

**PROFILES – COMMISSIONAND and ADMITTAND**



**Hyerim Park  
(Commissionand)**

I was born and raised in South Korea, where the church was part of my life from an early age. I studied Christian Education at Korea Baptist Theological University, later earned a master’s degree in education in Oklahoma, and returned to Korea to work as an educator. As I came to understand my sexual orientation more fully, I became distant from the church, where LGBTQ+ people were often met with judgment and exclusion. Still, I continued to sense God’s presence in my life. When I met my spouse, Yeseullyn Lee, we longed for a place where we could live freely, safely, and fully as ourselves. That search brought us to Canada: Yeseullyn arrived in 2016, and I followed in 2018.

After coming to Canada, I came to know the United Church of Canada and discovered a church that seeks to live out love, justice, peace, and radical welcome. Through the United Church, I was led to the Centre for Christian Studies and later to St. Andrew’s College, where my understanding of diaconal ministry deepened and my call became clearer. My formation has been shaped by feminist, minjung, liberation, queer, ecological, and Indigenous theologies and spiritual wisdom. These traditions helped me understand faith not only as personal belief, but as a way of seeking justice, healing, reconciliation, and transformation.

Studying and building a life in Canada was not easy. As an Asian queer woman, an immigrant, and a person whose first language is not English, I had to keep discerning myself and my calling through many layers of challenge. It has taken about six and a half years to arrive at this moment of commissioning, and through this long journey, I have come to trust that God has been present in each step.

Korean Rainbow United has also become an important part of my journey. I founded this loosely connected group of Korean LGBTQ+ people and allies in 2021. Together, we have created safer spaces, translated resources, offered education, shared stories, and supported communities across Korea and North America.

I am now serving as minister at Westminster United Church in Humboldt, Saskatchewan. I am deeply grateful to journey with this faithful, warm, and courageous congregation. As we continue learning from one another with open hearts, I sense meaningful work for us to do together in the church and wider community. I am still discerning how I can serve more faithfully and fully as myself, trusting the gifts God has given me and hoping to use them with humility and courage.

As I prepare to be commissioned to Diaconal Ministry in the United Church of Canada, I am deeply grateful for my spouse, Yeseullyn Lee, whose love and support have sustained me. I also give thanks for my mentors and companions who have guided, challenged, encouraged, and supported me along the way: Ted Dodd, Irene Rainey, Karen Tjaden, Lori Stewart, HaNa Park, Lesley Harrison, Esmer Babaran, Janet Ross, Laura Fohse, Joshua Ward, Yongseok Beak, and Rev. Bora Lim of blessed memory. I am also grateful for my KRU

companions: Sun-Young Sunny Kim, Grace EunKyung Lee, Heejoung Kim, Yoonjoo Shin, Hoeun Lee, and Yunjung Kim, as well as the Knox United Church community. I carry deep gratitude for all who supported me with scholarships, encouragement, prayers, and care.

My ministry is rooted in education, worship, pastoral care, and justice. I hope to continue creating spaces where people can encounter God's expansive love, find healing, and welcome differences as gifts. Thanks be to God, who continues to call us into deeper love, justice, and hope.



**Luckson Mariba  
(Admittand)**

My name is Rev. Luckson Mariba. I was born and raised in the southern part of Zimbabwe, in the Chivi District, a place known for its humour, resilience, and the famous story of the elderly woman who once cooked stones and soup to keep hungry children hopeful. That story has always reminded me that faith often begins in places of struggle and creativity. I come from such a community, which is resourceful, hopeful, and grounded in shared life.

I am married to Olivia, and together we are blessed with three children: our boys, Anogonaishe and Roshiiim, and our daughter, Ruthanne. My family has been my strength throughout my ministry and my journey across continents.

I became a member of the Reformed Church in Zimbabwe (RCZ) in my early twenties after two years of confirmation classes. The RCZ shaped my theological roots, teaching me disciplined worship, love for Scripture, community responsibility, and a deep trust in God's sovereignty. My call to ministry was first recognized by elders and deacons who saw gifts in me before I fully understood them myself. Their encouragement led me into youth leadership and eventually into theological training. I completed a Diploma in Theology (2007–2010) and a Bachelor of Theology (2013–2015), studies that formed me through seasons of transition, challenge, and growth.

I was ordained in the RCZ and served three congregations from 2011 to 2024. These years deepened my pastoral identity and strengthened my passion for preaching, pastoral care, community engagement, and intercultural ministry.

My journey toward the United Church of Canada began in 2016, and I was listed on Church Hub in 2020. I was drawn to the UCC's inclusiveness, justice-seeking spirit, strong theology, and deep sense of community. Through interviews, conversations, and the warm welcome of congregations and leaders, my call to serve within the UCC was affirmed.

In 2024, I travelled to England to serve part-time with the Reformed Church International. While there, I interviewed with the Grand Plains Pastoral Charge. After completing immigration processes, I received a two-year visa and arrived in Canada on October 7, 2025, ready to begin ministry in Manitoba.

My Admission process has included coursework, interviews, mentorship, and rich congregational experiences. I am grateful for the guidance of Rev. Lori Stewart (Pastoral Charge Supervisor), my mentor Yvonne Terry, and Rev. Steve, whose support has been invaluable. Serving at Grandview United and St. Paul's United has shaped me spiritually and professionally, teaching me the beauty of rural ministry, intercultural leadership, and community-based pastoral care.

My ministry passions include pastoral care, preaching and teaching, worship leadership, justice and reconciliation, community engagement, care-home ministry, and intercultural ministry. These are the places where I feel most alive and most aligned with God's call.

I am deeply grateful to the congregations of Grandview United and St. Paul's United, to my family, to Prairie to Pine Regional Council, to the Board of Admissions, and to the many friends and colleagues who have supported me.

As I look ahead, I am excited to serve within the United Church of Canada and to live out our shared commitment to Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, and Daring Justice. I am honoured to be welcomed into this church and look forward to the ministry we will continue to build together.



**Sourav Sampat Nag  
(Admittand)**

My name is Rev. Sourav Sampat Nag. I come from the Balangir district of Odisha, India, and I belong to the Church of North India (CNI), where I was formed in faith and later ordained for ministry on 12 July 2015. My sense of calling to ministry emerged through the influence of my family and deepened during my theological formation, gradually shaping my commitment to serve God's people in the Church.

Over more than nine years of ordained ministry, I have served in both rural and urban congregations across different dioceses of the CNI, in roles including Presbyterian with additional charge, Assisting Presbyterian, and Presbyterian-in-Charge. These experiences have shaped my pastoral leadership, preaching, and congregational care in diverse cultural and ecclesial contexts.

Alongside parish ministry, I have been engaged in counselling and social outreach through platforms such as the Humanity COVID Helpline and in hospital chaplaincy at CMC Vellore, accompanying patients facing serious illness and trauma.

I served as Visiting Faculty at Orissa Christian Theological College and held various church leadership roles, including Diocesan Youth Advisor, convener of counselling groups, resource person for trauma counselling webinars, and coordinator of diocesan prayer initiatives. I have also worked with organisations such as International Justice Mission and Missionaries of Charity.

My academic formation is interdisciplinary and integrative. I hold a Master of Theology in New Testament, a Bachelor of Divinity from the Senate of Serampore College (University), and a Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Pastoral Counselling from CMC Vellore, along with a Master of Social Work from Indira Gandhi National Open University.

I have served youth, children, women, and the elderly with a focus on spiritual formation, holistic growth, and active participation in congregational life. Across all contexts, I have sought to strengthen the Church as a welcoming, participatory, and mission-oriented community.

I bring strengths in organization, relational leadership, pastoral counselling, chaplaincy, theological teaching, preaching, and worship leadership across traditions. I value shared ministry, mutual accountability, and the recognition of diverse gifts within the body of Christ, especially among youth and emerging leaders.

I came to Canada on 7th August 2024 and have since continued my ministry within The United Church of Canada. This transition has been a journey of learning, humility, and growth, helping me understand vocation as something discerned in community. It has also involved cultural and ministerial adaptation, especially in embracing collaborative leadership, shared ministry, and deeper engagement with the Church's governance and theology.

At present, I serve the Collaborative Ministry of Roland and Altona United Churches, as I discern God's ongoing call in my life. I remain grateful for the communities, mentors such as Rev. Dr. M. Sunil Caleb, Rev. Dr. P. C. Gine, Bishop Ashoke Biswas, and Bishop S. K. Nanda, along with colleagues and congregations who have accompanied my journey.

Above all, I remain committed to faithful ministry rooted in Christ, responsive to human need, and open to the transforming work of the Holy Spirit in the Church and in the world.

Faithfully submitted,



Rev. Sourav Sampat Nag

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