



November 27, 2022

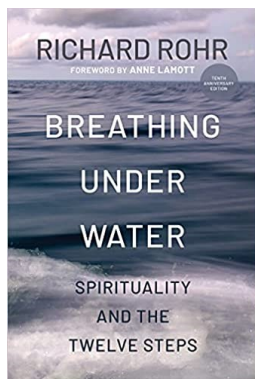
Discussion on the movie "TILL"

The Racial Justice Team will lead a conference wide discussion of the movie TILL, exploring the powerful truth-telling, justice-seeking spirit of Mamie Till, and what we can do as people of faith to thwart, change and dismantle the culture of white domination (white supremacy) and its' centuries long systemic oppression of, and violence against, Black people and Black communities.



We encourage congregations to coordinate a "Movie Night" viewing of TILL at your local theater and then join us for a time of thoughtful, faithful discussion and introspection, and an opportunity to explore what social justice campaigns or truth-telling topics your faith community is willing to actively engage in.

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



The Addiction & Recovery Task Force will lead a Book Study beginning in January on Richard Rohr's book, *Breathing Under Water*.

More details in next week's Communitas!

Recap of PSEC Fall Meeting

From the Conference Moderator and Conference Minister:

More than two hundred thirty delegates and friends met in person and on-line Sunday for our Fall Conference Meeting at Salt and Light Community Church UCC in Philadelphia. Their gracious hospitality created a wonderful welcome and spiritually alive setting for our gathering! This was our first attempt at a hybrid event, and we ran into several tech issues that required grace and patience (and the quick problem-solving skills of many people including Revs. Zack Jackson and Cean James). We'll keep working at that, so our meetings continue to be meaningful (tech issue free) experiences for as many participants as possible.

The meeting opened with inspiring music by the Salt and Light praise and worship team and pastors from the Philadelphia Association. Rev. Cean James shared the stirring story of church resurrection and renewal in Salt and Light's partnering/merging with their Presbyterian church neighbors. Dr. Joe Birli, Chief Executive Officer of Bethany Children's Home, offered uplifting news of the good work that he and the Bethany staff have done to provide emergency shelter for homeless children, address child sex trafficking, and solidify the financial footing on which Bethany's ministry stands.

We conferred the title Conference Minister Emeritus on Rev. Dr. Russ Mitman and celebrated with him and Ruth their long and faithful service to the church. We heard reports from our three Conference Ministry Task Forces (Addiction, Environmental Justice, and Racial Justice) and from Disaster Ministries. Our Conference Stewardship Team attempted to share a video introducing the Conference to local churches. The link to that wonderful video is at the bottom of this article. Conference Treasurer Rev. Dr. Bob Fogel shared the good news that we are ahead in OCWM contributions and behind on Conference expenses. We received \$1,400 from the meeting offering for our church's wider mission—a mission that includes responding to the needs of migrant families being bused to Philadelphia from Texas. Finally, we passed our 2023 Conference spending plan.

To all those who traveled from near and far to Salt and Light and those who joined on line, to the Annual Meeting Planning Team, the Conference Consistory, the Conference staff and especially to Rev. Cean James and the brothers, sisters, and siblings of Salt and Light, and to everyone who generously supports the work of their local church and the United Church of Christ, we say thank you and bless you!

In the Spirit of the Risen Christ,

Mr. Charles Kuthuru
Conference Moderator

Rev. Bill Worley
Conference Minister

