

# PENN CENTRAL CONFERENCE



Empowering churches to proclaim the reconciling love of Christ.

## A Message from PCC

### Dear Friends and Members of Penn Central Conference,

*Though the mountains shake ... though the seas roar... "Be still, and know that I am God!" - Psalm 46 (NRSV)*

Not only is this the Bible verse from today's (1/15/22) Still Speaking Daily Devotional, but it is also my most favorite verse. I have this verse sitting on my kitchen window engraved in a wooden block. During this pandemic and the holding of yet another PCC Board Meeting in a virtual format, I am reminded how our lives have changed, and yet, how much God stays the same and is in charge.

Your Board of Directors met on Saturday, January 15th. This robust meeting included rich discussions and final decisions on many topics. What follows is a summary.

**I. The Sale of Hartman Center:** NOTE: An email was sent via the E-News on Monday, December 20th to update the conference on the details of the sale. The board made a number of decisions.

a. Proceeds of the sale, approximately \$918,000 will be invested in the United Church Funds and Beyond Fossil Fuels Fund accounts.

b. Two existing Hartman Center fund accounts will be used to 1) reimburse the conference on sale related expenses (i.e. surveying costs, oil tank removal, buried communication cables, etc.); 2) pay off existing line of credit (@\$50,000); and 3) provide a payment to Mr. John Freed for service above and beyond in his care of the camp over the past year, plus. All remaining dollars from these two funds will be transferred to the United Church Funds and be used for conference Outdoor Ministries.

*Continues on back*

## Outdoor Ministries

### "[Every]Body Of Christ" Youth/Confirmation Retreat

March 18-20 at Camp Nawakwa, located near Gettysburg. The weekend will begin at 7:00 on Friday evening and end with a closing program at 10:00 on Sunday morning. Cost is \$100 for 2 nights of lodging and 4 meals (3 on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday)

It will be a wonderful weekend full of fun activities, making new friends and being with old ones, learning and exploring, questioning and evaluating, relaxing and playing! As a reminder, this weekend away at Camp Nawakwa is for all Penn Central youth, grades 6-12! You are welcome to register anytime!

<https://penncentralconference.regfox.com/everybody-of-christ-confirmation-youth-retreat>

## 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.*

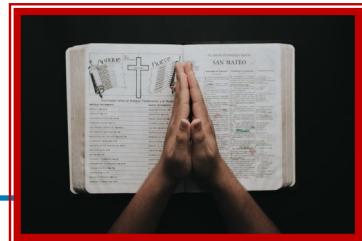
This week, we pray for each other as we continue to live into God's calling...

**Colonial Park UCC, Harrisburg**

**Penbrook UCC, Harrisburg**

**St. Thomas UCC, Harrisburg**

**Salem UCC, Harrisburg**



## Message from the Conference cont'

### 2. Creating an Outdoor Ministry Commission:

Rev. Nora Foust will be contacting each Association and requesting a representative to serve on this Commission. The Commission is tasked to develop outdoor ministry guidelines and goals, and with the Finance Committee, establish a fund to use sale dollars for outdoor ministries.

- a. Summer Camping opportunities are listed on the website at <https://www.lutherancamping.org/>. Rev. Nora Foust now serves on the board for the Lutheran Camping Association of Central Pennsylvania. REMEMBER: Camping is a Year-Round Opportunity. Check the above website for year-round opportunities.
- b. The conference will fund 50% of camperships during the summer of 2022. PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR LOCAL CONGREGATION!

c. Anne Rankin has resigned from her position. The board thanked her for her superb commitment to outdoor ministries and we wished her well in her next endeavor.

**3. Annual Meeting:** The 2022 Annual Meeting will be held in a virtual format due to the ongoing concerns with the virus. The Business Meeting will occur on Saturday, June 11, 2022. The theme is how the Church (Big and small) approaches mission. Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson will be our speaker this year. NEW THIS YEAR! Various workshops will be scheduled the week before on key issues impacting the conference.

### 4. Staffing & Office Updates:

- a. The Board reviewed staff reports and expressed appreciation for their work. We have an amazing staff team!
- b. The Board approved the Personnel Policies for the Conference. These policies are effective January 1, 2022.
- c. The Board approved a sabbatical for Rev. Nora Foust - July 2022 through September 2022. During this time, Rev. Rick Luciotti will assume many of her duties.

d. The office has moved to Linglestown, and staff love the new space and feel so very welcomed by the folks at St. Thomas UCC.

**5. Innovation Grants:** Four requests for innovation grants were received and all requests were approved at a maximum of \$5,000. Requests included video projection systems, LGBTQ+ Resource Center, and a Weekend Backpack Food Program.

**6. Our Relationship with a Seminary:** The Board was updated on the changes at Lancaster Theological Seminary because of the combination with Moravian Theological Seminary. Further discussions will occur on ways to support theological education for individuals within the conference.

#### - Shirley

Shirley Keith Knox  
Board Moderator  
Penn Central Conference



## Contact us!

### PCC Office Staff

**Rev. Dr. Carrie Call, PhD** - Conference Minister  
email: [ccall@pccucc.org](mailto:ccall@pccucc.org) / Phone: 717-433-3196

**Rev. Nora Driver Foust** - Associate Conference Minister  
email: [nfoust@pccucc.org](mailto:nfoust@pccucc.org) / Phone: 717-433-2587

**Rev. Dr. Marisa Laviola, Ph.D.** - Associate Conference Minister  
email: [mlaviola@pccucc.org](mailto:mlaviola@pccucc.org) / Phone: 717-433-3564

**Rev. Rick Luciotti** - Facilitator of Care to Clergy and Clergy Families  
email: [rluciotti@gmail.com](mailto:rluciotti@gmail.com) / Phone: 717-433-6306

**Anne Rankin** - Outdoor Ministries Liaison  
email: [annerankin524@gmail.com](mailto:annerankin524@gmail.com) / phone: 717-945-4585

**C. Paul Keller** - Office Manager  
email: [pkeller@pccucc.org](mailto:pkeller@pccucc.org) / Phone: 717-652-1560