



The Reverend Brigit Stevens

I am really excited to be recommended for your consideration as the first Executive Conference Minister of the Tri-Conference Ministry for the Nebraska, South Dakota, and Iowa UCC Conferences!

I love the church. My faith has been both tested and nurtured by the communities of faith of which I have been a part. I feel called to be of service and make an impact on the world through the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ through the mouthpiece and experience of the United Church of Christ!

I nurtured my call to ministry in my late college years as I finished my B.S. in Accounting at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. I lived in the Minneapolis area and worked full-time in corporate accounting. At the same time, my volunteer position with the middle schoolers at my church, Wayzata Community Church (UCC), grew into a part-time youth ministry position, and eventually to a sense of call to seminary, ordination, and full-time ministry in the UCC.

After earning my Master of Divinity at Fuller Theological Seminary and after ordination, I served two rural MN congregations, both teetering on the edge of financial and missional unsustainability, and both still loving God and neighbor today. I have known in those two calls, the pain of family and power dynamics in the church. I have grieved the innumerable ways that maintenance can win over mission and how challenging and hurtful that can be to the possibilities of new life and love in Christ. I have also celebrated in the reconciliation of relationships and seen great progress in church and community life through love and truth telling!

Currently as an Associate Conference Minister for the Iowa Conference UCC, I continue to be blessed by the opportunity to “Be the Church,” with a much wider context. It is a joy to be a supporter, encourager, teacher, and fellow journeyer with the ministers and members of the Iowa Conference UCC!

My approach to the hard task of life and leadership in the church is rooted in my faith and directed by two questions: “Who am I?” and “Whose am I?” I make decisions based on the answers to those questions.

I work best on a team that is organized like a swim team or track team, with individuals excelling in their particular events of skill, and their accomplishments contributing to the success of the team. I enjoy the events that are intentionally collaborative, like relays, and appreciate how all events are buoyed and strengthened by the training together and cheering for one another along the way. I also encourage individuals to soar in their particular skills and talents for their personal achievements as well as their contribution to the team’s success.

Because I love the United Church of Christ, I am passionate about developing stewardship practices that reflect our faith and thanksgiving for God’s blessings, not our fear of closing doors and limited resources. I am particularly looking forward to employing my skills and experiences from my accounting and small-business owner days in the role as Executive Conference Minister. I believe there are great opportunities embedded in the challenges that lie before us. I enjoy the hard questions of living in covenant with people I do not always agree with or even like very much. And I’m convinced the United Church of Christ is a beautiful collection of brilliant souls that, in spite of our difficulties, still shines the light of Christ in a transformative way to the world.