

Covenanted Ministry Team Workshops at CAG- June 7

Committees on Ministry Covenanted Ministry Team

1:15 Parliament I

Healthy Churches, Healthy Ministers: A Guide to Creating Healthy Boundaries in Congregational Systems. What are the professional boundaries UCC ministers are expected to maintain? Why? How can lay leaders be supportive in maintaining healthy congregational systems? This workshop will give you a better understanding of the need and rationale behind professional clergy boundaries. You will get an inside look at the boundary training we provide to UCC clergy throughout the MMS Conference. You will also have an opportunity to ask questions, identify resources, and find out ways to encourage healthy relationships.

OCWM Covenanted Ministry Team

1:15 Parliament II

The United Church of Christ has a vision of a just world for all. The 3 Great Loves is our denomination's opportunity to express how our Love of Neighbor, Love of Children and Love of Creation work together to address the inequities in our current world. Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) funds the spreading of God's love to more people in more places than any one of us can do alone. We will explore what OCWM is, why it's important, what difference it makes and what resources are available to local churches for OCWM education. Bring your ideas, questions, concerns as we talk about Our Church's Wider Mission.

Justice & Witness Covenanted Ministry Team

1:15 Parliament III

The Justice Witness Covenanted Ministry Team will discuss joint efforts between Kansas City and St. Louis in providing updates on justice witness efforts in each area and providing ways to link, mobilize, and build power around impacting local and State level witness efforts. Emphasis will be on increased communication, connections, and unified action efforts across demographics and geography, as we work towards a Just World for All.

Camp MoVal Covenanted Ministry Team

1:15 Polo Room

In the summer of 2017, Camp MoVal contracted with an outside consultant to evaluate Camp MoVal and its operation, both currently and into the future. The report listed three main points: Governance, Fundraising, and Property. These were discussed in depth between the Conference Moderator, Conference Minister and Outdoor Ministries Director. After these conversations and with the blessing of the Conference Council we are beginning to create a strategic plan to ensure the long-term success of Camp MoVal. Come join us as we begin what will likely be a yearlong discussion about the future of Camp MoVal.

Older Adult Covenanted Ministry Team

2:30 Parliament I

Join us as we share the work of our ministry within the Conference. Since we are a fairly new ministry, we also need you to come and share what is being done in your congregation to encourage and appreciate Age Friendly Congregations. We have resources listed on our Conference Older Adult Ministry web page and hope you will be able to add to them. We not only want to share the resources available as congregations age but also uplift and appreciate the work being done by older adults--mentoring children, volunteering in the community, mission trips, etc. Come join us as we work to create "A Just World for All".

Heritage Covenanted Ministry Team

2:30 Parliament II

Theology and Mission in Historical Perspective- This workshop will explore how the theological richness and diversity of the United Church of Christ has impacted the mission of the health and human service agencies of the United Church of Christ in the Missouri Mid-South Conference.

Gateway ONA and Heartland ONA Coalitions

2:30 & 3:45 Parliament III

Gateway and Heartland ONA Coalitions will present ONA101. If your church has been considering the ONA process or would like to hear from churches in the process or who have recently become an ONA church, join us. There will be time for Q and A.

Shannondale Covenanted Ministry Team

2:30 Polo Room

Shannondale is a Ministry that includes a retreat center serving the poor community within Shannon County, plus the members and friends of the Missouri Mid-South Conference. It is surrounded by 4000 acres of forest in the heart of the Ozark National Scenic Riverway between Salem and Eminence, Missouri. We are blessed with a unique and amazing asset to do God's work. Our workshop will include ways we can exhibit the UCC "Love of Creation" through the Shannondale Ministry.

Ambassadors Covenanted Ministry Team

3:45 Parliament I

Covenant & Connection- How do we live out our relationships with our neighbor churches in the UCC within the Missouri Mid-South Conference? Explore what it means to live this covenant with other UCC churches, by building connections through communication between and among the local church and the Conference as an Ambassador. Creative ways churches can address their needs and work together will be part of this time together.

Communications Covenanted Ministry Team

3:45 Parliament II

Building a web of communications and connection among our churches- We will invite attendees to consider the questions disseminated earlier this year in our questionnaire about how we can be more connected as a Conference; how we can do together what we cannot do apart; how each of our aspects of Conference life are working towards a just world for all; and how our strengths and challenges might complement one another. Through guided questions we will seek to actively listen to one another, drawing out stories and discerning how our resources might be utilized as part of our covenantal relationship.

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Youth Leaders Covenanted Ministry Team

3:45 Polo Room

Meet members of the Covenanted Youth Ministry Team. Hear what we are doing and how you can be a part of this group that works together to share their love of children and youth. Bring your questions and concerns regarding youth ministry and find ways to work with other churches in your community to build programs for local youth. We will share our ideas, hopes, and dreams. We will also discuss youth ministry opportunities that are built around the Three Great Loves: Love of Children, Neighbor, and Creation.

Friday Faith Sharing Lunch Presenters CAG 2018

Grace Cox-Johnson

Grace Cox-Johnson is a liturgical artist and choral conductor living in Kansas City, Missouri. She will share a snap shot of her journey from growing up mistakenly assigned male at birth in an ultra-conservative family to now serving the local and national church as a trans woman of faith. "It is only when we are authentic that the Spirit can reach our heart center to invite us out into the world."

Joyce Bathke

Back Bay Mission is a community ministry based in Biloxi, MS, founded by the United Church of Christ in 1922. It continues to work toward strengthening neighborhoods, seeking justice and transforming lives through a variety of programs for low income and homeless individuals and families. My introduction to Back Bay Mission was during Hurricane Katrina. I witnessed the love and support given to those devastated by this horrible natural disaster and wanted to learn how I could help. The Missouri Mid-South churches and individuals have responded in many ways—financially and through their Mission trips. This CHSSM organization certainly models the "Three Great Loves" theme of our Conference Annual Gathering and National Church.

Mary Albert

Mary came to ministry mid-life and emerged from seminary with a commitment to putting the gospel into action. This led her to ministries with people "on the margins" of society. She started a house church, which gave birth to Lydia's House, a transitional housing ministry for abused women and their children. She recently retired from Epiphany UCC in St. Louis, an ONA congregation engaged in direct community service (food pantry, health clinic), social justice advocacy (racial, economic, health care, environment and other issues), social enterprise development, and youth ministry (Urban Mission Experience). At her faith sharing luncheon, Mary will reflect on how her view of the world, her understanding of God, and her vision of the mission of the church have been shaped by the people she met and lessons she learned along the way.

Cindy Bumb

Rev. Cindy Bumb is the Vice President of Spiritual Care at Emmaus Homes, where she has served in ministry since September 2013. Cindy celebrated 25 years of ordained ministry last fall; she has served as a local church Pastor and Interim Pastor, as the Executive Director of the Missouri Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, and in human service ministry. Currently, she convenes the Missouri Mid-South - Illinois South agency group of the UCC Council for Health and Human Services Ministries. In her Faith Sharing presentation, Cindy will talk about encountering the UCC's three loves in her ministry at Emmaus Homes, which serves adults with developmental disabilities in four counties in Missouri