



Tentative Schedule:

Tuesday

- 2:30-4p Registration
- 4:30 - New Attendee Orientation
- 5:00 - Business Meeting
- 6:00 - Dinner
- 7:00 - Welcome, Community Building
- 7:15 - Engage Scripture
- 7:45 - Worship

Wednesday

- 8:00a - Breakfast
- 9:00 - Gathering Prayer
- 9:15 - Workshop session 1
- 10:30 - Break
- 10:45 - Workshop session 2
- 12 noon - Lunch
- 1:00p - Workshop session 3
- 2:15 - Break
- 2:30 - Workshop session 4
- 3:45 - Sabbath
- 6:00 - Dinner
- 7:00 - Worship

Thursday

- 8:00 - Breakfast
- 9:00-11:00 Messy Church
- 11:00 - Closing Time

Wednesday Morning Workshops:

Session 1: (four options)

Your Checkbook and Your Priorities - Margaret Mills As difficult as it is to acknowledge, when we look at our checkbooks (or our on-line spending), we see where our priorities are in terms of our spending and our financial health. Is the church part of that spending plan? In this workshop we will look at best practices for stewardship in today's church as well as ways we can focus on our own personal financial health. What are some resources for stewardship and giving in today's church and how do we use them? How is stewardship and giving part of Faith Formation and our own spiritual discipline? These and other areas of stewardship that are your concerns will be addressed.

How to do Children's Sermons that Don't Suck - Brandy Bring Children's sermons can be a tricky part of the worship service to pull off with integrity. If you ever sat through a rough one, you know what I'm talking about! I believe children's sermons should engage ALL of God's children aka the whole congregation and should also offer something to the overall worship experience. Come discuss some of the keys to successful children's sermons and share your best children sermons with your colleagues.

"Jesus Loves Me, Too!" - Cindy Bumb Wondering how to better reach that child with a developmental disability or other special needs? Looking for ideas for including him or her in your Christian Education program? This workshop will focus on creative ministry with those spirited persons who hold a special place in the realm of God and in Jesus' heart.

DIGGING into Scripture: An Exegetical Approach - Marian Plant Working to make sense of scriptural texts or to understand the original message of Bible passages and even entire books of the Bible is a little like excavating an archaeological site layer by layer. We won't know what treasures lay below the surface, let alone in each layer under it, unless we use some specialized tools to help us. In this workshop Dr. Marian Plant will guide participants in exegetical excavating of several passages in the Bible, plus provide hands-on experience with some of the "specialized tools" available. No experience necessary. Curiosity helpful.

Session 2: (four choices)

Confirmation Panel Discussion - panelists TBA

If you'd like to participate in a group discussion of confirmation programs and practices, join our panelists for a lively chat! Bring resources to share!

Qigong - Rich Plant Qigong is a form of movement meditation which is not strenuous. It involves simple flowing movements designed to enhance the flow of energy through the body and create a peaceful sense of well being. Participants will learn briefly about qigong and will experience it together. A brief routine will be taught that can be used as a morning practice.

Prayer Practices with Children - Margaret Borrelli This workshop will look at the different ways to introduce and engage children in prayer. We will learn and/or experience, specific prayer activities as well as have an opportunity for the group to share best practices.

Lectio Divina - TBA

Wednesday Afternoon Workshops:

Session 3: (four options)

Qi Gong w/ Rich Plant (repeat of morning session)

Turning your Worship Service into Service - Brandy Bring For the past two years I've lead an Intergenerational Day of Service for our congregation on a Sunday morning in lieu of our traditional worship experience. On this Sunday we go out into the community and serve God by serving others. We serve despite our age or our abilities, there's something for everyone to do. Come hear about our past two Intergenerational Days of Service and learn how to start your own!

Zentangles - Ken Ostermiller After his retirement, Ken began learning a new practice - drawing repeating patterns known as Zentangles. Come learn this new practice from someone who's taught us faith practices for a very long time!

Ready, Set, Action: Putting Bible Study into Practice - Pat McCure

The Bible is a treasury of life experiences weaving characters, settings, and plots. These stories are rich in action words which translate into dreams, visions, and passions. Discover scripture vitality for living and the inspiration to make life's experiences and observations more significant and worshipful. These practices are applicable to personal life and for sharing in group Bible study.

Session 4: (three or four options)

Creativity as Spiritual Practice - Shirley Weyrauch As a topic for her sabbatical, Shirley began exploring "creativity as spiritual practice" in 2012. With photography as her creative outlet, she's learned to see light, shadow, darkness, shapes, colors, and God's great big wonderful world through a new perspective. Even if you don't think you're creative, come and "see"!

Supporting Volunteers' Spiritual Formation - TBA

Our Whole Lives - TBA

Sabbath Time -TBA

Thursday Morning Workshop: (one option for all attendees)

Messy Church - Ronda Bower

So you've heard of "Messy Church" but don't know quite what that means. Here's a chance to get messy and learn what it's all about! Hands - on, participatory, fun!

Additional activities and leadership:

Prayer Stations - Marilyn Freeman, Labyrinth - Shirley Weyrauch, Opening Scripture - Margaret Borrelli, Worship - Campbell Lovett, Gathering Music - Margaret Mills, Community Building - Pat McCure

Online Registration and Payment at: <https://glouce2017.eventbee.com/>

Leader Bios:

Margaret G. Borrelli has been a church educator for 39 years. She presently serves as Commissioned Minister of Faith Formation at Church of the Redeemer UCC in Westlake, Ohio. Margaret was the Western Reserve Association's Resource Center Director for 10 years, and presently serves as the Faith Formation Coordinator for EOAWRA Associations.

Ronda Bower is currently the Pastoral Associate for Family and Educational Ministries at Northfield Community Church in Northfield, IL. Before moving to the Chicago area, she was an elementary and middle school teacher as well as serving as Youth Director and Children's Ministry Director in Orlando, FL.

Brandy Bring is the Commissioned Minister of Faith Formation and Youth at the First Church in Oberlin UCC in Oberlin, OH. She's been serving this church since 2005.

Rev. Cynthia S. Bumb, known as Cindy, is celebrating her 25th UCC ordination anniversary this year. In these 25 years, she's served as a local church Pastor and in human services ministry. She is now the Vice President of Spiritual Care for Emmaus Homes, a UCC-related human services organization which serves adults with developmental disabilities. Every week, she's privileged to lead these Spirit-filled folks in worship, Bible study, and just general fun, to the glory of God! Cindy is the mother of Andrew and Abigail Riggs, who are interesting and intellectually curious young adults; she lives with Dharma the Wonder Cat, and she's a big fan of Cardinals baseball and musical theater.

Pat McCure is a retired teacher with over 30 years experience in secondary education. She has served in Christian Education for over 50 years and in the past 20 years has written curriculum; dramas and special programs; children's stories for church as well as materials for study, devotion, and celebration. Most recently, she developed the curriculum Farming Faith and led the workshop Faith Formation Future: Dialogue and Direction.

Margaret Mills served as Associate Association Minister for Faith Formation, Youth, Stewardship, Church in the World and other programmatic teams in the Eastern Ohio and Western Reserve Associations of the Ohio Conference for 37 years. Margaret is a Commissioned Minister for Faith Formation and Youth and is Licensed to serve as pastor at St. John's UCC in Elmore, OH where she has served for 3 years. In her role as Associate Association Minister, Margaret staffed the Stewardship Team and presented workshops in local churches. Margaret currently serves on the Faith Formation Team of the Northwest Ohio Association and is a facilitator in the Excellence in Ministry program. She is a graduate of The Defiance College and has received the Excellence in Teaching Award at the 2001 General Synod, the Robert Johnston Award at the Great Lakes Association of United Church Educators, and the Schauffler Legacy Award from the Defiance College in 2010. Margaret has a son Zak, a daughter Lindsey, son-in-law Chris and two grandchildren Lily and Zak.

Ken Ostermiller served as minister and educator in several UCC settings. He was minister of education at The Park Church in Elmira, NY, and served on the AUCE coordinating committee 1974-1976. He was associate pastor and minister of education at First Congregational UCC in Janesville, WI. He was on the staff of the Penn West Conference and then held several positions on the national UCC staff. He retired as minister for curriculum development in 2011. In retirement, he continues his life-long interest in the natural world and volunteers with the Cornell University Lab of Ornithology's citizen science project, eBird. His granddaughters introduced him to Zentangle art when they received a book and drawing supplies one Christmas.

Dr. Marian R. Plant is an ordained pastor and teacher in the United Church of Christ. Her current position is at Defiance College (a UCC-related College) where she is Professor of Religious and Ministry Studies and holds the Schauffler Chair of Christian Education. Prior to her faculty position she served in small, middle-sized and large churches in rural and suburban settings. In addition to her faculty position, Marian is an author, poet, seminar and workshop leader, keynote speaker and consultant in church leadership, ministry and mission, Christian education and always in faith formation. She is a regular (well, "regular" as in "normal" may be stretching it she says) participant at GLAUCE and a member of the Association of United Church Educators.

Rich Plant is from Canton OH where he serves as a spiritual director. He leads four qigong groups each week around the area. He serves on the Shalem Institute Midwest leadership team and has served as adjunct faculty in Shalem's program for Leading Contemplative Prayer Groups and Retreats. He retired from the staff of the Eastern Ohio and Western Reserve Associations earlier this year.

Shirley Weyrauch has recently retired as the Christian Education Coordinator at Christ UCC in Orrville, OH. What that means remains to be seen, but will surely include family, photography, and travel. She currently serves as the Great Lakes representative to the AUCE board of directors.