

“...that they may all be one.”

John 17:21

This course will study the origins and formation of the United Church of Christ and the principles that govern our covenants together, looking at local church, association and conference structures, as well as the national structure, also exploring our sense of mission and ministry, and UCC resources available to strengthen our churches and pastors.

Students will be encouraged to learn about and become knowledgeable of the unique culture of the United Church of Christ. While knowing the “nuts and bolts” of the UCC is important, of equal importance is understanding how the themes of covenant, evangelical courage, radical hospitality, early truth-telling, liberty of conscience, commitment to ecumenism and of being an “unfinished” church with an open table are certainly equal importance.

Meet the Instructor

Rev. Daniel Busch embraces and is influenced by the diversity of persons, worship, theology, and structures of the United Church of Christ. He has been part of the UCC all of his life, is a musician, served as an ordained pastor in local churches, and has been the Association Minister of NWOA for sixteen years. His appreciation of the UCC as his faith family allows him to do ministries and missions as called by God in relationship with others.

For more information about this class, contact Rev. Busch at dlbusch@nwoa.org



The NWOA Lay School of Religion is open to all lay members of the Association who wish to grow and be enriched, whether in their personal life, or for further opportunities to serve God. Individuals may take a single class or complete the course of study to become a graduate of Lay School.

For more information about The Northwest Ohio Association Lay School of Religion please contact: Joan in the Association office
419-447-8323

Lay School of Religion



United Church of Christ History and Polity Spring 2022

*Classes will be virtual (using Zoom)
6:45 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.*

*Feb 1st & Feb 15th
March 1st & 15th
April 5th & 19th
May 3rd & May 17th*

Arrangements can be made to take the class as an independent study.

*Being part of the
United Church of Christ
is comforting/challenging
and “united”/“untied”.*

*What does it mean to be a
member of the
United Church of Christ?*

*What does it mean to be
“united” or “church” or
“of Christ”?*

*What are the traditions,
diversity, prophetic
voices, and spirit of the
United Church of Christ?*

*How does one claim an
identity and loyalty to
Christ as claimed by the
United Church of Christ?*



The United Church of Christ acknowledges as its sole Head, Jesus Christ, Son of God and Savior. It acknowledges as kindred in Christ all who share in this confession. It looks to the Word of God in the Scriptures, and to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, to prosper its creative and redemptive work in the world. It claims as its own the faith of the historic Church expressed in the ancient creeds and reclaimed in the basic insights of the Protestant Reformers. It affirms the responsibility of the Church in each generation to make this faith its own in reality of worship, in honesty of thought and expression, and in purity of heart before God. In accordance with the teaching of our Lord and the practice prevailing among evangelical Christians, it recognizes two sacraments: Baptism and the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion.

--from Preamble of
“The UCC Constitution and Bylaws”

Goals of the class are:

1. Study the origins and formation of the United Church of Christ.
2. Examine the principles that govern our covenants together as local church, association, conference, and denominational structures.
3. Explore the mission and ministry of partnerships between the local church and wider church.
4. Examination of local church history of participants.
5. Exploring resources to strengthen our churches and pastors.

God is still speaking.

*Continuing Testament,
Extravagant Welcome,
Changing Lives—
We are the
United Church of Christ.*

*No matter who you are,
or where you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here.*

*In essentials, unity;
in non-essentials, liberty;
in all things, charity.*