



PENN CENTRAL CONFERENCE



A Message from PCC

January 25, 2023

Greetings, everyone, from your PCC Board of Directors,

Our Board met via Zoom on Saturday, January 21, 2023. The following are the highlights of that meeting:

*Agenda, Meeting Minutes of October 29, 2022, and the Treasurer's Report were all approved by common consent.

*Staff Reports were posted ahead of the meeting for board members to review. We then checked in with each staff member for any additional information that Carrie Call, Nora Foust, Rick Luciotti, and Paul Keller wanted to share with the board. Our staff continues to serve the congregations of the PCC faithfully and effectively in many different ways. Paul gave us an update that we have received four applications for the new PCC part-time bookkeeper position. Applications for that job close Feb 1, 2023 and the review/interview process will then begin.

*For Committee Reports, I share with you the following highlights: Carrie reviewed the updated Strategic Plan, including a summary of many completed objectives. Under the Finance Committee report, Mike Price, treasurer, reported that two Innovation Grants were approved and funds granted of \$4,000 each and a third application was under review. In early December, the Finance Committee asked to bring an emergency motion to the board for an email vote. The Board unanimously approved Christmas gifts of \$500 for each staff person to be paid out of reserves, in appreciation for their hard work in another challenging year. The staff were all grateful for that unexpected gift. Personnel Committee chair, DiAnn Baxley, shared

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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.

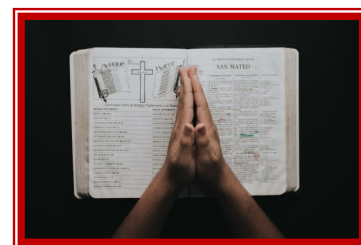
This week, we pray for each other as we continue to live into God's calling...

Christ Madisonburg UCC, Rebersburg

St. Luke's UCC, Dalmatia

St. Paul's UCC, Manheim

Canoe Camp UCC, Mansfield



that the new process for the yearly evaluation of the Conference Minister needs to and will be revised.

*Old Business included reports from Nora that the Outdoor Ministry Commission continues to develop their structure, working towards the Outdoor Ministry grants process to be opened this year. Carrie reported that the dates and location for the in-person 2023 PCC Annual Meeting are set for June 9-10 at the Double Tree resort in Lancaster. A planning team for the Annual Meeting has been formed and is working hard to get things in place. The board reviewed and approved a by-law amendment that will be brought to the Annual Meeting for review and approval, creates the "Church Futures Commission," which will continue and expand the work of the Church Empowerment Team and be accountable to the PCC board of directors. The previously approved nesting of the Mercersburg Society within the structure of the PCC continues to be in-process. Carrie shared an update from the Keystone Project which met on January 20, 2023 in Harrisburg. (Watch for an update in next week's e-news for more details).

*Under New Business, a proposed amendment from the Finance Committee was brought forward for review and approved to take to the Annual Meeting for final review and approval. This amendment will add an annual PCC Budget Meeting each fall to be held no later than November 15 of each year to review and approve the proposed following year's budget. This would allow the Finance Committee to make a more accurate proposed budget based on the state of the PCC's finances and staff later in the year. There was also discussion about how that meeting would be implemented and possible formats were discussed. Lastly, Carrie led a brief discussion on the sharing of information of best practices for local congregations for financial oversight within a church's financial structure. The Finance Committee will review available information and share that with congregations in the near future, inviting congregations to utilize these best practices for their own financial protection and well-being.

*The Board will meet next on Saturday, April 22, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. in person at location to be determined.

In Peace,

Rev. Dwight C. Hein, Moderator

PCC Board of Directors

Looking Ahead:

ONA Ministry Team Winter Gathering

SAVE THE DATE: "Embracing the Beloved LGBTQ+ Community: The Role of the Church".

This year's winter gathering will be held on Saturday, March 4th, 2023 at Colonial Park UCC, Harrisburg, PA. The featured speaker is Attorney Henry Sias.

JOURNEY INTO AND THROUGH RETIREMENT

A convocation for Retired Clergy and Spouses

MAY 9, 10, 11 at the Doubletree Convention Center, Willow Street, PA

"Renewing The Covenant We Share" PCC 61st Annual Meeting - June 9-10, 2023 at Double-Tree Hotel in Willow Street (Lancaster)

"Making All Things New"

General Synod 2023

"Making All Things New" will be the theme of the 34th biennial General Synod of the United Church of Christ, scheduled for June 30–July 4, 2023, in Indianapolis.

The General Synod of the United Church of Christ will get back to business a year from now. And it will do so in person.

After an all-virtual experience in 2021, the UCC's biennial national meeting will require all voting delegates to be in Indianapolis in 2023. That's according to the Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson, the associate general minister who serves as Synod administrator..