

Saturday Meals Only \$20.00

Conference Council Members Meal Package \$50.00

(banquet options)

Beef/Chicken combo _____ or Vegetarian _____ or Vegan _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED

(Registration plus meals) \$ _____



I am willing to participate:

By being a volunteer _____

Helping w/registration _____

I will need:

Child care _____

Fees must be enclosed or by credit card: www.ilucc.org (click on donations, follow directions)

Put an "X" here if paid on-line _____

Please make your check payable to: Illinois Conference

POSTMARK BY May 21: Illinois Conference Registrar
1840 Westchester Blvd., Suite 200
Westchester, IL 60154 (708) 344-4470

NO CANCELLATION REFUNDS AFTER May 21, 2018

After May 21 registration will be at the meeting



190 Prospect Avenue, Elmhurst, IL 60126

Elmhurst College is a comprehensive four-year private liberal arts college in Elmhurst, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago, with a tradition of service-oriented learning. Elmhurst has an affiliation with the United Church of Christ.

FRIDAY: Energizers Session "A" 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Select 1	ENERGIZER NAME	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
	A-1 <i>"Strengthening Small Churches Through Loving our Neighbors"</i>	Many smaller congregations are struggling for survival. As attendance and giving shrink, there is a tendency to focus limited resources inward (on survival) instead of ministering to the wider community. Some smaller congregations are discovering that they can slow (or even REVERSE) this decline by shifting their focus outward into the community and by showing more love for their neighbors. The presenter will share successes and struggles and encourage participants to do likewise.	Rev. Jon Prain, Pastor, Avon Federated Church in Avon, IL.
	A-2 <i>"Discovering Gifts Through Appreciative Inquiry"</i>	Using Appreciative Inquiry, a congregation can discover the real heartbeat and gifts within. As the findings of the AI process are learned, the congregation can identify the compassion-based needs that exist in the community in which they serve. This coaching-based approach allows the congregation to discover what it is they are passionate about based on the narrative that has existed through its history.	Rev. Brandyn Simmons, Pastor Christ Church in West Rogers Park, Chicago and Professional Certified Coach
	A-3 <i>"Love in Action: A Refugee Shares A Life Saved By Neighbors/Strangers"</i>	On her book tour of the past 18 months, Maudlyne Thejirika, an award-winning, Chicago Sun-Times Columnist/Author of "Escape from Nigeria: A Memoir of Faith, Love and War," has stressed one overriding theme: She owes her life to five ordinary American couples – strangers – who put their faith in God, or love, in action, to save the lives of a refugee family halfway around the globe. Thejirika, in the re-telling of the story described as a testimony, shares that these 10 individuals saw only a shared humanity as "neighbors" who saved a mother and her children.	Maudlyne Thejirika, Chicago Sun-Times Urban Affairs Reporter/Columnist and Rev. Elizabeth Jones, Pastor, St. Luke's Christian Community Church in Morton Grove, IL.
	A-4 <i>"Working Together to build the one body of Christ in two different places"</i>	"And Who is my neighbor?" Neighbors are both near and far. The Illinois Conference has had the privilege of building a partnership with the Evangelical Congregational Church in Angola after affirming a resolution in 2004. In the 14 years since its beginning, this partnership has grown in significance and blessing. Let us share the story of how we are "working together to build the one body of Christ in two different places..."	Members of the Illinois Conference Angola Partnership Team
	A-5 <i>"Faith Formation for the College Crowd"</i>	Exploring how young adults find and foster their faith, and the tools and resources that the UCC Campus Ministry at the University of Illinois uses to engage with and serve the needs of university students. Learn about our three faceted program: Small Group Work, Community Service and Breakaway – focusing on personal, communal and wider world examples of love in action.	Ilsa Kantora, Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser and students involved in the Campus Ministry of Community UCC in Champaign, IL

FRIDAY: Energizers Session "B" 4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Select 1	ENERGIZER NAME	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
	B-1 <i>"Paradigm Shift: Doing Church Outside The Box"</i>	Most of our small churches (under 100 on Sunday) are experiencing decline. As a response, these churches try to do the same things just better, more creatively. There is a growing distance between the large consumer mega churches and the small struggling community churches. So what to do? How do we find our way out of this complex maze? It's time for a paradigm shift. You are only 5 steps away from a total makeover!!! A paradigm shift suggests we change the foundation of how we operate. Wonderful examples of paradigm shifts will be shared in this energizer. We can build small personable churches to be relevant, vibrant & strong.	Rev. Charlene Hill, Pastor of Hyde Park Union Church in Chicago
	B-2 <i>"Telling True Stories Can Save Lives"</i>	Storytelling isn't a new thing, especially for people of faith. We hear and tell ancient stories of scripture and bear witness to each other about what we have experienced of God in our lives and in the world. But in some ways, it <i>is</i> a new thing. Storytelling is having a <i>moment</i> . This energizer, will introduce you to (or get to know better) this style of true, first-person narrative. You'll get a few tools to craft or strengthen your own stories. And what's more: we'll think together about how this kind of storytelling changes us as listeners. It matters. We find out we're not alone when we hear about the lives of others. We learn about the on-going work of God in the world.	Rev. Rebecca Anderson, Co-Pastor of Bethany UCC and Gilead Chicago, a church start of both the UCC and Christian Church Disciples
	B-3 <i>"Small Churches – Great Love"</i>	Sometimes small churches feel discouraged because they don't have the resources to undertake big projects in their communities. However, the size of the project does not equal the love it conveys. Remember the words of Mother Teresa, "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love." This energizer will present several "small projects" that smaller congregations in our Conference have undertaken to meet needs in their communities and the world. This energizer will also include time to try planning a project using the steps: Discern, Design, Do and Dedicate!	Rev. Kay Harding and Pastor Alex Garnearz Of Zion UCC in Peru, IL
	B-4 <i>"The Second Book of Acts"</i>	This energizer will be presented by our Keynote Speaker for our Annual Celebration, Rev. Flunder will share her thoughts and concepts around our theme of "Love in Action: Life As Neighbors."	Rev. Yvette Flunder