Pennsylvania Southeast Conference Fall Business Meeting November 14, 2021 Minutes

- 1. The Pennsylvania Southeast Conference Fall Business Meeting was convened at 3:30pm by Rev. Antonio L. Villareal, Moderator.
- 2. Rev. Anne Cormier made the motion to accept the agenda. Rev. Anne Few seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried and the agenda was adopted.
- 3. Vice-Moderator, Mr. Charles Devasukumar Kuthuru gave the Credentials report. One hundred fifty-five delegates are needed. We have a quorum. Rev. Ann Bobek moved to accept the Credentials report. Rev. Anne Cormier seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried.
- Rev. Villareal asked for a motion to accept the Standing Rules. Rev. Debbie Derby moved to accept the Standing Rules and Rev. Suzanne Schwarz-Green seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried.
- 5. The 2021 Spring Annual Meeting Minutes were adopted and will be entered as presented.
- 6. Rev. Robert Fogal and Robin Hightower were elected as Consistory officers. Rev. Frances Merkel, Covenant Association and Mary Loiselle, Philadelphia Association, were elected as members of the Consistory.
- 7. The UCC Global Missionary Report was given by Rev. L. Nishan Bakalian. Rev. Bakalian serves with the Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in Lebanon. Rev. Worley gave an overview of the background of the UCC Global Mission work. The presentation was shared remotely from Canada. Rev. Bakalian's blogspot address is nshanakir.blogspot.com.
- 8. Ms. Beth Walker gave a report of the National United Church of Christ Board. There will be a major summit in 2022. Rev. Dorhauer, General Minister and President will not be seeking re-election. Rev. Traci Blackmon, Associate General Minister, Justice and Local Church Ministries is currently serving as the acting General Minister and President while Rev. Dorhauer is on sabbatical.
- 9. The report of the Addiction and Recovery Talk Force was a video share. There was a discussion about the medication, Narcan/Nalaxone nasal spray used to treat a known or suspected opioid overdose emergency. There are no legal ramifications to use or possess Narcan. It is a lifesaving medication.
- 10. Rev. Marian Shearer gave the report of the Environmental Task Force. The task force agreed to promote the part time position at Locust Lake, doing environmental education for park visitors; it's been listed in the Association and Conference e-news blasts. The team was looking forward to good results from the Glasgow environmental summit, but there hasn't been much to report. The team has not met since then, though they've exchanged a few informational emails.
- 11. Ms. Walker gave the report of the Racial Justice Initiative. She extended an invitation to everyone to consider participating in book studies. The book currently being studied is <u>Who Will Be A Witness.</u>

- 12. As Rev. Robert Fogal could not attend, Tammy Wisniewski gave the financial report. All reports are attached to the minutes. The 2022 Spending Plan has been prepared. There is a 2.25% increase over 2021 overall. Ms. Wisniewski made a motion to accept the 2022 Spending Plan. Rev. Steve Hamilton seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The plan was put to a vote. The vote carried and the 2022 Spending Plan was approved.
- Presentation of the ACM S&C Candidate, The Rev. Kevin J. McLemore by the ACM S&C Search Committee members, Rev. Melissa Burkert and Rev. Kenneth McDowell. Rev. Susan Bertolette described the process. The Conference Consistory fully endorsed Rev. McLemore's selection. Rev. McLemore came to us from the Epiphany UCC in Chicago. Rev. McLemore has been a pastor for 23 years. His partner is Douglas Wilson, a teacher.
- This candidate, Rev. Kevin McLemore, has been presented by the Consistory to be the settled ACM, S&C. A vote was taken. The results were 188 yeas, 3 nays, and 6 abstentions.
- 15. Rev. Darryl Cruz and Rev. Suzanne Schwarz-Green moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

ROBIN A. HIGHTOWER Secretary