



## **An Inspiring Model of Ministry**

**November 8, 2015 4 PM – 8 PM**

**Sponsored by the Faith Formation Team**

**of the United Church of Christ and McFarland UCC**

**McFarland, Wisconsin**

### **What?**

The first Messy Church began in 2004 when a group at St Wilfrid's in Cowplain near Portsmouth in the U.K. were frustrated because, as a church, they were hardly reaching any children with God's story. They felt they had lovely buildings and facilities but weren't using them enough. They had creative people in the church, and the area needed as much community-building as possible, being a rather featureless suburb. There was a lot of sympathy towards church in general but the church wasn't offering anything that really gripped the imagination of local families. They decided very early on to try to do something for all ages together, partly out of a belief that we grow best as a church when we walk the journey with as many different people as possible, and partly from a desire to help families to grow together in their walk of faith, and not see Christianity as something you grow out of when you're 11. Since then Messy Church has spread all over the U.K., Canada, Australia & New Zealand. It is just beginning to catch on in the US. McFarland UCC is one of a handful of UCC churches catching the vision of Messy Church. Come and see what the excitement is all about and figure out how you can bring this back to your church setting.

### **Who?**

Faith Formation Volunteers, Faith Formation Church Staff, Pastors, Parents, Faith Formation committee and ministry team members or anyone desiring to involve more children and families in a meaningful way in the life of their faith community.

**For More Information and to Register:**

<http://events.uccpages.org/messy-church.html>