

**Annual Gathering Agenda/Schedule
June 9 - 10, 2017
Doane University
Crete, Nebraska**

Updated: 06/01/2017

Friday, June 9, 2017

- 7:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Hot Breakfast offered to all early arrivals *Cafeteria
Perry Campus Center (Bldg 10 on Map)*
- 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Annual Gathering Registration *2nd Floor, west end (lake
side) "Lounge" area of Chab Weyers Education and Hixson Lied Art Building (Bldg. 6
on Map)*
- 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Prairie Association Meeting Registration *Room TBD
First Congregational United Church of Christ, 440 East Twelfth Street*
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Prairie Association Meeting *Room TBD
First Congregational United Church of Christ, 440 East Twelfth Street*
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Living Waters Association Council *Room TBD
Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 906 Ivy Avenue*
- 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch offered to attendees *Cafeteria
Perry Campus Center (Bldg. 10 on Map)*
- 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Board of Directors' Meeting *Room 321
Chab Weyers Education and Hixson Lied Art Building (Bldg. 6 on Map)*
- 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Prairie Association Team for Authorized Ministry *Room TBD
First Congregational United Church of Christ, 440 East Twelfth Street*
- 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Prairie Association Team for Church Relations *Room TBD
First Congregational United Church of Christ, 440 East Twelfth Street*

Welcoming Reception

WELCOME CENTER

First Floor, west entrance (lake side)

Chab Weyers Education and Hixson Lied Art Building (Bldg. 6 on Map)

Refreshments Offered

NOTE: ALL Workshops, Conversations, Plenaries, Worship Services, Keynote Speech, Discussions, etc. from this point on **unless otherwise stated** will be held in the

Chab Weyers Education and Hixson Lied Art Building (Bldg. 6 on Map)

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Annual Gathering 101 with Sue Shear **East entrance "Lounge" area of Chab Weyers Education and Hixson Lied Art Building (Bldg. 6 on Map)**

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Conversations with Roddy and the Board of Directors
Rooms 236/238/240/242

5:45 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Banquet and Ordination Anniversary Celebration
Perry Campus Center (Bldg 10 on Map), South Dining Hall
(PowerPoint Presentation)

7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. ****Plenary - Elections and Installations, State of the Conference, Recognitions**
Rooms 236/238/240/242

8:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Worship with Roddy
Memorial Service **Rooms 236/238/240/242**
(PowerPoint Presentation)

9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. "Happy Hour" - Wine & Cheese Social **WELCOME CENTER**
First Floor, west entrance (lake side)
Chab Weyers Education and Hixson Lied Art Building (Bldg. 6 on Map)

Saturday, June 10, 2017

7:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Hot Breakfast offered to all attendees **Cafeteria**
Perry Campus Center (Bldg 10 on Map)

8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. ****Plenary and Tri-Conference Board Update**
Rooms 236/238/240/242

Break

10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m. Workshops

The Second Touch

Room 236/238

"A second look at small church ministry - it's power and potential." With diminishing populations in many of our small church regions, small congregations are faced with many challenges. This workshop encourages a new look at previously held images of 'church vitality' and suggests that small churches are uniquely equipped to bring a new vision to place-based ministry."

Presented by Pastor Carla Patterson, Zion United Church of Christ, Talmage, Nebraska

Have You Thought About It -- What Are the Implications for My Church? **Room 240**

Changing norms in our society present changing risks to our churches. Have you thought about the implications if your church should decide to become a "sanctuary church for illegal immigrants"? Do you have a plan in place to respond to an active shooter or hostile threat to your parishioners? Are there invasion of privacy concerns with posting a prayer list? You've just fired the church secretary, custodian, pastor - are you sure of your legal stance? One of our parishioners has a concealed carry permit - can he bring his gun to church? One of our volunteers has been hurt while mowing the church lawn - will Work Comp pay his medical bills? An elderly member of our church fell down the church steps and got hurt - will Medicare respond or our church insurance? These and many other questions will be looked at during this session.

Presented by George Thietje, Nebraska Representative for the Insurance Board - a financial ministry of the United Church of Christ

Legal Ramifications of Helping Refugees, and Creating Awareness Regarding Safe Church Issues - Policies for Churches **Room 242**

Presented by Steve Gerdes, an attorney who has been active on several Board Committees, such as the By-Laws and Investment and Endowment Fund committees, as well as being a General Synod At Large Delegate for the Living Waters Association

11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m. Workshops

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12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch offered to attendees **Cafeteria**
Perry Campus Center (Bldg 10 on Map)

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Keynote Address, based from the book "**Beyond Resistance: The Institutional Church Meets the Postmodern World**", presented by The Rev John C. Dorhauer
Rooms 236/238/240/242

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Questions and Explorations **Rooms 236/238/240/242**

Break

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Worship with John Dorhauer **Rooms 236/238/240/242**

5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. Dinner offered to attendees **Cafeteria**
Perry Campus Center (Bldg 10 on Map)

6:30 p.m. ****Plenary Unfinished Business (If needed)** **Rooms 236/238/240/242**

Sunday, June 11, 2017

You may wish to attend one of these churches for worship service:

Worship with Plymouth Congregational UCC - Crete **Sanctuary**
906 Ivy Avenue
10:30 a.m.

Worship with First-Congregational UCC - Crete **Sanctuary**
440 East Twelfth Street
9:30 a.m. - Informal
10:30 a.m. - Traditional

Worship with Countryside Community Church UCC - Omaha

8787 Pacific Street

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Service

11:00 a.m., Jazz Service

Sanctuary

Rev. John Dorhauer will be speaking at Countryside

Vendor Locations:

Ten Thousand Villages

Room 252

<http://www.tenthousandvillages.com/lincoln#fndtn-home>

Ten Thousand Villages in Lincoln, Nebraska, is a fair trade retailer of artisan-crafted home decor, personal accessories and gift items from across the globe. Featuring products from more than 130 artisan groups in some 38 countries, they are part of a network of over 390 retail outlets throughout the United States selling Ten Thousand Villages products.

As one of the world's oldest and largest fair trade organizations, Ten Thousand Villages has spent more than 60 years cultivating trading relationships in which artisans receive a fair price for their work and consumers have access to distinctive handcrafted items. They seek to establish long-term buying relationships in places where skilled artisans are under-employed or unemployed, and in which they lack other opportunities for income. A founding member of the World Fair Trade Organization (WFTO), Ten Thousand Villages sees fair trade as an alternative approach to conventional international trade.