



**Strengthen
the Church**

SENT FORTH IN
LOVE

Creating ministerial excellence

Your gifts to Strengthen the Church help support the work of the Ministerial Excellence, Support, and Authorization (MESA) team at the National Ministries of the United Church of Christ. This team supports the critical implementation of denominational polity for authorized ministry, especially equipping the Committees on Ministry that determine authorization of those persons who hold or are pursuing ministerial standing.

What does this mean?

In 2025, the MESA team hosted 23 Zoom trainings for Committees on Ministry (COMs) on the following topics, including:

- COM orientations for new and continuing COM members, particularly in how to offer hospitality to ministers and Members in Discernment;

- Specialized work on Fitness Reviews;
- The Endorsement Process for professional and governmental chaplaincy;
- Among other one-off trainings

In addition, MESA hosted

- Boundary Awareness Trainings focused on retired clergy and ministers serving in specialized settings such as hospital or university chaplaincy;
- Specialized learning for Members in Discernment;
- Regularly recurring online affinity groups for Campus Chaplains, Spiritual Support for Members in Discernment, Military Chaplains, Members in Discernment in Cross-Cultural Contexts, and VA chaplains;
- Targeted trainings with Conference staff focused on the search and call process, ongoing resource development, and working with ecumenically ordained ministers.

Learn more at www.ucc.org/mesa. Your gifts to Strengthen the Church build up strong leaders across our church.

Thank you for your generosity!

The Strengthen the Church Offering furthers the work of our Conference and National Ministries as we work together to strengthen and renew existing congregations, fund leadership development, and provide exciting new programs for youth and young adults. The offering is divided between your Conference and the National Ministries.

Learn more at www.ucc.org/stc

