Nominees for Council , 2021-2024

Eastern Association

1. Rev. Lisa Martin
* Alvyne Rethemeyer’s three year term ends April, 2021
* Senior Pastor of St. John’s in St. Charles, Missouri, one of the largest churches in Conference
* Mentors member in discernment [MID]
* St. John’s UCC serves as a Warming Center during winter months
* Lisa’s three year term begins [with election at CAG] April 2021.
1. Rev. Andrea Asselmeier
* Has agreed to serve a second term beginning April 2021 to April 2024
1. Joyce Bathke
* Has agreed to serve a second term beginning April 2021 to April 2024

Western Association

1. Charlotte Ward
* Nancy Luehrman’s terms ends April 2021
* Life-long member of UCC, first at St. Paul’s in Hermann and a member of Southwood UCC in Kansas City for 45 years
* Previously served on Conference Council and delegate to General Synod
* Charlotte’s three year term begins [with election at CAG] April 2021
1. Rev. Paula Lafferty
* Has agreed to serve a full first term beginning April 2021 to April 2024

St. Louis Association

1. Carolyn Stecher
* Nancy Litzsinger’s term ends April 2021
* Member, St. John’s in Chesterfield, Missouri
* Chair of recent search committee
* Church Council
* Adult education coordinator and teacher
1. Mickey Clarke
* Has agreed to serve second term April 2021 to April 2024
1. Rev. Rob Van Ess
* Has agreed to serve second term April 2021 to April 2024
1. Duana Russell Thomas
* Vacancy to fill the term of Rev. James Ross ending April 2022
* Member for twelve years, St. John’s the Beloved Community in North St. Louis
* Occupational therapist, Washington University School of Medicine
* Third year student, Eden Theological Seminary

Nominee for Council Vice Moderator

Elaine Tebbenkamp Western Association (term April, 2021 to April 2022)

* Replaces Nancy Luehrman whose term is ending

Nominees for General Synod, 2021-2023

Rev. Sonya Williams (replaces Rev. James Ross)

* Dean of Students, Eden Seminary
* Professor of Practical Theology

Elaine Tebbenkamp (replaces Rev. Ellen Martin)

* Term ends with General Synod 2021

Youth Delegate (High School Age)

* Camille Watkins, Christ the King UCC in Florissant

**Climate Justice Working Group--Members Needed**

**Background** – Kevin Cameron will not be continuing as Liaison. He comments: *I think MMS needs someone in this role who has a demonstrated passion from environment/climate/green practices. Someone who can connect people across MMS. Someone who can find out what is going on in Associations and congregations and with our CHHSM folks. Maybe someone who knows MO state legislators and local leaders. Tall order. Perhaps a team of folks who have some of these skills.I am just not the right person.*

**From Rev. Brooks Berndt**, Minister for Environmental Justice, United Church of Christ:

As part of its founding purpose, the Council for Climate Justice strives to live out the mandates of a 2015 General Synod resolution that calls for the establishment of a national task force devoted to the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy. In accordance with this resolution and other resolutions, the Council for Climate Justice seeks to both raise awareness in the UCC about climate justice and bring people together for action—all with a clear moral and theological foundation.

While Council membership is open to all in the UCC, we seek to have a designated liaison from each conference. Because the 2015 resolution on the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy encourages each conference to establish a corresponding task force that works in coordination with the UCC’s Minister for Environmental Justice, it is preferable if the liaison serves as the chair or an active member of the conference’s task force or its closest equivalent. The expectations for the liaison role are as follows:

1) Attends the Council’s six meetings each year. These meetings occur on the first Wednesday of every other month at 1 pm ET via Zoom. On months without a meeting, council members are invited to attend the UCC’s monthly Creation Justice Webinar which frequently features speakers who share a commitment to climate justice.
2) Facilitates a two-way stream of communication between the council and the conference.
3) Seeks to establish a climate justice task force, committee, or network for the conference if one does not already exist.
4) Serves as a means for bringing forth to the Council regional matters of climate justice as well as related resources from organizations that address those matters.

 **Conference Disaster Team -- Members Needed**

The Conference Disaster Team assists congregations in preparing response plans and helps when disaster events present themselves within the states of Missouri and Arkansas and the city of Memphis. Additionally, helps the Conference respond to disaster events across the country.