

**Dr. Eugene A. Blair**

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Eugene Blair currently serves as an Intentional Interim Minister with dual standing in the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church. He served nine years as program staff and district superintendent in the Detroit Annual Conference. From 1994-2004, he served as the pastor of the newly formed Resurrection United Methodist Church in Chicago and the Director for Congregational Development for the Northern Illinois Conference.

His pastorates include two new church starts. He served as a teaching missionary from 1992-93 at what is now Kenya Methodist University (Nairobi, Kenya). He was Dean of The Upper Room Chapel and the International Director of Spiritual Formation and Chrysalis (Youth Walk to Emmaus) for the General Board of Discipleship from 1987-1992. He has traveled and studied in several countries in Africa where he has also led spiritual formation events and consultations.

Dr. Blair studied at Bethel University and Seminary in St. Paul, MN (BS), the Methodist Theological School in Ohio (M.Div.), and the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit (D.Min.). For a number of years, he was involved with the Academy for Spiritual Formation. Before entering the ministry, he was a police officer and community organizer.

Dr. Blair has written several books over the years including *Maybe God is Trying to Tell You Something-Listening for Your Call to Ministry* and *What Kind of Man is Joseph, and What Kind of Man Are You? (A Bible Study for Men on Matthew 1 and 2)*. He is a member of the Academy for Spiritual Formation Forum.

Dr. Blair lives in Ann Arbor, MI with his wife Dawn and two daughters: Nia will be a junior at Tennessee State University and Imani will be a sophomore at Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor. Dawn is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher in Ann Arbor. Dr. Blair is also a youth counselor and teacher at the Washtenaw County Juvenile Detention Center. One of Gene's special interests is using mindfulness and spirituality with juvenile offenders and youth in drug recovery. He also runs an after school and summer camp STEM program for elementary students, Bricks 4 Kidz.