



Rev. Dr. Yvonne Delk is the former Executive of the Community Renewal Society of Chicago. She was the first Black woman to be ordained in the United Church of Christ and has served the denomination in leadership positions including serving as the Director of its Office for Church in Society. For 60 years she has served as an educator, preacher, organizer and a prophetic voice leading the fight for human and civil rights for people of color, children, and the poor throughout five continents. She is the founding Director of the Center for African American Theological Studies. Dr. Delk's articles on the Black church experience, racism and human rights have appeared in many publications.



Rev. Vivian M. Lucas is the former Executive Director of Franklinton Center at Bricks, a social justice conference and retreat center, ascended from the Afro-Christian Convention. Vivian has extensive experience serving disenfranchised and distressed communities through leadership positions with the United Church of Christ, US Department of Commerce, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. She holds a BA degree from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, MBA degree from College of William and Mary, Virginia, and an Executive Certificate from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government Executive Education Program.



Dr. Julia M. Speller is Professor Emerita in American Religion History and Culture at Chicago Theological Seminary where she served for 24 years. Prior to and concurrent with that time, she served as the Director of Christian Education for Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago. She is currently a member of the UCC Historical Council and has also given service to the UCC Christian Education Certification Committee, the Joint Educational Development Consultation on Curriculum Future, Dean's Council for Health and Human Services Ministries, and the LGBTQ Scholarship Committee. She is also the author of *Walkin' the Talk: Keepin' the Faith in Africentric Congregations*.



Rev. Brenda Billips Square is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, an archivist, librarian and Co-Pastor of Beecher Memorial Congregational UCC. As Director of the Afro-Christian Legacy & Preservation Project, she collaborates with a team of historians and ministers to document and preserve the history of the Afro-Christian Convention in the Franklinton Center at Bricks Museum in Whitakers, NC. The Afro-Christian Convention (1892-1950) represented seven annual conferences, 25,000 members, 185 ordained ministers and licentiates, 150 Sunday schools and ministries in British Guiana, Trinidad, Barbados and British West Indies. She earned a B.A. degree in Political Science from the University of New Orleans, a Certificate in Paralegal Studies from Tulane University, a Master's degree in Library and Information Science from Louisiana State University, and she did further study at the Interdenominational Theological Center and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.