



**United Church of God**  
*an International Association*  
**Cincinnati East**

*Announcements – September 8, 2018*

**2:30 P.M.**

<b>Songleader</b>	<b>Garrett Fenchel</b>
<b>Pianist</b>	<b>Courtney Creech</b>
<b>Sermonette</b>	<b>Troy Phelps</b>
<b>Special Music</b>	<b>Courtney Creech</b>
<b>Sermon</b>	<b>Steven Britt</b>

**Adult Choir Rehearsal, Today:** The Adult Choir will meet for rehearsal in the Mail Room at 1:15 p.m. today. The next rehearsal will be held on September 15.

**Feast of Trumpets, 9/10:** Services for the Feast of Trumpets will be held at the Mandalay Banquet Center (2700 East River Road, Moraine, OH 45349) at 10:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on Monday, September 10. An offering will be collected during the morning service. *Hymns will not be projected, so members are requested to bring their personal hymnals.* Directions are available at the Information Table.

**Feast of Tabernacles, Cincinnati – Catered Meal Pre-payment by 9/10:** Payment is required in advance for the catered dinner buffet on the first Holy Day and the Senior Lunch on the second day of the Feast. *Please have payments mailed by Monday, September 10.* Sign-up and payment for the Eighth Day Lunch Buffet can also be paid in advance or during the Feast.

The menus and further details for each meal can be found on the online Feast calendar. You are also welcome at this time to include a donation for those who need financial assistance for the meals.

The cost of the Holy Day Dinner Buffet on 9/24 is \$25 for adults and \$13.25 for children ages 5-12 (children 4 and under are free). The Senior Lunch on 9/25 is \$17.50 per person. The Eighth Day Lunch Buffet is \$17.25 for adults and \$9.50 for children ages 5-12 (children 4 and under are free).

Check payments should be made out to the United Church of God and sent to:

Attn: Steven Britt  
United Church of God  
555 Techne Center Drive  
Milford, OH 45150

If you are in need of financial assistance in order to attend any of the meals or have other questions, please contact the Festival Coordinator, Steven Britt ([steven\\_britt@ucg.org](mailto:steven_britt@ucg.org)).

**Youth Instruction/Sabbath School Classes, 9/15:** It's time for Sabbath School to begin a new year! Our first classes will be held in the Warehouse at 1:25 p.m. on September 15.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Lesson</b>	<b>Teachers</b>
1	God's Holy Days	Carolyn Prater, Ray Prater, Heidi Braun, Skylar Walters
2	Overview – God's Holy Days	Courtney Creech, Carson Fenger, Zachary Fenger
3	God's Holy Days	Christina de Campos, Eric de Campos
4	God's Annual Feasts	Nick Hollon, Shawnda Hollon, Sabrina Clore

Classes will not meet again until October 20 due to the Fall Holy Days.

The Children's Choir will rehearse in the Mail Room immediately after class.

**Teen Bible Study, 9/15:** Steve Myers will lead the next Teen Bible Study, which will be held in the Conference Room at 1:30 p.m. on September 15.

**Day of Atonement, 9/19:** The Day of Atonement falls on Wednesday, September 19. There will be one service at the Home Office at 2:30 p.m. An offering will be collected.

**Sabbath Services Before the Feast, 9/22:** This year, the weekly Sabbath falls the day before the Feast of Tabernacles begins. Many members and ministers will have already left for the Feast before the weekly Sabbath. As a result, many congregations are canceling services before the Feast on September 22.

If you are traveling for the Feast, you pick up a map on the Information Table that indicates which congregations have confirmed that they will hold services that day (indicated by a solid green star) and those which have indicated that services will be canceled (indicated by an outline red star). You can also access the map online at:

<https://www.ucg.org/members/feast>. Hopefully this map will help you to make your travel plans to this year's Feast. Most

congregations holding services will be meeting at their regular times, but it is best to contact the pastor as early as possible to make sure.

**Feast of Tabernacles, Cincinnati Site – Opening Night, 9/23:** For those observing the Feast here in Cincinnati, the opening night service will be at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, September 23. We will be meeting at the Hilton Cincinnati Airport, 7373 Turfway Road, Florence, KY 41042.

**Blessing of Little Children, 10/13:** The Blessing of Little Children will be held during Sabbath services at 2:30 p.m. on October 13. There will be no morning service that day.

**Post Feast Social, 10/13:** Mark October 13 on your calendar for our Post-Feast Social. There will be only one service, at 2:30 p.m., so that we can all gather together for fun, food, and fellowship. Oh, and did we mention prizes?

The Social will have three components: 1) A photo contest to highlight great Feast pictures, 2) A potluck dinner of foods from the feast sites we attend, and 3) A social mixer where we will share our Feast experiences in a novel way and win prizes! Here are the details:

1. **Photo Contest:** You are each invited to submit one Feast photo for any or all of the following six categories by posting on the Facebook Group - UCG Cincy East Feast Pics or by emailing to [ken.japhet@gmail.com](mailto:ken.japhet@gmail.com): 1) Best Sunrise\Sunset\Full Moon, 2) Best Landmark picture of your Feast city or country, 3) Best Family photo of any family at your Feast site, 4) Best photo showing services and brethren, 5) Best Landscape\scenery, and 6) Funniest photo.

*All photos are due by October 6.*

2. **Dinner:** Bring a dish representative of the festival area you attend. Be on the lookout during the Feast for interesting dishes or unique flavors and bring back the recipe or baking mix or secret sauce to share a dish with us. Teens and children are asked to add their creativity by bringing back an interesting, small souvenir from their feast site to add to our table decorations.
3. **Feast Sharing Mixer:** We will share our Feast memories in a fun, easy way as one big family – no quizzes, no contests, just loads of fun being together.

Prizes will be awarded to the best photo in each category, the most creative table decoration item and during the mixer for just being you. More details will come as we get closer to the Feast.

**Compass Check – Fall Issue Now Available:** The pre-Feast fall issue of *Compass Check* is now available online at: [ucg.org/members/compass-check](http://ucg.org/members/compass-check). Teens (ages 12-18) living in the U.S. will be receiving their issue in the mail shortly.

**Winter Family Weekend 2018:** This year, Winter Family Weekend will again be held at the Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, Ohio, (just north of Cincinnati) starting on Friday, December 21, with sports running through Tuesday, December 25. The hotel is ready to make reservations, so members who are certain they will attend can reserve rooms at Great Wolf Lodge using the code "1812UCGW" to access our block of rooms. Please only reserve a room if you are certain you will attend, because the block usually fills up and if you reserve a room but then later cancel it, the room will be lost from our reservation block. Based on years of previous trends, the block does not include as many rooms for Friday, December 21, as for other nights, but we are endeavoring to learn if more rooms can be added for that night.

We have not negotiated group rates at other nearby hotels because members have been able to find economical rates on their own. A Comfort Inn and Suites is located about a third of a mile from the Great Wolf Lodge and other hotels are within a few minutes' drive. All of these offer significantly lower room rates--but without the benefit of an indoor waterpark.

We hope to have you join us for an exciting Winter Family Weekend this year.

~Frank Dunkle, Coordinator

**Beyond Today Airing Schedule:** *Beyond Today* TV airs on WGN America at 5:00 a.m. on Saturdays and at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays (ET). In the Cincinnati Metro area WGN America HD is Channel 74 on Time Warner and Spectrum Cable, Channel 307 on DirecTV, and Channel 239 on DishTV. Cincinnati Bell Fiopics does not carry WGN America. (To find the channel carrying WGN America in other areas please visit [wgnamerica.com/channel-finder/](http://wgnamerica.com/channel-finder/) and enter your zip code. You will be shown the providers and channel number(s) on which you can watch WGN America.)

All programs can be viewed on-demand on dedicated *Beyond Today* television channels on Roku, Amazon Fire TV, Apple TV, Samsung Smart TV, YouTube, Vimeo, Wii, and Xbox. You can also watch the program online at our website <http://www.ucg.org/beyond-today/television>.

BT #	Title	Host	Literature Offered	Dates
334	<b>Martin Luther: The Unfinished Reformation</b> Did Luther's religious revolt restore the Bible as the source of truth or are aspects still missing?	Gary Petty	<i>Beyond Today, Bible Study Course</i>	September 9-15
360	<b>The Day of Atonement and the Gospel</b> Learn how one of God's annual Holy Days reveals what Jesus is doing now as High Priest at God's very throne.	Gary Petty	<i>Beyond Today, God's Holy Day Plan: The Promise of Hope for All Mankind</i>	September 16-22
335	<b>Why Europe Matters: Ancient Roots</b> While European history is triumphal and tragic, it will again be at the core of startling future world events.	Darris McNeely	<i>Beyond Today, The Final Superpower</i>	September 23-29
336	<b>Why Does God Allow Suffering?</b> If God is truly loving and merciful, why does He permit so much pain, evil and misery? Tune in to discover answers.	Steve Myers	<i>Beyond Today, Why Does God Allow Suffering?</i>	September 30 – October 6

## Media release outlines purpose of Feast:

To make available festival information to people who have little or no biblical background, the church prepares and makes available a general media release. Pew Research and other research organizations have found that a large percentage of the American and global populations are not familiar with traditional biblical phrases that church members would be intimately familiar with. Accordingly, this release is written in such a fashion that the content can be easily understood by a wide spectrum of the public, including members of the media who may not have a background in religious topics.

The following press release about the upcoming Feast of Tabernacles will be posted online at UCG.org and distributed to public contacts through both a media distribution service and by surface mail. The URL address can be shared by members on social media such as Facebook and Twitter. It is intended to be informational, and the online posts through the distribution service are search engine optimized (SEO) through key words and links (like to the Beyond Today web page) so the press release is discoverable online. Typically, several media websites pick up the release and include it (or a link) in their online coverage, and we occasionally may see it in print (many festival sites no longer have local print media in their area). The headline also appears before the Feast on the Reuters screen with the Church's logo in New York City's Times Square.

In Christ's service,  
Victor Kubik

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## 14,000 Gather to Celebrate Life's Dynamic Spiritual Focus, Church Follows Example of First Century Disciples

*United Church of God members to assemble at more than 65 festival sites September 24 to October 1 to celebrate the coming Kingdom of God.*

CINCINNATI--Reflecting a dynamic life journey as spiritual pilgrims, about 14,000 members and families of the United Church of God, *an International Association*, will follow the historic example of Jesus Christ and the first century Church in celebrating the biblically prophesied Kingdom of God. This annual festival, called the Feast of Tabernacles in the Bible, begins on the evening of September 23 and lasts through sunset on Monday, October 1. According to Victor Kubik, Church president, United Church of God members will assemble at more than 65 sites worldwide to take part in a contemporary Christian application of the biblical ancient Hebrew Holy Days.

The festival season reflects the goal of a life-long spiritual journey of Christians, who are taught by Jesus from the Bible to "seek first the Kingdom of God" in the book of Matthew, chapter 6, verse 33. "Followers of Jesus are generally described in the Bible as disciples--committed people who spend their life apprenticed to learning the ways of Jesus Christ--and pilgrims--people who regard their current life on earth as temporary and one that represents a journey toward eternal life," explained Mr. Kubik.

"We read in the book of Hebrews that many disciples over the years died in the faith, but died confident of their eternal reward, recognizing that they were but 'strangers and pilgrims' on the earth," he continued, citing Hebrews in the New Testament, chapter 11 in verse 13. "The annual observance of the Festival of Tabernacles is rich with spiritual parallels as members journey to distant festival sites to reside in hotel rooms or camps as temporary dwellings."

Daily worship services (typically in the morning) present powerful sermons and Bible studies that magnify and explain these spiritual principles. The eight-day period also features many family activities and opportunities for fellowship, Mr. Kubik noted.

In the United States, members will gather at 18 sites: Anchorage, Alaska; Bend-Richmond, Oregon; Big Sandy, Texas; Branson, Missouri; Cincinnati, Ohio; Galveston, Texas; Glacier Country, Montana; Jekyll Island, Georgia; Lake George, New York; Oceanside, California; Panama City Beach, Florida; Phoenix, Arizona; Snowshoe, West Virginia; St. Petersburg, Florida; Steamboat Springs, Colorado; Tampa, Florida; Tucson, Arizona; Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. The Church will also conduct the festival at five Canadian sites (Blainville, Quebec; Drumheller, Alberta; Midland, Ontario; Spencerville, Ontario; and Osoyoos Lake, British Columbia) as well as sites in the Caribbean, China, India, Latin America (six sites), Europe and the British Isles (five sites), Africa (14 sites), Australia (four sites), Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka.

"Many scholars confirm that the early Christian church, whose members originally were mostly of a Jewish background, continued to observe the ancient Holy Days in a new spirit and with a new Christ-centered understanding of their meaning," said Mr. Kubik. "Today we have the marvelous understanding of how these ancient Holy Days include the important message brought by Jesus Christ which outlines God's incredible plan for all humanity--including a future time where humanity is freed from concerns and troubles like nuclear war and global conflict."

"We understand from many biblical references that the fall Holy Day seasons--basically outlined in the 23rd chapter of the book of Leviticus--actually prophetically picture forthcoming global events that will completely transform the world as we know it today," Mr. Kubik added.

Both Mr. Kubik and Donald Ward, chairman of the Church's 12-man Council of Elders, will address all church members through a special live webcast originating from the Panama City Beach festival site on Saturday, September 29.

How do New Testament disciples observe these days? Church members typically save about a tenth of their income for use at the festival (also called the Feast of Booths in various English translations). These personal funds allow members to fully celebrate the eight-day biblical event, as the Bible specifically directs members to "rejoice before the Lord your God" during this season (see Leviticus 23:40 for details). This helps spiritually foreshadow the coming abundance inherent in the future Kingdom of God.

Church members attend the festival with their families, and the Church provides many opportunities for family time together. The worldwide nature of the festival also gives rise to global fellowship and travel, and many friendships are made or renewed each season.

Visitors who would like to observe these days are welcome to attend. "As spiritual pilgrims, we are striving to become better disciples of Jesus Christ, and we welcome the opportunity to share our understanding and experiences with others," Kubik noted. A daily webcast of morning worship services from the Panama City Beach site is available at this link: <https://www.ucg.org/members/feast/sites/2018/panama-city-beach-florida/webcast>.