

Our History

UCM was established in early 2000 with six church members. With technical assistance and training from the Gamaliel Foundation, we have grown to represent over 24 congregations with approximately 23,500 members.



Our member congregations represent the full range of communities in south western Illinois: older urban neighborhoods and new suburban areas;

white, African-American and Hispanic; wealthy and poor.

Our coalition is unique; we are faith-based, yet we transcend the often narrow range of people in individual congregations. We are multicultural, made up of many faiths, and inclusive of all ethnic groups and economic classes in the area.

Accomplishments

- Bringing together citizens to preserve the services of the Madison County Drug Court
- Ensuring the quality of care for the residents of the Madison County Sheltered Care Home
- Taking action to prevent global warming by working with the Sierra Club to get Alton to become the first Metro-East municipality to become a "Cool City"



Our Mission

UCM believes, by working together in faith and fellowship, people can transcend their differences to work for peace, justice and equity for all. UCM is an affiliate of the Gamaliel Foundation which teaches ordinary citizens to unleash the power within themselves to collectively impact social, political, environmental, and economic decisions affecting their lives.

What We Do

- Work to improve the safety and health of local communities
- Support education and youth services
- Fight for adequate and affordable housing for those in need
- Provide services that will benefit the future of our youth
- Provide transportation that will link people to educational, employment, and health opportunities
- Working to make sure citizens local communities are having their basic needs met

Funding

- Congregations are assessed annual dues, ranging from \$400 to \$2,200, based on worship attendance
- To secure our future, we are reaching out to local donors – individuals, small businesses, professionals and corporations – with a request to support the work of UCM
- 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



Donate Today

Member Congregation

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church
Central Christian
Church Women United
College Avenue Presbyterian Church
First Presbyterian Church
First Unitarian Church
Greater St. James Church of God in Christ
Holy Family Catholic Church
New Bethel Missionary Baptist
New Bethel United Methodist
New Life in Christ Interdenominational Church
O'Fallon United Church of Christ
St. Ambrose Catholic Church
St. Cecilia Catholic Church
St. Clare Catholic Church
St. John United Church of Christ
St. Mary & St. Mark Catholic Church
Saint Nicholas Catholic Church
Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church
Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church
United Presbyterian Church
Unity Fellowship Church
Ursuline Sisters

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United Congregations Metro-East



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