

IMMERSE RIVER CITY SATURDAY YOURSELF

a daylong event featuring speakers, entertainment and celebrations

JUNE 27, 2009



Ray Suarez



Eugene Robinson



Barbara Brown Taylor



Krista Tippett



Jason & DeMarco



Anya Kamenetz

PROGRAM GUIDE

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



WELCOME TO RIVER CITY SATURDAY!

We're glad that you've chosen to spend Saturday, June 27, with us at River City Saturday, part of the Twenty-Seventh General Synod of the United Church of Christ, June 26-30 in Grand Rapids.

We've planned a wide range of programs and experiences from which to choose: artists, theologians, scientists, journalists and more. A large array of workshops designed to help you revitalize your church also are scheduled. Plus, there's a family friendly party all day at Rosa Parks Circle, and a Stillspeaking Kite Flying Extravaganza during the lunch hour on the lawn outside the Gerald Ford Museum!

This booklet gives you the information you will need to make the most out of your River City Saturday experience. Events are listed chronologically, and include the description and location of each.

The day will culminate with a gathering in the plenary hall — the main auditorium of DeVos Place.

River City Saturday is a collaborative effort of many individuals and groups, in Michigan and across the UCC. We appreciate all of the effort that has gone into making the event possible. Thank you, all!

And thank YOU for helping us celebrate River City Saturday!

We're the toast of the town.

TURKEY RANCH & SWISS

\$1.99 OFF

Receive \$1.99 off a sub with the purchase of combo.

Valid with hotel room key or conference ID badge or valid school ID.

OPEN SUNDAY

146 Monroe Center • 616-742-4400
OFFER NOT VALID WITH TORPEDOS, SAMMIES, OR ANY OTHER OFFERS OR DISCOUNTS.

EXTENDED HOURS JUNE 27-30:
Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. • Sun. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

let's go fly a kite!

Join The Stillspeaking Ministry
for a Kite Flying Extravaganza,
Saturday, June 27, at lunchtime
on the lawn between DeVos Place
and the Gerald R. Ford Museum!



Purchase your kite at the
UCC Resources store
in the Exhibit Hall.

Need more info? Stop by the **myUCC**
e-mmersion center in the Exhibit Hall!

God is still speaking®

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



www.ucc.org/god-is-still-speaking/stillspeaking-kite-extravaganza.html

IN AND AROUND THE GRAND RAPIDS ART MUSEUM

River City Saturday has many great on-site activities and workshops — at DeVos Place, the Amway Grand Hotel and Rosa Parks Circle — for Synod participants and their families. There also are some interesting places to visit in and around Grand Rapids that are fun for the entire family.

Check out Art in the Park/Saturday All Day With the Arts at The Grand Rapids Art Museum, where families can get up close and personal with art, artists and art history. Visitors can explore art galleries or enjoy interpretive storytelling related to works of art or choose from many other family friendly activities.

MUSEUM TICKETS:

ADULTS - \$8
SENIORS (62+) - \$7
COLLEGE STUDENTS
WITH ID - \$7
YOUTH (6-17) - \$5
UNDER 6 - FREE



On Saturday, June 27, there's even an opportunity to create a piece of Whimsical Wire Window Art to take home. Come experience why the Chicago Tribune calls this museum one of the “art treasures in nearby Midwest cities.”

The Art Museum's commitment to current and future generations includes opening its doors as the first newly-constructed, Gold LEED-certified art museum in the world. The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings. In addition, environmental stewardship is a commitment that is evidenced throughout the facility, from its innovative water collection system that reduces the demand for city-treated water by 20 percent, to the recycled paper gift bags used to hold the many environmentally-friendly items sold in the museum store.

The Grand Rapids Art Museum is located at 101 Monroe Center. The hours are Tuesday-Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fridays from 10a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from 12 noon to 5 p.m.

Art in the Park/Saturday All Day with the Arts event is open from 10 a.m.–3 p.m., and is free with a General admission ticket. For more information, call 616-831-1000 or visit www.artmuseumgr.org.



New name. Timeless mission.

When you manage church investments, you hold the trust of generations past, present and future. So you seek solid performance, from professional managers committed to responsible investing. You insist on well-diversified funds, at low fees that return more money for ministry. And you build relationships with partners who will help you achieve your goals. The United Church Foundation is now United Church Funds.

Invest responsibly. Strengthen ministry.

UNITED  CHURCH FUNDS
A century of service

unitedchurchfunds.org 877-806-4989

RIVER CITY SATURDAY PRESENTERS

8:30 A.M. – 9 A.M.

WORSHIP [Plenary Hall]

9 A.M. – 10 A.M.

EUGENE ROBINSON 1

Author and journalist Eugene H. Robinson is assistant managing editor and columnist for The Washington Post. He recently appeared as a featured correspondent on MSNBC in the 2008 U.S. presidential election. [Plenary Hall]

10 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

GOD'S CHOSEN

This choir of junior and senior high school youth got their name from their pastor, the Rev. Barb Pryor, who felt that God called her to form this karaoke style vocal group. [Rosa Parks Circle]

10:30 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.

CHARLES BUCK BIBLE STUDY

Who has not, in the journey, faced weariness, doubt or apathy about what they're doing or where they're headed? Join the Rev. Charles Buck, Hawai'i Conference Minister, for an insightful Bible study, "God of Our Weary Years." [Grand Gallery Overlook C - 2nd floor]

DA CHEN 2

Da Chen, a bestselling author [his memoir, "Colors of the Mountain"] and flutist, grew up impoverished in China during the Cultural Revolution, but escaped political persecution to become a successful businessman and author. Chen arrived in the United States at 23 with \$23 and his bamboo flute. He attended the Columbia University School of Law on a full scholarship and upon graduation, worked on

Wall Street with investment banking firm Rothschilds, Inc. [Ballroom D]

JASON & DEMARCO 3

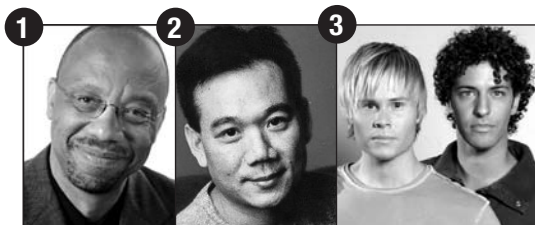
The spiritual pop duo's single, "This is Love," won Music Video of the Year 2006 on MTV's Logo. Their autobiographical documentary film, "We're All Angels," airs on Showtime and chronicles their behind-the-scenes lives as a gay couple, Christian artists and Human Rights Campaign advocates. [Performance Hall]

EUGENE ROBINSON Q&A

See bio in 9 a.m. listing [Grand Gallery Overlook A - 2nd floor]

BARBARA BROWN TAYLOR

The Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor is a bestselling author, pastoral theologian and popular speaker who, in 1996, was named one of the 12 most effective preachers in the English-speaking world by Baylor University. Before being ordained as an Episcopal priest, she received a B.A. in religion from Emory University and an M.Div. from Yale Divinity School. [Ballroom C]



10:45-11:15 A.M.

CHILDREN'S HAND BELL CHOIR

Formed at St. Stephen's Community Church in Lansing, Mich., this group uses handbells as a way of introducing very young children to instrumental performance, greater team work and the joys of playing together in praise.

[Rosa Parks Circle]

11 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

WORKSHOP/PRAISE HYMNAL

Join with UCC musicians and pastors from all over to engage in this energetic, music-filled workshop premiering Sing! Prayer and Praise, the new United Church of Christ praise and worship music song book. Receive suggestions and ideas for introducing the new music to your congregation from the Praise Song Advisory Team, and Scott Ressman, UCC minister for worship, music and liturgical arts. [Plenary Hall]

11:30 A.M. – 12 NOON

THE MESSENGERS

A folk praise band and music ministry of Pilgrim Congregational UCC in Lansing, Mich., The Messengers perform upbeat songs of faith by well-known artists, in addition to their own original music.

[Rosa Parks Circle]

11:45 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

CATHEDRAL OF HOPE CHOIR

The Music Ministry of Cathedral of Hope UCC is one of the congregation's largest and most vibrant ministries including handbells, orchestra and choir. The Sanctuary Choir sings at each Sunday morning service and will entertain Synod-goers with a variety of musical traditions.

[Performance Hall]

WINONA LADUKE 4

Winona LaDuke is a rural development economist who has spent many years working on energy policy and energy self-sufficiency issues in Native America. The author, Harvard graduate and two-time U.S. vice presidential running mate for Ralph Nader is a White Earth Ojibwe tribal member and executive director of Honor the Earth, a national Native American foundation. [Ballroom A]

CAROLYN PARKS-BANI

Carolyn Parks-Bani is a community health education specialist with a passion for helping communities of color and poor communities to identify and solve their own health problems. Her focus has been the development, implementation and evaluation of grassroots health promotion and disease prevention strategies for African Americans, disadvantaged and poor populations, and other groups of color. [Grand Gallery Overlook A - 2nd floor]

EBOO PATEL

Eboo Patel, author, blogger and member of the Obama Administration's Faith Advisory Council, is the founder and executive director of the Interfaith Youth Core, a Chicago-based international nonprofit. He holds a doctorate in the sociology of religion from Oxford University where he studied on a Rhodes Scholarship. [Ballroom C]

SUSAN K. SMITH

Author, former reporter, radio talk show host and social justice advocate, the Rev. Dr. Susan K. Smith is senior pastor of Advent UCC in Columbus, Ohio. Her new book, "Crazy Faith: Ordinary People, Extraordinary Lives," will be the topic of this immersion Bible study. [Grand Gallery Overlook C - 2nd floor]

12:15 P.M. – 1 P.M.

WAZOBIA

An interactive African drumming, dance and singing group from Grand Rapids, their name means “come” in three African languages – Yoruba, Hausa and Ibo.

[Rosa Parks Circle]

12:30 P.M. – 1:45 P.M.

STILLSPEAKING KITE EXTRAVAGANZA

Get your kite at the UCC Resources booth and then join us on the lawn between the Ford Museum and DeVos!

1:15 P.M. – 1:45 P.M.

I, TOO

From the motto, “I, too, minister here,” this group of men and women from First Congregational UCC of Battle Creek, Mich., love to minister through music and believe that everyone serves in their own unique way. [Rosa Parks Circle]

1:45 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

DANCING WHEELS

Dancing Wheels is the first modern dance company to integrate professional stand-up and sit-down (wheelchair) dancers. The company presents more than 100 performances reaching audiences of 125,000 each year. (*Sponsored by the UCC’s Council for Health and Human Services Ministries.*) [Performance Hall]

ALICE HUNT BIBLE STUDY

The Rev. Alice Hunt, president of Chicago Theological Seminary and author of “Methods of Biblical Interpretation,” will lead an immersion Bible study. [Grand Gallery Overlook C - 2nd floor]

ANYA KAMENETZ 5

Anya Kamenetz is a staff writer and columnist for Fast Company magazine and Yahoo! Finance. The Pulitzer Prize nominee is a sought-after media expert

on Generation Y, appearing regularly on CBS, MSNBC, ABC, CNN, FOX News and NPR. [Ballroom D]

CHARLES MCCULLOUGH

Charles McCullough is a poet, sculptor and ordained UCC minister. His terra cotta narrative scenes draw on the parables of Jesus for inspiration, inviting the viewer into the story through the emotions of the characters. [Grand Gallery Overlook A - 2nd floor]

FE’ILOAKITAU KAHO TEVI

For more than 15 years, Fe’iloakitau Kaho Tevi has devoted himself to diplomacy and international relations. As General Secretary for Pacific Conference of Churches and his prior service as World Council of Churches executive secretary in the Pacific region, Tevi has been a proactive voice for global climate change and an advocate for life with dignity for vulnerable groups in the Pacific.

[Ballroom C]

JIM WALLIS 6

Known as the founder and editor of Sojourners Magazine, the Rev. Jim Wallis is a bestselling author, speaker, preacher and public theologian. His book, “God’s Politics: Why the Right Gets it Wrong and the Left Doesn’t Get It,” was on The New York Times bestseller list for four months. He continually challenges religious American’s to make political commitments to social justice issues.

[Ballroom A]



2 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

PLYMOUTH PLAYERS “Joe (Jo) and the Great Salmon” Renaissance-garbed players present an updated Jonah and the Whale. Jokes, puns, props, audience participation, morals and laughter, all in very bad English accents and out of a red wagon or two. **[Rosa Parks Circle]**

2:45 – 3: 15 P.M.

OLIVET CHAMBER GROUP

Directed by Dr. Timothy Flynn, Olivet College Chair of the Olivet College Performing Arts Department, this ensemble performs choral classics from all historic periods. **[Rosa Parks Circle]**

3 P.M. – 3.45 P.M.

NADIRA HIRA 7

Award-winning journalist Nadira A. Hira is an expert on Generation Y, the fastest growing segment of the American workforce. A general assignment writer at Fortune, Hira was awarded the NewsBios 30 Under 30 award, which recognizes the most promising business journalists. **[Ballroom D]**

NICK HOOD BIBLE STUDY

Pastor of Plymouth United Church of Christ in Detroit, the Rev. Nick Hood will lead an immersion Bible study. **[Grand Gallery Overlook C - 2nd floor]**

JAMES MCLURKIN 8

Currently a research associate at the University of Washington in Seattle, James McLurkin was recognized in 2003 by Time Magazine as one of five leading robotics engineers, and by Black Enterprise magazine that same year as a Best and Brightest Under 40. When he was in 7th grade, he knew he wanted to go to MIT, where he later earned a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering and master’s and Ph.D. degrees in computer science. **[Ballroom C]**

RAY SUAREZ 9

A 30-year news veteran and current senior correspondent for The NewsHour, Ray Suarez has been a correspondent for CNN, a host for National Public Radio, a producer for ABC radio, a reporter for CBS radio, a host and narrator for many documentaries and a published author. He is the recipient of several broadcast news awards, a founding member of the Chicago Association of Hispanic Journalists and a life member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists. **[Ballroom A]**

JEFFREY LEVISON

Jeffrey Levison is a Flight Software Systems Engineer who has contributed to many projects at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory, including the Stardust comet project and the Dawn spacecraft project. A member of First Congregational UCC in Pasadena, Calif., he will share his story with us. **[Grand Gallery Overlook A - 2nd floor]**

PAUL WINTER 10

Five-time Grammy Award winner Paul Winter has performed more than 2,000 concerts in major concert halls and cathedrals of the Americas, Europe and Asia. His Paul Winter Sextet became the first jazz group to officially perform at the White House, by invitation of Jackie Kennedy. **[Performance Hall]**

3:30 P.M. – 4 P.M.

DAILY BREAD

Performing an eclectic repertoire of Christian, folk, blues, gospel, country and pop oldies from the ’50s through the ’80s, this rock and roll band provides the music at Ada (Mich.) Congregational UCC’s contemporary worship service. **[Rosa Parks Circle]**

4:15 – 4:45 P.M.

WEST MICHIGAN GAY MEN’S CHORUS

This vocal group sings to create harmony as they celebrate pride in the community and themselves. Dedicated to the rich tradition of men’s choral singing, West Michigan Gay Men’s Chorus seeks not only to entertain through song, but to enlighten. **[Rosa Parks Circle]**

4:15 – 5 P.M.

ERIC ALVA

Eric Alva is the national spokesperson for the Human Rights Campaign fight to repeal the military’s discriminatory LGBT policy. This retired Marine Staff Sergeant and Operation Iraqi Freedom’s first Purple Heart recipient also is a gay man who joined Congressman Martin Meehan in introducing the Military Readiness Enhancement Act, a bill designed to repeal the military’s “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy. **[Ballroom D]**

WHAT MAKES ME WHITE DVD

Aimée Sands’ film, “What Makes Me White,” is about the role of race in the daily lives of white people. The film avoids blame, guilt or “political correctness” and inspires white people to reflect on the invisible influence of whiteness on their personalities and their life choices. **[Grand Gallery Overlook A - 2nd floor]**

CARLTON PEARSON

Bishop Carlton Pearson believes that God loves on a global basis, not just an American or Christian basis. A longtime associate of the Joint College of African American Pentecostal Bishops Congress, the group deemed him “heretical” for preaching that message. He is senior pastor of New Dimensions Worship Center in Tulsa. **[Ballroom C]**

PLYMOUTH UCC COMBINED CHOIR

Enjoy the combined choirs of Plymouth UCC in Detroit in a joyful concert performance. **[Performance Hall]**

KRISTA TIPPETT 11

Krista Tippett is a Peabody Award-winning broadcaster, journalist and author best known for her radio show, “Speaking of Faith,” currently broadcast on more than 200 U.S. public radio radio stations and globally on NPR Worldwide. A Fulbright scholar to Bonn, West Germany, Tippett received a Masters of Divinity from Yale University. **[Ballroom A]**



Small Farmers Big Change



Antonia López Díaz, CIRSA Cooperative Women's Group, CHIAPAS, MEXICO

VISIT EQUAL EXCHANGE AT GENERAL SYNOD

Come by the Equal Exchange booth in the Exhibitors' area.

- Sample our fairly traded coffee, chocolate, tea and snacks.
- Learn how to Fundraise with Fair Trade.
- Learn about last January's Interfaith delegation to visit coffee farmers in Chiapas, Mexico.
- Learn about the Small Farmers Green Planet initiative supporting our farmer partners.
- Tell us about Fair Trade in your congregation. Exchange stories, experience and advice.
- Find out about Holy Joe's Café: Coffee for the Troops.

Help Build the Network of 40 co-operatives in 20 countries, trading with fair prices, affordable credit and long-term, direct relationships through Equal Exchange, a 100% Fair Trade, worker-owned cooperative.



ORDER FROM EQUAL EXCHANGE

COME SEE ALL OUR PRODUCTS AT

<http://interfaith.equalexchange.com>

OR CALL OUR INTERFAITH PROGRAM AT

774-776-7366 TO ORDER.



OUR BLOG: SmallFarmersBigChange.coop

THE UCC COFFEE PROJECT

A partnership of UCC Justice & Witness Ministries and Equal Exchange

WORKSHOPS

SESSION 1 (11 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.)

STILLSPEAKING: MEDIA WITH A MISSION

Churches will be introduced to Stillspeaking strategies to reach targeted audiences through creative and bold use of today's media. [Location: Cascade (Amway)]

GLOBAL WARMING

Fei Tevi, general secretary of the Pacific Conference of Churches, Global Ministries partner, will share the dramatic impact of global warming on the people and land of the Pacific. Learn how you can make a difference. [Location: Emerald A (Amway)]

AGING CREATIVELY: HOW BOOMERS CAN KEEP FROM GOING BUST!

Learn about the three stages of retirement most folks will experience, as well as strategies and resources that can help us manage and thrive through each stage. [Location: Emerald B (Amway)]

MIME & THEATRE FOR THE CHURCH

European Mime Master Todd Farley teaches mime basics he has used for 30 years in 40 nations. Learn how to use the "living statues" technique to present visual scripture readings – a great sermon illustrator for youth and the dramatists of your church. [Location: Pearl (Amway)]

THE MIDDLE EAST: CURRENT ISSUES, CHALLENGES & CHRISTIAN WITNESS

The role of the church is often forgotten in addressing Middle East challenges. This workshop examines current issues – especially that of Iraqi refugees – with the help of an international partner of the UCC. [Location: Ruby (Amway)]

THE ART OF PARABLES: REINTERPRETING THE TEACHING STORIES OF JESUS IN WORD AND SCULPTURE

Come and see the powerpoint preview of Charles McCollough's book, "The Art of Parables." This workshop, by the former UCC national staff member, includes the latest parable scholarship and images of his original sculptures. [Location: Campou (Amway)]

THE T IN LGBT

Transgender is an umbrella term that includes people who identify themselves as transsexuals, cross-dressers, gender-benders, and other terms. Learn some basics about gender and explore how knowledge of transgender persons enlarges our understanding of God. [Location: Imperial (Amway)]

EQUALITY AND THE MARRIAGE LICENSE

A growing number of clergy and congregations are demonstrating their support for marriage equality by declining the legal marriage license until same sex marriage is legal. Learn more about this growing movement and how we can work together for marriage equality. [Location: Governors Room (Amway)]

OPEN AND AFFIRMING - WHY AND HOW

Does it matter that a church makes an official statement of welcome to people of all sexual orientations and gender identities? Learn how much a difference it makes, how to begin conversation in your own church, and how to develop a team and resources. [Location: Grandview A (Amway)]

READY, SET, GROW! INTERNSHIPS, LEADERSHIP ROLES AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

This workshop's powerpoint and video provides ways to encourage youth and young adult connections with the wider church. Explore opportunities for leadership, employment, internships and networking in the UCC and related ecumenical settings. A one-page resource and contact list will be available to participants. **[Location: Grandview B (Amway)]**

WEB 101: EFFECTIVE WEB MINISTRY IN THE LOCAL CONGREGATION

Small congregations and beginners in web ministry will learn the basics of website maintenance, blogging, social networking and other tools available at low cost. Explore myUCC – the UCC's new social networking community – as an easy way to build effective youth ministries and for collaboration with other congregations. **[Location: Heritage Hill (Amway)]**

EVANGELISM 101: BASIC EVANGELISM FOR A VITAL CHURCH

Find out how to grow your church, do outreach and connect with God's world as we share the amazing love of God. Let us explore together what it means to engage in evangelism for a vital congregation in the 21st century. **[Location: Thornapple (Amway)]**

BUDGETS THAT INSPIRE GIVING

Connect members of your church to the ministries they care about in a way that line-item budgets can't touch. Learn how narrative budgets will increase your congregation's giving, and get a useful booklet to take home. **[Location: Berkey (Amway)]**

'I REFUSE TO LEAD A DYING CHURCH!'

Author and United Methodist minister Paul Nixon shares key information from his book on how to lead a healthy, growing spiritual movement. **[Location: Winchester (Amway)]**

THE AGAPE CHRISTIAN RECONCILIATION CONVERSATION

Come discuss the issues related to LGBT justice from a Christian perspective in a safe, nonjudgmental space after watching one of three documentaries, "Straight From the Heart," "All God's Children," or "De Colores." **[Location: Haldane (Amway)]**

FAITH PRACTICES: WORSHIP, LEARNING, AND SERVING FOR VITAL CONGREGATIONS

Learn about new UCC resources (published by September 2010) on hospitality, keeping Sabbath, prayer and stewardship. **[Location: Pullman (Amway)]**

ESSENTIALS AND NON-ESSENTIALS: THE FORMULA FOR UNITY

The words of a 16th-century Lutheran, Rupertus Meldinius, may hold the key to recapturing the United Church of Christ's "united and uniting" identity. Join leaders of Faithful and Welcoming Churches for a conversation on "In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, in all things charity." **[Location: Kendall (Amway)]**

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE: BEYOND THE MOVIE ...

A man's real-life journey to visit his sponsored child in India. Witness how sponsoring a child from places like the Family Village Farm can create a loving and supportive environment for children who otherwise have so little. **[Location: Pantlind Ballroom (Amway)]**

DOING CHURCH WITHOUT WALLS

A practical conversation about doing ministry and worship among homeless and other marginalized persons. Jesus told us to do it. We'll talk about how to do it and who can help. **[Location: Vandenberg A (Amway)]**

THE JUBILEE YEAR: 'RETURN OF LAND TO ORIGINAL OWNER'

Listen to the stories of three indigenous people — Wilson Compass, a nuclear survivor from the Marshall Islands in the Pacific; Toni Buffalo, Lakota from South Dakota; and Joyclynn Costa, Knaka Maoli from Hawaii. These three will share their specific stories, review the mandates from the Year of Jubilee in the Bible that relate to their issues, and help us think of actions to solve land issues. **[Location: Vandenberg B (Amway)]**

SO YOU WANT TO PLANT A NEW CHURCH

Learn various models of new church plants, form a launch team, practice basic networking and small group formation. **[Location: Grand Gallery C (DeVos)]**

AMERICAN INDIANS 101

Over 560 sovereign nations are located within the boundaries of the United States. Join us as we learn more about some of these tribes and their cultures. **[Location: Grand Gallery Overlook G (DeVos)]**

MARKETING AS EVANGELISM

How to use evangelism to prepare your church for greater growth. **[Location: Grand Gallery Overlook H (DeVos)]**

**Have you remembered
the United Church of Christ
in your will?**

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



**800-846-6822
giving@ucc.org**

CONGREGATION-BASED COMMUNITY ORGANIZING: ENERGIZING CONGREGATIONS AND RENEWING COMMUNITIES

Participants will learn about the goals and methods of congregation-based community organizing, and hear pastors and laity describe its profound impact on their congregations and communities.

[Location: River Overlook A (DeVos)]

GOD AND EVOLUTION

Are we alone? Does the universe have a purpose? How does evolution help us see our faithful God in a new way? Join Emily Buchholtz, UCC, chair of biological sciences at Wellesley College, and a panel including ethicist Karen Lebacqz, physicist Frank Villa, Hiawatha Demby, and Deirdre Hainsworth for a stimulating and lively morning! **[Location: River Overlook B (DeVos)]**

SCHOOLS AND JAILS: HOW INSTITUTIONS INTERSECT

Schools today rely on law enforcement, rather than teachers and administrators, to handle minor school misconduct often resulting in suspension, expulsion, and school-based arrests. This workshop addresses how the process works, and what we can do to improve the learning experiences and lives of our adolescents.

[Location: River Overlook C (DeVos)]

POLICIES THAT PROTECT

Get the facts on effective policies and procedures that reduce your church's exposure to financial, legal and personnel problems. Review sample policies and take home a reference booklet filled with examples and checklists. **[Location: River Overlook D (DeVos)]**

DEATH & DISEASE FROM OUR WELL

Sheila Holt-Orsted will raise awareness about environmental racism with the story of her father's death from toxic waste and pollution that was dumped 54 feet from their family's front door. This well-

documented battle is not over yet: the country has yet to help with a solution for this family. **[Location: River Overlook F (DeVos)]**

STEWARDSHIP IN TOUGH ECONOMIC TIMES

Several pastors share their experiences and stories of managing mission and giving in challenging times. **[Location: Monroe A (DeVos)]**

'SING! PRAYER AND PRAISE' SONGBOOK WORKSHOP

Join UCC musicians and pastors in this energetic, music-filled workshop premiering "Sing! Prayer and Praise," the new UCC praise and worship music song book. Receive suggestions and ideas for introducing the new music to your congregation from the Praise Song Advisory Team, and Scott Ressman, UCC minister for worship, music and liturgical arts **[Location: Plenary Hall (DeVos)]**

SECOND SESSION (1:30 P.M. – 3 P.M.)

STILLSPEAKING: MEDIA WITH A MISSION

See description in Session I, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. listing **[Location: Cascade (Amway)]**

AGING CREATIVELY: HOW BOOMERS CAN KEEP FROM GOING BUST!

See description in Session I, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. listing **[Location: Emerald B (Amway)]**

A HEALTHY MODEL OF THE ART: UNDERSTANDING HOW THE PERFORMING ARTS CAN BE USED IN MINISTRY, WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION

Do you want to know how the performing arts can be used in the church? The Rev. Dr. Todd Farley presents his innovative class on these questions and offers a God-centered perspective. **[Location: Pearl (Amway)]**

BE A GLOBAL MISSION CHURCH!

Join in an interactive, multimedia experience of mission around the world. Share your examples and dreams of mission projects and leave inspired and supplied with a wide variety of mission action options. **[Location: Ruby (Amway)]**

HO-HO-HOMOPHOBIA — NO LAUGHING MATTER

This workshop addresses homophobia and its impact on all of us, including straight people. It will heighten awareness of homophobia, and discuss the functions of prejudice. **[Location: Imperial (Amway)]**

'ALL THE LITTLE CHILDREN' READING

Is "Gay Christian" an oxymoron? This workshop is a reader's theater production of J. Kelly Poorman's book and play, "All the Little Children." Stay for Q and A after the performance. **[Location: Governors Room (Amway)]**

WE'RE OPEN AND AFFIRMING — NOW WHAT?

How does a church live into its ONA values? Learn resources for making ONA an ongoing part of your congregation's life and ways to keep active in the kind of growth that inspired the Open and Affirming spirit. **[Location: Grandview A (Amway)]**

READY, SET, GROW! INTERNSHIPS, LEADERSHIP ROLES AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

See description in Session I, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. listing **[Location: Grandview B (Amway)]**

WEB 101: EFFECTIVE WEB MINISTRY IN THE LOCAL CONGREGATION

See description, Session I, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. listing **[Location: Heritage Hill (Amway)]**

WHERE ARE THE 20-SOMETHINGS?

In this webinar, we will explore where the

20-somethings have gone, how they are meeting their spiritual needs, and what the church should recognize in the shift of behavior. **[Location: Thornapple (Amway)]**

UNITY AND JUSTICE

Led by the Rev. Michael Kinnamon, general secretary for the National Council of Churches, and the Rev. Lydia Veliko, ecumenical officer for the UCC, this workshop will explore the relationship between our work for justice and our commitment to the unity of the church. **[Location: Berkey (Amway)]**

DOING WORSHIP THAT ENGAGES YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Hear insights from Paul Nixon and his new book, "Finding Jesus on the Metro: And Other Surprises Doing Church in a New Day." **[Location: Winchester (Amway)]**

ENGAGING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN THE CONGREGATION

The Religious Institution, together with Justice and Witness Ministries, will point participants to resources addressing sexuality education, sexual abuse and violence, reproductive choice, and sexual and gender diversity issues within a congregation. **[Location: Haldane (Amway)]**

FAITH PRACTICES: WORSHIP, LEARNING, AND SERVING FOR VITAL CONGREGATIONS

See description, Session I, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. listing **[Location: Pullman (Amway)]**

ANIMAL MISTREATMENT: A GREAT FAILING OF CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIANITY

When it comes to God's animals, Christians have seemed no more inclined to show compassion, mercy, or respect than non-Christians. What can we do to bring animal issues onto the Christian "radar screen"? **[Location: Kendall (Amway)]**

A CONVERSATION ON FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILY

A hands-on exercise on prioritizing a family's needs during economic crisis. [Location: Pantlind Ballroom (Amway)]

DOWN TO THE RIVER TO PRAY: THE LOCAL CHURCH AT THE HEART OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION

People come to church thirsting for God, for grace, for mystery and wonder, not for meetings, committees and by-laws. How can a more deeply prayerful church life let meeting flow into mission and business into blessing? [Location: Vandenberg A (Amway)]

THE JUBILEE YEAR: 'RETURN OF LAND TO ORIGINAL OWNER'

See description in Session I, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. listing [Location: Vandenberg B (Amway)]

SO YOU WANT TO PLANT A NEW CHURCH

See description in Session I, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. listing [Location: Grand Gallery C (DeVos)]

HANDS OF PEACE: NURTURING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, PERSON BY PERSON

This workshop explores Hands of Peace – a unique interfaith program founded in 2002 and based in Chicago that brings American, Israeli and Palestinian teenagers together for a two-week summer program. By getting to know each other, the teens learn about the conflict from different points of view. Our participants also explore resolution possibilities, and learn leadership and peace-building skills to take back home. [Location: Grand Gallery Overlook G (DeVos)]

Imagine You Could Raise All The Money You Need For Your Church's Facilities & Ministries

Drop by our Booth, next to the SERRV Booth, for a complimentary Copy of our New Booklet:

How to Increase Giving in Tight Financial Times

Sign Up for a Professional No-obligation Consultation

Learn New Approaches and Receive New Hope for Your Church

Discover the Joy of Generosity!

VanderWyden UCC Church Financial Consultants, Inc.

Rev. Bill VanderWyden - President

800-Phone: 888-245-5826 • Email: Bill@WydenYourHorizons.com

Cleveland • Boston • Los Angeles • Atlanta • Hartford

THE MULTIPLYING CHURCH

A guide for pastors and lay leaders wanting to learn about churches starting new churches. [Location: Grand Gallery Overlook H (DeVos)]

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE: EXAMINING PROPOSED REFORMS

Participants in this workshop will review the financial future of Social Security and Medicare and evaluate a few of the leading reform proposals to determine whether they would strengthen or weaken these social insurance programs. [Location: River Overlook A (DeVos)]

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHRISTIANS AND COMMUNAL HARMONY IN SOUTHERN ASIA

In late 2008, more than 80 Christians were killed and their houses and churches burned down by militant Hindus in the state of Orissa in India. Similar attacks were experienced in parts of Indonesia and Pakistan. This workshop will explain the underlying dynamics and the prospect of the church's efforts towards communal harmony. [Location: River Overlook B (DeVos)]

WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUNG PEOPLE WHO CANNOT D.R.E.A.M.?

We have tens of thousands of young people who graduate from U.S. high schools with no hope, no future, and nowhere to go – they are children from undocumented families, many of whom were brought to the United States as infants. This may be the only country they have ever known, but they cannot, in most cases, qualify for in-state college tuition or scholarships. Come talk about how to address this tragedy. [Location: River Overlook C (DeVos)]

HUG THE MONSTER: UNDERSTANDING TRAUMA IN ORDER TO ADDRESS

This workshop is an introduction to trauma, its immediate results, and how faith communities can intervene to provide balance and basic security. If

we want to address social injustice, we need to find a way to address trauma. Trauma is a violation of love, giving faith communities an opportunity to make a real difference. [Location: River Overlook D (DeVos)]

ART AND DRAMA FOR JUSTICE

Come see “Hey – Save the Earth,” an original play on ecology, faith and working together to save the earth. This workshop focuses on the use of drama and art to inspire and empower congregations to work for justice. [Location: River Overlook E (DeVos)]

USING NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO ENHANCE INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

Explore different tools that use online and social networking to enhance interfaith dialogue. This presentation by Intersections International focuses on the relationships between the Muslim and non-Muslim worlds, highlighting an online, interactive tool, ChangeTheStory.net. The workshop also focuses on how to use video as a means to shatter stereotypes and facilitate dialogue. [Location: Monroe A (DeVos)]

UNNATURAL CAUSES: IS INEQUALITY MAKING US SICK?

How do jobs, working conditions, education, housing, social inclusion, racism and political power influence individual and community health? This workshop will explore the root causes of illness and help to reframe our thinking about the way in which health differences are usually presented and perceived. Find out about innovative community and faith-based initiatives for health equity and get people involved in change. [Location: Emerald A (Amway)]

Invest.



Borrow.



Learn.



Start off your River City Saturday morning with a church-strengthening workshop from the Cornerstone Fund. Choose either *Policies that Protect* or *Budgets That Inspire Giving*—and leave with knowledge you can put to use quickly, along with a valuable take-home reference booklet. We'll also answer your questions about Cornerstone Fund investments and loans that can help build your church. See you Saturday!

This is not an offer to sell our securities, and we are not soliciting you to buy our securities. We will sell our securities only in states where authorized. The offering is made solely by our Offering Circular, which may be obtained by calling us at 888-822-3863. Our securities are not insured by the FDIC or any other state or federally regulated institution, and rates are subject to change without notice.



United Church of Christ
CORNERSTONE
FUND

cornerstonefund.org
888-UCC-FUND

THIRD SESSION (3:30 P.M. – 5 P.M.)

CREATING DEEP COMMUNITY

We long to create Christ-like community in our congregations – but how?

Come and explore how to build deep community based on Jesus' principles of mutuality, radical inclusion, equality, unconditional love, bearing each other's burdens, seeing spiritual treasure in each person, and humbly learning from one another. **[Location: Cascade (Amway)]**

UCC COMPANION COMMUNITIES: YOUNG ADULT SERVICE COMMUNITIES

Meet people involved in a new UCC Volunteer Ministries program – UCC Companion Communities: Young Adult Service Communities. Learn how 21-30 year olds can get involved in intentional community living, service, social justice action, and spiritual conversation while being hosted in local UCC congregations across the United States. **[Location: Emerald A (Amway)]**

IMMERSED IN GOD'S MISSION - CHALLENGES FROM PEOPLE IN LATIN AMERICA

This workshop will provide the opportunity to learn about the quest for justice in Latin American and the Caribbean, and the role of the church in their quest for abundant life. Also, we will explore how the people of this region can accompany us as we deal with similar issues here in the United States. **[Location: Emerald B (Amway)]**

CREATIVE PREACHING: EMBODYING THE WORD

The Rev. Dr. Todd Farley, master mime, offers this internationally acclaimed seminar for preachers (artistic and non-artistic alike) on how to use simple gestures and the body as an instrument of proclamation. **[Location: Pearl (Amway)]**

IMMERSE YOURSELF IN MISSION OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Meet people who are serving in mission overseas, including recently returned young adult interns. Receive information about Global Ministries missionary and volunteer service opportunities. **[Location: Ruby (Amway)]**

THE ART OF PARABLES: REINTERPRETING THE TEACHING STORIES OF JESUS IN WORD AND SCULPTURE

See description, Session I, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. listing **[Location: Campou (Amway)]**

PREACHING ANTI-RACISM SERMONS

Bring your Bible and explore transformational preaching! Learn the various components of an anti-racism sermon: characteristics, format, delivery, and foundational texts. **[Location: Imperial (Amway)]**

WILL EVERYONE AFFECTED BY HIV PLEASE STAND UP?

HIV continues to be one of the most daunting diseases the world has ever faced. We have the opportunity to stop this disease if we all stand up and do our part. In this workshop, participants learn about the current trends, key components of being an HIV competent church and ways to identify opportunities and resources for responding to HIV. **[Location: Governors Room (Amway)]**

LIVING INTO THE CALL - JOURNEYING TOWARDS ANTIRACISM TRANSFORMATION

Racism is an unwanted, wounding legacy. In this workshop, we shall share lessons learned about the transformative power of dialogue: reflection, study, storytelling, practice. Participants will identify ways that build responsible, just relationships and social patterns, and foster a sense of empowerment. **[Location: Grandview A (Amway)]**

ONLINE COMMUNITIES: TOOLS FOR BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

MyUCC, Facebook, MySpace: These are some of the “social networking” communities that can be used effectively for evangelism, collaboration and mutual support on the internet. Learn how online collaboration can help congregations support each other as they develop more effective tools for ministry. [Location: Heritage Hill (Amway)]

REACHING OUT TO M & M COMMUNITIES

We will explore, with a diverse panel, how to reach multiracial, multicultural communities and to minister and serve these communities. [Location: Thornapple (Amway)]

HOW TO BE A STRAIGHT ALLY

This workshop is for members of the straight community who want to know what to do to be an ally for the LGBT community. [Location: Berkey (Amway)]

‘I REFUSE TO LEAD A DYING CHURCH!’

See description in Session I, 11 a.m – 12:30 p.m. listing [Location: Winchester (Amway)]

COURAGE UNDER FIRE

Global partners, along with staff, will give first-hand testimony of the people’s struggle in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zimbabwe – having witnessed their courage under fire. Learn ways to be actively involved as Christians and how to be a critical presence in each country. [Location: Haldane (Amway)]

FAITH PRACTICES: WORSHIP, LEARNING, AND SERVING VITAL CONGREGATIONS

See description in Session I, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. listing [Location: Pullman (Amway)]

ESSENTIALS AND NON-ESSENTIALS: THE FORMULA FOR UNITY

See description in Session I, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. listing [Location: Kendall (Amway)]

DANCE FOR CHANGE: EMBODIED ACTIVISM WITH THE WATER DANCE PROJECT

Join Dancers from the Water Dance Project in creating a section of the inspirational dance piece, Essentially One – a 15-minute dance piece depicting aspects of the water crisis in our world. People of all dance levels and backgrounds are invited. Participants will join dancers from the Water Dance Project in the after-hours performance of “Essentially One,” scheduled in the evening. [Location: Pantlind Ballroom (Amway)]

RADICAL EXTRAVAGANT HOSPITALITY IN GOD’S HOUSE

Living the welcome and hospitality of the Still Speaking God in your life and congregation. [Location: Vandenberg A (Amway)]

BRING BETTY BROADBAND: WHY MEDIA JUSTICE IS SOCIAL JUSTICE

Through the UCC’s Office of Communication, Inc., our church has a long history of advocating for a more just and inclusive media. Come learn about OC Inc’s current campaigns, including expanded public access to high-speed internet and safeguarding the principle of “net neutrality.” [Location: Vandenberg B (Amway)]

VITAL MINISTRY IN SMALL AND RURAL CONGREGATIONS

Rural and small church pastors talk about the how-tos of effective vital ministries in their congregations. [Location: Grand Gallery C (DeVos)]

GOD IS STILL SPEAKING ABOUT SEXUAL ABUSE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

This workshop will report the results of the 2008 UCC Comprehensive Survey regarding various issues of sexual abuse, intimate partner violence, and domestic violence. Participants will offer concrete steps that local churches, Conferences and the national setting of the UCC can take to prevent and address such abuse.

[Location: Grand Gallery Overlook G (DeVos)]

THE MULTIPLYING CHURCH

See description in Second Session, 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m. **[Location: Grand Gallery Overlook H (DeVos)]**

THE U.S. ECONOMY: WHAT'S HAPPENING AND WHAT WE SHOULD DO ABOUT IT

This interactive tutorial will explore economic trends, including the shortage of good jobs, housing crisis, and globalization and how our dominant economic policies have led to an economy that fails to serve the interests of all people or the planet. **[Location: River Overlook A (DeVos)]**

MAKING GOD'S HOUSE A GREEN HOUSE

Whether for stewardship of resources or to fight global warming, many UCC churches and their members are "going green." This workshop will provide information and an opportunity to share your own ideas and experiences caring for the environment. **[Location: River Overlook B (DeVos)]**

POVERTY, RACE, AND INJUSTICE IN THE FEDERAL EDUCATION LAW

Learn how No Child Left Behind contributes to the injustice in our education system and explore ways that, as the church, we are called to speak for improving learning conditions in our nation's poorest schools. **[Location: River Overlook C (DeVos)]**

OUR WHOLE LIVES - SEXUALITY AND OUR FAITH

Come share your stories about Our Whole Lives. Learn about this life-affirming and life-saving ministry of sexuality education.

[Location: River Overlook D (DeVos)]

BAGHDAD TO GRAND RAPIDS: WELCOMING IRAQI REFUGEES

Over two million Iraqi refugees have been forced to flee their country since 2003. UCC members who have welcomed Iraqis in their communities will share their stories and their faith journeys. Alan Headbloom, member of Plymouth Congregational UCC in Grand Rapids, will share keys to cross-cultural communication with interactive exercises.

[Location: River Overlook E (DeVos)]

A CONVERSATION ON FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Hands-on exercises/lessons, with scriptural support, for children, Christian educators and families. How do you unpack our stereotypes and prejudices in a child-friendly way? **[Location: River Overlook F (DeVos)]**

Service·Access·Options

Learn more about our programs and services such as:

myhealthIQ
Member Education
Target 2030:
Next Generation Leadership Initiative
optimalhealth
Ministerial Assistance
Corporate Social Responsibility
and much more...



WITH YOU TODAY AND TOMORROW...

The Pension Boards

United Church of Christ, Inc.

p 800.642.6543 | f 212.729.2701

www.pbucc.org | info@pbucc.org

Visit us at
General Synod in
the Exhibit Hall
Booth #418

(Next to Financial Ministries)

	8:30	8:45	9:00	9:15	9:30	9:45	10:00	10:15	10:30	10:45	11:00	11:15	11:30	11:45	12:00	12:15	12:30
PLENARY HALL	Worship		Eugene Robinson									Praise Hymnal Workshop					
PERFORMANCE HALL									Jason & DeMarco					Cath. of Hope Choir			
BALLROOM A														Winona LaDuke			
BALLROOM B																	
BALLROOM C									Barbara B. Taylor					Eboo Patel			
BALLROOM D									Da Chen								
GR. GAL. OVRLK A									Eugene Robinson Q&A					Carolyn Parks-Bani			
GR. GAL. OVRLK C									Bible St - Chas. Buck					Bible St - S. Smith			
ROSA PARKS CIRCLE							God's Chosen		Children's Choir				The Messengers			WaZoBia (till 1)	
WORKSHOPS: AMWAY/DEVOS																	
													Session 1 - 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.				
FORD MUSEUM LAWN																	Stillsp. Kites

	12:45	1:00	1:15	1:30	1:45	2:00	2:15	2:30	2:45	3:00	3:15	3:30	3:45	4:00	4:15	4:30	4:45-5:00	
PLENARY HALL																		
PERFORMANCE HALL					Dancing Wheels					Paul Winter						Plymouth Church Choir		
BALLROOM A					Jim Wallis					Ray Suarez						Krista Tippett		
BALLROOM B																		
BALLROOM C					Fe Tevi					James McLurkin						Carlton Pearson		
BALLROOM D					Anya Kamenetz					Nadira Hira						Eric Alva		
GR. GAL. OVRLK A					Charles McCullough					Jeffrey Levison						What Makes Me White DVD		
GR. GAL. OVRLK C					Bible St - Alice Hunt					Bible St - Nick Hood								
ROSA PARKS CIRCLE	WaZoBia		I, Too		Plymouth Players				Olivet Chamber			Daily Bread				W. Mich. Gay Men's Chorus		
WORKSHOPS: AMWAY/DEVOS																		
					Session 2 - 1:30 - 3 p.m.								Session 3 - 3:30 - 5 p.m.					
FORD MUSEUM LAWN	Stillspeaking Kite Extravaganza																	

SPEAKER
 DANCE
 BIBLE STUDY
 MUSIC
 DVD
 WORKSHOPS



Jim Wallis



Dancing Wheels



Nadira Hira



Da Chen



Eric Alva



James McLurkin



Find your church, find yourself at UCC.ORG.