



STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING

ABOUT STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

Your gift to Strengthen the Church builds the UCC's future now by funding The Stillspeaking Ministry, new and renewing churches, youth and young adult ministries, and lay and pastoral leadership formation—especially among women and people of color.

ABOUT STILLSPEAKING

Stillspeaking: It's the shorter form of "God is still speaking," a campaign by the United Church of Christ to simply remind us that God still has a lot more to say. Since 2004, Stillspeaking has worked with thousands of UCC churches and individuals across the country to make religion relevant again and to extend an extravagant welcome to all—because no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here. Here at the United Church of Christ.

Your offerings are directed to your church's Conference, Local Church Ministries, and The Stillspeaking Ministry for these church development, leader development and Stillspeaking purposes.

Your generosity today ensures our vibrant life today *and* tomorrow.



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Imagine... three busloads of youth from Pennsylvania, headed to the United Church of Christ's 2012 National Youth Event (NVE) in Indiana! It's not just wishful thinking, and they won't just be coming from Pennsylvania. In fact, NVE draws thousands of young people from across the country every four years. This year, it will be held at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana July 10-13 – four days of encountering God and engaging with social and human justice in a sacred and safe space.

Since last August, the Penn Central Conference has been conducting a "nominate youth" campaign that generated over 400 names of interested youth from local churches throughout the Conference. "We told [the youth] not to worry if they didn't have any adults to go [to NVE] from their church; the Conference would make sure they were matched with another church," says Brenda Waleff, Minister of Communications. Brenda At NVE information sessions held at local churches from across the Conference, reports, "We met a lot of families and youth that haven't been a part of our Conference youth events in the past, and we assured churches with only one or two youth that they can also be a part of NVE this year."

The National Offices and many UCC Conferences are directing Strengthen the Church gifts to support NVE 2012. Just imagine: your gift to Strengthen the Church will create opportunities for inspiring youth to encounter God this summer.



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