Below is a list of core commitments that a congregation should make when employing lay persons and/or clergy. These three basic commitments (provided by the UCC Parish Life and Leadership group of Local Church Ministries) will help to ensure a smooth work/ministry life among the staff and between the staff and the congregation.

**Working Conditions** – The church should provide competent support staff for the clergy. The church should also provide suitable office space and equipment to facilitate all of the staff’s work (including the clergy). In arranging office space, consideration should be given to the pastor’s need for study, counseling, and administration. It is also imperative that the church ensure that the pastor’s office is easily accessible to all persons.

**Job Description** – It is to the mutual advantage of all staff and the congregation to have a written position description (covenant) and a written contract (letter of call). This will clarify mutual expectations!

**Evaluation of the Church’s Ministry** – A regular evaluation of the church’s ministry, including staff, is important for the health of the church. Getting professional help with these evaluations either by members of the congregation who do HR work as a profession or ideally, by an outside source, will help these evaluations be done legally and without crossing any boundaries.

- Tammie Wisniewski, PSEC Finance Operations Manager

**NEW PSEC Website to launch tomorrow, Monday, November 13th!**

There will be a session on the website at the Fall Meeting on November 18th

- Any issues with the using the website, please contact Brea at the PSEC office at 484-949-8774 x 311 or at: brea@psec.org.
- Any issues trying to register for the Fall Meeting via the new website, please contact Sue at the PSEC Office at 484-949-8774 x 312 or at: susan@psec.org.

To avoid trying to figure out the new website while trying to register for the fall meeting……

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**Unveiling at the Fall Meeting - November 18th!!**