



South Central Conference
United Church of Christ

growing stronger together

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Featured Articles



Happy 1st Anniversary to Springs of Life Church!

Congratulation to Springs of Life Church in San Marcos, TX on their 1-year anniversary of meeting as a Congregation on August 16, 2026.

We hope God continues to bless Rev. Larry Gipson and every member for many years to come.

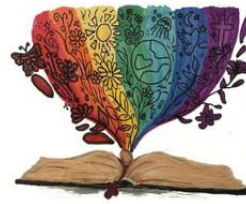


For more than half a century, the United Campus Ministry at Texas State has partnered with the United Church of Christ to fully welcome for ALL students. With a diverse school enrollment of 39,000 students, including 40% first-generation in college, the UCM provides a loving and inclusive ministry caring for individual students while working for a just and peaceful world in the love of Jesus.

If you know a student at Texas State, or want to make a positive impact with emerging young adult leaders of the church, please contact Todd Salmi (todd@ucmtxstate.org) and visit www.ucmtxstate.org.

UCC Webinar: Climate Hope Affiliates 101

Join us to learn about how you can drive nationwide change through local action when it comes to addressing the interconnected crises of climate change and societal injustice. Already, we have participated in our first successful advocacy campaign and now we are addressing the pollution caused by data centers. In this webinar, we will cover the basics about how we affect change and how anyone can start a chapter in their community.



CLIMATE HOPE AFFILIATES A Webinar Introduction

Register Here for [Tuesday, August 18th at 2 pm ET](#)

Register Here for [Wednesday, August 19th at 8 pm ET](#)

250

ACTS OF KINDNESS

Celebration on the Lake UCC Continues 250 Acts of Kindness 2026 Campaign

In recognition of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States! We are collecting 250 Acts of Kindness and reached 213 as of 8-9-26!

[See the list of the nwly reported items here](#)

YOU'RE INVITED!

ONLINE MEETING

*Join us as we connect, collaborate,
and continue our shared mission.*

AUGUST 15TH

12:00 PM
NOON (CDT)

MEETING HELD ONLINE
Link will be shared prior to the meeting.

VOTING ON REVISIONS TO THE ASSOCIATION BYLAWS AND CONSTITUTION

During this meeting, members will have the opportunity to:

- Review proposed revisions to the Association Bylaws and Constitution
- Ask questions and engage in discussion
- Vote on the proposed revisions

Your participation and voice help shape our shared future.

HOUSTON ASSOCIATION
of the
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*God is still speaking,
and so are we.™*

Greetings! The Houston Association has been communicating with you about this special meeting and it's TOMORROW.

It is essential that we have a quorum in order to pass the new Constitution and Bylaws.

[Proposed Constitution & Bylaws](#)

[Join Zoom Meeting Here](#)

Meeting ID: 818 9588 6749

Passcode: 742888



Join St. Peter United for their B2 SUNDAY - Back to School / Back to Church

Sunday, August 23rd. 11AM.
Bring a Teacher, Bring a Student to pray for
their new school year.
[9022 Long Point Rd. Houston, TX. 77055](#)
All Are Welcome!

Conference News



Join SCC Youth Director, Brooke Dooley,
for the Youth Ministry Support
gatherings every second Tuesday of the
month at 6:30pm.

**The next meeting will be
September 8** [Join meeting
here](#). Contact Brooke for more questions
at brooke@sccucc.org.



Join the SCC Conference Minister
and Conference Clergy for
fellowship and conversation every
Wednesday morning @ 9:30am

[Join the August 19th Cafe' Here](#)

NEW ORLEANS ASSOCIATION

FALL

Meeting

• SATURDAY •

SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

• 9:00 a.m. WORSHIP •

9:30 BUSINESS SESSION

• TECHE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST •
NEW IBERIA , LA

The Fall meeting is being held earlier than normal.
Mark your calendars. Conference Minister Molly will be present.

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE
GATHERING
Coming Together. Looking Ahead.

NOVEMBER 6-7, 2026

FRIENDS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 COLLEGE STATION, TX

Strengthening relationships is both the purpose of this gathering and the foundation for whatever comes next.

EVERY CHURCH. Brings wisdom. **EVERY VOICE. Matters here.** **EVERYONE BELONGS. Together we grow.**

Worship. Conversation. Learning. Fellowship. Service. Reflection.

South Central Conference Gathering: Coming Together. Looking Ahead.

Join clergy, lay leaders, and youth this November in College Station for worship, learning, and fellowship November 6-7, 2026.

[Register](#)

[Reserve Hotel Room Here](#)

Learning Opportunities



August is National Make-A-Will Month. We're inviting you to put your love into action by creating or updating your will at no cost! In 2024, the Pension Boards-UCC and National Ministries launched Together for Tomorrow, a shared legacy campaign that provides our UCC community with access to **FreeWill**.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to Paul at 212-729-2738 or pramsey@pbucc.org or Michelle at 216-736-2109 or carverm@ucc.org with any questions about writing your will or leaving a planned gift.

[Get Started Here](#)

PATHWAYS
 THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Affordable, Accessible, and Flexible
www.pathwaystheological.org

Courses beginning September 1
 Biblical Studies Project
 Sermon Writing Project

Courses beginning September 9
 Professional Boundaries and Ministerial Self-Care
 Indigenous Theology

[CLICK HERE FOR FALL 2026 COURSE OFFERINGS](#)

Are you ready to get started?
 STEP 1: [APPLY NOW](#)

GETTING TO THE ROOT

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

"August Recess" is the time in which members of Congress head back to their states and districts. Many use this time to connect with constituents, highlight legislative wins at town halls and state fairs, and lay the groundwork before campaign season ramps up in the fall. But this break isn't just valuable for lawmakers, it's also a prime opportunity for advocates."

UCC Office of Public Policy & Advocacy

Each month, UCC experts unpack an issue through our [Getting to the Root series](#). This August, the UCC Office of Public Policy & Advocacy team reflect on how to make the most of August Recess, such as meeting with your elected officials locally, gearing up your congregation for the midterm elections, and prioritizing rest. You can read the [full reflection here](#).

National UCC News



United Church of Christ™
**MENTAL HEALTH
NETWORK**

JOIN OUR BOARD

All persons who are passionate and compassionate about Mental Health, Mental Wellness, and Neurodiversity are invited to apply.

We are accepting applications to join our Board of Directors through
August 17, 2026!
[Learn More Here](#)

Upcoming UCC MESA Trainings

**Thursday, September 10, 1:00pm –
3:00pm ET MESA Introduction**

Judicatory staff will cover topics including theological grounding in the work of COMs, the Manual on Ministry, the Marks for Faithful and Effective Ministers and the Ministerial Code, best practices for working with COMs and other topics. Facilitated by Rev. Elizabeth Dilley and Rev. Melanie Oommen.

APC Endorsement Deadlines

Final materials and the Letter of Endorsement written by the Committee on Ministry should be submitted via email to glaser-bacona@ucc.org for certification no later than three weeks before the deadline.

● **October 31, 2026** for
interviews in March 2027

**GLOBAL MINISTRIES 30TH
ANNIVERSARY WEBINAR**

CONGREGATIONS DOING CHRIST'S WORK

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2026 AT 7:00PM ET



Please join the Indian Region of the DOC and Rev. Dr. Christal Williams, in leading a webinar around local congregations and their engagement with global ministry.

This is part of a series of webinars for the 30th Celebration year for Global Ministries.

**It will take place on Zoom on
August 19th from 7pm-8pm
eastern. Global Ministries 30th
Anniversary Webinar
Congregations Doing Christ's Work
Wednesday, August 19th 7pm
Eastern**

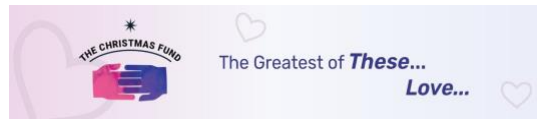
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/TZSiv5v5TgaYAigN1JAJmA>

Advocacy & Mission



Join the UCC in Urging Congress to Hold Data Centers Accountable

[Take Action Here](#)



It may be the middle of summer, but the spirit of Christmas is already in the air as we prepare to celebrate Christmas in July. This month, we're celebrating the powerful ways The Christmas Fund community supports the financial, physical, and spiritual wellbeing of those who serve the UCC.

[Donate](#)



Faith Response Immigration Gathering October 4-6, 2026

You're invited to join with people of faith from across Texas for training and resource building to faithfully respond to attacks on immigrants in our communities.

[Click Here for More Information](#)

Support the Ministry of the Conference



Stronger Together Through OCWM Monthly Giving

Our shared ministry across the wider church is made possible through OCWM.

Contributions allow for consistent, faithful stewardship. Reliable giving helps sustain staff support, pastoral care, and leadership development throughout the year.

OCWM is a living expression of our covenant—reminding us that we are **stronger together**.

[Donate](#)



Become a Friend of the Conference!

[Donate](#)

Resources



Let's Connect!

Email: sccm@sccucc.org

Schedule an Appointment
<https://calendly.com/sccm-sccucc>



[View the NEW SCC E-news Calendar.](#)

Would you like to submit an article for the eNews? Email your information to Stacey at office@sccucc.org or call the office at 830-313-5855

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