

The Church & Ministry Council Report  
The Spring Meeting of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference  
June 3 and 4, 2022

The Church & Ministry Council exists to streamline processes shared across the 5 Associations of the PSEC to strengthen the church. Specific foci include clergy accountability and support and Member-in-Discernment (MID) training and support. The Council strives to strengthen the work of each Association through its Committee on Ministry (COM).

The Council is made up of two representatives of each COM, with an awareness of balance between clergy and lay; a Dean, and a Clerk. The Associate Conference Minister and Conference Minister are ex-officio, non-voting members. Teams and sub-committees of the Council are: Congregational Development, PSEC Ministerial Ethics with Fitness Review Response Teams, the Joint Mid-Assessment Team (JMAT), and the recently formed Retiree Committee.

Each meeting begins with a centering devotion invoking God among us to guide our work, and we conclude with a brief prayer of thanks or a blessing.

Highlights of the Council's work since the Spring 2021 meeting include:

- A Community of Practice for MIDs was created
- Ursinus Association joined the PSEC Ethics Committee for adjudicating fitness reviews
- The Retiree Subcommittee was formed
- We met in December for "big picture" conversations on how authorization and Committee on Ministry work is done across the conference.
- The Sunday Supply policy was updated to allow clergy with standing in other conferences and partner denominations to appear on the PSEC Sunday Supply list to help with the Sunday Supply shortage.
- Council encouraged all associations to increase financial support for Members in Discernment.
- Council approved 2 diversity trainings, both book studies offered from the PSEC Zechariah Walker Racial Justice Initiative. Diversity training is required of all active clergy, along with boundary training and continuing education hours, to maintain standing in their association.

Submitted by Rev. Frances Chester, Dean  
April 8, 2022

Members of Church & Ministry Council as of April 2022

Ms. Brea Rarick, Clerk  
Rev. Ann Bolek and Rev. Linda Koslowski (Covenant)

Rev. Darryl Cruz and Rev. Addie Stong (N. Penn)  
Dr. Bob Robinson and Rev. Michael Cain (Philadelphia);  
Rev. Kevin Duffy-Guy and Ms. Jennie Strauch (Schuylkill)  
Rev. Austin Chinault and Rev. Nick Pence (Ursinus)  
(other members in 2021-22 include: Rev. Jonathan Hauze, Rev. Nichole Jackson  
{Ursinus} )