

PSEC Consistory Meeting

September 15, 2018

St. James UCC, Limerick, PA

Consistory members present: Rev. Bill Middleton, Rev. Mark Roberts, Rev. Sharell Shippen, Karl Jones, Rev. Robert Stewart, Ms. Jennie Strauch, Rev. Bill Worley, Rev. Craig Zimmerman, Ms. Sara McKinsey-Barra, Mr. Tim Kissling, Mr. Lee Metzger

Consistory members absent: Rev. Anne Cormier, Rev. Jenny Smith, Rev. Edward Livingston, Rev. Ann-Therese Ortiz, Mr. Ray Edwards

Youth delegates present: Ms. Kathleen Stump, Ms. Ananya Huertas

Jennie Strauch called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM and offered an opening devotion and prayer.

The minutes from the meeting on July 21, 2018 were accepted as amended. The word “month” was changed to “meeting” under the 20/20 Vision Update portion of the minutes.

Treasurer

Ray Edward’s report was received with Tim Kissling presenting he report. As stated previously, there is an overall decline in giving to the OCWM. The committee is looking for outside help from consultants for public relations. The committee feels that there is a disconnect between what we do as a conference and how much of our purpose and work is getting to congregations. They have found a PR group who will present a proposal to the committee within 4-6 weeks.

There was a review of line items in the budget, as found in the board packets.

Motion to accept the budget report by Lee Metzger

Second by Rev. Shippen

Motion passes with a unanimous vote.

Endowment report—current total is \$2,059,025.19

Proposed 2019 budget report was discussed. The proposed budget includes a 2.5% salary increase. The proposed budget is balanced at \$1,031,119.

Motion to accept by Lee Metzger

Second by Rev. Middleton

Discussion: youth programming currently reaches between 60-100 youths. We recommend a 3% annual increase for staff to our congregations and we are proposing 2.5%.

Motion passes with Rev. Stewart opposed.

Disaster Minister Coordinator Report

Karl Jones. Report found in packet, with a correction to the 4th paragraph of the report to show that Pastor Claude Schach is working at St. Peter’s in Tremont.

Personnel Committee

Report found in packet. A survey was developed that is going out to pastors and lay leaders regarding our conference minister.

ACM for Congregational Development

No report

ACM of Search and Call

Report in packet.

Reports were accepted.

Joint Conference Vision and Development Team

Report in packet. Report was reviewed by Rev. Worley. He will ask to change the answer to the question regarding the financial status of each conference to indicate that there are differences between the two. If this proposal is approved by both conferences, a committee will be formed in November to work until June. A review of resolutions to be voted upon took place. We will vote on the resolution with no nominations for the committee at this time.

Motion to move resolution to PSEC fall meeting in November made by Robert Stewart.

Seconded by Tim Kissling.

Motion passes unanimously.

Association moderators will forward names to Jennie Strauch and Bill Worley by October 15th.

A review of the housing allowances as found in the packets took place.

Motion to approve by Tim Kissling.

Second by Rev. Shippen.

Motion passes unanimously.

A discussion took place regarding sex offender background checks. Currently this is done every quarter. It was proposed to the consistory that this be changed to once a year.

Motion by Lee Metzger

Second by Sara McKinsey-Barra

Motion passes with Rev. Middleton opposed.

A discussion took place regarding New Ministries Fund Grant results. \$1500 has been approved with another \$15,000 pending answers to questions proposed by the committee for a total of \$16,500. The deadline for applications is January 1 and June 1. There is \$85,000 left in the fund.

The fall meeting takes place on November 10 at Church of the Good Shepherd in Boyertown. The offering taken that day will go to disaster relief at the conference level.