

MFC December 2024

Non-Confidential Minutes

Wednesday, December 4-Sunday, December 8

Thursday, December 5

Rebekah Savage, Amanda Poppei, Nathalie Edmond, Shirley Lange, Cindy Malley, Alison ALG McLeod, Beth Norton, Kären Rasmussen, Michael Tino, Lindasusan Ulrich, Laura Shennum, Paul Langston-Daley, Maria Cristina Vlassidis Burgoa, Takiyah Amin. UUA Staff: Marta Valentín, Marion Bell, Aastha Poudel, Amy Szen. Absent: DC Fortune, Karen LoBracco (present for business/working group meetings)

- Odyssey – Aastha Poudel
- Welcome and Brief Check-In
- Affirming Our Covenant & Commitment Covenant
- Overview of the Week (**Plus**, breaking news: *May 2025 MFC retreat has been postponed to May 2026*)
- Panel Orientation
- BIPOC and White Caucus Time
- Working Groups Meet

Friday, December 6

- Odyssey - Aastha
- THREE PANELS MEET FOR CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

Saturday, December 7

PANELS MEET FOR CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

Sunday, December 8

Business Meeting

Rebekah Savage, Amanda Poppei, Nathalie Edmond, Shirley Lange, Cindy Malley, Alison ALG McLeod, Beth Norton, Kären Rasmussen, Michael Tino, Lindasusan Ulrich, Karen LoBracco, DC Fortune, Laura Shennum, Paul Langston-Daley, Takiyah Amin. UUA Staff: Cecilia Kingman, Darrick Jackson, Marion Bell. *Absent: Marta Valentin, Maria Cristina Vlassidis Burgoa*

Caucus Time

BIPOC Caucus

White Caucus

Memorial Service

Open Meeting

Review of MFC Rules and Policies and bylaws to identify any unexpected or unclear rules that could be helpful to remind candidates and ministers about. Also discussed was the role of the Executive Secretary, Cecilia, and the Executive Committee. The meeting also touched on the rules around candidacy, interviews, decision categories, internship, preliminary fellowship, and inactive fellowship status. It was suggested that it may be helpful to review Rule 18 (Transfers/Plural Affiliation) and Rule 14 (inactive status) for more clarity. What denominations would meet the requirement to allow transfers/plural affiliation? Would it be helpful to have different categories of inactive status?

Also discussed was ordination vs. fellowship and how our polity plays a role in the complexities around ordination for those who are in the process of credentialing. Congregations may be unaware that the MFC “strongly discourages” ordination prior to fellowship. It was agreed that there needs to be further discussion, possibly with more stakeholders, around this topic.