



PENN CENTRAL CONFERENCE



Celebrating 60 Years of Ministry

A Message from PCC

August 10, 2022

Members and friends of Penn Central Conference,

"..if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it..." / *1 Corinthians 12:26*

We want to offer HUGE congratulations to ACM Marisa Laviola! On Saturday she was called to be the new Conference Minister in the Maine Conference! Our congrats and best wishes go out to her.

Marisa will remain in her position with Penn Central Conference until October 2. Please continue to reach out to her as you normally would and feel free to take a moment to congratulate her as well.

We are so grateful for her time in Penn Central Conference and we know she will bless the Maine Conference in mighty ways.

Blessings,

Paul

C. Paul Keller

Office Manager

Penn Central Conference

Disaster Update, How to Help

Event: Major Flooding and Severe Weather from Missouri to Eastern Kentucky and West Virginia

Event Date: July 26, 2022 (with stationary fronts continuing)

Continues on back

Contact us!

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Prayers for Penn Central Conference

Ephesians 6:18 (NLT)

Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

This week, we pray for each other as we continue to live into God's calling...

Locust Grove UCC, York

Mt. Zion UCC, York

St. Stephens UCC, York

Shiloh UCC, York



What Happened and Where: Record-breaking floods have devastated communities from central and eastern Missouri to eastern Kentucky and West Virginia. Kentucky has already received a federal disaster declaration; affected persons should register via 800-621-3362 or disasterassistance.gov.

Impact to the UCC: UCC Global H.O.P.E. Minister for Disaster Response and Recovery Lesli Remaly is actively monitoring the flooding response. In Kentucky and West Virginia there was no impact to UCC church structures; however, some congregants have family who were affected. The flash flooding in St. Louis/St. Charles, MO, impacted one church building via flooding and mud in the fellowship hall and a couple of classrooms. A few clergy sustained flood damage to their homes.

UCC in Early Response: Global H.O.P.E. is raising awareness of the needs and offering solidarity grant support. Already, 3 requests have been received through Rev. Greg Denk, Indiana Kentucky Conference Disaster Coordinator (CDC). Rev. Denk is also distributing cleanup buckets in affected communities. CDCs in all three impacted conferences continue to monitor emerging needs and engage in coordination calls through their state Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD).

UCC in Long-Term Recovery: Recovery from these severe storms will take years. Community centered and locally led Long-Term Recovery Groups will be formed to assist with emotional and spiritual care needs and coordinate the longer process of repairing and rebuilding homes. Long-term funding will be necessary as the United Church of Christ is a leader in helping communities organize for recovery, repair, and rebuild. Volunteers will also be needed for many years, and churches should consider organizing teams to help, bringing hope and healing to devastated communities.

How to help: <https://www.ucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/How-you-can-help-Disaster-Survivors-2022-1.pdf>

Connect with UCC Disaster Ministries: <https://www.ucc.org/what-we-do/wider-church-ministries/global-hope/disaster/>

For more information, please contact Lesli Remaly (remalyl@ucc.org), Minister for Disaster Response and Recovery, or your Conference Disaster Coordinator.

"Making All Things New"

General Synod 2023

"Making All Things New" will be the theme of the 34th biennial General Synod of the United Church of Christ, scheduled for June 30–July 4, 2023, in Indianapolis.

The General Synod of the United Church of Christ will get back to business a year from now. And it will do so in person.

After an all-virtual experience in 2021, the UCC's biennial national meeting will require all voting delegates to be in Indianapolis in 2023. That's according to the Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson, the associate general minister who serves as Synod administrator.

Delegates and visitors will meet June 30 through July 4 at the Indianapolis Convention Center.

