

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY: OVERSIGHT  
ANNUAL REPORT  
October 2019 – August 2020**

**Transfers In Approved:**

**John Nourse (November 2019)** From Wisconsin Conference, Northeast Assn.  
Retired, participating at Cape Albeon

**Audrey Nourse (November 2019)** From Wisconsin Conference, Northeast Assn.  
Retired, participating at Cape Albeon

**Travis Winckler (December 2019)** From Indiana/Kentucky Conference  
Pastor of Second Presbyterian, member of Pilgrim Congregational UCC

**Sonja Williams (August 2020)** From Florida Conference  
Dean of Students at Eden Theological Seminary, member of Christ Church UCC

**Tony Coleman (August 2020)** From Massachusetts Conference, Berkshire Association  
Associate Pastor at First Congregational UCC, Memphis

**Four-Way Covenants Approved:**

**Chance Beeler**  
**Travis Winckler**

**Privilege of Call Granted/Pending:**

**Jules Williams – Seeking Privilege of Call met in January 2020**  
**Carrie Moore Black – Seeking Privilege of Call met in June 2020**  
Supply Pastor of Second Congregational UCC Memphis

**Seeking Dual Standing Granted/Pending:**

**Michelle Higgins – Seeking Dual Standing met in May, 2020**  
Senior Pastor of St. John UCC Beloved Community

**Transfers Out Approved/Pending:**

**John Kerr** to Western Association, Illinois Conference

**Heather Arcovitch** to New Haven East Consociation, New England Southern Conference

**Barbara Patten** to Illinois South Conference

**Holly Pederson** to Minnesota Conference

**Tyler Connoley** to Central Pacific Conference

**Steven Stark** to Illinois South Conference

**David Mehl** to Providence Association, Southern New England Conference

**Robert Walker** to Evansville Tri-State Association, Indiana/Kentucky Conference

**Lansford Lawrence** to Houston Association, South Central Conference

**Jeff Whitman** to Mercersburg Association, Penn Central Conference

**Randall Mullins** to the Central Pacific Conference

**Beth Causey** to the Kentuckiana Association, Indiana/Kentucky Conference

**Dale Bilbrey** to the Southeast Conference

**Exit Interviews Conducted:**

**Linda Stoecklin and Immanuel UCC**  
**Steven Stark and St. John UCC (Manchester)**  
**Kevin Anthony and St. John UCC Beloved Community**

**Licensure Concluded:** Linda Stoecklin, Immanuel UCC (November, 2019)

**Dual Standing Concluded:**

**Kevin Anthony**, St. John UCC Beloved Community

**Approved for Ecclesiastical Endorsement as a Board Certified Chaplain:**

**Carol Trissel**

**Phyllis Long**

**Approved for Substitute Preacher List:**

**Guangyu Lou**

**MaryLin Hudson**

**Approved Change to Inactive Status at clergy request:**

**Beth Meirath** (August 2020)

**Racial Justice and Equity Training Events:**

**Planned Sacred Conversation on Race event** to be led by Dr. Velda Love on October 9-10, 2020

**Recognized the following events as meeting the RJET criteria:**

- Witnessing Whiteness groups led by YWCA
- Book Studies led by Ginny Brown Daniel:
  - White Fragility by Robin Diangelo
  - Me and White Supremacy by Layla Saad
  - How to be an Anti-Racist by Ibram X. Kendi
- Anti Racism Pro-Reconciliation Justice Training led by Disciples of Christ

**Boundary Awareness Training:**

**Led BAT event** in March, 2020

**Virtual BAT** training program is currently being planned for October, 2020

**Informational Reviews:**

Coordinated Annual Clergy Information Review process with other associations

Received and reviewed Annual Information Review reports from active and retired clergy and responded to their concerns/requests

**Ministry Support for Chaplains:**

Did intentional outreach to Chaplains for support

Planned summer gathering for Chaplains which had to be postponed due to COVID-19

**Support for Retired Clergy:**

Planned an annual gathering for retired clergy which had to be postponed due to COVID-19

**Support for Congregations requesting assistance**

Responded to requests from seven congregations and/or pastors for help with specific concerns

**Fitness Review:**

Responded to a request for a fitness review. A program of growth is underway to support the pastor's ongoing development.

**Marks for Ministry:**

The committee reflected on the Marks for Ministry in regular meetings and developed an interview guide to incorporate discussion of the marks in our clergy interviews.

**Annual Retreat/Continuing Education:**

In August the committee attended a retreat (along with members of the Committee on Ministry: Preparation and the COMs from Eastern and Western Association) to receive continuing education from our Cleveland-based Ministerial Excellence and Support and Authorization team (M.E.S.A.).

In conclusion, this was a full year for the Committee on Ministry: Oversight. All the committee members brought a love for the church and our pastors to our work. In addition to monthly half-day meetings, members devoted additional time every month to meet with pastors, listen to concerns of church members, celebrate pastoral beginnings/endings in worship, conduct exit interviews, review applications for standing or certification, and develop and lead clergy training events. Members attend an annual retreat for additional training to equip us to better serve the church.

We conclude the year with deep gratitude for committee members who gave so generously of their time and their spirits to contribute to the building up of the church, especially in these challenging times:

Mary Albert  
Jan Barnes  
Barb Biedenstein  
David Gerth  
Vicki Hampton  
Keith Karau  
Lillian Lammers  
Ray Landis  
Mary Morgan  
Mark Robinson  
Leon Sharpe  
Alan Stevenson