

## **NYE - Frequently Asked Questions**

Rev. Kat Townes is the local Rhode Island Conference Coordinator and is the Associate pastor at Central church; please contact her for any additional information you may need at (401) 331-1960

### **What is it?**

**2012**  
**NYE**  
**IMAGINE**

The National Youth Event, a UCC gathering held every four years, provides an opportunity for about 3000 youth to gather for four days of worship, workshops, faith, fun and fellowship.

### **When is it?**

The next NYE will be held at Purdue University located in West Lafayette, IN, July 10- 13, 2012.

The event will commence Tuesday with opening worship at 7 PM.

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday will be filled with opportunities for worship, workshops, recreation and fellowship.

NYE will conclude with closing worship on Friday evening; Saturday morning we check-out from campus dorms and travel home.

### **Who plans it?**

The event is coordinated by the UCC Minister for Youth in collaboration with a diverse group of youth and young adult volunteers who make up the NYE Vision Team. There is also a National Staff Table comprised of volunteers from the UCC National Setting and support from the local and conference settings of the UCC.

### **How much does it cost?**

\$425 per person, double occupancy with single beds, youth or adults.

\$500 per person, single occupancy, adult chaperones only or special needs request.

### **What does the registration cost include?**

The registration cost for NYE includes accommodation and meals from Tuesday night through Friday night. The registration cost does not include transportation arrangements or costs.

### **Where do I register?**

- [Registration for National Youth Event 2012 \(NYE\) is electronic.](#)

## **Nonviolence Training in January**

Sharon Key writes that she has been very busy with family health issues and needs to postpone the Nonviolence Training originally scheduled at Irons for January 20-21. It will need to be rescheduled for the spring - preferably after Easter. She will let us know as soon as possible.

## **Boundary Awareness Training**

There have been enough concerns regarding the timing of the sessions for Boundary Awareness Training for those authorized for ministry in and on behalf of the United Church of Christ. The leadership has chosen to give more time for fitting into your schedule. The previously announced dates are canceled and George Peters and Pat liberty are considering some new dates in late February to mid-March to present this training. We are very grateful for their generous help and flexibility! This training is open to all with standing. Please stay tuned.

## **In the Family:**

ELDER, JAMES P., 87, died Monday, January 2 at Rhode Island Hospital. He was the husband of Helen (Powell) Elder. Jim was a member of the Barrington Congregational Church and a longtime volunteer in the Rhode Island Conference. His cheerful positive presence and wisdom will be missed. A memorial service will be held Saturday at 11:30AM at the Barrington Congregational Church.

Chuck Barnes's surgery was postponed last Friday when his vocal cords were found to still be damaged and inflamed from the latest infection. The surgery has been moved to January 23<sup>rd</sup>. His voice and energy are limited but he is keeping restricted office hours and can always be contacted by email at any time. He is grateful for the wonderful notes and cards. Thanks for your prayers and well wishes.

### **Annual Report Forms**

Your church should have received the Annual Report Forms (Form E, F and G) for inclusion in the 2012 Yearbook of the United Church of Christ, distributed annually by the National Office. These forms are designed to assist the National Office in keeping accurate and up to date information on the churches of the Rhode Island Conference, United Church of Christ. The information received is used to compile church statistics including number of members, local church finances and church leadership. Reports show that over the past 5 years that not all of our member churches have submitted this information. For questions or concerns regarding the Annual Report Forms, please contact Sandy or call the Conference office at 401-724-7700.

### **Please help up keep up to date records**

If you have changed emails, phone, or other information about your church or yourself, please let us know!

### **Resources for Clergy in Understanding and in Support for those with Mental Illnesses**

Who are those with a Mental Illness? They are your brother, your sister, the man across the street, for one in every five families is dealing with a mental illness. Within the United Church of Christ, there are many resources for clergy to increase their understanding and support of mental illness.

The Mental Illness Network is affiliated with the Disabilities Ministries of the United Church of Christ. The Network began in 1992 with a grant from the American Missionary Association of the United Church of Christ. For more information about the resources available, please click on this link <http://www.min-ucc.org/>

### **Mission Trip Possibilities**

Joplin, Missouri, is now prepared to receive mission trip groups to aid in long-term recovery. Joplin was hit by a large tornado in May of 2011 and received damage with quite a bit of media coverage. During the past seven months the community has had to make many difficult decisions - and there will be more. But the community is now ready to receive volunteers from around the country to aid their recovery and help rebuild their lives.

The United Church of Christ, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Joplin Long Term Recovery Committee are partnering to make this opportunity possible.

You can use the link, [Disaster Recovery Volunteers](#), to register your group. This location joins opportunities to serve in disaster recovery in Birmingham, Alabama during 2012 and anticipated communities that will be ready to receive groups in Vermont, North Dakota, and elsewhere during the coming year. Your national staff continues to be in close contact with local communities and their Long Term Recovery Committees.

Thank you for accompanying people during these times of long term disaster recovery. God's love is made real in the world during this season and throughout the year.

Peace,

Mary Schaller Blaufuss & Florence Coppola, UCC Volunteer Ministries & UCC National Disaster Ministries