HISTORY OF THE ANTI-RACIST MOVEMENT IN THE UCC

1700: Congregationalist the Rev. Samuel Sewall writes the first anti-slavery pamphlet in America.

1785: The Rev. Lemuel Haynes is the first African American ordained by a Protestant church.

1839: Ministers and members advocate for enslaved Africans on *La Amistad* until the Supreme Court grants their freedom.

1846: Lewis Tappan forms the American Missionary Association—the first anti-slavery society in the U.S. with multi-racial leadership.

1973: The UCC raises $1 million to support the Wilmington Ten, Civil Rights activists unjustly jailed.

1963: General Synod commits to uproot system intolerance, bigotry, and prejudice.

1959: The Rev. Dr. Everett Parker and the UCC Office of Communications win a federal court case to change media coverage for the Civil Rights Movement.

1957: The UCC forms and commits to continue speaking prophetically and confronting injustice.

1983: The Council for Racial and ethnic Ministries (COREM) is formed as a collective ministry of these UCC groups: United Black Christians, Ministers for Racial Social Economic Justice, Pacific Islander Asian-American Ministries, Council of Hispanic Ministries (later Colectivo de UCC Latinx Ministries), Council for American Indian Ministry, and United Samoan Ministries. COREM engages in support and advocacy, collective action, and dismantling white supremacy-fueled dehumanization and demoralization.

1993: General Synod calls the UCC to be a multiracial and multicultural Church and commits to confronting racism in church and society, to prophetic advocacy, and to public policy development.

2003: Resolution “Calling the UCC to be an Anti-Racist Church” encourages all settings of the UCC to examine both historic and contemporary forms of racism and the effects and to commit to dismantling racism.

2017: The UCC becomes an Immigrant Welcoming Church. General Synod affirms ministries of underrepresented clergy in congregations and asks associations to add cultural diversity training to ministerial requirements.

2013: General Synod repudiates the Doctrine of Discovery which sanctioned oppression and killing of Native Americans.

2020: The Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota Conferences commit to being Anti-Racist Conferences and invite their churches to join the movement.

2019: Colectivo de UCC Latinx Ministries is formed.

Our Future: Congregations commit to anti-racist ministry so that all may know love, safety, belonging, and dignity.