



## Have you ever wondered what the acronym COMCast means?

**COMCast** stands for **Committees on Ministry (COMs) Collaborating and Serving Together**. COMCast is a community within a community; it exists to help promote consistency in COM resources and processes, whenever possible, and to meet the ministerial oversight and authorization needs within the Indiana–Kentucky Conference. It is a community of practice comprised of COM chairpersons and representatives who serve in one of the associations in the Indiana–Kentucky Conference. COMCast meets monthly via Zoom conferencing to share resources, to support each other in the work of Committee on Ministry, to share best practices and collaborate on ways to effectively serve clergy and their congregations.

## What is the purpose of COMCast?

The primary purpose of COMCast is to build community through collaboration that enables each COM, no matter the size or location to have access to peer support, spiritual care, and relevant resources to aid them to effectively serve clergy and congregations within their respective associations while promoting collegiality throughout the Indiana Kentucky Conference.

## What is COMCast working on?

One of the first things the COMCast did was train together on the new Manual on Ministry (MOM) so that they could speak the same language, from the same page, and have the same reference point on the changes that have taken place in the UCC since the 1986 version of the MOM. Some of the changes since the last 1986 version of the MOM includes MIDs (members in discernment), MARKS (Marks of Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers), and

understanding lay ministry in relationship to other forms of authorized ministry such as ordained, privilege of call, ministerial partnership, as well as the different types of ministry such as settled, interim/transitional, supply, part-time and full-time.

COMCast members are serving your association to become more responsive and relevant in the changing times within our church. In monthly sessions, they present opportunities for further discovery and problem solving, they share their knowledge on topics related to transfer of standing, granting standing, situational support, process improvement, mentorship, care for members in discernment, and so much more. Their work is challenging but the shared knowledge and experiences of each COMCast member promotes collegiality and reduces isolation from the Lone Ranger effect. The 2 C's essential to the work of COMCast is collaboration and confidentiality.

### **How long has COMCast been in existence?**

COMCast will be celebrating its first anniversary in January 2020! COMCast was developed by Rev. Dr. Toni Hawkins, the IKC Associate Conference Minister for Leadership Formation and Discernment, the COMPASS Representative for the Indiana–Kentucky Conference, and the Facilitator of Communities of Practice at the national level for newly called and installed Associate Conference Ministers in the UCC. Her mission is to promote unity through community, shared knowledge and resources, and promote collaboration in an effort to strengthen the faithfulness and effectiveness of all authorized ministers in the IKC and beyond.

### **How can I learn more about COMCast?**

To learn more about COMCast, contact your COMCast representative in your association to receive updates on events, training opportunities, and resources.

### **Who are the members of COMCast?**

Samantha Jewel – Kentuckiana Association

Peter Frye – Southeast Association

Debbie Roe – Lincolnland Association

Dena Holland-Neal – Northwest Association

Erin Vaughn – Evansville Tri-State Association

Lee LeBerger – Wabash Association

Barbara Engle – Northeast Association