WELCOME TO SACRED CONVERSATIONS TO END RACISM (SC2ER)

The United Church of Christ (UCC) has a long history of working towards eradicating systemic and institutional racism. In 2003 General Synod 24 adopted a resolution calling for the UCC to be an anti-racist church stating that “racism is rooted in a belief of the superiority of whiteness and bestows benefits, unearned rights, rewards, opportunities, advantages, access, and privilege on Europeans and European descendants.”

http://www.ucc.org/justice_racism_anti-racist-church

In 2008, racial justice advocates within Justice and Witness Ministries developed the online curriculum Sacred Conversations on Race. The Sacred Conversations Resource Guide was designed to address the needs of local congregations, pastors and laypersons with interest in starting on a journey towards racial justice and reconciliation.

Over the last nine years many UCC congregations have used the Sacred Conversations Resource Guide to develop meaningful relationships, delve into the impact of systemic and institutional racism, and plan events and activities highlighting participants growth and awareness of the issues communities of color face.

Where are we today regarding race relations within the Christian Church and Society?

The UCC remains committed to being an anti-racist church, however, we are facing a resurgence of tactics and behaviors that call for a deeper commitment to eradicate the ongoing practices of oppression, hate speech, individual bigotry, and overt violence against communities of color.

What is needed in this present moment?

I believe we can reclaim God’s love and justice through Sacred Conversations to End Racism (SC2ER).

Scripture teaches us that God’s love for humanity remains foundational to the mission vision and purpose of reconciliation with God and neighbor. The greatest commandment in the Scripture is: Love the Lord your God with all of your heart and with all of your soul, and with all of your mind.” [Mt 22:37]. Jesus continues teaching the command with, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” [Mt 22:38] The Scripture is an ancient reminder to us in the twenty-first century that love is a priority within the Christian community when we believe in and follow Jesus.