

**Join us June 7-9 in St. Joseph, Minnesota!**



## **NATIONAL ONA GATHERING**

National ONA Gathering—the annual family reunion of the UCC’s Open and Affirming movement—will inspire you with creative worship, dynamic preaching, and informative workshops to feed your mind and soul! If your church is just beginning its journey towards an ONA covenant, or has been ONA for many years, Gathering 2016 will enrich your ONA experience and reveal new horizons for mission, ministry and advocacy in your community!

This year’s Gathering asks the question: “What’s next for the ONA movement?” Yes, we worked hard for marriage equality, and it was a great victory! But the right to marry was a milestone on our journey, not our final destination. Our rights in many states are threatened by a wave of “religious exemption” laws that allow private business owners and public officials to discriminate on the basis of “religious freedom.” Transgender Americans—especially women of color—still face the threat of assault and murder. And our movement needs to grow: only 26% of UCC congregations are Open and Affirming!



**The Rev. Traci Blackmon**

Keynoter is the Rev. Traci Blackmon—the UCC’s executive for Justice and Witness Ministries. As a pastor near Ferguson, Missouri, she was a lightning rod for the UCC’s response to police violence in African American communities. Traci will inspire us with her vision of an Open and Affirming movement that lives and breathes in the intersection of struggles for racial, economic, sexual and gender justice!

**[www.openandaffirming.org/ona-gathering](http://www.openandaffirming.org/ona-gathering)**