



August 4, 2019



2019 Fall Meeting

Sunday, November 17th

@ Ursinus College—Bomberger Hall

2:30 pm Registration / 3:00 pm Meeting

How do your OCWM contributions benefit your Pastor, your members and your youth?

What were the Resolutions at General Synod all about and how do they effect your church?

These are just a few of the questions that we will answer at the Fall Meeting. Join us and learn what is happening in PSEC and how your church benefits!

Register at: <https://psec2019fall.eventbrite.com>

A second term

At the 32nd General Synod, held in Milwaukee this past June, The Rev. John Dorhauer was re-elected to his second term as General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ. Rev. Dorhauer noted that he loves what he does and wrote a letter to you, members of the United Church of Christ.



Unfortunately his letter is too long to print in an issue of Communitas but is worth reading. You can find Rev. Dorhauer's letter by using the following address:

<https://psec.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/A-second-term.pdf>

Jesus Said "Follow Me"

The gospel lectionary texts in July were filled with questions asked by, and of, Jesus — "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" "Lord, do you not care...?" "Is there anyone among you...who would give a snake instead of a fish?" "And the things you have acquired, whose will they be?" All of them seem to be related to one question — what does it mean to be a child of God and a disciple of Christ?

This question was the focus of a General Synod Resolution JESUS SAID, "FOLLOW ME" A Resolution of Witness submitted by the Northern California Nevada Conference. Among other things, it *"calls upon congregations to engage in reflection and conversation on what it means to follow Jesus in the diversity of our practices, with the intent of learning from one another and encouraging one another in faithful witness and extravagant welcome.* It also, *"calls upon congregations to have these conversations within, between, and among Local Churches, focusing on the significance of Jesus' call, "Follow me" in this era, and the ways in which each congregation responds to that call."*

On the one hand, the simplicity of this call is so apparent for a group calling itself "Christian" that it might be over looked for its obviousness. On the other hand, the church is always in a state of needing to be called back to the source of itself and the deepest values that spring from that source — especially when so many voices from every corner of the earth seek followership.

I encourage you check out that resolution. <http://ucceverywhere.org/synod/resolutions/jesus-said-follow-me/> You can see all the resolutions that came to the floor of Synod. <http://ucceverywhere.org/synod/> In their final form, with the action of Synod recorded. In consultation with our Conference Synod delegates and Conference Consistory members, I will be commenting in the next several eblasts on those resolutions that they, and I, have discerned are particularly important 'for such a time as this.' I can't imagine a better place to start than with a call to follow Jesus.

Your brother in Christ,
Bill

Rev. William P. Worley, PSE Conference Minister