

Dear Authorized Ministers in the Southwest Wisconsin Association,

I'm writing on behalf of the Southwest Association Division of Church and Ministry regarding one of the changes in the new *Manual on Ministry*, which includes the expectation that UCC ministers participate in anti-racism training.

The Division has decided that going forward, anti-racism training will be a requirement for Members in Discernment. Those who are already authorized (ordained, commissioned, licensed) are strongly encouraged to engage in anti-racism training if they have not already done so.

If you have participated in anti-racism training, you are offered the opportunity to include that information in your file held in the Conference's database. The database will record the year of your most recent training. We will not require documentation from the organization that provided the training.

Those who are not Members in Discernment are not required to record this information. However, as we live into the new *Manual on Ministry*, some Associations either have made or will make completion of anti-racism training a condition for transfer of standing. If you anticipate a move to a ministry setting outside our Association at some point in the future, you may be asked to provide evidence of anti-racism training. You may want to simplify the transfer of standing process by taking the opportunity now to have that training recorded in our database. To do so, simply contact Susan Taylor in the Conference Office by email (staylor@wcucc.org) and let her know the year of your most recent anti-racism training.

With continued gratitude for your companionship in ministry,

Rev. Joanne Thomson
Associate Conference Minister
Southwest Wisconsin Association
Wisconsin Conference
United Church of Christ
jthomson@wcucc.org