If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted... Then your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations. Isaiah 58
We are witnessing a seismic resurgence of racism against communities of color in our nation, part of a long history of white supremacy violence. Gun violence interrupts worship services, Bible studies, and routine tasks like a trip to the grocery store. This rise in domestic terrorism impacts our siblings across the country—African American, Asian American and Pacific Islanders, Native American, and Latin American communities.

The Join the Movement capital campaign is an invitation to envision a deeper, more interconnected, educated, aware, and culturally inclusive United Church of Christ.

Envision a movement...

- Building on our legacies of Spirit-led resistance, resilience, and response
- Growing & innovating in faithful antiracism
- Sustaining the momentum toward racial justice for generations to come

Imagine, if you can, a time when white supremacy and racial injustice are remnants of the past and we dwell in a just world of equality for all! Your contributions and donations today move us toward that vision, addressing the need for racial justice now and guaranteeing a spiritual home for the next generation.

Your financial investment will move us toward this vision by

- Moving our local churches to awareness of systemic racism, self-assessment, education, and action, including culture-based biblical and theological studies and working with community partners
- Training clergy and lay leaders in organizing and advocacy skills and in creating racial justice response teams to address acts of violence in communities of color
- Building racial justice tools and resources through intergenerational learning hubs and intersectional gatherings, including LGBTQ+ folks, youth, and young adults
- Sharing best practices and strengthening relations across the diverse ministries of the UCC and our Conferences—urban, suburban, small town, and rural communities

Your gift now ensures these racial justice initiatives will impact local churches within the United Church of Christ. Your legacy gifts guarantee that generations to come will carry on the ministry of racial equity, inclusion, and advocacy for people of color within the Church and broader society. Please give generously.
Every setting of the United Church of Christ, from local churches to global partners, has a role to play in expanding our practices of antiracism and strengthening our capacities as partners and participants in the burgeoning racial justice movements of our time. The prophet Isaiah implores us to be "repairers of the breach and restorers of streets to live in." Our sacred calling is to uncover hidden histories, heal past harms, and work toward ending racism. This is our mandate.

WHY NOW?
During a global pandemic that was already revealing racial inequities in our world, the murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor in 2020 became a catalyst for many to expand their antiracist understandings and practices, recognizing that the movement for racial justice cannot be separated from faith commitments to do justice and love our neighbors. This is our moment.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT
and support antiracism work for today and for generations to come
Our stories show us not only who we are, but also inspire who we may become. Providing opportunities to encounter the antiracism journeys of others, Join the Movement is a hub of storytelling – and sharing – that draws others to participate and opens hearts to new possibilities and practices of racial justice. **This is our mission.**

The Christian church began as a movement towards a just world through the teachings of Jesus. As disciples of Jesus, we believe it is our mandate to work for and seek justice, love, and compassion, as we join and become our own Spirit-led movements. **This is our movement.**

Movements are ignited by people of faith rooted in love and committed to civil and human rights.

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*Rev. Traci D. Blackmon, Associate General Minister, United Church of Christ*

“When love is the lens through which we see the world, justice is possible.”
HONORARY CO-CHAIRS

Rev. Naomi Washington-Leapheart
Director for Faith-Based and Interfaith Affairs for the City of Philadelphia

“Through this campaign we can do the holy work of transforming our budgets into moral documents that express our unflappable commitment to Racial Justice ministries.”

Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, III
Senior Pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago.

“Love without justice is sentimentality; justice without love can become legalism and become brutality. This campaign works to link love and justice together and produce the offspring of liberation and transformation.”

Rev. Dr. Starsky Wilson
President & CEO of the Children’s Defense Fund (CDF) and CDF Action Council

“Join the Movement will make sure there is a witness in the United Church of Christ to combat white supremacy, to nurture and affirm human identity, to create a space for all our children because we will hold up the banner for them, for God, for community in sustained and sustainable ways.”
The work we envision when we pray, “your realm come on earth as it is in heaven,” is the work of building, supporting, and sustaining a movement toward racial justice. **Our goal, through Join the Movement, is to raise $8 million in three years, with proceeds directed as follows:**

**50%** directed towards an Endowment Fund that will ensure resources for the enduring work of antiracism.

**50%** will be used to maintain existing racial justice programs.

From Moses’ partnership in ministry with Aaron and Miriam, to Jesus’ band of healers, teachers, and dreamers, we know that it takes many who are willing to lean in with their gifts to create a movement.

**Your contributions will support:**

- Transformational educational experiences
- Movement building and mobilization for collective action to end racism
- Racial justice advocacy, locally, nationally, and globally
- Innovation in faith-based antiracism
- Legacy building and investing in antiracist futures
- Partnerships and networks of resources
- Intergenerational experiences of story sharing and changemaking
- Reparatory justice processes for truth telling, healing, and making amends
- Grants for the work of racial justice and antiracist fellowships

**HOW DO I GIVE?**

Gifts can be made as one-time donations, as pledges of up to three years, or as planned gifts through your will, estate, trust, or other instruments.

- Online through the “Donate” button at jointhemovementucc.org for credit card gifts
- Stock or planned gift by contacting Jacqueline Owen at owenj@ucc.org or 216.736.2169
- Mail checks to United Church of Christ, PO Box 71957, Cleveland, OH 44194
- By phone: Text MVMT to 41444