

UNITED  
CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**Communitas**

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

1441 Laura Lane, Suite 100, Pottstown, PA 19464  
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July 9, 2023

## Lay Leadership Support Group Join via Zoom Saturday!

A Lay Leadership Support Group exists for Consistory Presidents as well as those serving on Consistory. We gather once a month on Zoom – so please join us!



We have found it to be a great place to form new friendships, to gain support, and to be educated on a variety of topics concerning our churches. The discussions are centered around sharing valuable information about what our churches are doing or maybe could be doing.

This meeting will be online to make ease of attendance for all!

To register go to [psec.org](http://psec.org) and click on "Calendar" under the News & Events tab and click on July 15th for information and the free registration link.



## From the Addiction & Recovery Taskforce: Support for Friends, Families. You are not alone!

**Narcotics anonymous/Narateen**

From [www.nar-anon.org](http://www.nar-anon.org): “

Nar-Anon Family Groups are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by someone else's addiction. As a Twelve-Step Program, we offer our help by sharing our experience, strength, and hope. The only requirement for membership is that there be a problem of addiction in a relative or friend. Our program of recovery is adapted from NA and uses our Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts.”

“Narateen groups, which are part of the Nar-Anon fellowship, are formed to provide support to teenage family members and friends of addicts. A Narateen group is a safe environment where teenagers can share and work on their recovery.”

## Keystone Study Group -- Summary of 6/16 meeting

The sixth meeting of the Keystone Study Group\* took place Friday, June 16, 2023. Guided by the Spirit, the study group whole-heartedly affirms the possibility of becoming ONE Keystone Conference. In our May and June meetings, we clarified WHAT a Keystone Conference would look like. We were mindful of all the ways a Keystone Conference can serve, support, challenge and unite our diverse faith communities and ministries. In all we addressed, we aimed to imagine a vibrant way of being the Body of Christ in our areas.

We focused on four additional areas of conference leadership. Considering *Search and Call* process and resources, we delved into how congregations connect with the conference and leadership authorization. With *Church Futures* we explored how ministry priorities may define where resources may be best used. Creating healthier places of ministry remains our goal. *Digital Ministry & Technology* and *Communication* at all levels, will help us build a **“together we are stronger”** culture and relationships. We recognized the conference role to fulfill its covenant with all areas of ministry: the urban hubs and rural settings, local congregations and specialized ministries.

Participants in all four conference meetings both affirmed and expressed important reflections about a Keystone Conference. Overall, meeting attendees shared energy, enthusiasm and support for continuing our study and work toward recommendations for Conference leaders and congregations. Our consensus remains, **“Together we are stronger! The Keystone Conference.”**

Our partnered work is greater than our individual efforts. We choose to embody what we want to see! May the Spirit of Christ inspire us all in the next steps of our journey in the assurance that . . . **“Together We Are Stronger! The Keystone Conference.”**

Sharing our progress in grace and hope,

### KSG Communications Team

Steve Davis, St. John's UCC, Fullerton (PNEC)

New Addition (TBA), from PNEC in July

Robin Hightower, Peace In Zion UCC, Zieglerville (PSEC)

Deb Long, First Trinity UCC, Youngwood (PWC)

With appreciation to Bob Fogal (PSEC) for additional review support.

\*A study and discernment group of the 4 PA area UCC Conferences – Penn West, Penn Central, Penn NE, and Pennsylvania SE

Visit [psec.org/keystone](http://psec.org/keystone) for previous meeting summaries