



We are Illinois Great Rivers Conference (IGRC) Chapter of The Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts. The purpose of The Fellowship is to be a sharing and enabling fellowship that affirms the sacramental life, embracing preaching, music, drama, dance, architecture, and all the visual arts appropriate for the inclusive life of the Church. The Fellowship functions at the national (www.umfellowship.org) and conference (www.igrc.org/fummwa) levels.

July/August/September 2016 Newsletter

Contemporary Worship Workshop

The IGRC Fellowship Chapter will be hosting a contemporary worship workshop on September 24, 2016 at Calvary UMC in Normal, IL.

The cost to attend is \$30 if you are a Fellowship member or attending with a Fellowship member; and \$35 if you are not a Fellowship member, provided registrations are received by September 3, which is just around the corner. Any registrations postmarked after September 3 will have an additional \$10 cost.

Session topics will include planning worship for your context; contemporary expressions of liturgical forms; choosing contemporary music for your congregation; authenticity and accessibility; leading your congregation through change; and environment and experience.

The day will also include times of worship, fellowship, and lunch.

Please consider attending this worship workshop (9:00 am – 4:00 pm), bringing your pastor, worship team, or others who might be interested! Registration is available at <https://fumcpeoria.wufoo.com/forms/contemporary-music-workshop/> and you can access the workshop brochure [here](#).

Chapter Election Results

Thank you to everyone who participated in our recent chapter officer elections. The results are posted to the right, and will be in effect July 2016-June 2018. We appreciate your willingness to vote and serve!

2017 Handbell Festival

The 2017 handbell festival will be held at Grace UMC in Salem, IL on Saturday, March 11. We are excited to welcome Jason Krug as our clinician. Be on the lookout soon for links to our registration form! New location, new clinician, new opportunities to reach new people! Salem Grace UMC is easily accessible via I-57. Mark your calendars now!

We Need Your Help!

The IGRC Chapter is continually looking for volunteers to help us with our events. We meet quarterly for a 1 ½ hour conference call at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday mornings. We also conduct business by e-mail and by an occasional additional conference call as necessary. We welcome your insight. Just contact Doug Grogan at dgrogan@fumcpeoria.org to let him know you are willing to help us. Your current chapter officers are:

Chair:

Doug Grogan

dgrogan@fumcpeoria.org

Past Chair:

Marilyn Hirschman

MJHir@aol.com

Chair Elect:

Aaron Schultz

aaronschultz.1215@gmail.com

Secretary:

Danielle Rohrer

des.rohrer@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Jeffrey Neufeld

jm0074@yahoo.com

At-Large Members:

Jay Regennitter

revjaynr@gmail.com

Carol McPherson

cmcpherson@fumcpeoria.org

Mike Ebersohl

mebersohl@outlook.com

Christopher Wise

cwisestl@gmail.com

Can You Host?

We are working on hosting our events in different parts of the state. If you would like to host a chapter event, please contact [Doug Grogan](#).

Meet a Chapter Officer

Rev. Mike Ebersohl serves as an at-large board member. Mike has served churches throughout the Illinois Great Rivers Conference, including O'Fallon First UMC, Trenton UMC, Marion First UMC, Mahomet UMC, DuQuoin UMC, and is currently serving at Salem Grace UMC. Mike's early training was as a musician.

Mike's church will be serving as the host site for the 2017 Handbell Festival!



Membership

Membership in The Fellowship is open to clergy and laity alike. Benefits of membership in The Fellowship include information sharing, networking opportunities, *WorshipArts* magazine and discounted registration rates for Fellowship. Read more about the benefits of membership at www.umfellowship.org. If you would like to speak with someone locally about The Fellowship, please contact Chapter Chairperson Doug Grogan at dgrogan@fumcpeoria.org.

Classifieds

Chatham UMC seeks a part-time director of choirs to lead the choral music program and handbell ministry. Qualified applicants are committed Christians with a background in music and experience in directing. The position is considered salaried. Send resumes or inquiries to personnel@chathamumc.net.

Peoria First UMC is looking a Director of Contemporary Worship Arts. The position will be posted on the IGRC and church website starting in early September. For more information contact Douglas Grogan dgrogan@fumcpeoria.org.



Upcoming Events

September 24, 2016
March 11, 2017
June 25-30, 2017
July 24-28, 2017

Contemporary Worship Workshop at Calvary UMC, Normal, IL
29th Annual Handbell Festival at Grace UMC, Salem, IL
Music and Worship Arts Week at Lake Junaluska, NC
Awaken! National Convocation in Little Rock, AK