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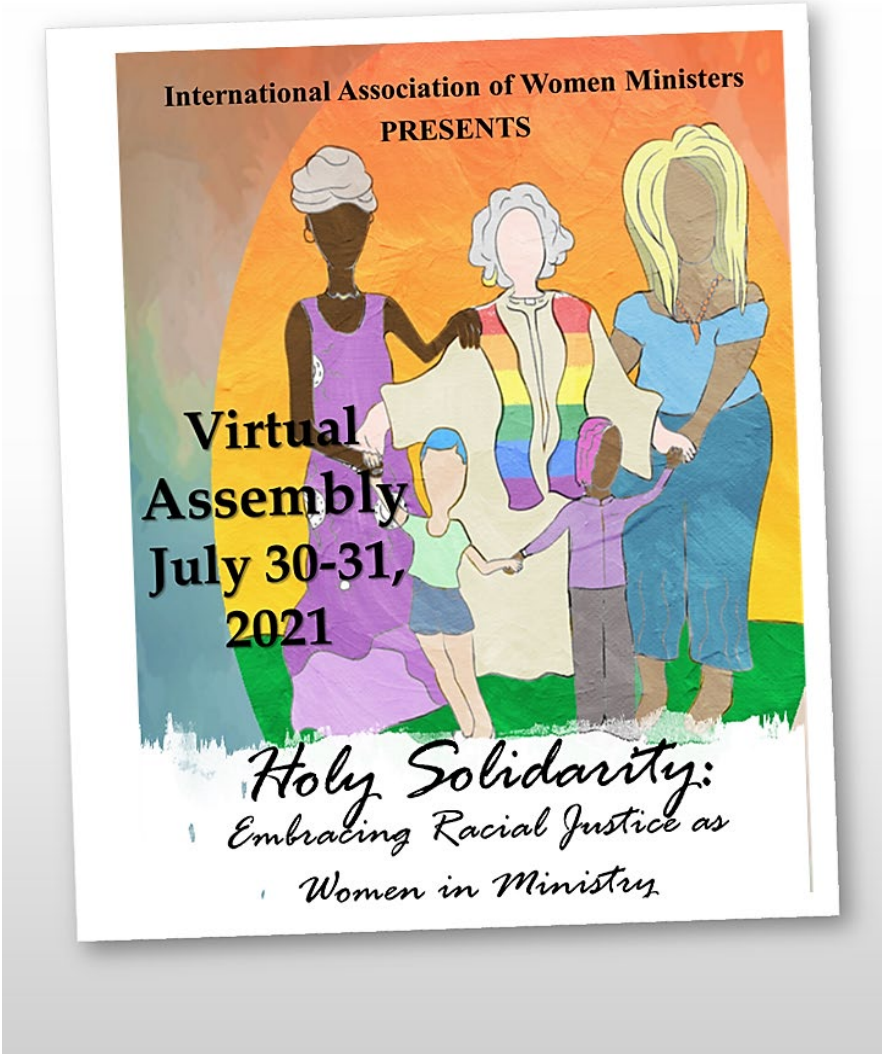
Or send check or money order for registration donation made payable to IAWM to: Carol Brown, 1921 Palm St. Reading, PA 19604 USA

**Any questions, contact Carol** at +1-484-926-2429 or email csbrown550@hotmail.com

**Registration deadline is July 20, 2021**

**Save the Date: 2022 IAWM Assembly will meet August 26-28, 2022** at Bethany Retreat House outside Karlsruhe, Germany prior to the 11th Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Karlsruhe August 29-September 8, 2022

**To find out more about the International Association of Women Ministers please visit:**
**www.womenministers.org**





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**International Association of Women Ministers**
**Virtual Assembly**
**July 30-31, 2021**

# THEME
# "Holy Solidarity: Embracing Racial Justice as Women in Ministry"

From Brazil to Canada, from India to the United States of America, women in ministry and scholars from across the world are committed to dismantling systems of racial injustice. Listen to the voices of women in ministry and scholars from Africa, India, Cuba, Brazil, Palestine, Israel, Canada, and the United States of America presenting the issues of racial injustice that they are facing in their contexts. Hear how they are responding to these issues impacting their communities, congregations, and the institutions with which they are working. Engage in conversations with other women in ministry from around the world. Be refreshed and encouraged while strengthening a network of holy solidarity of women working together towards racial justice in our world today.

# SCHEDULE

**Friday, July 30, 2021**

15:00 -16:50 Business Meeting & Social Hour
**18:00 - 18:30 Opening Worship**

**19:00 - 20:00 Keynote Presentation, Rev. Traci Blackmon, Keynote Speaker, USA**

**Saturday, July 31, 2021**

9:00 - 9:50 Lecture Presentation Rev. Phyllis Byrd, Kenya
10:00 - 10:50 Lecture Presentation Nora Carmi, Palestine & Israel
11:00 - 11:50 Lecture Presentation Dr. Lori Ransom, Canada: Indigenous Peoples

**12:00 - 12:50 Racial Caucuses Gatherings**

**Caucus I** – Black peoples, Africans, People of African descent/ascent, Indigenous, Latinx, Hispanics, Latinoamericanas, Caribbeans, Asians, Pacific Islanders, Middle Easterners, and other People of Color
**Caucus II** - People of European Descent, and other White People

13:00 - 13:50 Lecture Presentation Rev. Eliad Dias dos Santos, Brazil
14:00 - 14:50 Lecture Presentation Rev. Dora Arce Valentín, Cuba
15:00 - 15:50 Lecture Presentation Rev. Dr. Monica Melanchthon, India
16:00 - 16:50 Lecture Presentation Dr. Linda Thomas, USA

**17:00 - 18:30 Ritual & Reflection by Rev. Kwame Pitts, USA**

## OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**Rev. Traci D. Blackmon** is the Associate General Minister of Justice & Local Church Ministries for The United Church of Christ. Rev. Blackmon's life's work focuses on communal resistance to systemic injustice through the redemptive power of love. Her response in Ferguson, Missouri, to the killing of Michael Brown resulted in national and international recognition, gaining her many audiences spanning the breadth of the White House to the Carter Center to the Vatican. Rev. Blackmon is a graduate of Leadership St. Louis and is listed as one of St. Louis' 100 most influential voices. She was inducted into the 33rd Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers of Morehouse College. She is both proud and grateful to have served as a pastor to Simpson Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church and Christ The King United Church of Christ. She received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Birmingham-Southern College where she is now listed among Distinguished Alumni. She was awarded a Master of Divinity and an honorary doctorate from Eden Theological Seminary. Rev. Blackmon also serves on the board of the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference.
https://www.ucc.org/domestic-policy/ourfaithourvote_about/about-us_meet-our-officers/

## OUR INVITED GUEST SPEAKERS



**Rev. Phyllis Byrd** has been in service in Kenya for 30 years. Her first assignment in Africa was based in Kenya working with Archbishop Desmond Tutu at The All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC), where His Grace, served as the President. She was sent out for mission work by the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) and the United Church of Christ. She worked at the AACC in Ecumenical Relations and Peace and Reconnection. She is currently serving with the Organization of African Instituted Churches as the director of the Just Communities Program. She is also an Associate Minister at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.
https://www.urbanmissiology.org/copy-of-rev-marsha-snulligan-haney-



**Nora Arsenian Carmi**, Palestine/Israel: International Peacemaker, is a Palestinian Christian of Armenian descent and heritage. As a refugee and a permanent resident in East Jerusalem since 1967, Nora, a retired educator and community-builder serving both in religious and civil society circles, has lived through and experienced oppressive and inhumane measures imposed upon her people. Her work at the YWCA, Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center and Kairos Palestine for over 37 years, in addition to her international involvement in various Boards (including Pax Christi, Bilda Sweden and the World Day of Prayer) enabled her to engage with the WCC and other global movements, striving for justice and peace in Palestine/Israel and for all oppressed countries, seeking to preserve the rights and dignity of human beings all created in equity, as Nora continues to witness at Church Assemblies, through Bible Studies and in her participation in conferences.
https://maryknollogc.org/article/palestinian-peacemaker-us-embassy-move



**Dr. Lori Ransom** has been serving as Interim Executive Director, KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives since January 1, 2021. Lori is a member of the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation (near Eganville, Ontario) who has lived off reserve all her life (Toronto, Ottawa, and Regina). Lori deepened her knowledge of and passion for the work of healing and reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples after being appointed as the first Healing and Reconciliation Program Animator for The Presbyterian Church in Canada and later as Senior Advisor, Church, and Interfaith Relations, for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. Most recently she has served as a Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice Animator, with the United Church of Canada. Lori currently serves on the Trustee Board of the PCC and the Aboriginal Education Council of Centennial College, Scarborough.
https://www.kairoscanada.org/lori-ransom-appointed-to-the-role-of-interim-executive-director-at-kairos



**Rev. Eliad Dias dos Santos** is a pastor at the Methodist Church of the Light in São Paulo, Brazil. She is one of the leaders of the Black Evangelical Women Network, and a theologian with a Master of Sciences of Religion from the Methodist University of São Paulo. Her field of research was Perspectives of a Feminist Black Theology.
https://br.noticias.yahoo.com/maioria-entre-evangelicos-mulheres-negras-tem-relacao-diferente-com-a-fe-070012547.html



**Rev. Dora Arce-Valentín** is the Moderator of the Presbyterian-Reformed Church in Cuba. She is pastor of San Antonio de los Baños, Presbyterian-Reformed Church and a professor at the Evangelical Seminary (SET), Mantanzas, Cuba. A minister with over 25 years of service, Dora also served as Executive Secretary for Justice and Partnership of the World Communion of Reformed Churches.
https://www.insights.uca.org.au/cuban-theologian-will-lead-reformed-church-justice-office/



**Rev. Dr. Monica Jyotsna Melanchthon** is an Associate Professor of Old Testament/Hebrew Bible at the United Faculty of Theology, MCD University of Divinity, Melbourne, Australia. She belongs to the Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church, India and has strong commitments to the marginalized, particularly, women and Dalits. She has contributed toward developing Dalit and Indian Feminist hermeneutics and theologies, and interpretation of Biblical texts drawing on insights from the social biographies of these communities, their perspectives, and their lived experiences. A graduate of the United Theological College, Bangalore, and the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (Ph.D.).
https://staff.divinity.edu.au/staff/monica-melanchthon/



**Dr. Linda E. Thomas** is a Professor of Theology and Anthropology at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC). Her research and teaching interests focus on cultural anthropology and its intersection with theology, ethics, and African-American and gender studies, with the aspiration to teach women and men to think critically, diversify their epistemological perspectives, and pursue social justice in a wide variety of contexts. In addition to fieldwork in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, South America, and the Caribbean, her publications include the books Under the Canopy: Ritual Process and Spiritual Resilience in South Africa (University of South Carolina Press, 1999), and Living Stones in the Household of God: The Legacy and Future of Black Theology (Augsburg Fortress, 2004).
https://www.lstc.edu/academics/faculty/linda-thomas



**Rev. Kwame Pitts** is pastor of Crossroads Lutheran Church, Buffalo, N.Y., and of Lutheran Campus Ministry in Western New York. In partnership with the ELCA Racial Justice she co-partnered to form #ELCAVotes during 2014-2016. She has also been one of the voices that got the resolution surrounding the "Emmanuel 9" passed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, during the 2019 Churchwide Assembly for a Day of Repentance and Healing, creating worship and liturgical resources for congregations. She preaches, teaches, professes practically and academically through the lens of a Womanist theologian.
http://www.grace-andover.org/2020/06/the-emmanuel-9-5-years-later-rev-kwame-pitts/

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