

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST EAST GOSHEN
An Open and Affirming Congregation
All are Welcome!
July 12, 2020



The Rev. Angelee Benner-Smith, Pastor
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Living In God's Love Together, We Gather 6th Sunday After Pentecost

WE thank those who are participating in our virtual worship service this morning: Cathy, Eva & Bart Yost, Leslie Siebert, Michael Hatala, and Linda Ardao.



Altar Flowers are given by Avalon Wittig in loving memory of her husband, Earl G. Wittig, Jr. on his birthday.

Fellowship Zoom - Sunday at 11 AM

UCC East Goshen is inviting you to share fellowship after worship this week. No agenda, just reconnect with your UCCEG neighbors. Once the Sunday service is over, you'll find Pastor Angelee in fellowship hall with a cup of coffee. Having time to say, "Hello" and listen to each other is one of the things that's best about our congregation. Of course an on-line meeting is not ideal, but it is a start! It will be nice to see each other's faces again.

[Join the Zoom Fellowship Meeting Sunday at 11:00 a.m. by clicking here.](#)



The meeting ID is 899 4141 7755 if you have Zoom on your phone or computer and want to just hit, "Join Meeting".

You can also join by calling in, if you don't want to use video.

Dial 1 646 876 9923 and when prompted, enter the Meeting ID: 899 4141 7755.

Sacred Conversations on Race: UCC East Goshen will set aside time over the summer to begin sacred conversations on race.

Beginning July 11, Roots & Roofs will look at Institutional Racism and White Supremacy. The United Church of Christ has been encouraging its congregations to take on the awkward, sometimes difficult but entirely essential task of engaging with each other on the subject of Race in America. In 2016, the denomination released a curriculum called “White Privilege, Let’s Talk”. Our congregation used the curriculum for a six-week adult study. We’ll be revisiting portions of it for the first two weeks and then continuing on to:



July 25th: Racial history

August 1st: Children & Race

August 8th: Being an Ally

August 15th: Action steps to be an Ally

Watch your weekly e-mails, the Facebook pages:

[UnitedChurchofChristEastGoshen](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedChurchofChristEastGoshen) and [RootsandRoofs](https://www.facebook.com/RootsandRoofs) for up-to-date information and links to reading material.

Why, “Sacred Conversations”? Our work is rooted in the universal, perfect love of God and the prophetic call to justice and mercy. We hope that in the community God has gathered here in West Chester, each of us can meet and share in mutual respect and love. It is no more or less than our call to build the kingdom of God on earth. As the General Minister and President of the UCC, John Dorhauer, says in the introduction to “White Privilege, Let’s Talk”, “... the work by whites to understand white privilege is more than the work of justice: it is the work of spiritual healing. ... It is far past time that we admit that and commit not just to the work of justice, but to the work of healing our own spiritual wounds and the wounds of our ancestors.”

Conversations continue: For any who prefer a stand-alone discussion, we’ll also offer “Book Club” discussions on one topic at a time. We’ll meet on Zoom for a session where the participants view a video on Race in America and take time to discuss it. The plan is to host early-evening meetings, but please feel free to share suggestions for a time to hold the sessions with the UCCEG office. As always, watch the weekly e-mails and Facebook pages for details.

[Click here to view the UCCEG July/August Newsletter](#)

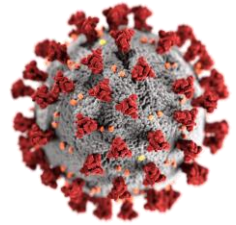


Food Donations: If you would like to donate to our pantry outreach, please drop non-perishable food items outside our church on the bench from **8 AM - 12:30 PM Sunday morning!** We will send them on to help those in need. Thanks for remembering God's call to serve

each other!

COVID-19 UPDATE

Your council and reopening committee have been reading and reflecting on our plans to keep all of us as safe and healthy as possible. The congregation will receive plenty of notice as dates for reopening are set and plans are put in motion. During this process cleaning, spacing, different ways to worship are being considered and local governmental laws are being followed



Café Script Bible Study

will resume on Wednesday, July 15 at 11 AM. All are welcome!

This week's texts include:

Isaiah 44: 6-8

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

[Click here to join Café Script!](#)

Prayer Requests: Is there a specific way we can be praying for you? Please email it to prayers@ucceastgoshen.org and we will be sure to add it to the prayer list!



**UNITED
CHURCH
OF CHRIST****Communitas**

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

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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 \(https://www.ucc.org/blackmon_renomination\)](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 or psec.org/coronavirus.