

I have been asked...

What is the purpose for doing this?

I am making a road trip from my parish in Florida to go to General Synod in Hartford Connecticut and beyond in order to:

- Do God's work by literally sharing the Good News of God's Beloved Community through art & story.
- Promote the United Church of Christ, stressing the ideas that hold us together by telling the stories of Jesus Christ.
- Demonstrate the importance not only for children's programs through art and storytelling, but those for adults as well.
- Encourage patience in churches for developing new ideas and creative programs by modeling one.
- Transcend political debate and find common ground for all who are passionate about making this a better world.
- Provide an opportunity for churches to do fundraising as well as an entertaining way for having fellowship.
- Make an illustrated log of my journey including portraits of the pastors, church members, seminarians, and other folks I meet, taking their responses back to the national setting of the UCC.
- And do some listening, too.

God is still speaking



through the stories of the Bible
& I am called to share them on
this pilgrimage of art & spirit.
It is with the blessing of my church,
my conference, & the national setting
of my denomination that I am sent:

Holiday United Church of Christ

<http://www.uccholidayfl.org/>

of

The Florida Conference

<http://www.uccfla.org/indexsite.htm>

of

The United Church
of Christ

<http://www.ucc.org/>

"I hope many of our congregations will welcome Drew as an ambassador of the United Church of Christ, as a compelling narrator of the Biblical stories, and ... be connected to the church family as we celebrate our 50th anniversary."

John H. Thomas,

General Minister and President, UCC

a Gospel Story PILGRIMAGE to General Synod



Jesus @ 2000

Drew Willard

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The Pilgrimage Sites

- 6/11 Tallahassee United UCC
Tallahassee, FL
- 6/15 Westminster Presbyterian Church
Wilmington, DE
- 6/16 East Goshen UCC
West Chester, PA
- 6/18 Plainfield Congregational UCC
Plainfield, NJ
- 6/19 1st Congregational Church UCC
Montclair, NJ
- 6/20 1st Church of Christ UCC
Groton, CT
- 6/21 1st Congregational Church UCC
Griswold, CT
- 6/22-26 General Synod –
“God Is Still Creating”
“Synod in the City”
Hartford, CT
- 6/27 Canton UCC
Canton, MA
- 6/28 1st Congregational UCC
Auburn, MA
- 6/29 Blooming Grove UCC
Blooming Grove, NY
- 6/30 Touch the World Youth Ministries
Kunkletown, PA
- 7/1 Phoebe Berks Health Care Ctr
Wernersville, PA
- 7/2 Lancaster Theological Seminary
Lancaster, PA
- 7/3 The Potter’s House Coffeehouse
Washington, DC
- 7/5 Holiday UCC
Holiday, FL

The Program

At each destination, there will be
“An Evening of Biblical Storytelling”
to begin at *7:00 pm*. This will include the
following stories that have been translated
and paraphrased for an inclusive audience
by the storyteller, **Drew Willard**:

The Prologue –

An introduction to the story of Jesus Christ’s
life and the beginnings of his ministry with
selections from each Gospel.

The Sabbath –

A day in the life of Jesus Christ which
happens to be a Sabbath, filled with
extraordinary events from Mark 2:23-5:43.

a Lovesong to God –

The turning point of Jesus’ mission, his
journey to Jerusalem, and Mary Magdalene
are parts of this narrative leading up to the
Crucifixion and Resurrection.

Time permitting (and with the availability of
performers), local musicians and singers are
invited to share their gifts as well. This
would be in keeping with a Celtic tradition
of what is called a *ceilidh* (‘caillie’) – sort of
a potluck dinner where you bring a song
or story. So, I’ll bring the entrée that night.

In return for compensation, I am asking only
for “pizza & gas” money - \$50 in keeping
with this being the 50th Anniversary of the
United Church of Christ. Also, I will need a
safe place to stay – and a hot meal with
friends wouldn’t hurt.

The Presenter



Lifetouch © 2004

Drew Willard

has told Biblical stories in a variety of
venues since 1987 while attending
Lancaster Theological Seminary in
Lancaster, PA. A member of the
Network of Biblical Storytellers,
he has presented workshops using
the techniques he learned at NOBS’
“Festival Gatherings”. He has a
bachelor’s degree from West Point
(Class of 1977), an MDiv from LTS,
and was ordained in 1996 as a
minister of the United Church of
Christ. ‘Rev Drew’ serves as a pastor
for Holiday United Church of Christ in
Holiday, FL where he tells the Gospel
stories during worship.

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