PENN CENTRAL CONFERENCE

A Message from PCC

January 24, 2024

Greetings, everyone, from your PCC Board of Directors,

To start off the new year, the Board met via Zoom on Saturday morning, January 20, 2024. The following are some highlights:

*Mike Price, PCC Treasurer, presented both the Treasurer's Report and the final Audit Report for 2022. The treasurer's report included preliminary year-end numbers for 2023, noting that in December we receive almost 18% of our OCWM from local churches. The total 2023 OCWM number did not reach the budgeted amount, but we are still in a good cash position with all salaries and expenses being covered without concern. The Audit Report for 2022 was reviewed and by recommendation of the Finance Committee, the board voted to accept the Audit as presented.

*For Committee and Commission Reports, I share with you the following highlights: the Finance Committee chair, Phil Landers, went over the reserve (fiduciary) funds that the PCC finance books hold. Most funds are designated for ministries and groups within the Conference. There are a few that require investigation to be sure as to the purpose of the fund. The Finance Committee will continue to handle applications for Innovation Grants from which $8600 was distributed in 2023 and for the St. John's UCC Lebanon Fund that provided a $5000 grant last year. Nora Foust reported for the Outdoor Ministries Commission. She shared that the Winter Youth Retreat - held at Hartman Center - was attended by over 30 adults and youth, and that everyone had a good time. The date for this summer's HC Spirit Week has already been set and is being publicized in the weekly PCC e-news. Rev. DiAnn

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. Paul's UCC, Newmanstown

Trinity UCC, Palmyra

Jacob's Church Reed's Station UCC, Paxinos

St. Peter's UCC, Paxinos



Baxley reported for Personnel Committee that their tasks were helping Carrie with the search for the new Facilitator of Clergy Care.

*Under Old Business, Carrie shared an update about the Keystone Project. The Keystone Working Group met January 19. Documents were reviewed that will soon be shared with the four conferences including an updated FAQs sheet, a Basis of Union, and the Case Statement. Sub-committees have begun or will soon begin meeting on the topics of governance, finance, staffing, process, and legal. Carrie shared an update on Joint 2024 Annual Meeting to be held at the Penn Stater in State College. The dates have been adjusted for Fri. June 7 to Sun. June 9. A planning committee has begun meeting and members did a walkthrough of the location on January 23.

*Under New Business, Carrie and the Personnel Committee shared an update on the search for the new Facilitator of Care for Clergy and Clergy Families. A candidate was selected, offered the position and that person has accepted. Carrie led the board in a discussion about the compensation for this position and a shared ministry model that will be used, partnering with a local church in the Conference. A vote of the board was held affirming the hiring of the selected candidate. When appropriate, an announcement will be shared with the Conference.

*If you have any questions about the work of the Board of Directors, my contact information is on the Board page of the PCC website.

In Peace,

Rev. Dwight C. Hein

Moderator

PCC Board of Directors

Registration is now open for **HC Spirit camp at Hartman Center Campground and Retreat Center** - Sunday, July 28th through Saturday, August 3rd, 2024.

https://penncentralconference.regfox.com/hartman-homecoming-week-2024

Camp makes a great Christmas gift. Check out the summer options from our partners at Lutheran Camping Corporation's Kirchenwald (and Nawakwa)

https://www.lutherancamping.org/summer-camp/youth-summer-programs/

Worship Planning for Lay Leaders

Feb 5, 2024, 6:30PM

Many members of consistories and church councils are finding themselves needing to do more with worship planning for their congregation, some are even stepping into the pulpit. Our Penn Central Churches are experiencing longer and longer seasons of transition and interim and supply leadership is just not filling the whole of the growing need. This 90-minute workshop will look at available resources to assist lay leaders with worship development like liturgies, prayers, hymn selection, lectionary passages, and more, as well as touch on sermon preparation for those filling that need. All are welcome, please register.