



February 9, 2025

## Keystone Working Group - Communications Summary

### January 17, 2025 Meeting

*"How is God breaking through so something new can emerge?" God is always showing up. We don't always see it. We need our friends to help us see and to keep us grounded in the Spirit and alive in our faith in Christ!*

The Keystone Working Group has significant work to bring forward to each of the 4 current conferences for their Spring Meetings.

The Governance task group shared detailed information regarding the DRAFT Constitution and Bylaws as well as discussing a "Way of Work" process document which will outline how governance processes will function. The final draft of the Constitution and Bylaws will be voted on at each conference's Spring Meeting.

Our working Timeline continues to be revised tracking the many steps needed to move forward to becoming one conference. The Conference Ministers and Keystone Working Group give thanks for Ken McDowell, whose expertise and life experience in project management will guide us in the remaining steps. Ken is a member of the PSEC and has volunteered to take the role of Project Coordinator for the Keystone Conference work. Ken will help us with refining the Project Plan – to schedule, communicate the upcoming activities, town-halls, association meetings, and much more.

Additionally, process steps were shared for how the motion to the 2025 General Synod will be presented and the time for hearing and response with Q&A. In the coming months, you will receive inserts for worship bulletins, similar to those shared in the Fall, to share information about Town Hall conversations and to discuss the Constitution & Bylaws in March. More Information will be presented at the May/June meetings of each conference.

A strong Media Plan is essential for communication across the conferences, shifting from the Keystone Working Group (KWG) to the new Transitional Keystone Conference Board. Further conversation was shared about the current KWG logo that the group adopted before the 4 conferences gathered last June. It has served as a powerful reminder of our shared partnership in ministry, extending the love of God, affirming that **Together We Are Stronger!** The Transitional Board will review the logo and other visual representations to best tell the story of who the Keystone Conference aspires to be in the future.

With the approval from General Synod of a new Keystone Conference, the Transitional Board, made up of persons from across our current conferences, will guide us to embrace our new path together. When we go to General Synod 2025, we will bring with us the best of our 4 current conferences, as well as the new Keystone Conference and hopefully celebrate together. More information from the Keystone Working Group will be forthcoming following each of our remaining meetings.

### **It is our responsibility to share this summary in our various ministry settings with ALL!**

Relying on the grace of God, we now take the next steps of bringing this great vision into reality, by taking the hands of Christ, breathing deeply the presence of the Spirit, and walking resolutely in God's grace. Please visit the Keystone Conference Project website hosted by the PSEC at <https://psec.org/keystone/> for additional updates and information. Send your questions and comments by email to [Keystone.Conference.Project@gmail.com](mailto:Keystone.Conference.Project@gmail.com) or direct mail through your Conference Office.

Thank you for moving forward in our covenant. **Together, We Are Stronger!**

### **KWG Communications Team**

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|------------------|---|
| Melissa Burkhart | Zion's Union Church, Maxatawny, Kutztown (PSEC) |
| Steve Davis      | St. John's UCC, Fullerton (PNEC)                |
| Heather Kurtz    | Zion UCC, Arendtsville (PCC)                    |
| Deb Long         | First Trinity UCC, Youngwood (PWC)              |