

Panel 1-cover

UCM

United Congregations of Metro East- Bringing peace and justice to our community

Panel 2

History

- Established in 2000 with 6 church members
- Grown to represent over 24 congregations with 23,500 members
- Our congregations represent a very diverse set of members
- We are multicultural with many faiths
- Inclusive to all ethnic groups and economic classes in southwestern Illinois

Objectives

- Provide leadership training for all UCM member congregations
- Secure guaranteed, quality, affordable and accessible health care for all
- Seek educational funding for schools
- Develop new affordable housing
- Promote transportation improvements

UCM members attend regional and national workshops and training events; they strive to bring to the Metro-East the lessons learned by leaders in communities across the United States.

Panel 3

Accomplishments

- Brought together citizens to preserve funding for rehabilitation provided through the Madison County Drug Court
- Ensured that the residents of the Madison County Sheltered Care Home were fairly treated when the Madison County Board voted to shut the home down
- Assisted the residents of Rock Springs Trailer Park when their homes were threatened to become luxury town homes
- Worked with the Sierra Club to get Alton to take action to prevent global warming

Panel 4

Funding

Congregations are assessed annual dues, ranging from \$400 to \$2,200, based on worship attendance.

UCM has benefited from:

- Campaign for Human Development
- Dominican Sisters of Springfield
- Sisters of Loretto
- Campaign for Better Health Care
- The Presbyterian Church
- The School Sisters of Notre Dame

We also reach out to local donors support UCM, including:

- Individuals

- Small Businesses
- Professionals
- Corporations

Panel 5

We are thankful for the willingness of all who extend themselves to contribute to our cause, even in times of adversity. As we lift one another up, we develop the positive and trusting relationships that call forth into the world the peace, justice and equity that each and every one of us longs for in our deepest hearts.

We share a strong desire for lasting social change that benefits all citizens - families, children, seniors, those of us who suffer, those who struggle in poverty and stress - in just and free local communities.

Panel 6

We are open to the membership of congregations, allies and individual leaders committed to justice. If you are interested in becoming a member of UCM contact our office.

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Psalm 106:3 Blessed are they who maintain justice, who constantly do what is right