

**UUA Transitions Office
Request for a Beyond Categorical Thinking Visit**

Please complete this form as thoroughly as possible after reviewing the [BCT information on the UUA website](#) and send it as an email attachment to transitions@uua.org. Cost is \$500 per congregation or \$400 if Honor Congregation (formerly Fair Share); however, for two or more Sunday services, cost is \$550 per congregation or \$450 if Honor Congregation (formerly Fair Share). Send a check, payable to the UUA, with your congregation name on it and BCT in the memo. Please mail it to UUA Transitions Office, 24 Farnsworth Street, Boston, MA 02210-1409. Your check only partly covers the cost of the workshop; the UUA covers the remaining costs.

Application Deadline: 8 weeks prior to your requested visit dates. That gives us time to schedule trainers and gives the trainers time to find reasonably priced airfare.

***Indicates a required field.
Note that the input fields will expand as you type.**

Today's Date

- *Full Name of Congregation
- *City *ST/Province
- *BCT Contact Name
- *email *Phone

Search Committee Chair(s)

Chair email(s)

Visit Dates

Usually the facilitators meet with the search committee on Saturday evening, provide the sermon (and potentially more) for the Sunday morning service, and conduct the workshop following the Sunday service. If you determine that attendance will be stronger on Saturday you may request a Saturday workshop. You should allow approximately 3 hours for the workshop.

Please choose dates when the entire search committee and most of the church leadership can attend. We do our best to honor your first choice but we ask that you submit 2nd and 3rd choices as well.

- *1st Choice
- *2nd Choice
- *3rd Choice

Would you prefer a Saturday workshop? Or Sunday after worship?

Congregational Information

- *Interim minister (if applicable)
- *Other ministers serving congregation at present and list length of settlement to date

*Please list at least 3 but not more than 10 previous ministers with their dates of service and type of ministry.

e.g. Rev. J Jones 2002 – 2012 Settled

- *Expected start date (month/year) for new minister
- *Size of congregation
- *Number and time of Sunday services
- *Average worship service attendance - if more than one service, feel free to list estimates for each service

The following information will be extremely valuable to the facilitators and will benefit both the search committee and the congregation. Some of this information might be available in the congregational survey and easy to find. In some cases it may not be, and you are free to estimate (preferred) or leave blank. Please note, if possible, where the information is from (survey, best estimate, other).

Size of search committee:

Does the search committee include anyone under the age of 40?

Does the search committee include any people who identify as people of color; Latino/Latina/Hispanic; gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender; people with a disability? Which one (s)?

How many people in your congregation identify as people of color and/or Latino/Latina/Hispanic? (These figures may be given in a lump sum or broken down by different identities. Please note if the figures are for adults or for adults, youth, and children)

How many people in the congregation identify as bisexual, gay, lesbian, and/or transgender? (These figures may be given in a lump sum or broken down by identity. Of particular use here if the figures are given in a lump sum is a notation of how many of these folks identify as transgender—transgender, transsexual, intersexual, cross-dressers, third gender.)

How many people in the congregation live with disabilities?

Are the above numbers from the congregational survey or an estimate? Please explain.

The following questions may affect the way the congregation thinks in terms of calling a minister in both positive and negative ways. Taking a moment to answer these questions will offer invaluable information to the BCT training team.

Have any of your previous or current ministers (settled, interim, intern) identified as people of color - Latina/Latino/Hispanic; bisexual, gay, lesbian, transgender; and/or having some disability? Please list.

e.g.	Rev. John Doe	intern	1996-1997	gay
	Rev. Jane Deer	interim	1999-2000	Latina
	Rev. Jed Stag	settled	1985-1989	diabetic, used walker at times

What work around anti-racism has the congregation done?

Is there a group for people of color/Latina/Latino/Hispanic concerns?

What work around disability issues has the congregation addressed?

What disability issues are currently being addressed?

What disability issues has the congregation said it needs to address but has not?

Is there a group(s) for disability issues/concerns?

Are you officially recognized as a Welcoming Congregation?

Is there an active Interweave or b/g/l/t group in the congregation?

Is there other anti-oppression/multicultural work that the congregation is doing that is not covered in the above questions?

What challenge(s) have arisen for the congregation in the past surrounding categories of diversity (race, ethnicity, affectional orientation, transgender, ability) that may impact the readiness of the congregation for bringing in a new minister?

Was a successful strategy implemented to address the challenge(s)?

The Wider Community

These questions may give some important context to the facilitators who may know little about the wider community you serve.

Where do the majority of your members live? (For example, they may all come from the suburbs to downtown or be primarily located between the town your congregation is in and a neighboring town or you may serve people in a 50-mile radius around your congregation.)

What are the racial/ethnic communities that are in the area served/close to your congregation?

How does the congregation interact with these communities/groups?

How do issues of race and ethnicity surface in the wider community?

How accessible to people with disabilities is the wider community of which you are a part?

Has your wider community undertaken any work to make your community more accessible to people with disabilities that you are aware of?

Is there a disability rights group in your community?

How has the congregation engaged in this issue in the wider community?

What activities and services in your community are there for bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender people/concerns?

Do you have people who are out in the congregation but not able to be out in the wider community?

How does the congregation interact with the local bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender community (ies)?

Does the congregation have a relationship with another congregation that serves primarily people of color or b/g/l/t people?

In some congregations, issues of gender, age, and class would warrant some time as part of the BCT training. For example, one congregation that was several hundred years old had never had a female minister. Another example is calling a minister from a working class background in a congregation of

primarily upper class congregants and there being strife over many issues. If there is a reason why you feel that part of the BCT time should be spent addressing one of these areas due to congregational history, please give a short history of why that should happen below.

What else should we know about your congregation that we haven't asked?

If we need clarification on any part of this form, should we direct questions to the contact person or to someone else (please list name and contact)?