

## Endowment Committee report for Spring 2024

Endowment Committee members as of April 16, 2024 are:

Charles Kuthuru - Conference Moderator	Bill Worley – Conference Minister	
Tammie Wisniewski- Conference Finance Operations Manager		
Ken McDowell - Conference Treasurer	Mark Johnson	Bill Buskirk
Scott Muirhead	Beth Walker	

Throughout 2023 the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference (PSEC) Endowment Committee continued to meet quarterly to review the performance of the PSEC investments. The stock market recovered nicely during 2023 and the first quarter of 2024, and the endowment account value increased by 23%, compared to the balance on December 31, 2022. As of March 31, 2024 the PSEC endowment balance was \$2,309,940.60.

Withdrawals from the Endowment Fund must comply with PA Act 141. That law calls for withdrawals to be a percentage (between 2% and 7%) of the total value of the fund, based on a rolling average over the most recent 3 to 5 years. PSEC uses a 3-year rolling average and normally takes withdrawals in June and December.

We are starting to look at whether the endowment fund is adequately diversified. Currently two-thirds of the entire endowment is in one fund at United Church Funds. In the future we will be meeting with a representative of United Church Funds to discuss that question and to see if it makes sense to move some money to a different UCF fund that has good long-term performance.

We made some progress in clarifying which investments are really long-term (endowment) holdings and which investments are really shorter term (general savings) holdings. That is the reason that the CD's at Cornerstone and Phoenixville Bank are no longer included in the endowment fund totals shown above. It should be noted that roughly 15% of the endowment funds are actually trusts that are managed by external financial firms. PSEC receives regular distributions as a beneficiary of these trusts, but does not have the authority to control how the trust assets are invested.

Bill Buskirk  
Endowment Committee Chair