

Spring 2015 Pennsylvania Southeast Conference Consistory Secretary's Report

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God! On behalf of the Consistory of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference Consistory, I would like to thank you for your prayers and support throughout this past year and all of the transitions our Conference has been experiencing. We have seen some great changes in the past year, including our decision to call the Rev. Bill Worley as our new Conference Minister at our last Spring Meeting and his installation at the Fall Meeting.

Although it was difficult to part with the beloved property, the Conference Consistory approved the sale of Mensch Mill to The Amitabha Buddhist Society in September, 2014. We are delighted that this organization intends to maintain the property's form and function by operating a retreat and conference center for their Society.

This past year has been filled with new energy and new ideas for our Conference. The Conference Consistory was blessed with the opportunity to work with Cameron Trimble from The Center for Progressive Renewal during a Spirit-filled vision-casting retreat this past January. The work we started there is bearing fruit through the Conference's 2020 Vision Strategic Plan. We are excited to be undertaking this ambitious plan to serve God and to benefit the lives of all people living within and beyond Southeast Pennsylvania.

It is our prayerful hope that by working together and learning from one another, we will be able to continue to strengthen our congregations, train and support strong leaders, and build connections among the churches and people of the Conference. We believe that our Conference can and will make a difference in a hurting world as we move forward together, grateful for the holy diversity of gifts and stories we have to share.

As we look into the future at all that God has in store for the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ, and for our national church and for the church universal, let us give thanks for our sisters and brothers here in this conference and throughout the world. Let us give thanks that God has blessed our conference with beautiful diversity. Let us give thanks that God has called, gathered, and sent us out in the name of Jesus Christ. May God continue to bless the work we do together.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Selina Hamilton, Conference Secretary