

Report of the Preparation for Ministry Committee September, 2009

For the year October, 2008 through September, 2009, the Preparation for Ministry Committee met faithfully each month. We began and continued many relationships of discernment with candidates preparing for authorized ministry. In addition we deliberated and came to consensus as we took the following actions which represent the highlights of our ministry this year on behalf of the St. Louis Association.

Received in care the following Persons in Discernment: (7)

Rob Van Ess 1/8/09, Holy Trinity UCC (Memphis)
Tim Osiek 3/12/09, St. John's UCC (Manchester)
Luke Grobe 4/9/09, Samuel UCC (Clayton)
Donnie Jones 4/9/09, Immanuel UCC (Ferguson)
Jacquelyne Tyler 6/11/09, Greater New Higher Heights (St. Louis)
Phiwa Langeni 7/9/09, Evangelical UCC (Webster Groves)
Charles Lindsay 7/9/09, First Congregational (Memphis)

Examined and Approved for Ordination Pending Call (4)

Anisa Evans 10/9/08, Evangelical UCC (Webster Groves)
Lynn Bohlman 11/13/08, Hope UCC (St. Louis)
Ann Philips 5/14/09, First Congregational UCC (Memphis)
Kimberly Banks-Brown 8/13/09, Pilgrim Congregational UCC (St. Louis)

Ordained into Christian Ministry: (5)

Lora Whitten 10/2/08, St. Peter's UCC (Ferguson)
Dorothy Gannon 10/16/08, Epiphany UCC (St. Louis)
Anisa Evans 5/30/09, Evangelical UCC (St. Louis)
Leslie Etheredge 1/11/09, First Congregational UCC (Memphis)
Ann Phillips 8/9/09, First Congregational UCC (Memphis)

Examined and Approved for Commissioning: (1)

Andrea Reiter 2/12/09, Church of the Open Door (Webster Groves)

Commissioned for Ministry with Older Adults: (1)

Andrea Reiter 6/20/09, Church of the Open Door (Webster Groves)

Licensed or Renewed License for Ministry: (3)

Al Schon 6/11/09, license renewed for Evangelical UCC 6/11/09
Brad Urban 7/9/09, licensed to serve Carondelet UCC
Traci Blackmon 7/9/09, licensed to serve Christ the King UCC

Concluded Licensed Ministry Oversight: (1)

Don Frandsen 11/13/08, (currently licensed by the Eastern Association to serve St. Pauls UCC in Defiance, MO)

We concluded the year in relationship with 17 “Persons In Discernment”

Heather Arcovitch, Zion UCC (Florissant)
Kimberly Banks-Brown, Pilgrim Congregational UCC (St. Louis)
Janice Barnes, First Congregational UCC (Webster Groves)
Traci Blackmon, Christ the King UCC (St. Louis)
Lynn Bohlmann, Hope UCC (St. Louis)
Wendy Bruner, St. John UCC (St. Louis)
Kathryn Cooper, St. Peter’s UCC (Ferguson)
Luke Grobe, Samuel UCC (Clayton)
Rayla Hogue, First Congregational UCC (Memphis)
Donnie Jones, Immanuel UCC (Ferguson)
Phiwa Langeni, Evangelical UCC (Webster Groves)
Charles Lindsay, First Congregational UCC (Memphis)
Nancy Mack, Evangelical UCC (Webster Groves)
Tim Osiek, St. John’s UCC (Manchester)
Al Schon, Evangelical UCC (Webster Groves)
Donna Street, Immanuel UCC (St. Louis)
Jacquelyne Tyler, Greater New Higher Heights (St. Louis)
Robert Van Ess, Holy Trinity UCC (Memphis)

The committee would like to encourage St. Louis area congregations to inform us as soon as possible when a person begins preparation for authorized ministry. This year we have seen an increase in the number of persons seeking authorization for ministry at or near the completion of their seminary training. Faithful discernment is a process which takes a minimum of a year to complete. Please urge any members of your congregation who feel called to ordained, commissioned or licensed ministry to be in conversation with our committee as soon as possible. In that way we will be best able to offer our care and support them in discernment as they prepare to answer God’s call.

We especially thank the Rev. Dr. Jack Seville for sharing his experience, wisdom, and wit as he supported us in our work this year.

Respectfully Submitted by the Preparation for Ministry Committee,

Mary Albert	Dorothy Dwyer
Jeff Groene	Robert Hartmann
Wesley Hurt	Sue Leary
Sarah McCann	Patricia Perryman
Tom Ressler	Karen Safe
Juanita Wagner	