OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION IN SOUTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA WWW.PSEC.ORG

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Communitas

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

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August 11, 2024

Follow Up: All PA UCC Conferences Spring Meeting

Dear Friends,

Thank you all for your wonderful participation in our All-PA UCC Spring Meeting. What a joy it was to gather with you and celebrate the church and our connections with one another.

As promised, we wanted to let you know we are working on responses to the questions you asked. Toward that end, we will be sharing a transition plan soon. The Staffing, Legal, and Governance Sub-groups will be meeting to review your input and make revisions to our plans. We want you to know how appreciative we are for your engagement in discussion and your suggestions which will aid in our work. Your concerns about geography and staff support, financial constraints and the governance documents are a part of our ongoing conversations and we have shared a summary of the comments with the Keystone Working Group which will be meeting in August.

Scheduled town halls, Zoom forums, and/or other gatherings will be held in the late summer and fall as we move toward our fall meetings and our votes on the motion to merge into the Keystone Conference. We encourage you to attend and to invite those you know to gather with us. We hope to continue answering all the questions we are able to answer at this point.

Once again, thank you for your commitment to our ongoing work and the work of our conferences and the UCC as a whole. Watch for more information to come from the Keystone Working Group. We hope to continue to address all questions as best as we are able.

In Christ's love and faith,

Your Conference Ministers

Rev. David Ackerman , Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates
Rev. Dr. Carrie Call , Rev. Bill Worley

PSEC Emails Being Spammed

As many of you are aware, we are constantly fighting the battle of our PSEC emails being spammed. This is when someone takes one of our names and under a totally different email address sends out a message in our name asking for something like gift cards. Because our email addresses are public, it is easy for this to happen, and unfortunately there is no way for our tech team to prevent it.

Please remember the following points that we have shared in the past and will continue to share into the future.

1. No one from the Conference will ever ask you to go out and purchase gift cards for ANY reason.

2. Another email goes out saying "I need a favor, please email me but do not call, I'm in a meeting". (No offense but if one of us needs assistance we would contact our families or a fellow employee.)

3. Always check the return address! This is crucial. Look closely if it does not have one of our names followed by @psec.org it is not from us.

a. A good way to check this if the address is hidden is to hit reply and see what address a reply would be going to. DO NOT send any reply.

b. Our emails are: worley@psec.org, mclemore@psec.org, james@psec.org, bookkeeper@psec.org, brea@psec.org, susan@psec.org, tammie@psec.org,

4. Often times, the wording in the email is not correct. It is obvious someone who does not have English as their first language has sent it.

5. Unless you are 100% certain you know the email is coming from the correct email address NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, did I remember to say NEVER OPEN any attachment. (One of our churches did this and it was a major job, and an expensive one, to fix the situation.)

6. Lastly, if you are still unsure, call our office BEFORE doing anything.

7. Follow your gut, if you think something isn't right – it isn't!

8. Finally, and most importantly, be vigilant!