# PENN CENTRAL CONFERENCE

## A Message from PCC

**October 23, 2024**

**Greetings from the Board of Directors of the Penn Central Conference,**

The board met Oct.19th at the UCC Homes offices in Camp Hill. Our host, Victoria Velez, warmly greeted us and shared a little about the work of UCC Homes. Several of our board members have also served on the UCC Homes board.

We had a very busy agenda for the day ahead of us! We began with the staff reports. It was no surprise from their reports that Carrie, Nora, Dwight, and Paul are extremely busy working with and caring for our conference, our churches and our Pastors. Our committee reports followed: the Strategic Planning committee is waiting anxiously for the Nov. 9th Keystone vote when they will have a clearer direction for future strategic plans. The Finance Committee was excited to announce that 2 Innovation Grants were approved for church requests for technology updates, Two more requests are yet to be reviewed. Finally, our Personnel Committee has been working with the finance committee with budget items and evaluation processes concerning our staff

The heavy work of the board began with a presentation by Mike Price, treasurer, of the proposed 2025 budget. Thoughtful, astute, caring and realistic are some of the words I would use to describe this intense discussion. The realization that our OCWM contributions continue to decline had to be fully realized in these discussions.

Next on the Agenda was a discussion of the Keystone voting process which included voting processes, procedures, timeline and task assignments. Carrie shared there are 7 association locations as well as St Thomas in Linglestown where delegates and pastors can attend the meeting by Zoom. Each site will have members of the board present to monitor the voting process. She shared the keystone vote which will be done at 11:30 AM sharp and will be by paper ballot. She is hoping all churches in Penn Central conference have their delegates selected for this historic vote.

*Continues on back*

## Contact us!

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## Prayers for Penn Central Conference

**Ephesians 6:18 (NLT)**

*Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.*

This week, we pray for each other as we continue to live into God's calling...

**St. John's UCC, McKnightsown**

**St. Paul's UCC, Mechanicsburg**

**Trinity UCC, Mercersburg**

**First UCC, Middleburg**



The agenda for the Special Conference meeting on Nov. 9th includes: Proposed budget presentation followed by a vote, presentation of the Star Coalition resolution followed by a vote and finally the Keystone conference vote.

Though all of our work is so satisfying we found joy in voting to accept Mr. David Gingrich of Shiloh Church, Danville as the newest member of the board representing Central Association.

I used the word joy in the previous paragraph, Joy is a very important part of completing what a Christian is all about. Our board meeting/s are joyful gatherings because we are doing the work of God. In Psalm 16:11, David wrote "You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand. Let us all go out and find our JOY!

**Carolyn Herman**

Moderator of the Board

Penn Central Conference

**The United Church of Christ has established the Hurricane Helene Recovery Appeal and the Hurricanes 2024 Appeal.**

https://support.ucc.org/hurricane-helene-relief

Your support for these appeals will ensure that communities are supported and accompanied for years as they rebuild. You can donate through your local church, with your gifts going through the Conference to the Appeal. Gifts can be made through PCC by clicking "DONATE" on pccucc.org. Under "Directed Gifts" choose "Disaster Relief" and notate "Hurricane Relief". And you can always mail a check to the PCC offices with the same notation.

**Special Fall Meeting**

**November 9, 2024, 9:30AM - 12:30PM**

The special fall meeting of the Penn Central Conference of the United Church of Christ will be held on Saturday, November 9, 2024, at 9:30 am EST. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary of St. Thomas United Church of Christ, 6490 Linglestown Rd., Harrisburg, PA 17112, and remote participation will be available via ZOOM. Associations within Penn Central Conference will also be hosting remote gatherings at official sites to allow participation in the meeting via ZOOM.

There are three items of business on the agenda for this meeting.

1. Presentation and approval of the proposed 2025 Penn Central Conference budget

2. Presentation and consideration for recognition of the STAR (Small Town and Rural Churches) Coalition as a self-created group within the United Church of Christ

3. Consideration and voting on a motion to create the Keystone Conference out of the four present Conferences of Penn Central, Penn Northeast, Penn West, and Pennsylvania Southeast.

Register here: https://penncentralconference.regfox.com/special-fall-meeting-2024 or go to pccucc.org and click on Annual Meeting