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### **“Whose Stories Will Penetrate Our Hearts?”**



Dear Friends in Christ,

I am sure you have noticed, as I have, that there is an ache in the body of the human family. Of course, this ache is not just one thing, nor did it arise just yesterday. **The truth is our many aches intersect with each other all the time. An often-ignored reality of our lives is that we live inside intersecting systems each affecting the others in various ways.** The Apostle Paul knew of this truth and on several occasions offered the metaphor of the body when speaking about the church and the necessity of paying attention to its aches.

[Click Here to Read More](#)

Rev. Dave Long-Higgins  
Conference Minister

### **A Word from our Conference Moderator**

The members of the Heartland Conference Board of Directors are reading the book *Quietly Courageous: Leading the Church in a Changing World*, authored by Gil Rendle, and discussion aspects of the book during the monthly Board meetings.

We can all acknowledge that our society has changed. We have gone from a “we” focused to become more of a “me” focused populous. Deeply woven into the fabric of our society, the church has



been subject to this change. Consequently, a new style of leadership is required, within our churches and within the judicatory bodies—associations, conferences—that provide leadership for our churches.



Tom Hathaway  
Conference Moderator

**Click Here to Read More**



Jill Frey  
Executive Director of Outdoor Ministries

A week of camp forms the world of a child. After experiencing an amazing faith community campers go into the world and create “CAMP - Community, Acceptance, Mindfulness, Prayer,” communities wherever they go.

Read a word below from Nate Taylor, Director of Youth Ministries at Avon Lake UCC about the impact of camp on a child's life.

See you at Camp! - Jill

#### Summer Camp by Nate Taylor

**Summer Camp...it's unlike anything in the American childhood experience. It's a place where you go to escape** the worries and the pressures and the stress and the fears and the need to be perfect and flawless and on....

**Click Here to Read More!**

## *SUMMER CAMP IS HERE!!*



**The pool opened Memorial Day weekend and is waiting for you!** There are still openings for all ages and interests. Be sure to register at least one week before camp starts. **Join us for Music, Mime, Arts, Dance, and Drama camp, Just Camp, Mini Camp, Sportscamp, and Grands and Family Camp.** Payment for Camp will need to be made in full at registration!

Click [here](#) to purchase a gift card to give to a child to attend camp. If you don't have

a child, look for a partnership with a neighborhood child that would benefit from camp.

[Click Here to Register for Summer Camp](#)



[Click Here for the Tom Paton Application](#)

Still looking for a summer mission opportunity?

**We have added weeks to the schedule  
and need your hands in Dayton, OH!**



Our collaboration in Dayton continues to evolve.

In response to multiple inquiries about site availability through the summer, we have decided to extend the project site through the end of July.





[Click Here for More Information](#)

A promotional graphic for the "Take the Bucket Challenge". It has a green background with a yellow diagonal banner on the left that says "THERE'S STILL TIME TO...". The main text in large white letters says "TAKE THE BUCKET CHALLENGE". Below this, in smaller white text, it says "GATHER YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, YOUTH GROUP, AND CHURCH MEMBERS TO HELP US MAKE 2,022 DISASTER RELIEF BUCKETS AND HYGIENE KITS IN 2022!". At the bottom, there is a green bar with the text "Click Here for Information" and the Heartland Conference logo, which consists of a colorful circular design and the words "HEARTLAND CONFERENCE". Stacks of black buckets are shown on the left and right sides.



120 Disaster Relief Buckets and 150 Hygiene Kits have been delivered to the Northwest Ohio Association (NWOA) office in Tiffin, Ohio!

Rev. Melinda Quellhorst, Senior Pastor of Vermilion UCC, delivering 50 personal hygiene kits to the Heartland Conference Disaster Ministries CWS depot at Tempel Hills Camp, Bellville, Ohio!!



**Chaplain Positions  
available through  
United Church Homes!**

Chapel Hill Community in Canal Fulton, Ohio is seeking a full-time chaplain.



# UNITED CHURCH HOMES®



**Four Winds Community in Jackson, Ohio** is seeking a part-time chaplain: 32 hours/week with benefits.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

## Global Mission Intern Applications Due June 15th!

Do you have a young adult in your life who is interested in international service? Are you approaching graduation and want to witness God's work in the world? Global Ministries' Global Mission Intern (GMI) program invites you to serve for one to three years with one of our international partners.

### Who can apply?

- Any young adult who is a member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and/or the United Church of Christ between the ages of 21-30 who has graduated or who is about to graduate from college,
- Any young adult willing to receive the gifts of our partners as well as to share in an intentional process of service.

[Click Here to Learn More and Apply](#)

## OPEN AND AFFIRMING COALITION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



### PRIDE SALE FOR ONA WEBINARS!

During Pride month, three of our most popular webinars are on sale. For just \$35, an unlimited number of members of your church can participate from their own computers or devices. ONA 101 and ONA and the Bible are for congregations taking their first steps towards, or just curious about, an Open and Affirming Covenant. Bending Gender is for both ONA and not-yet ONA churches: with transgender and nonbinary Americans under attack in many states, it's time for congregations to understand how to welcome trans and nonbinary seekers into their congregations.

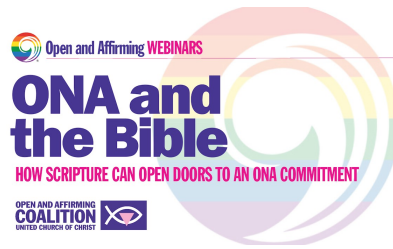


Tuesday, June 21, 7 pm EDT

This webinar explores how and why congregations can become ONA—in ways that do not divide, but unite the church. Applying the basic ONA principles of “graceful engagement” and “covenant,” ONA 101 has helped hundreds of congregations successfully navigate through an ONA process.

[Click Here to Register](#)

We'll examine the seven texts that are commonly used to condemn same-sex relationships, but these few verses shouldn't control your church's conversation about ONA. How can biblical values of covenant, relationship and discipleship be foundational for a successful ONA process? Churches adopt ONA covenants not in spite of, but because of the Bible. This webinar is also valuable for members of existing ONA churches who want to know the biblical basis of their congregation's welcome and support for LGBTQ+ neighbors.



Thursday, June 23, 7 pm EDT

[Click Here to Register](#)



Tuesday, June 28, 7 pm EDT

[Click Here to Register](#)

Join the Rev. Mak Kneebone for this exploration of gender identity and expression; in our lives, in the Bible, in our churches, and in our experience with God. At a time when people of transgender and nonbinary experience have been targeted by a campaign of hatred in many states, your congregation's understanding of this growing community will help you be more effective in mission, ministry and advocacy.



### **Premier Film Screening: All the Lonely People** **Wednesday, June 22, 6:00pm**

Dayton Metro Library, 315 E. Third St, Dayton

Loneliness and social isolation are being called the hidden epidemics of the COVID era. The public is invited to attend the Dayton area premier screening of **All the Lonely People**, a documentary that not only shares first-hand accounts of adults experiencing loneliness but also offers strategies helping people connect. (Do you know about the Happy to Chat bench program?) Sponsored by [United Church Homes' Ruth Frost Parker Center for Abundant Aging](#), and [The Clowder Group](#), a panel discussion with the filmmakers and local experts about what's being done in the Miami Valley to combat social isolation will follow the screening. Learn how you/your faith community can plug in and make a real difference for people in your community. [Advance tickets are \\$15 when purchased online](#) and \$20 at the door. [#AbundantAging](#) [#LiveIt](#)

[Click Here to Purchase Tickets](#)

**Spiritual Director Training Opportunity!**  
Are you Called to become a Compassionate Presence?



The state of our world has many people feeling empty, hungering for meaning and

Applications are now being accepted. Deadline Extended to June 30, 2022.

Our Whole Lives

Comprehensive, Inclusive, Respect, Sexuality, and Our Faith

Lifespan, Justice, Consent, Values, Gender

Anatomy, Internet Safety, Bullying and bystander responsibilities, Dating, Contraception, Gender expression, Lifeskills, Language, Gender identity, Sexual orientation, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Sexual orientation, Consent, Sexual behavior, Contraception, and Pregnancy

The trainings each take place over a 3-week period and require some online work before the training begins and some work in between twice weekly synchronous sessions. The cost is \$250 per person. In addition, each participant needs access to OWL and Sexuality and Our Faith manuals; if they need to purchase these, we offer a 20% discount to UCC people taking OWL trainings. Contact Amy Johnson at [JohnsonA@ucc.org](mailto:JohnsonA@ucc.org) for the discount code.

**Click Here for More Information and to Register**



The work continues! We deeply appreciate your generous donations and will continue to accept funds to help support the folks in Ukraine.



**To date we have received \$85,530.93!**

Your generous donations have helped us provide the following:

- Food for refugees, poor families, soup kitchens, overwhelmed hospitals, and orphanages.
- Medications and medical supplies, ie glasses, walkers
- Medical treatment
- Housing
- Bedding
- Gas for heating and for transportation



The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. The Heartland Conference and the National setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations.

Your generosity to Strengthen the Church (STC) provides the funds that allow The Heartland Conference to Support future leaders of the UCC through Seminary Scholarships and in the development our current Ministry Networks.

In the National setting funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.

**[Click Here for Strengthen the Church Resources](#)**



**[Visit our Website](#)**

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