



**WISCONSIN
CONFERENCE**
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Wisconsin Conference Life Newsletter

April 20, 2017

Vibrant Things are Happening at this Year's Association Annual Meetings!

The **Northeast Association** is meeting this Saturday, April 22, at First Congregational Church in Ripon to "**Celebrate the Local Church.**" Join your brothers and sisters in the Northeast Association for a day of worship, fellowship and business. The day will highlight the local church and the variety of ministries found there and will feature local congregations as they continue to find new and innovative ways to proclaim the gospel and be the church. It's not too late to join the event and the cost is \$12 at the door.

On Saturday, April 29, the **Northwest Association** gathers together at St. Paul's UCC in Wausau where the Rev. Winton Boyd will give the keynote address, "**Faithful Living in Confusing Times.**" Attendees will:

- reflect on how to live faithfully as followers of Jesus and members of our local, state and national communities.
- explore what might be possible for our congregations in a time when so many are facing despair, anger and confusion around our socio-political climate.
- wonder together what role we have in shaping a faithful witness and resistance movement in our country today that reflects our Christian faith and Christian witness to justice and compassion.

The meeting will also feature exhibition space where churches will display examples of how God is using your congregation to transform lives and change our world ... how you are shifting from maintenance to mission. Hurry: \$10 [online registration](#) is open through Friday, April 21.

The **Southeast Association's** 2017 Annual Meeting, **Building Community, Sharing Hope, Working Together**, also takes place on April 29 at Trinity UCC in Brookfield. The **keynote speaker will be Hon. Rev. Everett Mitchell**, Circuit Court Judge of Dane County and pastor of Christ the Solid Rock Baptist Church. Rev. Mitchell's theological focus has been examining the relationship of the church to social issues, such as poverty, war, incarceration and immigration. [Register online](#) for \$10 by April 23.

In This Issue

[Annual Meeting 2017](#)

[CM Sermon for Annual Meeting Sunday](#)

[Parish Paper](#)

[WCOC seeks Executive Director](#)

[Conference Transitions](#)

Church Spotlight



St. John's UCC, Monroe

For 155 years, this church has served the people of Monroe, Wisconsin. In the Southwest Association, the senior pastor is Rev. Todd Hackman and Rev. Kathleen Rinear is associate pastor.

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

Check the Conference [calendar](#) for

On Saturday, May 6, the **Southwest Association** is meeting at St. John's UCC in Monroe. The meeting features **keynote speaker Edie Rasell**, UCC Minister for Economic Justice. The United States is an incredibly wealthy country, so why are so many of us barely getting by, worried about our kids, and leery of our financial future? Is the economy serving its purpose? In this keynote address Edie will briefly examine what the Bible says about the economy, explore how we got off track, and consider what can be done. [Register online](#) for \$15 through April 30.

SHIFT: Our Unfolding Story

Annual Meeting 2017

June 9-11

Come to Annual Meeting and be inspired as congregations across Wisconsin share their stories of ministry and mission in their communities. We will learn from each other in the [Share Fair](#).

We will learn from our keynote speakers, the [Rev. John Dorhauer](#) and the [Rev. Everett Mitchell](#). We will learn in [workshops](#) and take home new ideas and resources for our congregations.

We will be the church together in worship, and in the business of the Wisconsin Conference as we vote on the resolution to become an immigrant welcoming conference.

And we will bask in the camaraderie of friends old and new, and the beauty and serenity of the Green Lake Conference Center surroundings.

Get more meeting information at wcucc.org/annualmeeting. And reserve your room soon! Our meeting room block will be released on April 28; act quickly to be sure of getting a room!

Check out Thursday's pre-conference workshop: [Sparking Creativity and Expanding Vision, with Paul Nixon](#), author of *Weird Church*. Bring a team and acquire tools to kick-start a new initiative in your congregation!


Interested in volunteering? [Learn more and sign up here](#).

Conference Minister's Sermon for Annual Meeting Sunday

Rev. Franz Rigert, Conference Minister, will provide a sermon to churches that can be used on the Sunday of Annual Meeting. The sermon will be provided in both video and printed form. The video will be available via YouTube or a link from the Conference website. This will be sent to churches by May 26. If you need the sermon on a disc, please contact [Nola at the Conference office](#) by May 26.

upcoming events.

Quick Links

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Is your church considering an Open and Affirming Process? The Wisconsin Conference has a committee to help! Please feel free to use us as resources for your discussions and preparations. Contact [Micah Schlobohm](#) of the Wisconsin Conference UCC Committee on Ministry with LGBTQ Persons.

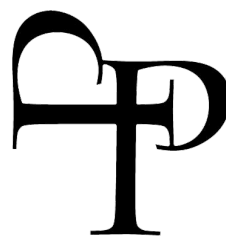
Also check out the [Facebook page for ONA churches!](#)

Got News?

Let us know! If you have something you'd like considered for publication in *Wisconsin Conference Life*, email [Nola](#) at the Wisconsin Conference.

The Parish Paper

The Wisconsin Conference subscribes to The Parish Paper. Did you know this includes permission for any congregation in our jurisdiction to (a) photocopy or electronically distribute for local use as many copies as it needs; (b) post them on its website, and; (c) quote sentences and paragraphs?



[Check out The Parish Paper here](#)

The Wisconsin Council of Churches seeks an Executive Director



Responsibilities for the position include: nurturing and sustaining relationships/partnerships with member judicatories and their leaders, fund development, programming ecumenical educational events, working with statewide advocacy organizations, staff supervision, and board support, all in the service of sustaining a vibrant Council of Churches. Interested candidates are asked to send a resume and cover letter addressing why the candidate feels called to be open to this position to execdirsearch@wichurches.org by May 21, 2017. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience. View a [Position Description](#).

Conference Transitions

Searching Churches

- **St. Peter's UCC in Saukville** seeks a part time settled pastor.

To see all searching churches, [click here](#).

In Memoriam

- **Joseph Flad**, father of Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels and Ann Flad-Jesion, died on April 6, 2017. [Obituary](#)
- **Anita Buchholz**, mother of Lois Buchholz, died on April 15, 2017. [Obituary](#)

The Conference Transitions feature appears monthly in the Wisconsin Conference Life. Please share your transition information, including church anniversaries, with the newsletter editor by emailing [Nola](#).

This newsletter is made possible by contributions to Our Church's Wider Mission Basic Support.

The Wisconsin Conference UCC is an [Open and Affirming Conference](#).

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