



November 4, 2018

Lessons from Pennsylvania Southeast Conference Churches

At the beginning of my tenure as Conference Minister, I set upon the task of preaching in every one of our (now) 161 congregations. I have returned several times to some for anniversaries and ordinations. I hunger to go back to others but now have less than twenty churches to visit. This has been one of the best experiences of my work. I have encountered amazing places of vitality including just last Sunday at St John's, Birdsboro for a 225th Anniversary celebration of a small church with a mighty spirit. I have witnessed growing congregation connections with communities, like at the Evening Worship Service at St. Peters in Tremont two weeks ago where members of the Schuylkill Association gathered with flood-ravaged neighbors to give thanks for deliverance and the generosity of Conference neighbors near and far. I witnessed the members of St. Peter's Tohickon offer gracious hospitality to a Muslim neighbor who spoke in celebration of that church's long and faithful history.

I have learned a few things and confirmed my sense of others. First, a handful of people on fire with the transformative power and presence of the resurrected spirit of Jesus Christ can change the world — and do. Second, it really is possible to welcome all people when the sole agenda is the working of Jesus Christ as that happens differently in the life of each person. Third, where vitality is happening there is a vitalized, faith-filled visionary leader training and inspiring other leaders. Finally, I am fond of the question, "If your church burned down on Friday would you all show up on Sunday to worship in the ashes?" I know the answer almost as soon as I walk in the front church door. There is an unmistakable atmosphere of connection among people who love being together AND who can't wait to include new people in that togetherness; born not from a need to save a church or find a committee or contribute to a budget but from a desire to widen the circle of friends and to share the faith.

That is happening all around our Conference and I am blessed beyond measure to witness it, celebrate it and give thanks to God for it. And for you.

- Rev. William P. Worley, Conference Minister

PSEC FALL MEETING

November 10—9:30 am –3:30 pm



Next Saturday, November 10th, we will hold our 2018 Fall Meeting. During the meeting the Conference members will vote, on our 2019 Budget and will vote, for the last time, whether or not to merge our Conference with the Penn Northeast Conference. Discussion will also take place regarding The Pension Board Campaign and the new Manual on Ministry.

Due to the very important decisions being made at this meeting, we hope that:

1. Your clergy and church delegates have registered. If not, please do so at: <https://psecfall2018.eventbrite.com>
2. That you have gone to the PSEC website and reviewed the paperwork listed there for the meeting. Including, but not limited to the 2019 Budget and the vote regarding the possible merger. If not, this information may be found at: <https://psec.org/fall-meeting-2018/>
3. Lastly, if you want the most recent information on the merger, you may find it here on the PSEC website: <https://psec.org/conference-merger/>

The future of our Conference, both financially and what path will lead us, are important topics. We hope your church, your voice will be represented !

Registration is still open. Walk-ins will also be welcome!

Registration: <https://psecfall2018.eventbrite.com>



One More Pre-Fall Meeting Conversation Scheduled

Conference Minister, Rev. William Worley and the Joint Conference Vision and Development Team are offering the opportunity to discuss items on the Fall Meeting agenda, including: 2019 Budget, The Pension Board Campaign Proposal, the new Manual on Ministry, and the merger with Penn Northeast Conference.

Nov. 6 Zoom meeting at 6:30 pm. Connect at: <https://zoom.us/j/517467105>

Registration for the pre-meeting is NOT necessary.