

**Deacon? Elder? Licensed?
Called to pastoral or
ordained ministry?**

If the answer is **yes!** accept
this invitation to join the...

RECONCILING MINISTRIES CLERGY (RMC)

RMC is comprised of
persons called to ordained or
pastoral ministry within The
United Methodist Church who
summon the church to a
deeper level of spiritual and
theological integrity in
relationship to **persons of all
sexual orientations and gender
identities** and their full inclusion
in all aspects of the church's life.

**RECONCILING MINISTRIES
CLERGY** is an extension
ministry of the **Reconciling
Ministries**

Network -
a national
grassroots
organization that
exists to
enable full
participation of people of all
sexual orientations and
gender identities in the life of
the United Methodist Church,
both in policy and in practice.



To learn more about
RMC and RMN, go to
www.RMNetwork.org
or call (773) 736-5526

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RECONCILING MINISTRIES CLERGY

*“...summoning The United
Methodist Church to a
deeper level of spiritual
and theological
integrity...”*

RMC is an extension ministry
of the **Reconciling
Ministries Network**



RMC Goals...

To connect as prayerful and supportive Reconciling Clergy from across the connection

To identify and engage emerging critical issues, especially but not limited to the ordination of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender candidates; strategies for church trials and responses towards the actions of the General Conference of the UMC

To advance the mission of Reconciling Ministries through additional gatherings, workshops, conferences, and retreats for clergy and pastors

To offer the voice of Reconciling Clergy to the broader coalition of progressive caucuses, to the UMC and to the world

Through a steering committee, a chosen convener and bi-annual meetings for constituents, Reconciling Ministries Clergy (RMC) continues to refine its goals and fulfill its mission objectives.



Theological Statement

Adopted October 23, 2002

We believe in a **loving God** whose blessed creation is both good in itself and the precondition of grace and covenant.

We believe that the nature and purpose of God are **most fully disclosed in Jesus Christ**, who comes among us as One filled with grace – teaching, challenging systemic injustice, expressing love, embracing those who have been rejected.

We believe in the abiding presence of the **Holy Spirit, present always as an expression of Divine love**, drawing us into the heart of God and into new visions of human possibility.

We believe that **humankind, though fallible and inclined toward sin, both personal and systemic, is created in the image of God**. We recognize that humankind stands always in the need of Divine grace, and we humbly confess that the ways of God greatly transcend the grasp of human understanding.

We believe that God draws us into deeper theological understanding through the gifts of **scripture, tradition, experience and reason**.

We believe that the **church is the Body of Christ, alive and at work in the world**. It is God's intended human community of love and grace – a sign of God's reign.

We believe that human sexuality is a good gift from God; however, when misused, it holds the power to do harm. We understand this gift is most fully realized in a context of covenant.

Responsible use of sexuality is not dependent on the gender of a partner; rather, it is based upon the faithful, mature, loving, and mutually respectful expression of that gift. When we so live out our sexuality, we are drawn into ever deepening relationships with others and with God.

We believe, at this critical juncture in our common history as United Methodists, that God has called us to speak a clear word concerning human sexuality.

Are You Retired?

Retired Clergy are invited to consider participation both in RMC and Retired Reconciling Ministries Clergy. Its stated goals are as follows: As retired United Methodist clergy, we commit ourselves actively to work to make our denomination truly inclusive as expressed in the mission statement of the Reconciling Ministries Clergy. The retired status gives us greater freedom to challenge any exclusionary policies or actions in our annual conferences. We offer our wisdom and experience whatever that might be, to mentor and assist active clergy in performing fully inclusive ministries.

To become a member of RMC:

- 1) fill out a Reconciling United Methodist card or brochure indicating "clergy" and mail it to the RMN national office, or
- 2) go to www.RMNetwork.org and sign up via email, or
- 3) join the yahoo group at rmc-owner@yahoogroups.com
- 4) call (773) 736-5526 and speak to the Outreach Coordinator

RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK