



# Indiana-Kentucky Conference of the United Church of Christ

September 2016

## Quick Links

[October Daily Lectionary](#)

[November Daily Lectionary](#)

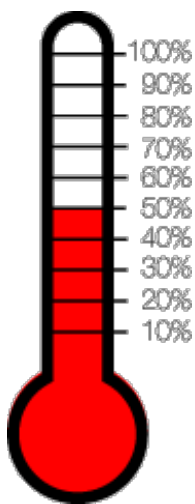
[IKC Prayer Calendar](#)

[IKC Calendar](#)

[Church World Service News](#)

## 2016 Budget Goal

### OCWM Basic Support



Goal=\$635,000  
We Have Reached  
49% Of Our Goal  
As Of 8/31/16

## Upcoming Events

## Indiana-Kentucky Conference News

### Cheerful Giving

By Rev. Michael Erwin  
Pastor, Christ Church UCC & Church Financial Consultant

Are members in your church growing in their faith? Is there a way to answer that question? I think there is. If it's true that our heart follows our treasure (Matthew 6:21), then a measure of generosity can provide insight on our spiritual growth.

Pearson's Law states, "That which is measured improves. That which is measured and reported improves exponentially." So how might a church leader measure and report generosity in a congregation?

I suggest that you know these numbers:

- 1) Tithers, either as a percentage or number
- 2) Average giving per worshiper
- 3) New givers and lapsed givers
- 4) Aggregate giving by age group

For questions and more information about using these measures in your church, contact [Michael Erwin](#).

### GLAUCE Fall Conference Oct. 11-13

The [Great Lakes Association of United Church Educators](#) (GLAUCE) Fall Conference will take place Oct. 11-13 at Techny Towers in Techny, Ill. The theme this year is "Breakfast on the Beach." Cathleen Starck Wille, a consultant in clergy and congregation care, will be the keynote speaker. Click [here](#) to register online and [here](#) for more information.

### Fall Assembly Youth Retreat

Life is a maze. There are trials and obstacles, and sometimes monsters, but God commands us to be strong and courageous; to use his Word as a flashlight and our church family as a shoulder to lean on. Join your UCC youth family as we help each other through this A-maze-ing life.



The Fall Assembly Youth Retreat will take place Nov. 4-6 at the Merom Conference Center in Merom, Ind. The theme this year is "Your A-maze-ing Life," based on the scripture James 1:2-4

Just Peace Sunday  
[Sept. 18](#)

Seniors Unlimited Retreat  
Merom Conference Center  
[Sept. 20-24](#)

Euchre Weekend  
Merom Conference Center  
[Sept. 30-Oct. 1](#)

Under Construction:  
Building Our Faith  
Together Retreat  
Ocean Grove, N.J.  
[Sept. 30-Oct. 2](#)

Neighbors In Need  
Offering  
[Oct. 2](#)

New Church Collaboratory  
Indianapolis  
[Oct. 6-8](#)

Marriage Enrichment  
Weekend  
Merom Conference Center  
[Oct. 7-9](#)

GLAUCE Fall Conference  
Techy, Ill.  
[Oct. 11-13](#)

Managing The Risk Of  
Child To Child Abuse  
Insurance Board Webinar  
[Oct. 12](#)

African American Women  
In Ministry Conference  
Whitakers, N.C.  
[Oct. 13-15](#)

Health Ministries &  
Faith Community Nursing  
Louisville, Ky.  
[Oct. 14-15](#)

Pension Board Pre-  
Retirement Seminar  
Indianapolis  
[Oct. 20](#)

Marcia McFee Workshop  
Louisville, Ky.  
[Oct. 22](#)

Fall Assembly  
Youth Retreat  
Merom Conference Center  
[Nov. 4-6](#)

Stewardship Sunday  
[Nov. 13](#)

IKC Office Closed-  
Thanksgiving

- The Maze Runner. Click [here](#) for more information and to register!

## Local Church News

### Marriage Enrichment Weekend Sponsored By IKC Church

Join couples from across the IKC for a marriage enrichment weekend Oct. 7-9 at Merom Conference Center. During this retreat, participants will explore good ways of nurturing and enriching the "us" to become fulfilling and satisfying to all three. The retreat will be led by Rev. Dr. Vennard Walter, a practicing psychotherapist and spiritual director from New Albany, Ind. The cost is \$235 per couple.

This event is being sponsored by St. Peter UCC in Dubois, Ind. and is open to couples from across the Conference. For more information and to register for this event, contact [Rev. John Sterrett](#).

## UCC News

### 2015 UCC Statistical Profile Now Available

The Fall 2015 UCC Statistical Profile is now available. To view the latest trends and statistics on congregations, members, ministers and various aspects of ministry, a printable PDF is now available by clicking [here](#). This year's profile includes three special reports - the first on emerging trends in ministerial authorization and leadership, the second on UCC students in theological schools, and the third on highlights from the Faith Communities Today 2015 National Survey of Congregations.

### Calling All UCC Youth! Help Refugees - Win Scholarships - Share your Creativity!

UCC youth members in grades 9-12 are encouraged to enter the Syrian Refugee Accompaniment Video Contest. Show your awareness of the response to the Syrian refugee crisis and highlight your local community's plan of action for awareness-raising and welcoming.

Videos should be submitted between Oct. 1 and Nov. 11. Three scholarships (\$2,000, \$1,000 and \$500) will be awarded. Video submissions will be shared on [ucc.org](#) during the month of December as part of the [Our Stillspeaking Voice](#) multimedia initiative.

More information on the contest and the submission form can be found on the [contest webpage](#). Contact [Mary Schaller Blaufuss](#), UCC Global Sharing of Resources Team Leader, with any questions.

### Be The Church Of The Month - September

"Be the Church of the Month" is a new, church-wide contest inviting all UCC churches to participate by living out the statements of the UCC's popular "Be the Church" message.

The "Be the Church" statement for September is: "Reject Racism." Enter the contest by sending information, photos and video of the amazing things your church is doing to live out this month's "Be the Church" statement: "Reject Racism." Send items to [Aimee Jannsohn](#) by Aug. 22.

Join Our Mailing List!



### Save The Date

Christmas Fund Offering  
[Dec. 18](#)

IKC Office Closed-  
Christmas Observance &  
Staff Vacation Time  
Dec. 26-30

Young Ambassadors All  
Generation Reunion  
Jan. 7

IKC Confirmation Retreat  
Merom Camp & Retreat  
Center  
[Jan. 27-29](#)

General Synod 31  
Baltimore, Md.  
[June 30-July 4](#)



The Indiana-Kentucky  
Conference of the  
United Church of Christ  
was selected as a  
Constant Contact  
All Star  
in 2011, 2012 & 2013

Send story ideas or  
comments to the editor,  
[Nikki Richards](#). Story  
ideas should be within the

# BE THE CHURCH

*Protect the environment.* Care for the poor.  
*Forgive often.* ~~Reject racism.~~  
**Fight for the powerless.**  
*Share earthly and spiritual resources.*  
*Embrace diversity.* Love God. Enjoy this life.



### News From Our Partners

#### Eden Seminary's Limper Program Partners With Church

What if we could engage each other in mutually respectful ways, explore new approaches to religions not our own, create space for honest discussions of what divides and connects us? Sounds amazing, doesn't it? Well, we can! Because of Eden's "The Armin and Shirley Limper Program in Christianity & World Religions" partnership with Plymouth Church UCC in Milwaukee, Wisc., three key theologians will present on Sept. 24-25, 2016.

Attendees will hear tangible ideas of how to cultivate more personal peace, more peace in your community and on the global stage. Click [here](#) for more information and to register for this event.

#### News From CUE (Chicago, United, Eden) Seminaries

In August, Rev. John Thomas, former General Minister and President of the United



Church of Christ, retired from his position at Chicago Theological Seminary. Rev. Thomas reflects on his tenure at CTS: "I've been forced to grow. Forced to grow in my theological experience and understanding. Grow in my abilities as a teacher. Grow in my knowledge of the issues facing theological education. Grow in my awareness of what it means to live in a big, urban context with lots of challenges." Click [here](#) to read more.

#### CPR New Church Collaboratory To Be Held In Indy

The Center for Progressive Renewal is holding its first New Church Collaboratory Oct. 6-8 at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis. The New Church Collaboratory creates the space for connection, collaborative learning and the cultivation of new things. Click [here](#) for more information and to register for this event.

#### Health Ministries & Faith Community Nursing

Introduction to Health Ministries and Faith Community Nursing is a two-day course for individuals and church leaders interested in beginning or enhancing a faith community wellness program. The program takes place Oct. 14-15 at the Norton Healthcare Pavilion in Louisville, Ky. For more information and to register, click [here](#). Norton Healthcare is one of the CHHSM agencies supported by the IKC.

#### Resource Institute - Resources For Mental Health

The focus of the 2016 Resource Institute is "Working With Clergy and Congregations: Resources for Mental Health Care and Recovery Support." UCC clergy and lay members that are interested in mental health and faith are invited to this event Sept. 29-30 in Addison, Ill. Register on the Pathways to Promise [website](#). Click [here](#) for more information on this event.

### Merom Conference Center News

mission and ministry of the IKC and may be edited for space.

*\*This newsletter was made possible by your OCWM donations.*

### **Euchre Weekend At MCC**

Join in a weekend of euchre and fun at the Merom Conference Center Sept. 30-Oct. 1. The games will begin Friday around 7p.m. and wrap up by 5 p.m. on Saturday. Donations to the MCC Capital Fund will be accepted in lieu of a registration fee. Click [here](#) for more information.

Thank you for reading the Inky e-news. If you know someone that would like to receive the e-news, you can forward them this email and they can sign up using the "Join Our Mailing List" button or they can email [n.richards@ikcucc.org](mailto:n.richards@ikcucc.org) and request to be added to the list.

Sincerely,

Nikki Richards

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### **Stay Connected**

