

Charlene Higginbotham Adams joined the former Euclid Avenue Congregational Church in 1973 and actively participated in the association, conference, and national church. Charlene is a retired Commissioned minister, a member of Amistad Chapel, UCC and married to the Rev. Dr. Mendle Adams. They serve as Annuitant Visitors in the Association.

The Rev. Dr. Bentley deBardelaben serves in the national offices, downtown Cleveland, as Executive for Administration and Communications for Justice and Witness ministries. He has been employed there since 2006. He faithfully serves as co-chair of the EOA-WRA Credentialing working group. His home congregation is Pilgrim UCC in Tremont.

Sue Ferbrache retired from elementary school teaching after 38 years and is now serving on Church Council of St. John's UCC in Dover as an elder. She has run the gamut of church responsibilities from Sunday School teacher to Council president to choir member to book club leader and many more. She is currently acting as chairperson of the Organ Restoration and Renovation Committee. She has served on the Committee on Ministry for the past three years.

Rev. Jeff Gerber has been serving First UCC in New Philadelphia since 1999. He previously served congregations in Ohio, Pennsylvania, & West Indian congregations in the US Virgin Islands. A graduate of Ohio University & Methodist Theological School in Ohio, Jeff was ordained in the United Methodist Church in 1979.

Patsy A. Harris is a member of Mt. Zion Congregational Church, where she is the assistant church clerk and is involved in several ministries. She retired from CWRU after working there over 35 years as a dedicated employee. Patsy has served on the board of Wider Church Ministries and Global Ministries. She is a member of Friends of the Shaker Library which proudly supports the Shaker Library by having book sales, programs for the community and participation in city-wide events.

The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Leung is a member of Faith UCC in Richmond Heights. Elizabeth has previously served on the Committee on Ministry at the Northern California Nevada Conference UCC. She is currently in spiritual direction training at the acclaimed Loyola House of the Ignatius Jesuit Centre in Guelph, Ontario.

Shawnthea Monroe is the Senior Minister of Plymouth Church UCC in Shaker Heights, Ohio. She has served churches in Massachusetts, North Dakota, and Minnesota. Shawnthea enjoys her work with the Committee on Ministry and is currently the chair of the Discernment Working Group.

Rev. Nanette Pitt serves as Senior Minister of First Congregational Church of Akron. A graduate of Simmons College (Boston, MA) and Andover Newton Theological School (Newton Centre, MA), Nanette hails from South Africa, the homeland she says “birthed her call to ministry and justice-seeking.” Nanette serves on the Akron Civil Right’s Commission.

Diana Milan Stith is a member of Mt. Zion Congregational Church. She worked as a Speech/Language Therapist in the Cleveland Municipal School District, and now buys bulbs and plants at the local garden stores, read and travel. Her daughter, Layne, lives in Los Angeles and she is married to Jonathan Stith.

Kurt Wieser is the pastor of Grace United Church of Christ of Loyal Oak in Norton. He served on the Council of the Western Reserve Association for 10 years. He now serves on the EOA/WRA Joint Council and the Conference Board.