



July 12, 2020

Renomination Process for the Rev. Traci Blackmon

The United Church of Christ Board of Directors is beginning the renomination process for the Rev. Traci Blackmon as UCC Associate General Minister, and is inviting members of the wider church to offer comments on her leadership.



Rev. Blackmon completes her first four-year term in office on July 20, 2021. Following UCCB Standing Rules, a UCCB Renomination Committee is soliciting feedback on her leadership as part of the renomination process. The Committee is looking for comment from members of the UCCB Executive Committee who have served during Rev. Blackmon's term in office, current members of the Cabinet of Council of Conference Ministers, three UCC seminary presidents, and three ecumenical partners who have worked with Traci. Several former Conference moderators will be included, as well as her fellow national officers and the national staff. Rev. Blackmon will also be called for an interview. That information and feedback, along with the responses collected on UCC.org, will be used by the Renomination Committee to create a report and recommendation that will be presented to the United Church of Christ Board at the fall 2020 meeting.

Individuals who want to participate should view the Blackmon renomination page (https://www.ucc.org/blackmon_renomination) and use the submission form to comment on Traci's work and leadership during her tenure and as Associate General Minister, Justice and Local Church Ministries. The information will go directly via email to Yvette Wynn, current UCCB Chair, and Chair of the Renomination Committee. The deadline for comments via this web page is September 1, 2020.

The UCCB will vote on Rev. Blackmon's renomination in October. Her nomination would be brought to the 33rd General Synod for consideration for re-election in July 2021.

"Waking Up White"

An Honest Process of Self-reflection

If you missed the first opportunity to participate in the 5 week discussion around the book "Waking Up White", you have another opportunity as a second group is being formed.

What is this? It is an opportunity for white people to begin an honest process of self-reflection. People ask, "What can we do?". If you are not already engaged in anti-racism work/ministry, then this might be a good place for you to start.

It is important for us to be totally transparent with you about what this IS and is NOT. This is an opportunity to risk discomfort. This is not a conversation that will make you feel better. It is not a conversation that will fix things and give you the answers. It will give you the opportunity to discern that for yourself. The "homework" is not to be done by pouring out your learning upon Black people. It is a way to gain insight about what it means for white people to talk with each other and when with Black people, to listen, learn and support from behind.

It is an opportunity for us to continue the conversation and engage in meaningful sharing that will hopefully lead to the next step of becoming people who then engage in anti-racism work .

If interested, please contact Interim Associate Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. Susan Minasian who is leading this effort. You may reach Dr. Minasian at : Minasian@psec.org



Coronavirus Resources Available for Churches

For resources churches and pastors may find helpful in practicing ministry during the pandemic visit [ucc.org/coronavirus](https://www.ucc.org/coronavirus) or [psec.org/coronavirus](https://www.psec.org/coronavirus).