

Commission on Ministry Innovation
Report for Regional Board
March 2021
Submitted by Rev. Lois Kelley

A few members of the Commission attended a virtual conference hosted by Heartland Presbytery's New Worshiping Community Commission. The conference was Decolonizing the Church, a 4-week immersion in dismantling white supremacy in the church in order to build a beloved community. The trainers were Brandon and Erica Wrencher, accomplished church planters/leaders and organizers.

New church update: We are waiting on the budget from Dayson Marar before releasing the stipend. Dayson Marar of the Chuukese church completed our first co-hort.

The focus group for new church is working on an outline for the next co-hort. Because so much is still virtual, due to COVID, we are considering opening it up to folks outside of KC, but those folks would not be eligible for the grant money.

Transforming church update: Delesslyn will be meeting with Bill to find out which churches we might want to target.

Innovation update: This focus group will be addressing various topics at least once a quarter. Those topics might include how to be hospitable online (most churches focus only on their own members and not the online audience of new folks), brainstorm ways to promote us throughout the region, help people understand what we can provide. We are working on a graphic to share with the region about what this commission can offer churches.

Affiliation update: Broadway is still interested in and working towards affiliation. We are at the stage that is more interactive and that has been halted due to COVID. We are looking at ways we can get creative and modify it for COVID restrictions.

Our focus groups will continue to meet and discuss ideas related to their area of focus. These ideas and findings will then be brought back to the full commission.