

*God is still speaking,*  
**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



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## **UCC Growing Relationship with Collegiate Church, Intersections International on Path to Peace and Justice**

*Representatives to meet at New York awards gala to continue growing partnership between the church organizations*

CLEVELAND, OH (May 28, 2014) – Leaders from the United Church of Christ and Collegiate Churches of New York will attend the Intersections International 2014 Awards Celebration on Thursday, May 29 in New York City. Joined by leaders from the New York and Central Atlantic Conferences of the UCC, the group is part of the hundreds of people that [will honor four leaders whose work promotes justice, reconciliation and peace](#) — the core characteristics of Intersections International.

"Like the United Church of Christ, they seek to advance progressive Christianity in America and internationally," said the Rev. Geoffrey A. Black, general minister and president of the UCC. "It will be an opportunity to connect with the leadership of the Collegiate churches in a special way, building on the time we spent with them earlier this year when we met in New York City to explore the possibilities of a shared future."

Leaders of the Collegiate Church reached out to representatives of the UCC for an initial conversation in the beginning of the year about how the two churches might forge deeper bonds. The conversation is more about exploring and expanding the Collegiate Church's programs, not about eliminating its historic relationship with the Reformed Church.

Founded in 2007, Intersections International is a New York-based organization that works between people and communities in conflict, and promotes peace through dialogue through programming, advocacy, and educational and informational outreach. The organization is a multicultural, multifaith, global initiative and specialized ministry of the Collegiate Church of New York, the oldest corporation in North America dating back to 1628. The four Collegiate Church congregations, Marble Collegiate Church, Middle Collegiate Church, West End Collegiate Church and Fort Washington Collegiate Church are all located in Manhattan and have a combined membership of 3,959 people.

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### **About the United Church of Christ**

The United Church of Christ (UCC) is a mainline Protestant denomination with nearly 1 million members and more than 5,100 congregations nationwide, including more than 150 UCC congregations throughout North Carolina.

Headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, the UCC is a church of many firsts, including the first mainline denomination to ordain a woman, the first to ordain an openly gay man and the first predominantly white denomination to ordain an African American. The UCC's motto ("That they may all be one," John 17:21) and tagline (God is still speaking,) supports the Church's long-standing commitment to social justice issues and its extravagant welcome to all, no matter who they are, or where they are on life's journey.

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