

**VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**BOARD/AGENCY INFORMATION FORM**

**2015-2016**

**Board/Agency/Commission** CEMCA

**Description of the Work of the Board** The commission will provide for the functions as outlined in the current Book of Discipline for the Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns and Commission on Religion and Race. CEMCA serves as a prophetic voice for the full and equal participation of ethnic and racial constituents into the total life and mission of the Virginia Annual Conference (its churches, boards & agencies, and institutional & connectional structures) by educating, advocating, and holding to account God's church to inclusivity as God's intended design for all structures and processes, towards the work of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world in word and deed. Functions and responsibilities include: (1) Provide guidance and resources to faith communities and the boards and agencies of the annual conference as they minister with and to racial and ethnic constituencies; (2) Provide resources for advocacy, sensitization, and education at every level of the conference on the nature and meaning of racism. (3) Promote and interpret racial and ethnic local church concerns to the annual conference; (4) Resource annual conference boards and agencies and local faith communities as they seek to develop programs and policies of racial and ethnic inclusiveness, work in areas of social justice, seek to establish multicultural fellowships, and maintain ministry in racially changing neighborhoods; (5) Provide a forum for dialogue among the racial and ethnic constituencies; (6) Consult with the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Cabinet to determine priorities and provisions for the recruitment, itineracy, and support of racial and ethnic clergy; and (7) Make appropriate recommendations for total inclusiveness to the annual conference

**Specific Expertise Needed** Passion for an inclusive church, and a willingness to provide resources to local churches and districts, and to network with Conference boards and agencies, to ensure that conversations about racial and ethnic diversity are happening across lines. Two-thirds of the membership must be representative of people from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds. Membership must include 2 young adults.

**Number of Meetings per year** 2

**Dates/ Location of Meetings** Glen Allen or teleconference, one Fall, one Spring (most likely March/Oct)

**How Does Board Meet?** (check all that apply)

X In person

X Conference Call

Online meetings (WebEx, etc.)

**Additional Information for prospective members** \_\_\_\_\_

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