

# Indiana-Kentucky Conference United Church of Christ

2024  
Annual  
Report

Presented  
at the 61<sup>st</sup>  
Annual  
Gathering

August 22-  
23, 2025



## Worship Preacher

As executive director of the UCC Church Building & Loan Fund, the Rev. Dr. Patrick G. Duggan is responsible for advancing the mission and growing the capacity, reach and social impact of CB&LF products and services.



Patrick has more than 30 years experience in bi-vocational ministry, serving the local church while working in the public sector, including education, government, nonprofit organizations and economic and community development. Prior to coming to CB&LF, he led community development initiatives that generated \$600 million in investment in the poorest communities on Long Island.

Patrick holds a bachelor's degree from Harvard University and earned his master's and his doctorate in ministry from New York Theological Seminary. His doctoral project, "Ground Zero in the Economy of God," focused on increasing the impact, relevance and influence of the church by deploying church assets for mission.

## Worship—THE MANY

Drawing on indie pop and gospel influences, The Many makes music to help give voice to faith and doubt, questions and fears, laments and longings, music that speaks to a non-violent God, a Jesus who is with us and for us, and to a Spirit that can't be easily defined or controlled.



It's music for a movement of resistance to hatred and division, for reconciliation and restoration, and music that always reminds us "we are on this earth to love." The members of The Many came together around their shared love of music and commitment to honest expressions of faith, peace-making, economic and racial justice and LGBTQ+ inclusion. They do more than simply concerts...they create experiences in which they weave together music, words, images and liturgy into an engaging, participatory, transformational event.



## 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Gathering Agenda

### Friday, August 22nd, 2025

|                    |                                          |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm | Registration                             |
| 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm  | Boundary Trainings & Vendor Booth Set Up |
| 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm  | Break and Clergy Mixer                   |
| 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm  | Evening Meal                             |
| 6:00 pm – 6:45pm   | ONA celebration                          |
| 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm  | Opening Worship with The Many            |

### Saturday, August 23rd, 2025

|                     |                                                                                                             |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:30 am – 9:30 am   | Panel on a Courageous and Curious Church with Patrick Duggan, Jamesetta Ferguson, and Dr. Christal Williams |
| 9:45 am – 10:00 am  | Break                                                                                                       |
| 10:00 am – 11:15 am | Workshops                                                                                                   |
| 11:15 am – 11:30 am | Break                                                                                                       |
| 11:30 am – 12:00 pm | Conference Minister Reflections & IKC/Heartland Process of Discernment                                      |
| 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm  | Lunch with Ministry Milestones, Sri Lanka Partnership, Annual Awards                                        |
| 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm   | Workshops                                                                                                   |
| 2:15 pm – 2:30 pm   | Break                                                                                                       |
| 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm   | Closing Worship in Sanctuary, In Memoriam                                                                   |
| 3:30 pm             | Departure                                                                                                   |

## Staff Reports

### Chad R. Abbott: Conference Minister

It continues to be my honor to serve the churches of the Indiana Kentucky Conference as your Conference Minister. Since our last Annual Gathering in New Albany, several areas of emerging ministry have risen for me in my leadership journey that I'd like to highlight in this report: 1) Two new grants, General Synod 35, and Executive Coach Training.



*Rev. Dr. Chad Abbott*

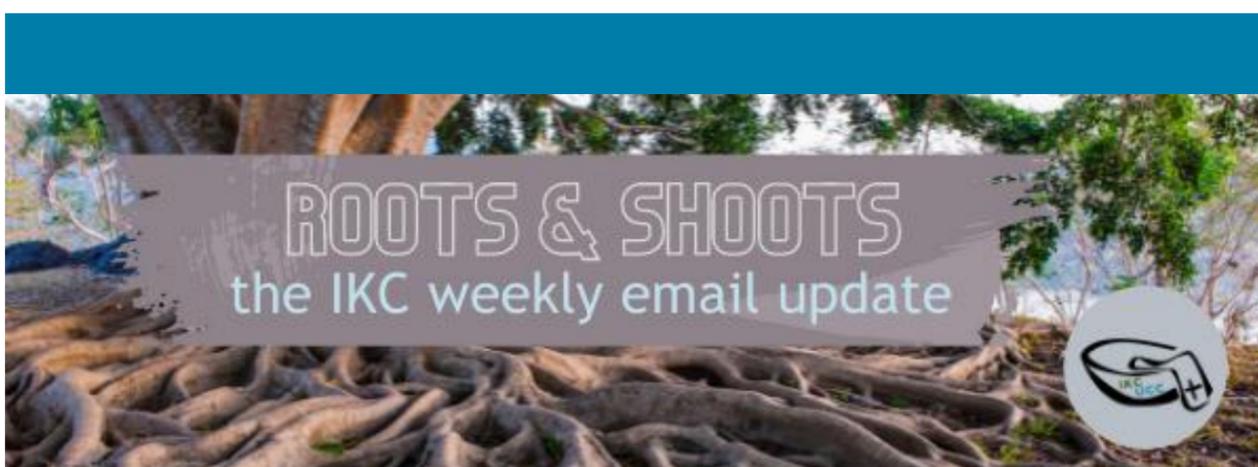
First, the IKC has been the recipient of two key grants in 2025 that have been vital to our visioning for the future of our Conference. In February, the Board of Directors recommended unanimously that Conference Minister of the Heartland Conference, Dave Long Higgins, and I, apply for a grant with the Council of Conference Ministers to begin a process of discernment between our two conferences as a way of exploring a potential shared future. We received this grant of \$30,000 over two years in early March and have already begun the work of this discernment process. Dave and I will be providing an update on our process at this Annual Gathering, but just as a point of reference we have done some significant discernment between our two staffs, our boards, and will be looking to take the conversation wider in the fall. More to come on where that is heading as things unfold this winter and into spring and it is our aim to have our time of discernment will be complete in 2027. Additionally, we were invited to apply for a second grant offered by the Lilly Endowment to explore and work an assessment of our middle judicatory system. We received this grant of \$50,000 in May and I have been hard at work designing all the details needed to complete this assessment and look towards the writing of the phase 2 implementation grant due in September. Phase 2 has the capacity to bring in \$1.2 Million towards building our future of staff and congregational support for the IKC. In this process, I have orchestrated getting a consultant and coordinator in place, both of which have been working along with me to design listening sessions, a conference ministers retreat, and getting all of our questions formulated for what we are trying to assess. Our roundtables were completed by August 12<sup>th</sup> and all of these roundtables are made up of lay and clergy from across the geography of the conference and also includes the board, staff, and association presidents. The four regional roundtables number 60 individuals. I have also been working with Erica Dollhopf of the Lake Institute around our financial and fundraising approaches across the Conference. She has presented to our staff and select members of finance and budget and the executive committee. All elements of this grant will have been completed by August 12<sup>th</sup> and then after the Annual Gathering, I will be spending some significant time in retreat writing for the phase 2 grant process. I will be exploring the vision for this grant with all of our consultants, our executive committee, and our staff as I work to complete and submit our materials to Lilly. This has been a very full process, but it is illuminating a lot of what we have needed to examine for some time and to address a new model for doing ministry in the IKC with the limited staff capacity we currently have. We will see if we receive the full implementation grant in the fall and begin to work on the next phase of transformation beginning in early 2026.

Second, this Annual Gathering will be roughly a month out from our most recent General Synod in Kansas City. I was the lead of our delegation in Kansas City and our delegation was strong, attentive, and fully present to the work of Synod. We participated in committee work, workshops, caucusing, worship, and plenary sessions. I, personally, had the opportunity to lead a workshop and offer poetry at our first ever open mic poetry night with our General Minister and President. I am grateful to Rebecca Braganza, who also came with us this time to help with some of the logistics and other needs of our delegation and it was a delight to have her with us. It was a remarkable Synod and while I am quite tired between Synod and trying to complete the grants mentioned above, I am also filled with joy and gratitude for all that has occurred and for the many colleagues, friendships, and our hard working delegation.

Finally, one other dynamic of my ministry that has come into play since our last Annual Gathering has been engaging in Executive Coach Training. I began working with the Rev. Diane Weible and Enkei Solutions for my training, which is a combination of course work to learn the art of executive and clergy coaching and also doing the practical work of engaging in coaching itself. In the spring of 2025, I announced to the clergy of the Conference an opportunity to do coaching with me for my training at no cost and I have been blessed to have 6 individuals reach out to begin working with me. For many of them, we have been meeting on a monthly basis and addressing some of the challenges in their leadership and congregation. This approach to getting executive coaching has been an opportunity for me to be a better supervisor of Conference staff, but it has also opened other doors for more tangible ways that the Conference can offer support to our clergy and their congregations. For those who have not done any coaching with me yet, but for whom this might be a great resource for you exploring your leadership, please reach out to me and I'd love to work with you.

The Indiana Kentucky Conference is in the midst of some deeply held commitments to explore the future of our life as a Conference. This relates to some of the trends we are seeing across our denomination and Conference, but it also relates to what we are seeing longer term with our finances. None of these necessarily dominates, but one of the things we are noticing in our assessment phase of this Lilly Grant is just how unsustainable our current model of ministry is for supporting our churches. We want to find a creative and robust way of offering abiding support for our pastors and churches moving into this post-covid era. We are excited to see what the Holy Spirit might be up to with all of this and ask that you hold our staff, board, and leaders in your prayers as we engage in this holy work. I am grateful for all your support throughout the year and am glad to be joining you in the sacred community that is our Annual Gathering this year.

Gratefully Submitted,  
*Rev. Dr. Chad Abbott*



Get your copy of  
the weekly updates  
by signing up at our  
website

[Click Here](#)

## Staff and Board Reports

### Monica Ouellette: Associate Conference Minister

It continues to be a blessing to serve as your Associate Conference Minister. On June 10, 2024 I began an eight-week sabbatical. I attended a five-day quilting retreat, met my youngest sister in Nashville for 4 days, took a wood working class, spent a week with my daughter and her children, drove to Rhode Island to spend time with my youngest son and his family, traveled to Quebec City and Montreal, drove across Pennsylvania stopping to visit with four friends/colleagues, read a lot of books and took lots of naps. I returned to ministry on August 5. It was a wonderful time with friends and family.

In 2024 I spent a lot of my time organizing and finding support for the IKC Committee on Ministry. Chad and I held a Committee on Ministry Summit in October with members of six of our Associations in attendance. The IKC Committee on Ministry is comprised of four teams: Authorization Support Team, Congregation Support Team, Ministers Support Team and Fitness Review Team. The three support teams began meeting in January of this year.

In addition, I continue to:

- ⇒ Co-chair the IKC Transitions Team with Jim Jensen;
- ⇒ Work with Bridge Teams/Search Committees across the conference;
- ⇒ Validate both pastoral profiles and local church profiles;
- ⇒ Co-lead the MID Net with Rev. Dr. Hannah Adams Ingram;
- ⇒ Organize and equip our Clergy Communities of Practice;
- ⇒ Serve as a trainer in the Ecumenical-Connect program;
- ⇒ Lead monthly zoom gatherings for Transitional Pastors and co-lead a gathering of Lay Pastors with Rev. Lee Reberger;
- ⇒ Serve on the Boundary Awareness Training Team;
- ⇒ Work with the Annual Gathering Planning committee;
- ⇒ Serve on the joint IKC and Heartland Conference WISE Team;
- ⇒ Lead Communion for Lay Leaders and Ministry Together workshops;
- ⇒ Attend Spring and Fall Association meetings across the conference;
- ⇒ Organize Situational Support Consultations as needed;
- ⇒ Serve on the IKC Conflict Mediation Team;
- ⇒ Serve on MESA's Product Development Team;
- ⇒ Participate in and facilitate ACM Communities of Practice;
- ⇒ Support the ACM Communities of Practice facilitators;
- ⇒ Support our Members-in-Discernment;
- ⇒ Participate in the Soul of Leadership program offered through the Shalem Institute.



Rev. Dr. Monica Ouellette



I am blessed to serve in the Indiana Kentucky Conference. On October 1, 2025 I will have served in this position for seven years. May God continue to bless our ministry together.

Respectfully,  
*Rev. Dr. Monica J. Ouellette*

### Board of Directors

As I reflect on the work of the Conference Board of Directors and supporting Committees for submission of this report, I am reminded after just 10 months as the Board President and Chair, that it truly does take a village to accomplish all that we do. Jill Olinger worked hard for 6 years as Board President and Chair, and I am fortunate to pick up the baton following her leadership. While doing my best to support and lead the conference forward on many of the policies and initiatives introduced during recent years, we are at the same time beginning work on new possibilities.

A brief recap of some of what we've been working on includes:

- The Board gathered in retreat in November, which provided an excellent opportunity for returning board members and new board members to get to know one another better and to work together on planning for the future of the conference. We appreciate the convenience of the opportunity to meet regularly via Zoom; however, we realize the importance of in person time together and the retreat provided a great opportunity to connect.
- The Staff and Board worked on communicating out a resolution of support that was passed at our annual gathering, that "...prayerfully encourages each congregation to contribute to OCWM as God gives each ability..... that each congregation consider an additional amount between \$250 and \$1,000 to Our Churches Wider Mission..." Letters and emails were sent as well as board members working to make some follow up phone calls to say thank you for past support. All these steps are part of an effort to work toward alleviating the budget deficit of the IKC.
- An Office Location Task Force began implementing a prior decision by the Board to move the IKC offices out of the Indiana Interchurch Center. Staff will work largely by remote – however, full time staff will meet once a week and limited office space will be maintained on a trial basis in several different conference churches to discern which location may serve the conference needs best. As you can imagine, the work of disassembling a long-standing office is hard work and the efforts of everyone involved, including Board Secretary Jim Jensen are very much appreciated! The Personnel Committee is also working on a remote work policy related to this move.
- Upon the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, Staff Support Teams have been created to support our staff members who are clergy, like an individual church's clergy relations committee.
- With board support, two grants were applied for and approved/funded for the conference this past year. The first is an Essential Conference Ministries grant, from the UCC while the second grant is a Lilly Grant which we were encouraged to apply for. Both grants present exciting possibilities for the IKC – while at the same time creating much more work to do in an already busy conference!

While doing all of this, the Board and its Committees continue to work hard on additional items including Nominating delegates to the 2025 General Synod with staff plus several board members attending Synod in Kansas City in July; Finance and Budget reviewing financial statements and fund statements, working hard to maintain a reasonable budget while supporting the work of the conference, also receiving conference grant applications and making funding decisions; Personnel working to implement updated compensation guidelines; Annual Gathering Committee working hard to put together all of the details for our time together this year! And we receive reports and discuss other work of the conference including Disaster Preparedness, Outdoor Ministries, our Sri Lanka Partnerships – I will stop here as there is not time or space for me to list all the work being done!

It has been an honor to serve with board and committee members this past year. The support I have felt from these folks, both lay and clergy members, is truly appreciated. These servant leaders give time and resources for the betterment of the Indiana Kentucky Conference and its members – and as you can see with the list of items included above, there is much work being done! I feel fortunate to serve with this group as we dream into what the future holds for the IKC.

*Beth Walker*

President, IKC  
Chair, IKC Board of Directors



Beth Walker

## Ministry Team Reports

### Disaster Preparedness and Response Team

The Disaster Preparedness and Response Ministry Team (DPRMT) have been quite active in disaster recovery for the past 12 months. We organized and participated in 5 volunteer outreach events in western Kentucky, 1 in eastern Kentucky, and 2 in central Indiana. The volunteer teams represented 12 churches, some from as far away as Connecticut. A total of 151 volunteers donated 8,652 hours repairing 31 homes. Now that the tornado disaster recovery in western Kentucky and central Indiana have concluded, we are focusing our efforts on eastern Kentucky where flooding in February 2025 has devastated multiple communities. We will be focusing on the three counties of Pike, Perry, and Letcher because arrangements have been made with our housing and long-term recovery partners in those counties. We have 2 volunteer outreach events, previously referred to as work camps, planned for July and have had other churches contact us about volunteering later in the year.

To assist in the disaster recovery work, the IKC-DPRMT received a \$20,000 grant from the national UCC Disaster Ministries Global H.O.P.E. team in 2024. Those funds were used primarily to pay for materials (90%) used in the rebuilding and repair process. The funds from that grant were depleted in November 2024. In February the DPRMT applied for an additional \$20,000 grant from the Global H.O.P.E. team to assist in the 2025 flood recovery in eastern and western Kentucky. We were told in March that they would be sending a check to the IKC for \$20,000 in April 2025. This will be the third \$20,000 grant we have received from the Global H.O.P.E. team since 2022.

In addition, the DPRMT continues to use its own fund to supplement expenses. As of March 31, 2025, the DPRMT Fund had a balance of \$8,652.66. We are most appreciative that donations continue to come in to help us with this important work.

The Disaster Preparedness and Response Ministry Team (DPRMT) has met virtually and/or in-person numerous times to discuss training, preparedness, and work camp opportunities. Members of the DPRMT continue to be active in local and state disaster resource organizations. The DPRMT offers support to local churches in preparedness and training opportunities and had set up a display table at the 2024 IKC Annual Gathering in New Albany, Indiana for better recognition by our churches.

The DPRMT also assisted disaster recovery partners like I.O.C.C. in Marshall County, Kentucky to apply for grants from the UCC Disaster Ministries Global H.O.P.E. team. I.O.C.C. were able to obtain \$35,000 in funds for 2024.

We continue to monitor and update our Disaster Preparedness web page to provide our IKC churches and the wider church with the latest preparedness resources, as well as offer them volunteer outreach opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rev. Greg Denk*

Disaster Response Coordinator

### Sri Lanka Partnership

Though we have members from other areas of our United Church of Christ, our Sri Lanka Partnership, began in 1987, continues to be vibrant on both sides of our globe.

We always are looking to welcome all who might be interested. If you'd like to know more, speak with our Chairperson Sarah Frische-Mouri Hannigan at 317-862-4136, Zion UCC, Troy Avenue, Indianapolis, where she is a pastor, or me, Tom, 317-709-0626.

We meet monthly for conversations and concerns here in the US as well as in Sri Lanka. We talk about our beliefs (theology), our thanksgivings, our needs, and our growing edges. Thoughtful and warm conversations even with church folk we may never meet face-to-face. Jesus brings us to partnership to further the Spirit-CommonWealth for which Jesus led us to pray, celebrate, and labor.

Recently our UCC Global Ministries brought Reverend Ananthan (affectionally known as Reverend AST) to our 2025 General Synod in Kansas City. Then our member, our Conference Leader Chad Abbott, brought Rev AST back to Indiana-Kentucky, and he spent time with many of our members both in Kentucky and Indiana. He got a good taste of Hoosier hospitality before he traveled on to meet Sri Lankan folk in North Carolina, New York City, and Boston.

We continue to endeavor toward God's Just Peace Vision with our partners, both in Sri Lanka and the US, praying and encouraging each other. The nation of Sri Lanka has suffered long from ethnic strife and now from a collapse economy as well. Life is difficult more than most of us can imagine. Now we pray that new, more humane, political leadership will eventually bring the people back from strife and wide-spread poverty. Most of the ministry of our partners has been with the minority Tamil-Hindu community.

We support financially – AND WE NEED THE SUPPORT OF ALL THE CHURCHES IN OUR INDIANA-KENTUCKY CONFERENCE PLEASE – educational endeavors in Sri Lanka, especially at their Christian Theological Seminary in Jaffna, northern Sri Lanka. Special educational emphases besides local church leadership, are on education for women at all levels and in all dimensions, and on diversity. The seminary has exciting plans to work with other seminaries and move toward consortium.

*Rev. Tom Blossom*

Interim Leader



## Ministry Team Reports

### IKC/EKvW Young Ambassadors – Generation 8

What has the past year looked like for your IKC YA Gen 8? It was slightly slower and a much quieter year than 2024 when it came to planning. The IKC YAs met a handful of times after our German friends left us in August 2024. The American Co-Leaders had visited our partners in November 2024 for a week of planning on the travel to Germany for the IKC YAs.



Our IKC cohort will arrive in German on July 16<sup>th</sup> and will return back in Louisville on August 05<sup>th</sup>, so when you are reading this report at our IKC Annual Gathering a few weeks later – our 24 YAs (4 adult leaders & 20 youth) would have completed our time with our German friends and would have had a journey that will last a lifetime. That included: time at church camp, the City of Cologne, the City of Berlin, service projects and cultural/historic sites and wonderful weekends with our lovely host families and churches in Siegen-Wittgenstein.

If your church is interested in the program, please don't hesitate to contact us – we would love to come by and speak about this important ministry of our IKC and wider church.

Respectfully submitted by:

*Rev. Ken Rose, Jr*  
*Emily Tishevar*



### IKC Transitions Team

The mission of the IKC Transitions Team is to nourish and resource congregations in transition to discover God's plan for their congregation.

The Transitions Team supports and equips three coaching teams.

- ◇ **Bridge Team:** When a pastor announces their retirement or resignation the IKC Transitions Team assigns a Bridge Coach to work with congregational leaders and the Transitional Pastor. The Coach guides the Bridge Team in activities and discussions to help answer these four questions in the Local Church Profile: who are we? what is our community vision? who is God calling us to become? who is God calling to minister with us? Once these activities and discussions are completed the team is ready to write a Local Church Profile and begin searching for their next settled pastor.
- ◇ **Shared Ministry Team:** If you are interested in exploring shared ministry with another UCC congregation or a congregation in your community of another denomination a Coach who will guide the congregation through a process of exploring what shared ministry can look like, discovering shared community outreach ministries, and looking at both the finances and logistics of sharing a pastor.
- ◇ **Horizon Team:** Horizon Ministry is the sacred discernment process a congregation and its leaders engage in as they imagine their future. This process helps a congregation explore two options: revitalization (sunrise) or legacy (sunset). A Horizon Coach will guide the congregation along their discernment path and provide support and resources to do this ministry well.

Currently our Bridge Team Coaches are working with eight congregations, and our Horizon Team Coaches are working with four congregations. In addition, we trained one new coach.

Respectfully,

*Jim Jensen, Monica Ouellette, Co-chairs*

*Paul Fraser, Karen Fraser Moore, John Gardner, Jim Jensen, Emma Loane, Pam Lee-Miller, Christina Ryan Perkins, Allen Kahler and Dan Tucker*



### Anti Racism Taskforce

The Anti-Racism Taskforce has had two big foci over the past twelve months. The first was getting the anti-racism training up and running. After the beta test in 2024, we had our first full training in February in South Bend, with over 20 in attendance. We received positive feedback and have made some slight adjustments for the upcoming training in Carmel, IN, which will be in early September. The other area of attention was in recruiting new members to the taskforce. Since our formation in 2021, a number of people who joined initially have had to leave for various reasons and had not been replaced. In consultation with the Conference, we made a concerted effort to recruit several new members, which was successful. A longer term goal is to develop some micro-trainings that are briefer in duration as a supplement to the core one-day training, but our focus for now is in providing a quality baseline training for all who take it.

Submitted by,

*Timothy Murphy, co-chair*



### WISE Team

In February of 2024 the Joint Indiana Kentucky and Heartland Conferences WISE Team (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged for mental health) began meeting. This Joint WISE Team is working towards providing resources and support for individuals, leaders and congregations around mental health topics. We also offer support for congregations interested in becoming a WISE Church.

Moving forward the team plans to provide bi-monthly virtual meetings in which we will share mental health support and resources. On the alternate months we have virtual meetings with speakers from within our conferences and region to speak on a variety of topics including the newest research and education. We invite you to join us for these exciting virtual opportunities.

In addition, we are curating a digital database of articles, worship material, educational resources and training opportunity around many mental health topics.

Respectfully,

*Christina Ryan-Pekins – co-chair, Ann Houlette – secretary*

*Chad Abbott, Shannon Abbott, Joan Dell, Paul Fraser, Sarah Haas, Liz Herrmann, Lakota Iron Rope, Sarah Lund, Monica Ouellette, and Ken Rose*



## Ministry Tram and Agency Reports

### Nigeria Partnership

On June 7, 2024 Dr. Sarah Maigari died. Sarah was a champion for women in Nigeria. She and her Divine Women's Merchantship (DIWOM) organization have been vital members of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference of the UCC's (IKCUCC) understanding of God's global love, since 2010. Sarah started the SOW Hope International School in 2023. The building of the school was supported by the churches of the IKCUCC. The conference also helped build 5 wells providing safe water for over 10,000 people.

This past June, Sarah Maigari's ministry in Nigeria was celebrated in two ways. First, her family and friends gathered for a service to place a wreath of flowers on her grave in commemoration of her death one year ago.

Secondly, (And this would have been the most exciting for Sarah) the roof was put on the second story of the Sow Hope International School! The school had been functioning, in spite of the fact, that the building was incomplete. Now student and staff are thrilled!

The government run schools in the district have not functioned well due to extreme poverty. Many of these were closed and abandoned. Sarah started the Sow Hope Academy when she saw the growing need in her area.

The school is blessed with a good principal, five teachers, two security guards and two custodians. There are 36 pupils in grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> (ages 4 to 12). There are 28 in secondary level grades 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> (ages 13-26), for a total of 64 students. The curriculum includes math, English, basic science, and social science. It is a technical school so there are also classes to teach practical skills for job training.

Each student pays 15,000 naira (approximately \$9.53) for a semester. This is minuscule to us, but for many of the families in the area even that is a significant sacrifice. The school plans to grow slowly as they can afford to pay more teachers. They are working hard to provide a quality education and sustain the school program.

Sarah's niece, Elizabeth Akson is the person who sent us this information. She helps to supervise Sarah's various projects, continuing her legacy, Elizabeth wants all the donors to know how grateful everyone is for their gifts that made the school possible. She wrote, "It has been and will continue to be a tremendous blessing. Praise God!"

Written by

*Gayle Morley Jahn*

### United Church Homes

For 109 years, United Church Homes (UCH) has been committed to transforming the lives of older adults through exceptional housing and compassionate care. Now the **19th largest multisite nonprofit senior living organization in the U.S.**, UCH serves nearly **7,000 residents** across **116 communities** in 15 states and two tribal lands. With a mission to redefine aging, UCH continues to foster a culture of **community, wholeness, and peace** while leading the way as a founding member of **Radiant Alliance**.

#### UCH is proud to serve the following senior living communities in the Indiana-Kentucky Conference:

|                                   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Muir Manor                        | New Albany, IN   |
| Capital Station                   | Indianapolis, IN |
| Maple Leaf Commons,               | Goshen, IN       |
| Oakhaven Community                | Bremen, IN       |
| Laverna Terrace                   | Avilla, IN       |
| Providence Place of Bloomington   | Bloomington, IN  |
| Providence Place of Bloomington 2 | Bloomington, IN  |
| Providence Place of Marion 1      | Marion, IN       |
| Providence Place of Marion 2      | Marion, IN       |
| Providence Place of Marion 3      | Marion, IN       |
| Salem Manor                       | Fort Wayne, IN   |
| Friends Fellowship                | Richmond, IN     |



#### Programs and Education from The Center for Abundant Aging:

The Center, established in 2017, serves as a hub for thought leadership on aging in the 21st century. Through innovative resources, engaging events and meaningful dialogue, The Center explores and redefines what it means to age with purpose, dignity and abundance, fostering a culture that values older adults and their contributions to society.

- Hosted the **9th Annual Symposium** focused on Meaning, Purpose & Redefining Retirement.
- Delivered **Another Day Older 2.0** at local UCC congregations, supporting churches in aging ministry.
- Facilitated **Church Leadership Training** and **online Wisdom Conversations** for older adults in congregational life.
- Offered online **Abundant Aging courses** that nourish the spiritual wellbeing of older adults,
- including the launch of a virtual **Caregiver Support Group**, facilitated by Rev. Darla Metz.

#### Expanding Reach Through Innovation:

- UCH is participating in the **GUIDE** (Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience) Model through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Aimed to enhance dementia care by comprehensive, person-centered support to individuals living with dementia, their caregivers and reducing hospitalizations.
- The **Abundant Aging Podcast Series** gained momentum with 158% growth in subscribers in 2024, offering conversations with national leaders in aging.
- UCH continues to expand its **NaviGuide** service coordination program, available 24/7 in the continental United States!
- UCH is proud to be the first organization of its kind certified as **WISE** for Mental Health through the UCC! This milestone reflects UCH's commitment to fostering mental wellness and support for its employees and older adults across its communities.
- We continue to offer an innovative **CPE** on-line program accredited through ACPE.

#### Looking Ahead in 2025:

**Leadership Transition:** Rev. Ken Daniel, following 14 years of leadership at UCH, retired in June 2025. Ken Young, a 20-year veteran of UCH and a diakonal minister through the CHHSM Nollau Leadership Institute, assumed the role of President and CEO in February, ensuring a seamless continuation of UCH's mission and vision.

We are proud to partner with IKC to support aging ministries and provide innovative solutions for older adults within their communities.

*Together, we remain committed to enhancing the lives of those we serve.*

## Agency Reports

### Bellewood and Brooklawn

For more than 175 years, Bellewood & Brooklawn has served Kentucky's most vulnerable children and families with a mission to provide a safe, nurturing environment where healing and growth can take place. In 2024, we remained rooted in compassion and guided by hope, expanding our services and adapting our infrastructure to better serve those in our care.

**Spiritual Care Expansion** This year marked a major step forward with the addition of a part-time chaplain to our team. Thanks in part to the ongoing support of our faith partners—including congregations of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference—this new role brings trauma-informed pastoral care to youth in our residential programs. Many of our young people come from deeply painful experiences, and having a chaplain available to walk alongside them spiritually has been a transformative addition.

**Strategic Campus Transition** In alignment with our long-term vision and commitment to sustainability, we announced the sale of our historic Bellewood campus in Anchorage, KY. This move will allow us to consolidate services at our Brooklawn campus in Louisville, enabling stronger continuity of care and greater efficiency. No staff layoffs will occur as a result of this transition, and all children currently in care will continue receiving services in a safe, supportive setting. While we honor the legacy of Bellewood, this next chapter will help us do even more for those who need us most.

**Impact by the Numbers** In 2024, Bellewood & Brooklawn:

- ◆ Served over 800 children and families statewide
- ◆ Maintained a 91% family preservation rate through community-based programs
- ◆ Expanded residential care, now serving 35 children across five open cottages
- ◆ Supported academic achievement through on-campus education and individualized tutoring
- ◆ Continued planning for five additional cottages to open in 2025

We are grateful for the prayers, financial support, and advocacy of the United Church of Christ community. Together, we are creating a future where children are safe, families are whole, and hope is never out of reach.

With gratitude,

*Joe Gunter*

Director of Fundraising Bellewood & Brooklawn

[jgunter@bellewoodandbrooklawn.org](mailto:jgunter@bellewoodandbrooklawn.org)



### Good Samaritan

#### Now It Springs Forth

#### An Update from The Good Samaritan Home

For more than sixty years, The Good Samaritan Home has responded to the Samaritan's call to "take good care of him," walking alongside those often passed by on the road. Founded by United Church of Christ congregations in southwest Indiana and western Kentucky, Good Sam has long embodied a ministry of compassion, care, and community through skilled nursing and dementia care.

Last year, we shared that Good Sam had sold its facility and operations to another provider while remaining a not-for-profit organization. Since then, our volunteer Board of Directors has been in a season of discernment. That work bore fruit this spring as the Board put forth a bold proposal for Good Sam's next chapter.

At our 63rd Annual Meeting, held May 6, 2025, we embraced the prophetic words of Isaiah 43:19 – "*Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?*" – as both theme and testimony. The Board presented a coordinated plan rooted in the membership's priorities of poverty, mental health, and senior care. It includes two major initiatives:

**Affordable Housing** – A five-year, \$5 million grant-making initiative to support the creation and preservation of affordable, energy-efficient housing in southwestern Indiana, including services like home repairs and financial literacy.

**Mental Health & Senior Care Access** – A \$1 million investment in social work education and outreach through a partnership with the University of Southern Indiana. The plan includes student stipends, a new faculty position, and community-based outreach clinics – many hosted by member churches.

With the affirmation and support of our member churches, we are now developing grant processes, formalizing partnerships, and updating structures to support this mission.

During the meeting we also honored the late Rev. Mary Hurley, longtime Chaplain and Board Member, and gave thanks for Kay Vaught, whose twelve years of board service concluded this spring. Kay continues to serve as a Strategic Board Advisor.

As a Covenant Partner of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference and CHHSM, we are deeply grateful for your support. Together, we move forward in faith – trusting that something new is springing forth.

*Rev. Michael Erwin*

Executive Director

[merwin@goodsamhome.org](mailto:merwin@goodsamhome.org)



## Agency Reports

### Norton Faith and Health Ministries

Norton Healthcare's purpose is to provide quality health care to all those we serve, in a manner that responds to the needs of our communities and honors our faith heritage that includes founding organizations (United Church of Christ, United Methodist Church and Episcopal Church) and others that are part of our faith history (Roman Catholic Church and Presbyterian Church).



#### Norton Faith & Health Ministries

For more than two decades, the Norton Healthcare Board of Trustees Committee on Faith & Health Ministries has guided the work of Norton Faith and Health Ministries. UCC members Judge Denise Clayton, Gregory Mayes and the Reverend Lori Miller-Price serve as committee members. Norton Faith & Health Ministries offers faith communities professional guidance, education and resources to support faith community nursing and health ministries. Nurse educators specifically trained in the faith community nursing specialty work with churches and faith groups to weave together health and wellness promotion with the intentional care of the spirit. The department hosts a yearly conference uniquely designed for faith leaders and others to attend at no cost. In 2025, the conference, *Resources for Faith Leaders: Navigating Health Care*, will be held Tuesday, Oct. 21. More information will be sent to the IKC faith communities. To learn more about Norton Faith & Health Ministries, call (502) 629-2700, or send an email to [FHM@nortonhealthcare.org](mailto:FHM@nortonhealthcare.org).

#### Pastoral Care

With the opening of Norton West Louisville Hospital (NWLH) in November 2024, a full range of adult and pediatric health care services, including spiritual care and chaplaincy, became available in a part of our city with some of the highest health care needs. A full-time chaplain is available on site during the week, and a chaplain is available 24/7 to serve patients, families and staff. As NWLH was hiring staff, UCC ordained Chaplain Samantha Jewell was part of the group that trained all staff members in a basic understanding of trauma informed care.

Across the health care system in 2024, staff chaplains and clinical pastoral education residents and interns documented nearly 33,000 patient visits during which family members received spiritual care as well. Offering pastoral support to 23,000 staff persons remains a top priority for the Pastoral Care Department. Staff support includes events and workshops, individual conversations, and rituals, such as the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday and the blessing of hands. For more information, call the Pastoral Care Department at (502) 629-2103, or send an email to The Rev. Kelley Woggon, M.Div., director, pastoral care, at [Kelley.Woggon@nortonhealthcare.org](mailto:Kelley.Woggon@nortonhealthcare.org).

#### Norton Healthcare and Norton Children's Commitment to Community

Norton Healthcare and Norton Children's are committed to meeting the evolving needs of our communities. We continually evaluate and expand access to care — with a special focus on areas where people face the greatest health challenges. In November 2024, we opened Norton West Louisville Hospital, the first hospital built west of Ninth Street in more than 150 years. While this was our largest project of the year, it wasn't the only one. In Jeffersonville, Indiana, we opened a new emergency and diagnostic center to serve more patients on the growing east side of town. In South Central Kentucky, we added adult and pediatric primary care to existing Norton Children's specialty services through the acquisition of a practice in Bowling Green, Kentucky. We also enhanced our financial assistance program to better support patients in need. In 2024, Norton Healthcare's total community benefit was valued at more than \$148 million. This investment supported charity care, health education, sponsorships, cancer outreach, community service and more — advancing our mission to improve access and outcomes for all.

### United Caring Shelters

The United Caring Shelters, Inc. (UCS) now dba United Caring Services was organized in 1991 by Bethel United Church of Christ, Evansville, Indiana. On June 24, 2024 we hired Ryan Rigg as our new Executive Director. His servant leader heart and passion for helping those in need has helped usher in a new era of care for our guests. During the past 12 months of his leadership, we have expanded from 6 essential programs to 10 programs across both our main campus and our women's shelter.



UCS offers the only low-barrier **Day Shelter** services in Evansville. We provide a place for guests to get out of the elements and provide shower and laundry facilities (for which UCS supplies toiletries and laundry detergent). The Day Shelter is open from 8:00 am until 6:00 pm, seven days per week. From July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 we have provided 64,892 hot meals, 6,596 loads of laundry and 23,401 showers for our guests.

Our **Men's Night Shelter** offers a safe, clean overnight shelter to 50 homeless men. Guests can begin checking into the Night Shelter at 7:00 pm and must be in by 10:00 pm unless they have verified employment that keeps them out later. On most evenings the Night Shelter is filled to capacity. Each guest has his own tote in which to store his belongings. UCS provides pillows, sheets, blankets and towels for each guest. In addition to our regular beds, we also have 5 **Men's Medical Respite** beds for homeless men who have been discharged from a hospital, providing extra care during their recovery process. During the past 12 months, we provided a combined 270 men a safe night's sleep and shelter.

Our **Women's Night Shelter**, also known as Ruth's House, operates similarly to our Men's Night Shelter with 22 beds for homeless women. Two new programs that we started this past year at Ruth's House were **Women's Medical Respite** providing 4 respite beds for women who have been discharged from a hospital as well as opening during the day to provide a **Women's Day Shelter**, serving three meals a day to our female guest who may not feel comfortable going to a shelter where men are present. During the past 12 months we provided 216 homeless women with a safe clean place to spend the night, and the support they need to get back on their feet.

The third and fourth floors of our main campus consist of 21 **Apartments**. 20 of the apartments are low-income, permanent, supportive housing to help guest transition out of homelessness. The other apartment is subsidized by Anthem to provide transitional housing for homeless patients experiencing medical issues until they can find permanent housing.

This past winter we also operated our seasonal shelter program called **White Flag**. This year we raised the temperature from 32 degrees to 40 degrees, providing more nights of shelter during the cold winter. We place mattresses and cots on the floor and anyone may come in overnight. During the winter of 2024-25, we had 95 nights of White Flag with an average of 58 persons (includes men, women and children) per night.

This spring we also officially opened our five bed **Diversion/Crisis Center**. This unit is specifically for homeless men or women who may be experiencing mental health or substance abuse issues which makes it hard for them to stay in our regular night shelter with other guests. Finally, we started a **Care Ride** program to transport our guests to vital appointments and resources including doctor appointments, social security office, BMV, court dates, and others. Lack of transportation is often a barrier for our guests to transition out of homelessness and this program helps them to overcome that barrier.

We greatly appreciate the continuing prayers and support of the Indiana Kentucky Conference of the United Church of Christ, as we give life to the words; **No Matter Who You Are, or Where You Are on Life's Journey, You're Welcome Here.**

## Conference Reports

### 2024 Giving To Our Church's Wider Mission Basic Support

| No                                      | Church Name                | Church City    | 2022        | 2023        | 2024        | Church Name                      | City                       | 2022          | 2023        | 2024        |             |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Evansville Tri-State Association</b> |                            |                |             |             |             | <b>Northeast Association</b>     |                            |               |             |             |             |
| 430                                     | First UCC                  | Cynthiana      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | 778                              | Grace St John UCC          | Fort Wayne    | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |
| 440                                     | New Liberty UCC            | Cynthiana      | \$0.00      | \$75.00     | \$0.00      | 780                              | Peace UCC                  | Fort Wayne    | \$2,000.00  | \$50.00     | \$900.00    |
| 580                                     | Bethel UCC                 | Evansville     | \$15,550.00 | \$15,860.00 | \$16,020.00 | 790                              | Plymouth UCC               | Fort Wayne    | \$35,000.00 | \$35,000.00 | \$37,000.00 |
| 590                                     | Bethlehem UCC              | Evansville     | \$41,164.00 | \$42,399.00 | \$45,480.00 | 810                              | Salem UCC                  | Fort Wayne    | \$475.00    | \$2,500.00  | \$0.00      |
| 600                                     | Christ Church, UCC         | Evansville     | \$2,250.00  | \$0.00      | \$125.00    | 1090                             | St. John UCC               | Ashley        | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |
| 625                                     | St. John East UCC          | Evansville     | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | 1310                             | Sparta UCC                 | Kimmell       | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |
| 630                                     | St. Lucas UCC              | Evansville     | \$1,705.00  | \$500.00    | \$500.00    | 1890                             | Salamonia UCC              | Portland      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |
| 660                                     | St. Paul UCC               | Evansville     | \$10,000.00 | \$10,108.00 | \$10,552.00 | <b>Northwest Association</b>     |                            |               |             |             |             |
| 670                                     | St. Paul (German Twp) UCC  | Evansville     | \$6,493.96  | \$6,634.83  | \$7,323.65  | 230                              | First UCC                  | Bourbon       | \$100.00    | \$100.00    | \$0.00      |
| 680                                     | St. Peter UCC              | Evansville     | \$1,922.00  | \$1,560.00  | \$1,743.00  | 250                              | First UCC                  | Bremen        | \$4,129.67  | \$3,018.00  | \$250.00    |
| 720                                     | Zion Evangelical UCC       | Evansville     | \$413.42    | \$1,468.70  | \$500.00    | 350                              | St. John UNITED            | Chesterton    | \$2,964.00  | \$2,667.00  | \$2,667.00  |
| 730                                     | Zoar UCC                   | Evansville     | \$0.00      | \$2,000.00  | \$0.00      | 410                              | St. John UCC               | Crown Point   | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |
| 760                                     | St. Lucas UCC              | Fort Branch    | \$1,600.00  | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | 420                              | Grace UCC                  | Culver        | \$3,216.95  | \$4,025.25  | \$3,744.18  |
| 770                                     | St. Paul UCC               | Fort Branch    | \$1,000.00  | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | 560                              | First UCC                  | Elkhart       | \$5,000.00  | \$10,000.00 | \$5,000.00  |
| 1005                                    | Unity Fellowship           | Owensboro      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | 570                              | St. John UCC               | Elkhart       | \$1,300.00  | \$1,300.00  | \$1,000.00  |
| 1640                                    | Immanuel UCC               | Mount Vernon   | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$40.00     | 900                              | Trinity UCC                | Gary          | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$300.00    |
| 1650                                    | Trinity UCC                | Mount Vernon   | \$1,644.56  | \$999.90    | \$896.21    | 960                              | Plymouth UCC               | Goshen        | \$3,200.00  | \$3,200.00  | \$3,200.00  |
| 1660                                    | Zion (Lippe) UCC           | Mount Vernon   | \$5,000.00  | \$5,000.00  | \$5,000.00  | 1025                             | Faith UCC                  | Hammond       | 0           | 0           | 200         |
| 1720                                    | Zion UCC                   | Newburgh       | \$1,681.50  | \$2,133.00  | \$2,219.05  | 1040                             | Immanuel UCC               | Highland      | \$4,584.92  | \$4,589.64  | \$4,230.00  |
| 2240                                    | St. Peter UCC              | Wadesville     | \$150.00    | \$0.00      | \$55.00     | 1370                             | Immanuel UCC               | Lafayette     | \$10,000.00 | \$10,000.00 | \$10,000.00 |
| 2640                                    | United Church of Paducah   | Paducah        | \$305.00    | \$300.00    | \$370.00    | 1550                             | St John UCC                | Francesville  | \$722.00    | \$910.00    | \$900.00    |
| <b>Kentuckiana Association</b>          |                            |                |             |             |             | <b>Southeast Association</b>     |                            |               |             |             |             |
| 1010                                    | Agape Fellowship UCC       | Louisville     | \$0.00      | \$50.00     | \$100.00    | 1570                             | Peace UCC                  | Merrillville  | \$366.00    | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |
| 1300                                    | St. Luke's UCC             | Jeffersonville | \$3,355.50  | \$2,775.30  | \$5,057.80  | 1600                             | St. John UCC               | Michigan City | \$9,243.50  | \$7,758.00  | \$8,961.00  |
| 1520                                    | St. John UCC               | Madison        | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | 1810                             | First UCC                  | Plymouth      | \$0.00      | \$600.00    | \$600.00    |
| 1710                                    | St. Mark UCC               | New Albany     | \$5,375.00  | \$6,300.00  | \$6,304.00  | 2020                             | St. Peter UCC              | South Bend    | \$1,525.81  | \$2,078.59  | \$1,981.08  |
| 1740                                    | Salem UCC                  | New Middletown | \$500.00    | \$500.00    | \$500.00    | 2030                             | Zion UCC                   | South Bend    | \$12,000.00 | \$12,000.00 | \$6,000.00  |
| 2415                                    | Bluegrass UCC              | Lexington      | \$0.00      | \$750.00    | \$750.00    | 2185                             | Union Community UCC        | Valparaiso    | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |
| 2430                                    | Bethany UCC                | Louisville     | \$140.00    | \$135.00    | \$215.00    | 2270                             | Salem UCC                  | Wanatah       | \$1,734.25  | \$0.00      | \$7,527.00  |
| 2450                                    | Bethlehem UCC              | Louisville     | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$500.00    | 2370                             | St. John UCC               | Woodland      | \$1,105.00  | \$1,450.00  | \$0.00      |
| 2460                                    | Chapel Hill UCC            | Louisville     | \$180.00    | \$175.00    | \$250.00    | 135                              | Prince of Peace UCC        | Bargersville  | \$1,910.00  | \$3,857.00  | \$918.50    |
| 2475                                    | Faith Community Church UCC | Louisville     | \$2,200.00  | \$2,600.00  | \$2,400.00  | 140                              | St. John UCC               | Batesville    | \$2,094.95  | \$1,838.00  | \$1,470.00  |
| 2480                                    | Grace Immanuel UCC         | Louisville     | \$3,000.00  | \$3,000.00  | \$3,500.00  | 175                              | First United Church        | Bloomington   | \$5,000.00  | \$4,000.00  | \$4,500.00  |
| 2490                                    | Immanuel UCC               | Louisville     | \$4,200.00  | \$4,800.00  | \$4,800.00  | 320                              | St. Peter's UCC            | Camel         | \$9,386.05  | \$11,573.88 | \$10,679.30 |
| 2500                                    | Lynnhurst UCC              | Louisville     | \$2,000.00  | \$2,000.00  | \$2,000.00  | 520                              | Old Union UCC              | Edinburgh     | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |
| 2510                                    | Plymouth UCC               | Louisville     | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | 990                              | Congregational Christian U | Hagerstown    | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| 2520                                    | St. Andrew UCC             | Louisville     | \$1,462.50  | \$7,160.00  | \$7,605.00  | 1000                             | Metanoia: Church of Transf | Indianapolis  | \$1,000.00  | \$1,000.00  | \$1,220.00  |
| 2540                                    | St. John UCC               | Louisville     | \$0.00      | \$1,200.00  | \$0.00      | 1130                             | Ellenberger UCC            |               | \$400.00    | \$500.00    | \$1,000.00  |
| 2570                                    | St. Peter UCC              | Louisville     | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$300.00    | 1140                             | Faith UCC                  | Indianapolis  | \$2,000.00  | \$2,000.00  | \$2,000.00  |
| <b>Lincolnland Association</b>          |                            |                |             |             |             | <b>Wabash Valley Association</b> |                            |               |             |             |             |
| 200                                     | St. John UCC               | Boonville      | \$1,410.00  | \$1,245.00  | \$1,000.00  | 1150                             | First Congregational UCC   | Indianapolis  | \$16,500.00 | \$11,625.02 | \$12,000.00 |
| 260                                     | St. John UCC               | Bretzville     | \$25.00     | \$25.00     | \$40.00     | 1170                             | Friens UCC                 | Indianapolis  | \$20,000.00 | \$16,000.00 | \$11,000.00 |
| 310                                     | St. John UCC               | Cannelton      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | 1200                             | Immanuel UCC               | Indianapolis  | \$17,032.47 | \$17,201.43 | \$18,458.01 |
| 360                                     | Zion UCC                   | Chrisney       | \$1,400.00  | \$1,400.00  | \$1,400.00  | 1220                             | Pleasant Run UCC           | Indianapolis  | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |
| 490                                     | St. Peter's UCC            | Dubois         | \$720.00    | \$210.00    | \$879.00    | 1230                             | St. John's UCC             | Indianapolis  | \$14,100.00 | \$7,700.00  | \$6,000.00  |
| 540                                     | Zion UCC                   | Elberfeld      | \$625.00    | \$240.00    | \$545.00    | 1240                             | St. John (Cumberland) UCC  | Indianapolis  | \$5,000.00  | \$4,500.00  | \$7,100.00  |
| 550                                     | Zoar UCC                   | Elberfeld      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | 1270                             | Zion Evangelical UCC       | Indianapolis  | \$15,000.00 | \$15,192.00 | \$15,000.00 |
| 1050                                    | Augustana UCC              | Holland        | \$700.00    | \$0.00      | \$700.00    | 1280                             | Zion (Troy Ave) UCC        | Indianapolis  | \$3,161.52  | \$959.53    | \$635.00    |
| 1060                                    | St. Paul UCC               | Holland        | \$1,664.00  | \$1,248.00  | \$1,931.00  | 1800                             | St. Peter UCC              | Osgood        | \$150.00    | \$310.00    | \$520.00    |
| 1100                                    | Salem UCC                  | Huntingburg    | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | 1940                             | Evangelical UCC            | Shelbyville   | \$800.00    | \$710.00    | \$0.00      |
| 1290                                    | Trinity UCC                | Jasper         | \$3,000.00  | \$3,000.00  | \$3,000.00  | 2080                             | St. John (Penntown) UCC    | Sunman        | \$3,513.00  | \$0.00      | \$5,025.00  |
| 1380                                    | St. John UCC               | Lamar          | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | 340                              | St. John UCC               | Center Point  | 2035        | 4139        | 2154        |
| 1390                                    | St. Peter UCC              | Lamar          | \$13,875.00 | \$14,750.00 | \$14,750.00 | 370                              | First UCC                  | Clay City     | \$5,025.00  | \$6,050.00  | \$1,000.00  |
| 1395                                    | Trinity (Fulda) UCC        | Evanston       | \$500.00    | \$250.00    | \$0.00      | 1480                             | Saron UCC                  | Linton        | \$2,400.00  | \$2,400.00  | \$1,200.00  |
| 2100                                    | Evangelical UCC            | Tell City      | \$5,500.00  | \$5,500.00  | \$1,375.00  | 1820                             | Zion UCC                   | Poland        | \$0.00      | \$250.00    | \$250.00    |
| <b>Northeast Association</b>            |                            |                |             |             |             | <b>Wabash Valley Association</b> |                            |               |             |             |             |
| 100                                     | First Congregational UCC   | Angola         | \$8,208.00  | \$8,152.00  | \$8,799.96  | 2130                             | St. Mark UCC               | Terre Haute   | \$5,150.00  | \$5,100.00  | \$3,683.29  |
| 155                                     | Cross UCC                  | Berne          | \$500.24    | \$321.72    | \$432.55    | 2220                             | St. John UCC               | Vincennes     | \$8,000.00  | \$8,000.00  | \$8,000.00  |
| 165                                     | New Hope UCC               | Bippus         | \$2,250.00  | \$3,300.00  | \$1,200.00  | 2310                             | Salem UCC                  | Westphalia    | \$530.00    | \$600.00    | \$410.00    |
| 470                                     | Zion UCC                   | Decatur        | \$13,020.00 | \$13,020.00 | \$13,245.00 | 2320                             | Bethany UCC                | W. Terre Haut | \$1,200.00  | \$1,200.00  | \$600.00    |
|                                         |                            |                |             |             |             | 2360                             | Pleasant Hill UCC          | Wingate       | \$0.00      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |

### Congratulations to these Indiana-Kentucky Conference Congregations! 5 for 5 in 2024!

**Evansville Tri-State Association**

Bethel UCC, Evansville  
 Bethlehem UCC, Evansville  
 Christ Church, UCC, Evansville  
 St. Paul UCC, Evansville  
 St. Paul (German Twp) UCC, Evansville  
 St. Peter UCC, Evansville  
 Immanuel UCC, Mount Vernon  
 United Church of Paducah, Paducah

**Kentuckiana Association**

Agape Fellowship UCC, Louisville  
 St. Luke's UCC, Jeffersonville  
 St. Mark UCC, New Albany  
 Bluegrass UCC, Lexington  
 Bethany UCC, Louisville  
 Chapel Hill UCC, Louisville  
 Faith Community Church UCC, Louisville  
 Immanuel UCC, Louisville  
 Lynnhurst UCC, Louisville  
 St. Andrew UCC, Louisville  
 St. Peter UCC, Louisville

**Lincolnland Association**

Zion UCC, Chrisney  
 St. Peter's UCC, Dubois  
 Zion UCC, Elberfeld  
 St. Paul UCC, Holland  
 Trinity UCC, Jasper  
 Evangelical UCC, Tell City

**Northeast Association**

First Congregational UCC, Angola  
 New Hope UCC, Bippus  
 Zion UCC, Decatur  
 Plymouth UCC, Fort Wayne

**Northwest Association**

First UCC, Bourbon  
 St. John UCC, Elkhart  
 Plymouth UCC, Goshen  
 Immanuel UCC, Highland  
 Immanuel UCC, Lafayette  
 St. John UCC, Michigan City  
 Zion UCC, South Bend

**Southeast Association**

Prince of Peace UCC, Bargersville  
 St. John UCC, Batesville  
 Ellenberger UCC, Indianapolis  
 First Congregational UCC, Indianapolis  
 Immanuel UCC, Indianapolis  
 St. John (Cumberland) UCC, Indianapolis  
 Zion Evangelical UCC, Indianapolis  
 Zion (Troy Ave) UCC, Indianapolis  
 St. John (Penntown) UCC, Sunman

**Wabash Valley Association**

St. John UCC, Center Point  
 First UCC, Clay City  
 Saron UCC, Linton  
 St. Mark UCC, Terre Haute  
 St. John UCC, Vincennes  
 Salem UCC, Westphalia



Conference Reports

| Income Source                         | 2022            | 2023            | 2024            | 2024 Budget     |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Total Operating Income                | 463,183         | 483,855         | 524,735         | 650,000         |
| Total Operating Expense               | 559,521         | 542,858         | 559,986         | 689,500         |
| <b>Net Operating Income (Expense)</b> | <b>(96,339)</b> | <b>(59,003)</b> | <b>(35,252)</b> | <b>(51,750)</b> |

**Property Insurance  
Automobile Insurance**

**Liability Insurance  
Workers' Compensation**

*Our mission is to support and protect your church and ministry with superior property and casualty risk management and insurance services.  
Subscribe to our newsletter, The Steward, at our website  
<https://www.insuranceboard.org/>*



**INSURANCE BOARD**  
Partners in Protection

**Indiana-Kentucky Conference Board of Directors**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Chad Abbott (SE Clergy)<br/>Samuel Buchrer (ETS Clergy) - <b>Treasurer</b><br/>Georgia Chambers (ETS Clergy)<br/>Kathi Elliott (WV Clergy)<br/>Jamesetta Ferguson (KYA Clergy)<br/>Sara (Izzy) Harbin (NW Clergy) - <b>Moderator</b><br/>Lakota Iron Rope (ETS Lay)<br/>Jim Jensen (SE Lay) - <b>Secretary</b></p> | <p>Shane Kirkpatrick (SE Lay)<br/>Eden Kuhlenschmidt (KYA Lay)<br/>Lori Miller-Price (KYA Clergy)<br/>B. Lee Reberger (WV Clergy)<br/>Christina Ryan Perkins (NE Clergy)<br/>Shawn Seals (SE Lay)<br/>Nicole Shaw (NE Clergy)<br/>Beth Walker (NE Lay) - <b>President and Chair</b></p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Merom Camp and Retreat Center

# AUDITORIUM REDEDICATION

Join us for an evening of music with David LeDune and Gary Ready as we rededicate the renovation of the auditorium after originally dedicated in 1860.

—◆—

**FREE to Public**

7 PM  
September 12

**SURPRISE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

College Hall  
Third Floor  
Elevator available



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
**FINANCIAL MINISTRIES**

United Church of Christ  
**Church Building & Loan Fund**



United Church of Christ  
**CORNERSTONE FUND**



**INSURANCE BOARD**  
Partners in Protection



UNITED CHURCH FUNDS

## Ministry and Agency Reports

### ONA Taskforce

At the August 2024 Annual Gathering in New Albany, the Indiana Kentucky Conference voted to become an Open and Affirming Conference of the United Church of Christ. Our task force was formed in early 2025 to begin sharing a vision for what an Open and Affirming identity would mean for our conference moving forward, and to envision how to best support our congregations in living into this part of our shared mission identity. Rather than asking individuals to serve, we put out the call for volunteers. The response was enthusiastic, with thirteen clergy and lay members volunteering to serve! The first meeting of the task force was in March of '25, and our group has met virtually 4 times since then.

Our first priority has been to plan a celebration of the conference's Open and Affirming commitment; therefore most of our time thus far has been spent preparing for the ONA celebration and dinner at the Annual Gathering. Other areas of focus moving forward are:

1. Provide education support and resources for congregations in the IKC
2. Support congregations that are hesitant about what open and affirming means for them
3. Support congregations engaging in the open and affirming process
4. Support existing open and affirming congregations with next steps to live into their mission
5. Monitor the legislative branches in Indiana and Kentucky for LGBTQ+ items, and discern where UCC Public Presence might be appropriate and needed
6. Facilitate further conversation within the IKC about what it means to be Open and Affirming

Our team will continue to meet virtually on a monthly or as needed basis. We are actively seeking feedback from our IKC congregations about where they are on this journey, and how we can best support our churches in extending the radical welcome of Christ in our communities!

*Gayle Newton and Erin Wathen*



## MOLO VILLAGE TOO



### READY, SET, GROW

MOLO Village, CDC, is growing again! The MOLO Village, a grassroots organization, began supporting the Russell Neighborhood residents over thirteen years ago through its services provided to all age groups, bringing a sense of community by meeting basic needs, skill development, education, and community connection.

In 2021, MOLO opened its first physical development: The Village @ West Jefferson, a fully occupied 30,000-square-foot contemporary commercial development recognized as the first economic Russell development in an estimated 30 years. The Village @ West Jefferson houses MOLO's office and provides healthcare, career skill development, an early childhood learning center, a community bank with a drive-thru, and a coffee café. Services that are common in many communities but were missing in Russell.

Our new vision is underway and will begin before the end of 2024 – MOLO Village has plans to renovate the historic St. Peter's UCC adjacent to The Village @ West Jefferson. The renovation of the historic church will preserve this local landmark, which honors its founding more than a century ago. Equally important, it will allow Russell residents to expand and foster their growth as a community.

<https://molovillagecdc.org/>