



The Mid-Atlantic District of
THE ALLIANCE

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Report from District Conference 2025

Conference 2025 is in the rearview mirror. The following items represent some of the major events.

Conference convened in Hockessin, DE at One in Christ Community Church. There were 81 accredited delegates and 20 corresponding delegates. The hospitality of the church was spectacular, and the chef prepared meals were exceptional. A special thanks to Rev. Erick Adams and Rev. Clarence Stephens for hosting the conference and the congregation who served Conference so well.

Most significant was the election of a new District Superintendent. The process of selection was explained, and Conference was led in a season of prayer for both candidates. **Rev. Mark Trinkl** was the nominee of the Interim Vice President of Church ministries and **Rev. Ira Towns** was preapproved for nomination from the floor. The election process was led by the representative from the Board of Directors, Rev. Dr. Jennifer Ashby.

Rev. Ira Towns was elected on the first ballot and will begin his tenure on January 1, 2026. Please pray for our incoming Superintendent and for a smooth transition into this new responsibility.



Conference also responded to the report of our new National President, Dr. Jonathan Schaffer. Conference affirmed his desire to complete the funding of Alliance One Place. Conference also received his challenge for each Alliance Church to take at least a Sunday, if not a full week, to focus on All of Jesus for All the World. This is a deeper life and missions theme that we want to make time and space for this year. Conference also reaffirmed our commitment to stay focused on the task ahead: to see every person given an opportunity to encounter a life-transforming relationship with Jesus.

The other primary item of business was the approval of the 2026 budget. Rev. Ross Halbersma, the district treasurer, presented and explained the budget. Based on a presentation at General Council in May of this year, Rev. Halbersma encouraged the following stewardship strategy for each church: For the local church budget to follow an 80/10/10 rule. 80% to local church, 10% to oversees missions, and 10% to local 'Judea', this includes the Fair Share fund, which supports Gospel efforts in our District.

The 2026 budget of \$992,550 was adopted.

On Tuesday evening, Conference celebrated the retirement of our current Superintendent, Rev. Douglas Conley. Rev. Conley and Julie have served our District for eleven and a half years and will conclude service on December 31, 2025. The evening was marked by great food, exuberant fun, some roasting and celebration of their service.

