



July 25, 2021

GROWING OUR SPIRITUAL LIVES

Reform your church, O Lord, beginning with me.

The first step in making our churches more vibrant, faithful and effective, is for each of us to cultivate our spiritual lives. Our congregations are like trees: in order to reach out with our branches and bear fruit, we must first deepen our roots in our faith.

This course on Spiritual Life will meet for three sessions at Trinity United Church of Christ, Telford, Pa., on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. as follows:

September 18 – Spiritual growth through congregational worship

October 9 – Spiritual growth through personal disciplines

October 30 – Spiritual growth through small groups.

This course is recommended by the continuing support group of consistory presidents that was meeting monthly at Faulkner's Swamp Church. It is designed with church leaders (elders and deacons) in mind but is open to anyone who feels challenged to deepen their spiritual life.

The course will be led by Dr. Charles A. Maxfield, an ordained United Church of Christ minister with rich experience in lay ministry training. He will be assisted by Constance A. Lezenby, a spiritual director (M.A. in Spiritual Direction) recognized by her Friends' Meeting as a traveling minister.

The cost of this course is \$15.00 per person for the three sessions. The enrollment will be limited to 20 persons.

Additional applicants will be placed on a waiting list. Please register by sending your name, e-mail address and check payable to Trinity United Church of Christ, to the following address is:

Trinity United Church of Christ, 101 S. Main St.

Telford, Pa. 18969-1899 email: tucctelford@gmail.com

Synod by the numbers...

The 2021 General Synod ran eight days, July 11-18, instead of the usual five. There were four plenary sessions scheduled instead of the usual eight. Some fast facts:



- This "Special Edition" event had **2,596** registered attendees, of which **715** were voting delegates. Of those delegates:
 - **634** represented the **38** UCC Conferences.
 - **48** were members of the United Church of Christ Board, with the other **33** representing the Historically Underrepresented Groups: the Council for American Indian Ministry; the Council for Youth and Young Adult Ministries; Ministers for Racial, Social and Economic Justice; the ONA Coalition; Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries; the UCC Mental Health Network; United Black Christians; United Samoan Ministries; UCC Disabilities Ministries; and the Colectivo de UCC Latinx Ministries.
- In addition, there were **88** associate delegates, who had a voice, but did not vote.
- In the virtual exhibit hall, visitors found **82** vendors.
- **39** optional events were on the schedule.
- Forty-one sponsors had committed **\$187,000** to support the event. The UCC financial ministries – the Church Building and Loan Fund, the Cornerstone Fund, the Insurance Board, the Pension Boards and United Church Funds – the five Gold-Level sponsors – contributed \$75,000 to that total.
- The events team secured **25** Zoom licenses to pull together an online event of this magnitude.
- Planners recruited more than **100 'Special Synod Support,'** which included **52** volunteers from across the church and **53** national staffers on special assignment. They also trained **30 people** to staff the Help Desk to answer calls about navigating the first-ever, online event.



PSEC Fall Meeting

November 14, 2021

Details to follow in the near future!