recovery ministry – a mission of hope to persons affected by disaster.	<i><u>Facilitators:</u></i> <i><u>Rev. Roger Dart and Members of the Illinois Conference Disaster Ministry Team</u></i>

	<u>A-6 No Money, No Mission”—A Local Evangelism, Envisioning, and Planting (LEEAP) Committee Presentation</u>	<p>Clear mission and vision statements provide a church with a sense of direction and purpose. However, successful implementation includes both financial and human resources. In essence, <i>“No money, no mission.”</i> LEEAP funding provides opportunities for church revitalization and planting (new church starts).</p> <p>This Energizer is designed to streamline the process for churches with an interest in honing LEEAP proposal writing skills and those that are first time applicants. The Energizer will include strategies for writing successful proposals among which will be SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, reachable, timely) goals that illustrate how the mission and vision statements are implemented and measured, and the creation of financial documents that support the application.</p>	<i><u>Facilitators: The Rev. Dr. Edward Sinclair and Dr. Sammie M. Dortch and Members of the LEEAP Team</u></i>
	<u>A-7 Justice and Witness Ministries: A Call to Action</u>	<p>This energizer will feature conversation with Rev. Traci D. Blackmon, Keynote Presenter and Preacher for the Annual Celebration. Rev. Blackmon was appointed as the Acting Executive Minister of UCC Justice and Witness Ministries in October, 2015. Rev. Blackmon also serves as Pastor of Christ the King UCC in Florissant, Missouri. She became nationally recognized as a prominent voice for social change when Michael Brown was shot in Ferguson, MO, just miles from her church. She immediately got involved in assisting and collaborating with the people in the community working for justice. She shares: “The conversation must begin with a determination to listen and a willingness to be changed.”</p>	<i><u>Facilitator: Rev. Traci D. Blackmon, Justice and Witness Ministries of the United Church of Christ</u></i>

FRIDAY: Energizers Session “B”

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Select one	ENERGIZER NAME	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>B-1 The Different Shapes of Youth Ministry</u>	Come learn how both youth and adults working together can plan for practical and relevant youth ministry at your local church. Building or re-energizing your church’s youth ministry using an intergenerational approach provides welcoming opportunities. This approach may be the answer for a church with no youth or just a few! We’ll share the practice of faith language and the principles and simple steps of engaging Youth in their spiritual growth.	<i><u>Facilitator: Martha Mendoza</u></i>
	<u>B-2 Healing Wildness</u>	In the world of spirituality, wildness has to do with our essential, unedited, authentic self. Mary Reynolds Thompson writes of the “wild beauty that is our deepest nature and greatest hope.” In our face-paced, accumulating culture, the essential wildness of both our core selves and the whole of creation around us are endangered. We don’t know who we are and we don’t know the earth from which we have emerged. The healing of our birthright wildness and the healing of the earth and its wildness are bound together, one manifestation of the interconnection of all. Thompson asks this question: “What if healing the world does start from within?” Her question is an invitation with which we will pause.	<i><u>Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Martha Brunell</u></i>

	<u>B-3</u> <u>Growing the Church through Mission Partnerships</u>	Take a trip to Angola, Africa, to learn how your congregation can benefit from partnerships such as the <i>Illinois Conference Angola Partnership</i> . The purpose of this interactive session is to have you journey with us to Angola to discover how your congregation can benefit, grow, and build community, as we answer God’s call to extend our ministry beyond our local communities, and to receive God’s grace, blessings, and love, from a global ministry perspective. Partnerships are vital to the growth of our congregations. This is one trip you don’t want to miss. Tour guides: The Illinois Conference Angola Partnership Team	<u>Facilitators:</u> <u>The Illinois Conference Angola Partnership Team</u> “Working together to build the one body of Christ in two different places”
	<u>B-4</u> <u>Unleashing Your Ministry: Missional/Narrative Budgeting</u>	Discover the ways in which using a Missional/ Narrative Budget helps to tell the story of your ministry and your mission. Uncover the priorities of your church and the values that undergird your membership. Tell your story and share the Good News in a new way to inspire others to join you in fulfilling your call.	<u>Facilitators:</u> <u>The Stewardship Team of the Illinois Conference</u>
	<u>B-5</u> <u>Preparedness: A Mission of Hope in the Midst of Crisis</u>	What happens when a natural disaster occurs in your community? What can we do to prepare for ministry and mission in those places of need? Who can you contact to find out about resources and recovery when your community is challenged by disaster? The Disaster Ministry team of the Illinois Conference will share how we respond both at a state and national level working with both governmental and non-governmental agencies to meet the needs of people affected by disaster. The team will help local churches to plan for preparedness as well as for the process of recovery – hearing from persons involved in recovery ministry – a mission of hope to persons affected by disaster.	<u>Facilitators:</u> <u>Rev. Roger Dart and Members of the Illinois Conference Disaster Ministry Team</u>
	<u>B-6</u> <u>“No Money, No Mission”—A Local Evangelism, Envisioning, and Planting (LEEAP) Committee Presentation</u>	Clear mission and vision statements provide a church with a sense of direction and purpose. However, successful implementation includes both financial and human resources. In essence, “ No money, no mission. ” LEEAP funding provides opportunities for church revitalization and planting (new church starts). This Energizer is designed to streamline the process for churches with an interest in honing LEEAP proposal writing skills and those that are first time applicants. The Energizer will include strategies for writing successful proposals among which will be SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, reachable, timely) goals that illustrate how the mission and vision statements are implemented and measured, and the creation of financial documents that support the application.	<u>Facilitators:</u> <u>The Rev. Dr. Edward Sinclair and Dr. Sammie M. Dortch and Members of the LEEAP Team</u>
	<u>B-7</u> <u>Unleashing Our Mission: Transforming the Local Church</u>	What is a transformational strategy for the local Church? The Ministry Leadership Team in a working retreat began significant conversations about what it means to work toward a “turn around” strategy for congregations seeking new life in their ministry and mission. A transformational strategy must be biblically grounded, faith driven and must come out of a process that invites and engages the Holy Spirit, and is driven by prayer, Bible study and scriptural discernment. Join us in dialogue as we discern God’s call to transformative life and vitality as we seek to be outward focused; as we lay our foundation on the Christ instead of the church; as we worship and live with purpose and mission; as we promote an attitude of generosity; as we seek to engage in prophetic ministry; as we focus on discipleship and faith formation; as we engage in ministry in the community and as we gain and fulfill a vision of hope for the future.	<u>Facilitators:</u> <u>The Ministry Leadership Team of the Illinois Conference</u> “I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” <i>Isaiah 43:19</i>