

**Pennsylvania Southeast Conference
United Church of Christ
Consistory Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2022 via ZOOM**

Conference Vision— a unified body of Christ moving in one direction to effect for good and for God the lives of all people living in Southeast Pennsylvania.

Conference Mission— to strengthen local churches and pastors by making the five Associations of the Penn Southeast Conference agencies of connection and accountability.

Conference Goals— 2020 Vision Statement

Who is PSEC ?— PSEC is the link that connects our church’s various and diverse ministries both locally and globally. Together, we provide our local churches, pastors and congregations with the training and inspiration they need to carry out our church’s wider mission. We are stronger together; therefore, we embrace diversity, and above all, we spread God’s love!

1. The following members were in attendance: Rev. Bill Worley, President; Rev. Tony Villareal, Moderator; Mr. Charles Kuthuru, Vice Moderator; Robin Hightower, Secretary; Rev. Bob Fogal, Treasurer, Rev. Schwarz-Green, Rev. Susan Minasian, Rev. Cean James, Ms. Beth Walker, Rev. Fran Merkel, Ms. Donna Fried, Mr. Tom Wright, Rev. Jeff Wargo, Rev. Ken McDowell, Rev. Alan Miles, Mary Loiselle and Rev. Kevin Fruchtl. Mr. Kuthuru is serving as the moderator today.

2. Mr. Kuthuru gave the devotions.

3. Mr. Kuthuru convened the meeting at 9:15 am.

3. The Work of God’s People.

a. A motion was made by Rev. Fruchtl and seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

b. Rev. Merkel moved to approve the November 20th minutes. Rev. Schwarz-Green seconded the motion. The motion carried.

c. The resignation of Rev. Elaine Ely was accepted.

d. The motion was made by Rev. Fogal to elect Rev. Alan Miles as the North Penn Association Consistory Representative. Ms. Beth Walker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

e. The Secretary had no communications to relay.

f. Reports.

1.) Treasurer. Rev. Fogal reviewed and explained the various budget and finance reports.

There was a lot of discussion regarding the OCWM pledges. The books will be closed in two days. Mrs. Tammie Wisniewski manages this process for the Conference. A motion to accept the OCWM report was made by Rev. Schwarz-Green. It was seconded by Ms. Walker. The motion carried.

2.) Personnel Committee. There is no report as the committee did not meet.

3.) Disaster Ministry Coordinator Report. Rev. Karl Jones was not present.

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Rev. Villareal moved to accept the Disaster Ministry Coordinator Report. It was seconded by Rev. Merkel. The motion carried.

4.) Associate Conference Minister for Congregational Development Report. Rev. James is holding workshops via ZOOM. The next workshop will focus on how to stay connected. Rev. Villareal moved to accept the report. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5.) Interim Associate Conference Minister for Search and Call Report. Ms. Fried moved to accept The Churches in Transition Report. Rev. Miles seconded the motion. The motion carried.

6.) Conference Minister Report. Rev. Fogal moved to accept the Conference Minister Report. Ms. Walker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. New Church Start

- a. Revs. Nicole and Zach Jackson want to make a new church start in Pottstown.
- b. Rev. Worley indicated this will become a ministry of the Conference and we will be a part of this ministry.
- c. The money will come from closed churches.
- d. Revs. Jackson will stay with their congregations through Easter and into May.
- e. There was discussion about benchmarks and needing them
- f. Ms. Walker made a motion to approve the application for funding a new church start as presented, including the allocation of \$221,120.00 from new church start funds. Rev. Fogal seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5. Old Business. There were no reports from the Compensation Guidelines Evaluation Taskforce or the Strategic Planning Taskforce.

6. New Business

- a. A motion was made by Rev. Villareal and seconded by Rev. Schwarz-Green to appoint Rev Michael Caine to the C&M Council. The motion carried.
- b. Ms. Walker made a motion to appoint Crystal Angstadt to the Nominating Committee. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fried. The motion carried.
- c. Rev. Merkel moved to appoint Rev. Sara Hertzog to the Personnel Committee. Ms. Walker seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- d. Rev. McLeod will need a housing allowance of \$24,000.00. Rev. Schwarz-Green made this a motion. Rev. Fogal seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- e. An ad hoc committee to review the Conference Constitution and Bylaws for potential presentation at the Fall meeting 2022. Ms. Walker, Rev. Villareal, and Rev. Fogal will be on the committee.
- f. The date for the 2022 Fall meeting is November 13. A motion was made by Rev Schwarz-Green to accept this date. Rev. Villareal seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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7. Adjournment Rev. Schwarz-Green moved for adjournment. Rev Villareal seconded the motion. Rev. Minasian offered a prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 1230.

Robin A. Hightower
Secretary