



Volunteers Needed

Theology and Inter-Church Inter-Faith Committee (14 members)

Members of the United Church who are excited about engaging with theological, ecumenical, and inter-faith questions are invited to consider serving with this committee.

Mandate

The Theology and Inter-Church Inter-Faith Committee facilitates the church in expressing its longing for God, its theological identity, and its commitment to whole-world ecumenism.

The mandate of the committee is to

- encourage and facilitate theological reflection throughout the church
- stimulate and facilitate the General Council and its Executive to engage in theological reflection on their purpose, priorities, and plan
- encourage and facilitate theological reflection with committees, task groups, and programs of the General Council
- study and examine faith statements, and make provision for the development of new statements
- encourage and commission theological expressions for the use of the church
- make provision for the review of and comment on resources and educational opportunities for theological engagement for ministry personnel and communities of faith
- encourage the integration of inter-church and inter-faith perspectives and relationships into the work of the church, with attention to the theological implications of our interaction with people of diverse denominations and faiths
- encourage ecumenical/inter-faith faith formation by providing resources for education, worship, and community action in relation to United Church theological expression and commitment to whole-world ecumenism
- promote, support, and report on United Church participation in inter-church and inter-faith dialogues, forums, programs, and events
- report to each meeting of the General Council, and annually or as required to the General Council Executive

The work of this committee is guided by the theological documents approved by the General Council.

All boards and committees of the General Council play a role in living into the [Call and Vision](#) of the United Church in fulfilling their responsibilities. Boards and committees work in partnership with the General Council Office as it implements the objectives of the strategic plan.

Membership

The committee is made up of up to 14 members who reflect the broad diversity of the United Church, with particular attention to its equity commitments and the presence of both lay people and ministry personnel from across the geography of the church. The committee membership reflects the importance of

- Indigenous, racialized, and francophone voices in theological reflection
- leadership from schools of theology and centres of education
- theological articulation from lay and ordered members
- academic and experiential engagement
- chaplaincies and other sites of inter-church and inter-faith work

The committee includes at least two members actively engaged in teaching at a United Church theological school or college.

To ensure continuity, approximately half of the committee positions will be filled through the reappointment of currently serving members.

Member Skills and Experience

Committee members will possess

- a commitment to the wholeness and well-being of the church
- the capacity to reflect theologically within their specific contexts
- the capacity to discern and reflect on emerging theological trends
- an openness to and capacity for engagement in ecumenical and inter-faith dialogue
- respect for those with differing theological understandings

This committee would be enhanced by

- members who are involved in interfaith work at a local, regional, or national level
- lay members, including those who are critical thinkers with professional skills in a discipline that is outside of but intersects with theology
- members who are diaconal or designated lay ministers
- people living or working in a small town or rural area
- people who have French as a first language or are fluent in French

Committee members will be

- active in a community of faith or ministry
- committed to the calling of the United Church and willing to discern God's yearnings for this work
- predisposed to collaboration and teamwork
- able to listen and discern

- committed to right relations, the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the vision of becoming an intercultural church, and the journey to becoming an anti-racist denomination
- comfortable with and able to participate in electronic meetings
- able to commit the time required for this responsibility

United Church Relationship: Active participant or full member

Equity Commitment

The United Church is committed to working toward the full participation of people with disabilities; youth and young adults; people who identify as Two Spirit or LGBTQIA+, Indigenous, racialized, or francophone; people active in French ministries; people who speak a primary language other than English or French; and people from marginalized communities not named here. This is a part of the United Church's commitments to equity and self-determination, as well as eliminating barriers and working toward the full participation of all peoples. Individuals with these identities and lived experiences are encouraged to express interest.

Expectations and Term

The committee meets three to six times per year online, for approximately 2 hours each time. Additional work is expected in between meetings, particularly in working groups that may meet monthly for up to 2 hours. It is vital that members of this committee have the time to contribute on a regular basis throughout the year. Committee members should anticipate spending 2–3 hours per month, on average, for the work of this committee.

This committee, in keeping with the General Council Office's travel policy, will meet in-person once over the three-year term, although depending on need, an additional in-person meeting may be required. Typically, the in-person meeting takes place at the start of the term, for three to four days, in Toronto. In-person and online meetings may occur during the week or on weekends. Members are expected to attend all meetings. The committee typically forms smaller working groups of members with interests and skills required for particular aspects of its mandate.

Members of this committee agree to a [Behavioural Covenant](#) as a way of committing to mutual relationships, responsibilities, and accountabilities.

The term of this appointment is for three years (August 2025–August 2028) with the possibility of reappointment for a second three-year term.

Visit our [opportunities page](#) for information on this and other opportunities.

Use our [online nominations form](#) to nominate someone or express your own interest.

Deadline: Thursday, March 20, 2025.