

Introducing the Rev. Charlene Brunt Burch

The Rev. Charlene Burch is no stranger to the Illinois Conference. She served as Interim Illinois Conference Minister from 1997 to 2000, leading up to the time the Conference called the Rev. Jane Fidler-Hoffman as settled Conference Minister. In fact, she is no stranger to stepping in to fill interim gaps as Conference Minister. In addition to Illinois, she has been Interim Conference Minister in the Penn West, Missouri Mid-South, and Pacific Northwest Conferences. She was Acting Conference Minister for the Northern California Nevada Conference.

Rev. Burch has served as Interim in at least half a dozen other conference and association level posts, served as Interim Pastor to several churches and had full time settled ministry positions as well. Throughout her ministry, she has actively engaged with committees and task forces of the UCC. Most recently she served on the UCC Task Force looking at the Search and Call Process and Ministerial Profiles and has recently joined a Task Force to look at the UCC Conference Minister search process.

She is a graduate of Davis & Elkins College in West Virginia. She received her MDiv from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago and while in seminary also earned a master's in social work degree (MSW) from the University of Illinois/Chicago. She is an Ordained Minister with full standing in the United Church of Christ, her with standing held in the Southeast Conference. Her church membership is at Pleasant Hill Community Church (UCC) in Pleasant Hill, Tennessee.

Char and her husband moved to Uplands Village, a Life Plan Community related to the United Church of Christ, in Pleasant Hill Tennessee just over a year ago. She is active in her new local church, and in the Southwest Conference. She has also been doing occasional pulpit supply pastor work in another local UCC.

While slowly easing into retirement mode, Char welcomes the opportunity to work full-time with the churches, clergy, lay leaders, and members of the Illinois Conference on a short term (3 to 6 month) basis.