

General Council 45 Commissioner Nominees



Ministry Personnel Nominees:

Mokwadi M.P.T. Basele (OM, Wainwright AB)
Deanna Cox (OM, Killam AB)
Blaine Gregg (OM, Edmonton AB)
Helen Reed (DM, Camrose AB)
Monica Rosborough (OM, Athabasca AB)
Carolyn Woodall (OM, Vermilion AB)

Lay Person Nominees:

Gail Allan (Lay, Edmonton AB)
Bruce West (Lay, Sherwood Park AB)
Karen Wilford (Lay, Yellowknife NWT)

Gail Allan

she/her

Lay, Edmonton, AB

A member of Garneau United Church, Gail has worked for many years on issues of global and social justice, integrating theological reflection, critical social analysis, and collaborative education and action. She has a doctorate in ethics from Emmanuel College. Her interests include feminist ethics, ecclesiology, and ecumenical and interfaith relations. From 2004-2020 she was Coordinator for Interchurch and Interfaith Relations in the General Council Office, representing the church in national and international ecumenical and interfaith groups, and supporting people engaged in dialogue and action in their local communities. Currently she is on the Garneau Council, an associate faculty member at St. Stephen's College, and president of the Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action.



Mokwadi (M.P.T.) Basele
OM, Wainwright, AB



MPT is a Resident Minister of Grace United Church, Wainwright, AB, before he served Knox United Church, Taber, AB.

He is a member of the Prairie Candidacy Board. He represented UCC in the Canadian Council of Churches.

MPT started his ministry in Botswana as a member of the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa then as an Ordained Minister. He has served in different positions and capacities from Sunday School to denominational committees. He served rural, para - urban and city churches.

Some of his achievements are: helping build two church structures of worship and a multi-purpose hall for another. Bought property for one church, started national Men's Fellowship. He was a member of University of Botswana Senate.

Deanna Cox
she/her
OM, Killam, AB

I have a passion for people and creation which led others to encourage me to consider ministry. After graduating from St Andrew's College, I followed my love of rural life to my first call. I grew up on a traditional mixed farm and my ability to talk about tractors and farming as much as I talk about God, has won me favour on more than one occasion. I love creative ministry / pro-



gramming! My COFs and I have tried some fun and unique projects: a canoe trip down the tiny Battle River educating people on the shared settler/Indigenous history of the area, hosting a Hallmark Christmas festival showcasing community organizations and providing free fun for all, and our on going FREE community suppers aimed at addressing loneliness and hunger are just a few of my favorites.

Blaine Gregg
he/him
OM, Edmonton, AB



Blaine is a born and bred UCCer. He was Ordained in 1990 following graduation from the Vancouver School of Theology. Since 2020, he has been in ministry with the people of Spirit of Hope United Church (Edmonton). He previously served the Swan Hills United Church from 1990 to 1996, Gaetz Memorial United Church (Red Deer) from 1996 to 2000, and St. David's United Church (Leduc) from 2000-2019. Blaine has always been (and still) is active within the wider church taking on several roles with Presbytery/Conference/Region and General Council, including Ministry, Personnel and Education work as well as offering music leadership. He has also served various church courts as a parliamentarian several times. Most recently, Blaine was a member of the Pastoral Relations Commission.

Helen Reed

she/her

DM, Camrose, AB

I was born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne in England and moved to Canada when I was 16. My faith was rooted in the Church of England at that time. I was introduced to the United Church of Canada a few years later and was active in my home community. I have two

grown children, one of whom is married and three grand-pets. Life is full. I heard the call to Ministry in my 40s and have enjoyed working with all ages in my calling. I have served in a multi charge Pastoral Charge and am now in a small city single Charge. All the facets of ministry, administration, worship, music, pastoral care, social justice, children and elders. Being part of an Affirming congregation and one that explores Indigenous learning and relations is important.



Monica Rosborough

she/her

OM, Athabasca, AB



Monica is a small-town Albertan who graduated from the U of A in 1986 with a degree in education (music minor). While raising two kids in the 1990s in Edmonton she heard the call to ministry at Naramata Centre. She was a presbytery rep, worked at Revelation books then went to Atlantic School of Theology in 2009, and was ordained in 2014. She has been serving Athabasca UC since 2012, was on the Northern Spirit Affirming Committee and the Materials Curation Subcommittee of Then Let Us Sing. She currently is in the (Re)Generate Leadership Program with Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdown and 30 other UC leaders. She also is developing a collaborative ministry with First United (Fort McMurray) Athabasca & Barrhead United, when not writing poetry, hymns, scrapbooking or knitting.

Bruce West

he/him

Lay, Sherwood Park, AB

I spent the first 24 years of my life in Toronto. My wife and I married in 1975 and we moved to Edmonton that year so I could do graduate work in aquatic biology. We fully expected to return to Ontario in a couple of years, but here we are still, almost 50 years later, with three Alberta-born daughters. My career took an unexpected turn,

and instead of focusing on science I joined the provincial government developing policy and delivering programs related to affordable housing, seniors housing and continuing care. That career spanned 30 years at which time I joined the non-profit Alberta Continuing Care Association for five years. In retirement I have continued to pursue my passion for seniors' advocacy through various volunteer positions and have become more active in the United Church.



Karen Wilford

she/her

Lay, Yellowknife, NWT

I am a 63 year old retired lawyer and have worked in social justice throughout my career. I continue to serve my profession on committees in the NWT Law Society and the Federation of Law Societies of Canada, where I have taken numerous leadership roles. I have a strong background in governance, from a community choir board to leading a hospital through an \$80M redevelopment.

I grew up Peterborough, ON (Northminster United), attended Western U. in London, then settled in Orillia (St. Paul's United) before moving North.

I have been married for 38 years, have two grown sons and am fairly well-travelled. I strive for an open mind and heart and yearn deeply for a just world. My sense of humour keeps me sane and I have a very low tolerance for negativity.

Carolyn Woodall

she/her

OM, Vermilion River, AB

My early life was lived in several communities across southern Ontario. I trained at Queen's, in Kingston. My yearlong internship and all my ordained ministry was in isolated and rural ministry settings in central Alberta until 2019. Then I worked as an Intentional Interim Minister, in southeastern Saskatchewan for two years, and two years in Regina. Last year I returned to Northern Spirit to the area near my home, and am in the midst of an Intentional Interim here at Vermilion River Pastoral Charge.

In the sandwich generation, my spouse and I are concerned for the quality of life of my elderly parents, and our adult children.

I am passionate about Jane Austen, Lord of the Rings, about pilgrimages, both physical and spiritual, and seek to connect more deeply to my Celtic Christian roots.

