

Legislation

RESOLUTION 2022-01 RENTAL/HOUSING ALLOWANCES FOR RETIRED OR DISABLED CLERGYPERSONS

- 1 **RESOLUTION 2022-01**
2 **Relating to Rental/Housing Allowances for Retired or Disabled Clergypersons**
3 **Presented by Mandy Miller, President Board of Benefits**
4
- 5 **WHEREAS**, the religious denomination known as The United Methodist Church (the
6 “Church”), of which this Conference is part, has in the past functioned and continues to
7 function through ministers of the gospel (within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code
8 section 107) who were or are duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed ministers of the
9 Church (“Clergypersons”);
10
- 11 **WHEREAS**, the practice the Church and of this Conference was and is to provide active
12 Clergypersons with a parsonage or a rental/housing allowance as part of their gross
13 compensation;
14
- 15 **WHEREAS**, pensions or other amounts paid to retired and disabled Clergypersons are
16 considered to be deferred compensation and are paid to retired and disabled
17 Clergypersons in consideration of previous active service;
18
- 19 **WHEREAS**, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized the Conference (or its
20 predecessors) as the appropriate organization to designate a rental/housing allowance
21 for retired and disabled Clergypersons who are or were members of this Conference.
22
- 23 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that an amount equal to 100% of the pension or
24 disability payments received from plans authorized under *The Book of Discipline* of The
25 United Methodist Church (“the *Discipline*”), which includes all such payments from
26 Wespath during the year 2023 by each retired or disabled Clergyperson who is or was a
27 member of the Conference, or its predecessors, be and hereby is designed as a
28 rental/housing allowance for each such Clergyperson; and
29
- 30 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the pension and disability payments to which this
31 rental/housing allowance applies will be any pension or disability payments from plans,
32 annuities, or funds authorized under the *Discipline*, including such payments from
33 Wespath and from a commercial annuity company that provides an annuity arising from
34 benefits accrued under a Wespath plan, annuity, or fund authorized under the
35 *Discipline*, that result from any service a Clergyperson rendered to this Conference or
36 that a retired or disabled Clergyperson of this Conference rendered to any local church,
37 annual conference of the Church, general agency of the Church, other institution of the
38 Church, former denomination that is now a part of the Church, or any other employer
39 that employed the Clergyperson to perform services related to the ministry of the
40 Church, or its predecessors, and that elected to make contributions to, or accrue a
41 benefit under, such a plan, annuity, or fund for such retired or disabled Clergyperson’s
42 pension or disability as part of his or her gross compensation.
43
- 44 **NOTE:** The rental/housing allowance that may be excluded from a Clergyperson’s gross
45 income in any year for federal income tax purposes is limited under Internal Revenue
46 Code section 107(2) and regulations there under to the least of: (1) the amount of the



47 rental/housing allowance designated by the Clergy person's employer or other
48 appropriate body of the Church (such as this Conference in the foregoing resolutions)
49 for such year; (2) the amount actually expended by the Clergy person to rent or provide
50 a home in such year; or (3) the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and
51 appurtenances (such as a garage), plus the cost of utilities in such year.



RESOLUTION 2022-02 CLERGY RETIREMENT SECURITY PROGRAM (CRSP)

1 **RESOLUTION 2022-04**
2 **Pertaining to the Adoption Agreement to the Clergy Retirement Security Program**
3 **(CRSP) for the Year 2023**
4 **Presented by Mandy Miller, President Board of Benefits**
5

6 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Adoption Agreement for the Clergy Retirement Security
7 Program shall be applicable to the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference and,
8 unless another date is specified below, shall be effective as of January 1, 2023. The
9 Clergy Retirement Security Program shall be the base retirement plan for the clergy
10 persons under Episcopal appointment including deacons and members of other
11 denominations serving at the conference, church, charge, conference responsible unit,
12 conference controlled entity including clergy on medical leave receiving Comprehensive
13 Protection Plan (CPP) disability benefits of the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual
14 Conference in accordance to the plan adoption agreement beginning on January 1,
15 2023. Clergy persons on medical leave and not receiving Comprehensive Protection
16 Plan (CPP) disability benefits are not eligible to participate in CRSP.
17

18 **FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that on January 1, 2023 the ministerial pension rate for
19 past service prior to January 1, 1982 shall be set at \$521.00 and the personal
20 contributor's annuity derived from pre-1982 contributions shall apply toward the
21 payment of the participants formula benefit;
22

23 **AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the surviving spouse benefit shall be 70% of
24 the participant's formula benefit;
25

26 **AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the EPA Board of Benefits is authorized to
27 make annual deposits at the end of each calendar year as required by the General
28 Board of Pension and Health Benefits for the purpose of funding for past service prior to
29 January 1, 1982.

RESOLUTION 2022-03 ADVANCE SPECIALS

1 **RESOLUTION 2022-03**
2 **Relating to Advance Special Applications**
3 **Presented by Eastern Pennsylvania Conference Global Ministries Team**

4
5 **WHEREAS**, the Conference Advance Special is a program of ministry which can seek
6 funds from a local church that keeps its financial commitments to the Conference and
7 General Church in full in the previous year’s budget and has a desire to extend its support
8 of the mission of the church through designated giving; and

9
10 **WHEREAS**, a list of Conference Advance Specials would resource local churches, either
11 in need of support for their programs and ministries, or local churches eager to extend
12 their support of the mission of the church; and

13
14 **WHEREAS**, practicality indicates that a list of conference advance specials be available
15 as soon as possible after they are approved;

16
17 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following programs and ministries of the
18 annual conference having completed the appropriate applications, be designated as a list
19 of Conference Advance Specials for the year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

20
21 **Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution:** Barbara Drake, Conference
22 Secretary of Global Ministries.

23
24 **CASA del PUEBLO and AMIGOS COMMUNITY CENTER** \$15,000

25 Applicant: Rev. Dr. Irving Cotto & Imelda Zuniga
26 300 York Road, Hatboro, PA 19040
27 Program Director: Imelda Zuniga
28 215-470-2234 (c)
29 jsuarez@aminoscommunitycenter.org
30 Casa del Pueblo is a Latino ministry started 14 years ago as a new church start at
31 Lehman Memorial UMC in Hatboro and under the supervision and support of the Office
32 of Congregational Development of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference. From its
33 inception it was developed and led by Rev. Lilian L. Cotto (Luky), missionary of the
34 General Board of Global Ministries. The ministry began with a home Bible study and
35 expanded to include worship, Sunday School, cultural activities, leadership seminars,
36 youth meetings, and extension into the Warrington area. Together with AMIGOS
37 Community Center, we will continue to provide workshops on how to get out of poverty,
38 and working with the Latinos from Bucks County leadership, we will hold workshops on
39 how to seek justice, practice it, and get involved in issues of injustices. A strong
40 connection with Gretna Glen Camp has fostered a culture of summer camp in Casa del
41 Pueblo, where there are more than 60 members.

42
43 **COKESBURY SUMMER READING AND LUNCH PROGRAM**\$3,000

44 Applicant: Sandra M. Cislo
45 307 Market Street, Marcus Hook, PA 19061
46 610-416-5112. smcislo@yahoo.com

47 This is a ministry of Cokesbury UMC, which provides free lunch and educational
 48 support/educational resources for children who live in the high poverty areas of Marcus
 49 Hook, Trainer, and Lower Chichester. Research shows that while all students
 50 experience educational setbacks over the summer break, those setbacks are more
 51 challenging and have a more devastating, long-term impact for economically
 52 disadvantaged children. For many children in poverty, free school breakfast and lunch
 53 are their most secure and substantial meals during the school year. The summer
 54 months, without school meals, leave children who are food insecure, hungry. COVID
 55 has only intensified the educational and nutritional needs. Our program over the past
 56 two years has varied depending upon COVID protocols and what the school district was
 57 able to provide. In summer 2022, Cokesbury will provide either an in-person
 58 educational program with lunch provided or “grab-and-go breakfast and lunch bundles
 59 and educational resources for children to use at home.

60
 61 **HAZLETON ENLARGED MINISTRY..... \$10,000**

62 Applicant: Graham Truscott, Chair of HEM Council
 63 411 Main St. Conyngham, PA 18219
 64 267-421-2606 wgtruscott@gmail.com

65 We seek to provide a safe environment for children to play, learn, and grow physically
 66 and in their faith. We believe that many children in poverty and low-income situations
 67 may not see positive role models, may not have a safe environment or access to
 68 nutritious food, and may not have the ability to grow in their faith because of the
 69 economic condition of their parents, who may work multiple jobs and are unable to pay
 70 for childcare. We seek to meet these needs through our 6 weeks of summer Day Camp
 71 that runs Monday to Friday from 8:30-3 for children aged 5-12 years. The charge to
 72 families is \$25 per week, and camperships are available for those unable to pay. The
 73 program includes games, crafts, nutritious meals, Bible lessons, as well as community
 74 professionals teaching important lessons. Outdoor worship is provided for families in the
 75 few weeks prior to and after the Day Camp. A clothing has been opened in downtown
 76 Hazleton to meet the needs of lower income families. The Hazleton Enlarged Ministry
 77 brings together the ministry of the various local United Methodist Churches of the
 78 greater Hazleton area. As there is no UMC in the city, Hazleton Enlarged Ministries is
 79 our missionary presence to the city of Hazleton.

80
 81 **KITCHEN MINISTRY of FIRST UMC, PHOENIXVILLE, PA..... \$10,000**

82 Applicant: H. T. (Tom) Baker
 83 865 South Main St., Phoenixville, PA 19460
 84 215-990-6157 (c), htbaker@verizon.net

85 Contact information: Karen Bretzius, 610-948-9427, karenbretzius@gmail.com
 86 The Kitchen Ministry of First United Methodist Church Phoenixville was first established
 87 in 2015 as part of a team of area congregations who provided satellite kitchens to
 88 support a dinner meal program hosted by St. Peter’s Episcopal Church. Volunteers from
 89 FUMC would prepare a meal, transport and serve it and cleanup after the dinner served
 90 to individuals of the community desiring a meal at no charge. Because the ministry
 91 served the public, the Chester County Health Department became involved to ensure
 92 compliance with county food safety regulations. The church needed to renovate the

93 kitchen to include a washable ceiling tile system, impervious counter tops, commercial
 94 grade refrigeration and dishwashing appliances, grease trap, stainless steel
 95 dishwashing stations, automated fire suppression system, and ventilated cooking
 96 surfaces at a cost of over \$100,000, funded by FUMC. The Kitchen Ministry is licensed
 97 annually with an onsite inspection. The Kitchen Ministry now has 40 volunteers who
 98 rotate monthly to prepare, package, and deliver meals to the Community Drive Through
 99 Program. A new program is to prepare 60 casseroles, each feeding 6 people, to
 100 distribute through the Phoenixville Area Community Services. A monthly luncheon for
 101 seniors in the FUMC Fellowship Hall is under consideration for September. An ongoing
 102 program produces casseroles and desserts to feed 90 persons monthly at a homeless
 103 shelter. A new kitchen renovation is now needed to improve the speed and productivity
 104 of the ovens by purchasing two commercial grade convection ovens. Also needed are a
 105 gas- powered tankless water heater, air conditioning to improve working conditions for
 106 the volunteers, and upgrades for the gas line and electrical circuit breaker box.
 107 Estimated cost is \$50,000.

108
 109 **LIBERIA EDUCATION PROJECT\$7,800**

110 Applicant: Dennis L. Fisher, Board of Directors Chairperson
 111 Liberia Education Project c/o Somerton United Methodist Church
 112 13073 Bustleton Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19116
 113 dkfisher@comcast.net, 215-673-2745 (o), 215-356-3193 (c), 215-860-5577 (H)
 114 www.liberiaeducationproject.org

115 The Liberia Education Project (LEP) is a non-profit corporation bringing educational
 116 opportunities to the people of Liberia, West Africa. The Board of Directors is composed
 117 of members of Somerton UMC, primarily. LEP has been supported by other EPA
 118 congregations, including St. John's Ivyland, UMC of the Redeemer, Frankford Memorial
 119 UMC, and First UMC of Germantown. The volunteer Executive Director is Jacob
 120 Madehdou, from Liberia, who attends Somerton UMC. Activities since 2009 include
 121 building a school with 6 classrooms and a multipurpose building to educate 200 children
 122 from pre-K to 6th grade in the rural Kokoyah District of Bong County, installing a deep
 123 water well to provide safe water, constructing a sanitary bathroom facility for boys and
 124 girls, providing books and school supplies, registering the Ghenwein Mission School
 125 with the government, upgrading our teachers' skill levels and keeping them fully certified
 126 to government standards, providing financial support for 5 teachers and 5 support staff,
 127 and promoting self-sufficiency through education, agriculture, and small business
 128 employment. When COVID allows, the goal is to participate in Mary's Meal, a feeding
 129 program aimed at keeping children in school by providing meals. In the US, LEP has
 130 brought awareness of the plight of people in Liberia at fund-raising events and has
 131 helped to dismantle racism, restore justice, and reduce poverty.

132
 133 **LIGHT OF MARNIE \$10,000**

134 Applicants: Jennifer and John Lafferty
 135 315 Municipal Drive, Thorndale, PA 19372
 136 John: 610-470-1369 JohnL@lightofmarnie.org. CLM at Eddystone UMC
 137 Jennifer: 610-766-0944 JenL@lightofmarnie.org South District Co-Lay Leader

138 SHALOCA Christian Academy is the perfect example of our Global Ministries
 139 "ABUNDANT HEALTH", Our Promise to Children, Initiative. It is an elementary school
 140 with classes from Preschool to 8th grade, in Lower Johnsonville, Liberia, West Africa.
 141 The school has provided education for children for over 13 years, and presently has 205
 142 students, who receive elementary Christian education. Building expansion and
 143 bathrooms are completed. Clean water continues to be a challenge. The meeting room
 144 is now being used for Sunday Worship. The school has been functioning on a budget of
 145 about \$600 per month. Building projects and school needs are separate. Rev. James
 146 Coleman founded the school when he was serving in Liberia and receives monthly
 147 reports from the school's Director. In October 2021, Rev. Coleman, who pastors 2
 148 churches on the North District, traveled to Liberia to oversee improvements and support
 149 the staff in future planning. Light of Marnie has a Board of Directors in the USA which
 150 does fund-raising, and SHALOCA has a Board of Directors in Liberia with United
 151 Methodist members in both locations. SHALOCA receives support from several United
 152 Methodist Churches.

153
 154 **LUMINA** \$10,000

155 Applicant: Correen Russo
 156 20 E. Clay Street, Lancaster, PA 17602, 717-394-8412 (office), 717-808-8633 (cell),
 157 correen.lumina@gmail.com
 158 LUMINA serves nearly 1,000 economically disadvantaged individuals in Lancaster
 159 annually with the help of volunteers, financial support, and donations of food and
 160 clothing from United Methodist churches. The program now has 6 focus areas:
 161 • Children's Ministries: cost-free discipleship programs, summer day camp, field
 162 trips, and residence camp scholarships.
 163 • Clothing: new winter coats, pajamas, shoes, socks, etc. for children in need.
 164 • Nutrition/Cooking Education: free classes, food, and kitchen tools for low income
 165 adults, youth, and children to improve their health and quality of life.
 166 • Affordable Housing: transforming blighted city properties into homes for low-
 167 income families (as part of the Manifest Urban Alliance)
 168 • Food Box Distribution: providing over 4000 lbs. of food and Bibles each month at
 169 no cost to neighbors in need.
 170 • Tool Awards: providing \$200 in new construction tools to each local high school
 171 student doing a building trades internship with Manifest.

172
 173 **MISSION FIRST OF CEDARVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**..... \$10,000

174 Applicant: Jay and Susanne Meloy
 175 1092 Laurelwood Road, Pottstown, PA 19465
 176 Program Director: Clare Schilling
 177 610-326-0560 (O), 610-733-6704 (C) clare@missionfirstpottstown.org
 178 clare@cedarvilleumc.org
 179 Mission First is an outreach ministry of Cedarville UMC with the following components:
 180 • A clothing closet is open 4 mornings a week and provides year-round access to
 181 gently used garments for men and women.

- 182 • A phone-charging station is located on the Mission First premises and is
- 183 available to all as a walk-up service to meet the needs of those who rely heavily
- 184 on their cell phone for connection to support services.
- 185 • A book house provides reading materials of all kinds and suitable for all ages free
- 186 for the taking. This includes Bibles for those desiring a spiritual resource.
- 187 • A food house and community refrigerator are stocked with food that is available
- 188 24/7 at Mission First.
- 189 • A weekly free community meal is provided for 60-80 people. It is currently a take-
- 190 out meal due to COVID restrictions.
- 191 • Laundry supplies and coins for 2 loads of laundry plus a bagged lunch are
- 192 provided at a local laundry facility on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.
- 193 • Household items such as sheets, blankets, pillows, dishes, flatware, pots and
- 194 pans are provided to those moving into permanent housing through the Salvation
- 195 Army placement service and Your Way Home.

196 **SPIRITUAL RENEWAL MINISTRIES, INC. \$10,000**

197 Applicant: Rev. Sara Davis-Shappell
 198 P.O. Box 724 Southeastern PA 19399, 610-873-3988 (O), 610-613-6253 (C)
 199 SpiritualRM@aol.com
 200
 201 This ministry celebrates 30 years of ministry as an unofficial Approved Agency of EPC,
 202 providing retreats, spiritual direction, seminars, and seminars. Financial donations are
 203 used for scholarships to companion churches, groups, and individuals desiring to
 204 deepen their relationship with God in Jesus Christ and overcome racism, poverty, and
 205 injustice which are destructive to relationships with God, others, and self. During the last
 206 2 years with COVID, more clergy are seeking spiritual direction to nourish their personal
 207 relationship with God, so they may be fuller vessels for others during these ongoing
 208 difficult times. Members of the conference clergy and laity make up the board of
 209 directors.

210 **THE CENTER-PHILADELPHIA AT ARCH STREET UMC \$5,000**

211 Applicant: Deaconess Darlene DiDomineck
 212 55 North Broad St. Philadelphia, PA 19107
 213 Program Director: Kristi Painter
 214 215-568-6250 kristi@archstreetumc.org
 215
 216 The Center-Philadelphia is a bi-location community center and a non-profit ministry born
 217 from the longstanding outreach ministries of Arch Street UMC. The largest program is
 218 Grace Café and its Daytime Services which offer life-giving services for our
 219 unhoused/unsheltered neighbors in Center City Philadelphia. Operating as a daytime
 220 drop-in center, the program incorporates home-cooked nutritious meals Sunday through
 221 Thursday; weekday showers, laundry, long and short term case management, a
 222 clothing closet, computer and internet access; and a weekly nurse-led wellness clinic.
 223 The Center-Philadelphia along with our partner Arch Street UMC facilitate the Serenity
 224 House Community Center, Intentional Community, and neighborhood community
 225 garden in North Philadelphia in the former Cookman UMC parsonage. Serenity House
 226 offers housing to students, ministry interns, and non-profit and mission workers
 227 committed to living in an intentional Christian community. Serenity House Community



228 Center partners with community organizations to provide food, clothing, fellowship, and
229 study opportunities as well as support for the People's Garden, a neighborhood-led
230 community growing space. The Board of Directors consists of members of Arch Street
231 UMC and EPA UMC clergy. The Executive Director is a UMC Deaconess.

232

233 **Note:** Advance Special status allows fundraising letters to be sent to churches of EPC
234 but does not guarantee that funding will be provided. Church treasurers are advised to
235 remit contributions through the monthly remittance. Funds will then be forwarded to the
236 approved Conference Advance Special.

RESOLUTION 2022-04 EQUITABLE COMPENSATION POLICY

1 **RESOLUTION 2022-04**
2 **Regarding Equitable Compensation Recommendation for 2023**
3 **Presented by Commission on Equitable Compensation**

4
5 **WHEREAS**, it is a mandate of the Commission on Equitable Compensation to support
6 clergy serving as pastors in the charges of the Annual Conference by recommending
7 conference standards for pastoral support (§625.2(a), 2016 *Discipline*), and

8
9 **WHEREAS**, the Commission is charged with annually recommending to the Annual
10 Conference a schedule of minimum base compensation for all full-time pastors or those
11 clergy members of the annual conference appointed less than full-time to a local church,
12 subject to such rules and regulations as the conference may adopt (§625.3, 2016
13 *Discipline*), and

14
15 **WHEREAS**, the Commission seeks to address the concerns of clergy compensation
16 and recognize the economic difficulties encountered by churches,

17
18 **WHEREAS**, the Commission seeks also to address the financial needs of clergy, we
19 evaluate the realities of the current financial environment, including the COLA (Cost of
20 living adjustment) established by the Social Security Administration, and rising inflation,

21
22 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Annual Conference establish the minimum
23 starting salaries reflecting a 2% increase for 2023. The schedule for persons under
24 appointment in the local church for 2023 shall be as follows:

25
26 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference of
27 the United Methodist Church establishes the minimum base salary for persons under
28 appointment in the local church for the year 2023 as follows:

29 a) Elders and Deacons in Full Connection	\$45,295
30 b) Commissioned toward Deacons and Elders under full-time post-seminary 31 appointments.....	\$42,932
32 c) Associate Members.....	\$42,031
33 d) Full-Time Local Pastors	\$39,785

34
35 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that to arrive at the minimum cash salary for each
36 pastor, the required service year increments will be added to the appropriate base listed
37 above in the amount of 1% of the pastor's base salary for each year of service under
38 appointment, whether part time or full time, for a maximum of 20 years; and

39
40 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that each church or charge, in recommending increases,
41 consider increases above the minimum cash salary, and that Pastor/Staff-Parish
42 Relations Committees particularly take note of such areas as education, experience,
43 skills, commitment, amount paid by clergy to Social Security as self-employed persons,
44 family needs, and payment of health insurance; and

45



46 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that any amount provided as a housing allowance is not
47 to be considered part of the minimum cash salary as set forth in this resolution
48 (§252.4(e), 2016 *Discipline*); and
49

50 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that if a church or charge cannot meet the standard of
51 support for a full-time pastor, the Cabinet will be notified as soon as possible and
52 appropriate action taken by the Cabinet (§624.1, 2016 *Discipline*).
53

54 **Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Lou Hornberger**

COMMITTEE ON LEADERSHIP NOMINATION REPORT

Please find the working document of the Committee on Leadership below and please send any corrections to Rev. Dave Piltz by May 4th, 2022, by 9 PM at pastorpiltz@gmail.com. We appreciate your review and any revisions.

Effective leadership and committee membership is a conference-wide strategic initiative that involves everyone. Where do you hear God nudging and calling you into committee work? There are many opportunities to serve, and the Committee on Leadership is working diligently to ensure seamless leadership for the conference. If you feel God calling you to serve, please fill out the interest form found at <https://www.epaumc.org/leadership/>.

2022 CONFERENCE AGENCIES WITH MEMBERSHIP

Report from the Conference Committee on Leadership of the EPA Annual Conference

Each of these agencies will have a designation as to how members are nominated prior to being elected by the Annual Conference. This slate includes those groups that must be elected by the Annual Conference, which is the responsibility of the Conference Leadership Committee as well as all agencies whose membership must be approved by the Annual Conference whether they are nominated by the Bishop or their own membership. All new nominees or people in transition will be presented in bold print.

Quadrennium of Service: (First), (Second), (Interim)

Agency Members: (C) Clergy, (LW) Laywoman, (LM) Layman, (NC) Non-Conference

For each agency, its purpose, membership requirements, nomination process, and the times they currently have meetings are included. All nominees have committed to active participation for a four-year period (quadrennium). Participation in any meeting held at the Conference Office can be by conference call or ZOOM internet.

If you have any questions or concerns with any of the agencies listed or their members, please contact the Chairperson of the Conference Committee on Leadership:

The Rev. David Piltz (E) (C) (First) Email: pastorpiltz@gmail.com

Mrs. Maryann Griffith (S) (LW) (First) Email: magteaches424@gmail.com

Conference Statistician

Mr. Paul Bernhardt (LM) (E) (First); Email: paul.bernhardt@villanova.edu

Administrative Review Committee

PURPOSE: Reviews any decisions made by the Bishop at his direction when needed

MEMBERSHIP: 5 people. Three clergy in full connection and two alternates who are not members of the Cabinet or the Board of Ordained Ministry (BOOM) or immediate family members of the above; nominated by the Bishop and elected quadrennially at the clergy session by the clergy in full connection.

Appointed By: the Bishop

MEETINGS: Only as needed

Chairperson

The Rev. Lorelei Toombs (E) (C)(First); Email: revtoombs@gmail.com

Alternates

The Rev. Robert Wilt, Jr. (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Herbert Coe (S) (C) (First)

Members

The Rev. Carlotta Madison (E) (C) (Second)

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Kurien (S) (C) (First)

Archives and History, Commission on

PURPOSE: Documents and celebrates historical records and events.

MEMBERSHIP: 12 persons. Ex-Officio: 1 representative from each of the Heritage Landmarks located within the boundaries of the Annual Conference.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated By: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: Second Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, November at 12:30 p.m. at the Conference Office

Chairperson

The Rev. R. Mark Young (S) (CM) (First) Email: alvkrinst@aol.com

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

The Rev. Joseph F. DiPaolo (W) (C)

Ms. Dolores Myers (W) (LW)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

Mr. William H. White (SW)

Mr. David Koch (S) (LM)

Members

Ms. Janet A. Mills (E) (LW) (Second)

Ms. Betty Ann Henderson (E) (LW) (Second)

The Rev. Gerald Schuler (N) (LM) (Second)

Mrs. Janice Ulmer (W) (LW) (First)

Dr. Ernest Moody (E) (LM)

The Rev. Mark Salvacion (E) (C)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

The Rev. David William Brown (E) (C) (First)

The Rev. Coleen Brandt Painter (E) (C) (First)

The Rev. Christina Jean Keller (W) (C) (Second)

The Rev. Michael S. Remel (W) (C) (Second)

Benefits, Board of

PURPOSE: Oversees management of clergy pension and health care benefits

MEMBERSHIP: 12 persons. Each member serves a term of 8 years. Four classes of 3 persons. Ex-Officio: Conference Treasurer, Executive Director of Board of Benefits/Director of Administrative Services.

RESOURCE: Legal Counsel, One member of the CCFA.

Nominated By: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: 4th Thursday in February, with a set snow date of the 1st Thursday in March, 4th Thursday in July by ZOOM, and 4th Thursday in October, all 6:00 p.m. at the Conference Office.

President

Rev. Mandy Miller (S) (C) pastormandy@holycrossumc.com

Vice President

Elected by the board

Executive Director

Mrs. Jo Fielding (LW) Email: jfielding@epaumc.church

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Foster, III (E) (C) (First)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

Mr. James P. Brown (LM)

Mr. Matt Morley, Chancellor (S) (LM)

Members

The Rev. Steven Jeffrey Handzel (S) (C) (First)

Mr. Charles Ehninger (N) (LM) (First)

The Rev. Derrick Gutierrez (W) (C) (First)

The Rev. Mandy Miller (S) (C) (First)

Mr. Ernest Giahyue (S) (LM) (First)

The Rev. John Laughlin (W) (C) (First)

The Rev. Shauna Ridge (S) (C) (First)

Mrs. Irene Dickinson (E) (LW)

The Rev. Navin Satyavrata (N) (C) (First)

The Rev. Dr. Christopher J. Kurien (E) (C) (Second)

Mr. Al Kingcade (S) (LM) (First)

Mr. Greg Westerbeck (E) (LM) (First)

Ms. Jennifer Vastardis (S) (LW) (First)

Ms. Cressa Morris (E) (LW) (First)

Bradley Fund Trustee

PURPOSE: Oversee the management of the Bradley Fund on behalf of the Annual Conference

MEMBERSHIP: 5 people. Bishop; one clergy and one layperson elected by the Annual Conference (one of these shall be the Conference Treasurer and/or the Director of Administrative Services); 1 clergy person and 1 layperson appointed by the Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

RESOURCE: Conference Treasurer and Director of Administrative Services

Nominated By: One member by Board of Benefits and one member by Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: As determined by the committee.

President

Bishop John Schol (C)

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Mrs. Jo Fielding (LW)

Mr. James P. Brown (LM)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

Mr. Matt Morley, Chancellor (LM)

Members

The Rev. Christina Jean Keller (W) (C) (Second)

Mr. Barry Rose (E) (LM) (First)

Camp and Retreat Ministry Board

PURPOSE: Oversees operations; creates and implements a vision for all 4 of our Conference camps

MEMBERSHIP: 16 persons; 1/4 of whom shall be persons of diverse racial/ethnic background. Four classes of 4 persons serving a 4-year term. Ex-Officio: Director of Connectional Ministries, Conference Treasurer, and 1 representative from the Conference Board of Trustees.

RESOURCE: Directors of all 4 sites in the Annual Conference

Nominated By: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: 4 to 6 times a year at one of the camp locations

Chairperson

The Rev. Donald R. Keller (E) (C) (Second) Email: drkeller56@hotmail.com

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Board of Trustee Representative

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

Mr. Michael Hyde (S) (LM)

Mr. Jonathan Curtis (E) (LM)

Resource (Other persons included for expertise)

Ms. Janelle Mungro (E) (LW)

Members

Mrs. Jezerel Gutierrez (W) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Timothy Fisher (N) (C) (First)

The Rev. Laurie Pfahler(S) (C) (First)

Ms. Chantay Love (E) (LW) (Second)

Mr. Walter Hosea Latshaw (W) (LM) (Second)

Mr. Matt Klein (W) (LM) (First)

District Superintendent Assignment

Mr. James P. Brown (LM)

Mrs. Apryl Miller (W) (LW)

The Rev. Carmen O'Shea (N) (C)

Mrs. Jamie Graham (N) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Diana A. Esposito (S) (C) (First)

Mr. Robert Mease (W) (LM) (First)

The Rev. Michael Callahan (S) (C) (First)

Mr. Pete McIlwee (S) (LM) (First)

Rev. Eric Chelton (E) (LM) (First)

Communications Resource Team

PURPOSE: Provides leadership in the implementation of a strategic communications ministry; promotes and interprets the connectional life of the conference and support of conference-wide ministries

MEMBERSHIP: Director of Communications; District Res. Assistants; members with expertise in newsgathering, digital media, photography, public relations, radio/TV, website, and technology use in ministry.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated By: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: Up to 3 times a year

Chairperson

The Rev. John Bletsch (S) (C) (Second) Email: pastorjohn@stmatthewsvf.org

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

The Rev. John Wesley Coleman (E) (C)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Mrs. Sabrina Leanne Daluisio (S) (LW)

Ms. Lisa Romano (E) (W) (LW)

Ms. Deb Boyd (S) (N) (LW)

Members

The Rev. Robert Stippich (W) (C) (First)

The Rev. Julia Lynne Singleton (S) (C) (Second)

Mrs. Sue Keifner (N) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Barbara Lee (N) (C) (First)

Ms. Krystl Gaude (S) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Jared Stoltzfus (W) (C) (First)

Mrs. Neena Deibler (S) (LW) (First)

The Rev. David Piltz (E) (C) (First)

Conference Sessions, Commission on

PURPOSE: Plans, implements, and evaluates all aspects of the Annual Conference session and adjourned sessions when needed

MEMBERSHIP: 17 persons. One representative from each district; one representative of the Board of Laity. Six persons for expertise and/or balance. One person shall be physically challenged.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries, Conference Lay Leader, Chairperson(s) of Board of Ordained Ministry, Dean of the Cabinet, Conference Secretary, Conference Treasurer, Director of Administrative Services, the Bishop

Appointed By: the Bishop

MEETINGS: 4 to 6 times a year

Chairperson

The Rev. James D. Anderman (E) (C) (Second) Email: jdanderman@gmail.com

Secretary

The Rev. Jacqueline Hines (S) (C) (First)

Associate Secretaries

The Rev. Tracy Duncan (S) (C) (First)

Ms. Clarita Krall (E) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Carlotta Madison (E) (C) (First)

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Mr. James P. Brown (LM)

Conference Lay Leader

The Rev. Gary David Knerr (S) (C) (First)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

The Rev. Michael Remel (W) (C) (First)

Mrs. Jo Fielding (LW)
The Rev. John Coleman (E) (C)

Bishop John Schol (C)

Members

Mrs. Rosalind McKelvey (E) (LW) (Second)
The Rev. Nina Patton-Semerod (N) (C) (First)
The Rev. Jason Perkowski (W) (C) (First).
The Rev. Monica Guepet (N) (C) (First)
The Rev. David Piltz (E) (C) (First)

Mrs. Diana Wrisley (S) (LW) (First)
The Rev. John Bletsch (S) (C) (First)
Mrs. Judy Ehninger (N) (LW) (First)
The Rev. Alicia Julia-Stanley (N) (C) (First)
Ms. Ethel Malone (E) (LW) (First)

Conference Committee on Leadership

PURPOSE: Creates a slate of nominees for Conference boards, councils, commissions, and committees
MEMBERSHIP: 25 persons. One clergy and one layperson from each district; 5 members of diverse racial/ethnic background and gender inclusiveness; 1 person shall be physically challenged; Conference Lay Leader, UMW representative, UMM representative, Youth representative.

RESOURCE: Representatives from CORR and COSROW. Ex-Officio: Director of Connectional Ministries, Director Administrative Services, and 1 District Superintendent named by the Bishop

Nominated By: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: 4 to 6 meetings at the Conference Office as needed

Chairperson

Rev. David Piltz (E) (C) (First) Email: pastorpiltz@gmail.com

Mrs. Maryann Griffith (S) (LW) (First) Email: maqteaches424@gmail.com

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Mrs. Jo Fielding (LW)

Members

Mr. Clifton Hubbard (S) (LM) (Second)
The Rev. Dr. Christopher J. Kurién (S) (C) (First)
Mrs. Ethel L. Malone (E) (LW) (First)
The Rev. Joanne Hennesy-Slawter (S) (C) (Second)
Ms. Jennifer Lafferty (S) (LW) (First)

Conference Lay Leader

The Rev. John Coleman (E) (C)

The Rev. Navin Satyavrata (N) (C) (Second)

Ms. Ruth Harmon (S) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Eva Johnson (S) (C) (First)

Mrs. Gladys Hubbard (S) (LW) (First)

Congregational Development Team

PURPOSE: Actively resources churches and ministries in the process of development and revitalization

MEMBERSHIP: Persons with experience in congregational development

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated By: Conference Committee on Leadership

Meetings: 6 times a year as scheduled by the chairpersons

Co-Chairpersons

The Rev. Lloyd Speer (East) (C) (First) Email: lfsppeer3@comcast.net.

Ms. Suzette James (East) (LW) (Second) Email: suezyq@earthlink.net

Resource/Ad (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

District Superintendent Assignment

Members:

The Rev. Jose Tirado (South) (C) (First)
The Rev. Dr. Richard J. Rimert (West) (C) (Second)
The Rev. Carl Everett (South) (C) (First)
Ms. Nancy Langerfeld (East) (LW) (First)
The Rev. Kevin Babcock (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Deanna M. Geiter (West) (C) (Second)
The Rev. Dr. Timothy Duchesne (East) (C) (First)
Mr. Brian Dablow (East) (LM) (First)
Rev. Steven Pittman (East) (C) (First)

Disability Concerns, Committee on

PURPOSE: Elevates awareness of ministry with and for other-abled persons and persons with special needs
MEMBERSHIP: 18 persons. One person from each district plus others based on disability ministry interest or expertise with particular attention to diversity of disabilities (physical, cognitive, mental, sensory, or emotional development).

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated By: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: 4th Wednesday of the month

Co-Chairperson

Rev. Monica Guepet (N) (C) (First) Email: revmonicaguepet@gmail.com

Ms. Theresa Yorgey (S) (L) (First): theresayorgey@gmail.com

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Bishop John Schol (C)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Members

The Rev. Paul R. Crikelair (N) (C) (Second)
Ms. Elizabeth Christie (N) (LW) (First)
The Rev. Brenda Del Rosario (S) (C) (First)
Mrs. Elaine Smith (E) (LW) (Second)
Ms. Wilhelmina J. Young (E) (LW) (Second)
Mrs. Rosalind McKelvey (E) (LW) (First)
The Rev. Robert Crane (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Dr. Colleen G. Kristula (E) (C) (Second)
The Rev. David G. Goss (N) (C) (First)
Ms. Barbara Revere (E) (LW) (Second)
Ms. Carol J. Stevens (PD) (LW) (Second)
Mrs. Maryann Griffith (S) (LW) (First)
Mrs. Barbara A. Skarbowski (W) (C) (Second)

Disaster Response

PURPOSE: Responds to disasters and keeps the conference informed about disasters within the bounds of the conference, and trains coordinators at least once a quadrennium.

MEMBERSHIP: 8 or more persons; EPA Disaster Response Coordinator, EPA Early Response Coordinator, EPA Early Response Team Coordinator, Volunteers in Missions Coordinator, and persons specializing in site management, training, mitigation, and disaster spiritual care.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated By: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: As determined by the committee.

Chairperson

Mr. Robert Simcox (S) (LM) (First) Email: DRC@epaumc.org

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)
Ms. Denise Shelton (S) (LW)

The Rev. Russell J Atkinson (S) (C)
The Rev. Allen Keller (S) (C)

Members

The Rev. Robin Fisher (N) (C) (First)
The Rev. Lorraine Heckman (N) (C) (First)
Ms. Candace Snavelly (W) (LW) (First)
Ms. Lynn Jaeger (E) (LW) (Second)
The Rev. Richard J. Rimert (W) (C) (Second).

The Rev. Mark Beideman (S) (C) (First)
Mr. Dwain Hostetter (W) (LM) (Second)
Mr. Gary L. Jaeger (E) (LM) (Second)
The Rev. Myra J. Maxwell (E) (C) (Second)
Ms. Sandi Stovall (S) (LW) (First)

Domestic Violence Committee

PURPOSE: Provides educational events which focus on the issue of domestic violence in order to teach and empower victims, advocate and ultimately help eliminate abuse in relationships.

MEMBERSHIP: 12 persons

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated by: The Conference Committee On Leadership

MEETINGS: Monthly meetings

Co-Chairpersons

Ms. Jody Anderson (S) (LW) (First) Email: jander678@gmail.com
The Rev. Jacqueline A. Hines (S) (C) (First) Email: pastorjacquelineumc@gmail.com

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)
Ms. Carol Stevens (LW) (First)

Bishop John Schol (C)
The Rev. John W. Coleman (E) (C)

Members

Ms. Barbara E. Drake (S) (LW) (First)
The Rev. Dr. Brunilda Martinez (E) (C) (First)
Ms. Theresa Yorgey (S) (LW) (First)

Mrs. Rachel Manson (S) (LW) (First)
Ms. Sandy Lewis (S) (LW) (First)
Mr. Clifton Hubbard (S) (LM) (First)

Eastern PA Conference Scholarship Committee

PURPOSE: Awards scholarships to persons attending United Methodist related seminaries, graduate schools, and undergraduate schools using funds from endowments to the Annual Conference and a budgeted line item, and collection during the first service of Annual Conference

MEMBERSHIP: One class consisting of one representative from each district.

RESOURCE: Conference Treasurer

Nominated By: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: 2 times a year

Chairperson

Ms. Lenora Thompson (S) (LW) (Second) Email: lenorathompson@hotmail.com

Resource/Ad (Voice Only)

Mr. James P. Brown (LM) (First)

Members

The Rev. Dr. Christopher J. Kurien (E) (C) (First).
Mrs. Danette Wright-Lee (S) (LW) (First).

Mr. John Brooks (E) (LM) (First)
Mrs. Maryann Griffith (S) (LW) (First)

Dr. Annette Onema-Orbach (E) (LW) (First)

Mrs. Karen Todd (LW) (W) (First)

Education Society, Conference

PURPOSE: Awards Conference scholarships to applicants from the designated education endowment fund
MEMBERSHIP: 12 Persons. Four classes of 3 persons each, elected for a term of 4 years; lay members to be in the majority. The Conference Treasurer shall be the Treasurer of the Conference Education Society with voice and vote.

Nominated By: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: January, June, Sept. at 9:30 a.m. at the Conference Office

Chairperson

Mr. Alfred H. Adey (W) (LM) (Second) Email: ahadey@verizon.net

Recording Secretary and Treasurer

Mr. James P. Brown (LM) (First)

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Bishop John Schol (C)

Mr. Matt Morley, Chancellor (S) (LM)

Members

Mrs. Christy Jacob (S) (LW) (Second)

The Rev. Walter Jerome Unterberger (W) (C) (Second)

Ms. Ruth H. Harmon (S) (LW) (First)

Mrs. Joann Waddell (E) (LW) (First)

Mrs. Maryann Griffith (S) (LW) (First)

EPA Rapid Response Team on Immigration

PURPOSE: Responds quickly to all immigration needs within the conference boundaries

MEMBERSHIP: 20 members selected for their interest in justice issues related to immigration.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated By: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: At least four times a year

Chairperson

Rev. Lydia Muñoz (S) (C) Email: lydiaem0501@gmail.com

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Bishop John Schol (C)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Members

Mrs. Emily Reyes (E) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Nicolas Camacho (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Dr. Irving Cotto (N) (C) (First)

Ms. Barbara E. Drake (S) (LW)

The Rev. J. William Lentz (E) (C) (First)

The Rev. Esdras Seda (N) (C) (Second)

Mr. Sergio Rodriguez (E) (LM) (First)

Mrs. Imelda Rodriguez (E) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Alicia M. Julia-Stanley (W) (C) (First)

The Rev. Robin M. Hynicka (E) (C) (First)

The Rev. Jeremias Rojas (E) (C) (First)

Ms. Phyllis Carter (E) (LW) (First)

Mr. Manfredo Luna Martinez (N) (LM) (First)

The Rev. Bob Coombe (E) (C) (First)

Episcopacy, Committee on

PURPOSE: Provides guidance, support, and evaluation for the presiding Bishop of the Philadelphia Area

MEMBERSHIP: This committee is composed of at least 7 but no more than 17 members. Recommended

from BOD 1/3 laywomen, 1/3 laymen, 1/3 clergy provided that 1 lay person shall be the conference lay leader. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of representation of diverse racial/ethnic background, youth and young adults, and persons with disabilities; lay and clergy members of the Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy. One layperson shall be the Conference Lay Leader. One-fifth of the Committee's membership is to be appointed by the Bishop.

RESOURCE: Conference Lay Leader, Cabinet Representative, Chair of the Delegation

Nominated and Appointed by: Conference Committee on Leadership and 1/5 by the Bishop

MEETINGS: 4-6 times per year

Chairperson

The Rev. Dr. John Scott McDermott Email: scott@crossinqumc.org

Vice-Chairperson:

William P. Thompson (S) (LM) (First)

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

The Rev. Dawn E. Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Mrs. Judith K. Ehninger (N) (LW)

Members

The Rev. Helen L. Adams (W) (C) (Second)

The Rev. Mark Terry (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Hun Ju Lee (S) (C) (Second)

The Rev. Larry Leister (W) (C) (Second)

The Rev. Kofi Ashley (N) (C) (First)

Conference Lay Leader

Equitable Compensation, Commission on

PURPOSE: Reviews applications and recommends an annual compensation plan for clergy

MEMBERSHIP: 10 people. One from each district, plus 6 members-at-large with an equal number of clergy and laity with at least 1 layperson and 1 clergy person from churches of fewer than 200 members.

Ex-Officio: Director of Administrative Services and 1 District Superintendent named by the Bishop.

Nominated By: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: February (if needed), August, and October from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Conference Office

Chairperson

Mr. Dave Koch (S) (LM) (First) Email: dkoch74@comcast.net

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Ms. Jo Fielding (LW)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

Bishop John Schol (C)

The Rev. Bumkoo Chung (W) (C)

Treasurer

Mr. James P. Brown (LM)

Members

The Rev. Herbert Coe, Sr. (S) (C) (First)

Mrs. Beverly Connor (S) (LW) (First)

Ms. Debra A. Coulbourn (E) (LW) (First)

Mr. David Kling (W) (LM) (First)

Ms. Bethany Gogola (N) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Brad Leight (E) (C) (First)

Mr. John Lafferty (S) (LM) (First)

The Rev. Blaine Wenger (W) (C) (First)

Finance and Administration, Council on

PURPOSE: Recommends and manages the Conference budget

MEMBERSHIP: 13 persons. There shall be at least one more lay than clergy member. Ex-Officio: Conference Treasurer, Director of Administrative Services, Bishop, Director of Connectional Ministries, and 1 District

Superintendent named by the Bishop.

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: 2nd Thursday of every month, except July and August from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Chairperson

Mrs. Irene Dickinson (E) (LW) Email: iedickinson@comcast.net

Recording Secretary

To be elected by the committee

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

Bishop John Schol (C)

Mr. James P. Brown (LM)

Mrs. Jo Fielding (LW)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

The Rev. Evelyn Kent Clark (W) (C)

Mr. Dave Koch (S) (LM)

Members

The Rev. Carl Houston (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Steve Cherry (S) (C) (First)

Mrs. Carolyn Pressley (E) (LW) (First)

Mr. Andy Rozek (E) (LM) (First)

Mr. Clifton Hubbard (S) (LM) (First)

Rev. Jared Stlozfus (W) (C) (First)

Mr. Robert Stoner (West) (LM) (Second)

Ms. Glenda Machia (W) (LW) (First)

Ms. Lola Sargent (S) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Navin Satyavrata (N) (C) (First)

The Rev. Dave Felker (N) (C) (First)

Global Ministries

PURPOSE: To connect churches to resources of the General Board of Global Ministries and the General Board of Church and Society. To Cultivate Advance Special giving for missions, missionaries, and UMCOR ministries. To coordinate the iteration visits of missionaries and encourage covenant relationships. To encourage church participation in ministries of mercy and justice that meet human needs. To assist churches in developing abundant health ministries. To promote attendance at Mission U and training in justice advocacy, and to administer the EPC Peace with Justice grants.

Membership: EPC Secretary of Global Ministries, Peace with Justice Coordinator, Chair of EPA Congo Partnership, UMW Social Action Coor., plus clergy and laity from each District interested in Missions, Health Ministries, and Social Justice Advocacy.

RESOURCE: Chairperson of EPA Congo Partnership and Director of Connectional Ministries.

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: conference calls as needed

Chairperson

Ms. Barbara E. Drake (S) (LW) Email: bedrake15@aol.com

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

The Rev. Russell Atkinson (S) (C) (First)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Members

Mrs. Brenda Binns (N) (LW) (First)

Mrs. Janice Bowers (S) (LW) (First)

Dr. Barbara Mitchell (E) (LW) (First)

Dr. Annette Onema-Orbach (E) (LW) (First).

Mrs. Susan Kepner (W) (LW) (First)

Mr. Robert Simcox (S) (LM) (First)

Ms. Jeanne Earnshaw (E) (LW)

Mrs. Gladys B. Hubbard (S) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Jessica Ross (N) (C) (First)

Dr. Virginia Biddle (S) (LW) (First)

Mrs. Ruth Carr (S) (LW) (First (First))

Dr. Ruth Thornton (E) (LW) (First)

Mrs. Penny Harris (W) (LW) (First)

Mrs. Jennifer Lafferty (S) (LW) (First)

Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Team

PURPOSE: Provides ongoing training, resources, and support for combatting individualized, institutionalized, and systemic racism

MEMBERSHIP: 12 persons of diverse racial/ethnic backgrounds chosen from among the Healers of the Conference and who demonstrate the qualifications outlined in the 2002 Core Team working document.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: As determined by the team.

Co-Conveners

The Rev. David Wesley Brown (S) (C) Email: pastdave81@gmail.com

Mr. Mertice M. Shane (N) (LM) Email: mmshane1@verizon.net

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Bishop John Schol (C)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Members

The Rev. Suzanne Wenonah Duchesne (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Lydia E. Muñoz (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Alicia Julia-Stanley (N) (C) (First)

Mr. John Chapman (E) (LM) (First)

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Kurien (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. John Bletsch (S) (C) (First)

Mrs. Lisa Chapman (E) (LW) (First)

Higher Education and Campus Ministry, Board of

PURPOSE: Provides Conference guidelines and support for higher education and various campus ministries in our Conference

MEMBERSHIP: Persons interested in the ongoing spiritual formation of young adults within the context of campus life.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: Quarterly for two half-day conferences & two meetings

Chairperson

The Rev. Jason Perkowski (W) (C) Email: jbperkowski@gmail.com

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Foster (E) (C)

The Rev. Ed Weber (NC)

The Rev. Dr. William Brawner (E) (C)

Members

Ms. Lenora Thompson (S) (LW) (Second)

Mr. Alfred H. Adey (W) (LM) (First)

Mrs. Carol A. Black (S) (LW) (Second)

Mrs. Jessica Edonick (S) (LW) (First)

The Rev. James B. Todd (N) (C) (First)

The Rev. Lori Wagner (E) (C) (First)

Mrs. Krystl Gauld (S) (LW) (First)

Ms. Grace Puy (S) (LW) (First)

The Rev. David Piltz (E) (C)

Human Resources (Personnel) Committee

PURPOSE: Assists in hiring and employment concerns for Conference personnel

MEMBERSHIP: 8 people. The committee shall represent the diversity of the Annual Conference and be

composed equally of lay (one of whom is the Conference Lay Leader) and clergy. It shall include 1 representative appointed by the Council of Finance and Administration. Ex-Officio: Director of Connectional Ministries, Bishop, Director of Administrative Services, Treasurer.

Nominated By: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: 1st Tuesday of Jan, April, July & October beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Chairperson

The Rev. Jim Todd (W) (C) (First); Email: jtodd1957@gmail.com

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Bishop John Schol (C)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Mr. James P. Brown (LM)

Resource/Advisory (Voice only)

Mr. Matt Morley, Chancellor (S) (LM)

Members

Ms. Linda Clark (E) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Bradley Leight (N) (C) (First)

Mr. Ron Gurka (N) (LM) (First)

Mrs. Jo Fielding (LW)

Conference Lay Leader

District Superintendent Assignment

Ms. Joyce Brown (S) (LW) (First)

Ms. Penny Zimmerman (S) (LW) (First)

I-Care Team

PURPOSE: Provides Pastoral support in matters of sexual misconduct by those in ministerial roles that are brought to the attention of the Bishop.

MEMBERSHIP: 12 persons.

Appointed By: the Bishop

MEETINGS: Determined by committee.

Co-Chairperson

The Rev. Dr. Brunilda Martinez (W) (C) (First) Email: icare@epaumc.church

The Rev. Dr. Truman Brooks (S) (C) (First) Email: icare@epaumc.church

Resource/Ad (Voice Only)

Bishop John Schol (C)

Members

The Rev. David Piltz (E) (C) (Second)

The Rev. James B. Todd (W) (C) (Second)

Ms. Susan Velez (E) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Tracy Duncan (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Robb Faller (W) (C) (First)

Mr. Robert Wagner (S) (LM) (First)

Mrs. Penny Harris (W) (LW) (First)

Rev. Dave Alderson (N) (C) (First)

Rev. Karyn Fisher (N) (C) (First)

Ms. Dayra Adorno (W) (L) (First)

Mr. Maurice Simmons (E) (LM) (Second)

Ms. Cressa Morris (E) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Angel M. Lopez (N) (C) (First)

Ms. Barbara Revere (E) (LW) (Second)

The Rev. Allen Keller (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Deanna M. Geiter (W) (C) (First)

Mrs. Carol Adams (S) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Dave Botzer (N) (C) (First)

Ms. Karen Shadle (N) (LW) (First)

Ms. Jessica Miller (W) (L) (First)

Latino Commission

PURPOSE: Works to advocate for all ministries related to Latino persons and churches

MEMBERSHIP: Two persons per Latino congregation or ministry. Ex-Officio: 2 District Superintendents; Director of Connectional Ministries; Coordinator of Urban and Global Ministries, Coordinator of Congregational Development, and the Coordinator of the Office of Latino Ministries.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: As determined by committee

Co-Chairpersons

The Rev. Manfredo Martinez (N) (C) Email: pastormanfredo@yahoo.com

Ms. Yamilla Rivera (E) (LW) Email: joeyamila@gmail.com

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

The Rev. Maria (Lisa) Quesada DePaz (E) (C)

The Rev. Dr. William Brawner (S) (C)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

District Superintendent Assignment

Secretary

To be elected by the commission

Treasurer

Mr. Isaias J. Davila (W) (LM)

Members

The Rev. Nicolas Camacho (S) (CR)

The Rev. Lydia E. Muñoz (S) (C)

The Rev. Efrain Cotto (E) (CM)

Mr. Angel Colon (E) (LM)

Ms. Rosa Colon (E) (LW)

The Rev. Elena Ortiz (W) (CW)

Ms. Madeline Ramos (W) (LW)

The Rev. Brunilda Martinez (W) (C)

The Rev. Lori Reyes (E) (C)

Mr. Maclobio Rios (S) (LM)

The Rev. Evodia Villalva (S) (CM)

Ms. Nicole Rios (S) (LF)

The Rev. Cesar A. De Paz (E) (C)

Mr. Gabriel Pagan (E) (LM)

The Rev. Jose Tirado (W) (C)

Ms. Imelda Zuniga (E) (LW)

Mr. Gadiel Castro (E) (LM)

The Rev. Alicia M. Julia-Stanley (N) (C)

Ms. Andrea Rodriguez (E) (LW)

The Rev. Andres Torres (W) (C)

Ms. Nory Torres (W) (LW)

The Rev. Jose Albarran (S) (C)

Ms. Annete Luna ((S) (LW)

Ms. Maritza Serrano (S) (LW)

The Rev. Derrick Gutierrez (W) (C)

Mr. Richy Ayala (N) (LM)

Ms. Viaka Corazon N) (LW)

Lay Ministry, Board of

PURPOSE: Provides training support and resources for effective lay ministry at the local church, District, and Conference level

MEMBERSHIP: 24 persons. District Lay Leaders; Conference Lay Leader; Associate Conference Lay Leader; UMW representative; UMM representative; Youth Council representative; Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministries; Director of Christ Servant Ministry; Director of Lay Academy; 6 members; and 5 clergy with voice and vote.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: Saturday in April at 9:30 a.m. at the Conference Office and by conference call in January and November if needed

Chairperson

Conference Lay Leader

Vice-Chairperson

Ms. Suzette James (E) (LW) Email: suezyq@earthlink.net

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Mr. George Hollich (W) (LM)
The Rev. Bumkoo Chung (W) (C)
Mrs. Judith K. Ehninger (N) (LW)
Mrs. Diana Wrisley (S) (LW)

District Lay Leaders

Ms. Carol Gibson (E) (LW) (First)
Mrs. Debra Forney (N) (LW) (First)
Ms. Jennifer Lafferty (S) (LW) (First)
Ms. Kristin Khuns (W) (LW)(First)
Mr. William P. Thompson (S) (LM) (First)
Ms. Patricia Wilson (N) (LW) (First)

Members

Ms. Lydia Ermer (E) (LW) (First)
Mr. Matt Calderone (E) (LM)
Mr. Tyler Santone (E) (LM) (Y)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)
Mr. Clifton Hubbard (S) (LM)
Ms. Sandra Wilson (E) (LW) (First)

Miss Jess Eden (E) (LW) (First)
Mr. Aubrey L. Bates (S) (LM)

Loan Fund Board

PURPOSE: Oversees management of the Loan Fund for the Annual Conference)

MEMBERSHIP: 12 persons. Four classes of 3 persons each elected for a term of 4 years, including the Conference Treasurer, who shall be the Loan Board Treasurer.

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: 4th Wednesday of October, January, April, and July, 10:00 a.m. at the Conference Office
President

Ms. Frances G. Whittington (S) (LW) (First) Email:frances_whittington@vanguard.com

Secretary

The Rev. James D. Anderman (N) (C) (Second) Email: jdanderman@gmail.com

Treasurer

Mr. James P. Brown (LM) (First)

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Bishop John Schol (C)

Mr. Matt Morley, Chancellor (S) (LM)

Members

Mr. Rick E. Wrisley (S) (LM) (First)
Mr. Dave Sheffield (N) (LM) (First)

The Rev. Steven Jeffrey Handzel (S) (C) (First)
Ms. Lenora Thompson (S) (LW) (First)

Lancaster United Meth. Inner City Alliance (LUMINA)

PURPOSE: To share the love of God by equipping and encouraging people who experience poverty and hardship. Our vision for Lancaster City: every person restored to the vital and productive life God intended.

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

The Rev. Jennifer Freymoyer (W) (C)

Mrs. Coreen Russo (W) (LW)

Members

Mr. John Hostetter (W) (LM) (First)
The Rev. Dr. Richard J. Rimert (West) (C) (First)
Mr. Walter Bashaw (W) (LM) (First)
The Rev. Cheryl Zeders (W) (C) (First)
Mrs. Laniesh Kipp (W) (LW) (First)
The Rev. Sally Wisner Ott (W) (C) (First)
The Rev. Joan H. Trout (W) (C) (First)

Mr. Joseph Reed (W) (LM) (First)
Mrs. Susan Kepner (W) (LW) (First)
Ms. Constance Brown (W) (LW) (First)
Mr. Doug Feister (W) (LW) (First)
Ms. Susan Vogan (W) (LW) (First)
Ms. Lynn McCord (W) (LW) (First)
Dr. Douglas Ockrymiek (W) (LM) (First)

Mrs. Pat Lee (W) (LW) (First)
Mrs. Karen Todd (W) (LW) (First)

The Rev. James Todd (W) (C) (First)

Metro Ministries, Inc., United Methodist

PURPOSE: Supports and advocates for ministries in Philadelphia and Chester within the Annual Conference
MEMBERSHIP: 7 people. The Director of Urban and Global Ministries; a D.S. from a Metro district; 2 clergy representatives from the Metro area; 2 UM laypersons from the metro districts who are active members of The UMC and residents of the area served by Metro Ministries; 1 UM layperson who is an active member of a UMC in Chester and is resident of the Chester area. The Conference Treasurer shall be the Treasurer.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: 4 to 6 times per year at Carson Simpson Farm

President

The Rev. Robert Johnson (E) (C) (First) Email: revrlj1@msn.com

Secretary

Mrs. Millicent Clark (E) (LW) (Second)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

Mr. Matt Morley, Chancellor (LM)

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Foster (E) (C)

The Rev. Myra Maxwell (S) (C)

Mr. John Brooks (S) (LM)

Members

Mr. William P. Thompson (S) (LM) (Second)

Mr. Lawrence Lee (S) (LM) (Second)

Ms. Janet A Mills (E) (LW) (First)

Rev. Eric Carr (S) (C) (First)

Treasurer

Mr. James P. Brown (LM)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Mr. Terry Bridges (S) (LM)

Mr. Jonathan Curtis (E) (LM)

Mr. Les Brown (E) (LM) (Second)

Ms. Marilyn Mason (E) (LW) (First)

Ms. Charisma Presley (E) (LW) (First)

Mid-Atlantic UM Foundation

PURPOSE: To oversee the investment strategies and management of all assets held by the Mid-Atlantic Foundation

MEMBERSHIP: 8-16 persons. Nominated by the Foundation; elected by the Annual Conferences, three of these shall be the Conference Treasurers/Executive Directors of Administrative Services, and Dean of the Cabinet. The Executive Director of the Foundation shall be an additional member of the Board of Directors without vote.

Nominated by: Membership of the Board

MEETINGS: The Board meets quarterly in January, April, July, and October

President

Mr. Thomas Black (LM) (Second) Email: tblack43@verizon.net

Vice-President

The Rev. Dr. Karin Walker (BW) (C) Email: karin.walker@fallstonumc.org

Secretary

Ms. Tammy Bowman (S) (LW)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

Louise Hutchinson (LW)

Treasurer

Mr. William E. Westbrook (PD) (LM)

Mr. Paul J. Eichelberger (BW) (LM)

Mr. James P. Brown (LM)

Members

Rev. David Argo (BW) (C) (First)

Mr. Kevin Goodwin (PD) (LM)

Ms. Sharon Hermann (S) (LW) (First)

Mr. George E. Monk, Jr (BW) (LM) (First)

Mr. John Ridgeway (S) (LM) (First)

Mr. Jamie M. Waldren (BW) (LM) (Second)

Mr. Barry A. Crozier (PD) (LM) (First)

The Rev. Daniel Hepner (S) (C) (First)

Ms. Marsha Johnson (PD) (LW) (First)

Mr. Lawrence Pelham (PD) (LM) (First)

Ms. Barbara Rutt (PD) (LW) (First)

Mr. Clarence White (BW) (LM) (First)

Mid-Atlantic UM Foundation Coaches

Rev Gayle Annis-Forder

Rev Walter Beaudwin

Ms Rosa Brown

Ms Kendell Daly

Rev John Fisher

Ms Marsha Johnson

Rev Joan Jones

Rev Conrad Link

Rev Twanda Prioleau

Rev Michael Rigsby

Rev William Thomas

Rev Meredith Wilkins-Arnold

Rev Phillip Ayers

Rev Wendy Bellis

Rev Michael Bynum

Rev Robin Fisher

Rev Cary James

Rev Dr Bruce Jones

Rev Dr Andrea King

Rev Mary Ka Nippard Kanahan

Rev Kirkland Reynolds

Rev Barbara Seekford

Rev Herbert Watson, Jr.

Mid Atlantic UM Foundation Staff

Executive Director

Mr. John Brooks (C) (LM) Email: jbrooks@epaumc.church

Assoc. Director

Mr. Frank C. Robert (LM)

Operations Manager

Ms. Tracy Brown (LW)

Assistant Director

Ms. Annabel Lusardi

Native American Ministries, Committee on

PURPOSE: Develops and promotes Native American ministries across the EPA; gives voice to Native Americans; provides leadership to the Conference to meet the mandate to recognize the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society

MEMBERSHIP: 10 persons. 2 co-chairpersons, financial secretary; 6 members to include persons of Native American heritage and non-Native Americans with a passion for NA ministries.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: As determined by the committee

Co-Chairpersons

Ms. Barbara Revere (E) (LW) Email: bre2696294@aol.com

Ms. Sandra Cianciulli (E) (LW) Email: 524sandi@gmail.com

Secretary

Mrs. Verna Colliver (E) (LW) (First)

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Mr. Bob C. Hinderliter (S) (LM)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Mrs. Sharon Wack (S) (LW)

Mr. Ron Williams (First)

Members

The Rev. Dr. Suzanne Wenonah Duchesne (E) (C) (First)

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Fernsler (N) (C) (First).

Mrs. Joy Frazier (E) (LW) (First)

Ms. Paula Shifflet (S) (LW) (First)

Mr. Dale Shillito (E) (LM) (First)

Mr. William H. Seybold (S) (LM)(First)

Mr. Mike Shifflet (S) (LM) (First)

Ordained Ministry, Board of

PURPOSE: Oversees the entire process of ordination for all candidates for ordained ministry within the annual conference

MEMBERSHIP: 51 persons. Membership shall be nominated (in compliance with the Discipline, para. 635) by the Bishop, of which 1/3 shall be laypersons, and 1/3 shall be persons of diverse racial/ethnic background.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries, Conference Lay Leader

Nominated by: the Bishop

MEETINGS: 6 to 8 meetings per year at West Lawn UMC

Co-Chairpersons

The Rev. Michael Remel (W) (C) (First) Email: mremel@verizon.net

The Rev. Tracy Duncan (S) (C) Email: revtracy51@gmail.com

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

The Rev. John Inghram (S) (C)

The Rev. Timothy J. Smith (W) (C)

The Rev. Don Keller (E) (C)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

District Superintendent Assignment

The Rev. Evelyn Kent Clark (S) (C)

Co-Registrar

The Rev. Tawny L. Bernhardt (E) (C)

Treasurer

To be elected by BOOM

Members

The Rev. Beverly Turner Andrews (W) (C) (First)

The Rev. Jacqueline A. Hines (E) (C) (Second)

The Rev. Andrew Krpata (E) (C) (Second)

The Rev. Janet L. Sattel (E) (C) (Second)

The Rev. Christopher Kyle Eden (W) (C) (First)

The Rev. Daniel Eric Lebo (W) (C) (Second)

Mr. Kenneth Dickinson (E) (LM) (Second)

The Rev. Dorry Kuhn Newcomer (E) (C) (Second).

The Rev. Dr. Michael Roberts (E) (C) (Second)

The Rev. Thomas Ebersole (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Timothy S. Thomson-Hohl (E) (C) (First)

The Rev. Darryl Stephens (W) (C) (First)

The Rev. Nina Patton-Semerod (N) (C) (First)

The Rev. Mark Terry (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Candy LaBar (N) (C)

Conference Lay Leader

The Rev. Dawn E. Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Ms Jan Sawicki (LW)

Secretary

Ms. Barbara E. Drake (S) (LW)

The Rev. Robert Johnson (E) (C) (First).

The Rev. Dr. Deborah A. Appler (N) (C) (Second)

The Rev. Hun Ju Lee (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Eddie Cameron (W) (FD) (Second)

Mr. Blair Gilbert (E) (LM) (Second)

The Rev. Karyn Fisher (N) (C) (First)

The Rev. Quentin Wallace (W) (C) (First)

Mr. Robert Wagner (E) (LM) (Second)

The Rev. Greg Impink (W) (C) (Second)

The Rev. John Bletsch (S) (C) (First)

Mrs. Lisi Fisher (N) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Bradley Leight (N) (C) (First)

The Rev. Jeffrey Raffauf (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Bumkoo Chung (S) (C) (First)

Mr. William Thompson (S) (LM) (First)

The Rev. Helen Adams (W) (C) (First)

Prison Ministries and Restorative Justice

PURPOSE: Support and promote criminal justice and mercy ministries in local churches; provide resources, training, and networking for restorative justice ministries; encourage local congregations to develop prison and restorative justice ministries

MEMBERSHIP: Up to 10 persons. Chairperson; 1 member from each district, other interested persons

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: As determined by committee

Chairperson

The Rev. Marilyn Schneider (S) (C) (Second) Email: mschneider2222@gmail.com

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Bishop John Schol (C)

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

The Rev. John Coleman (E) (C)

Members

The Rev. Brenda Del Rosario (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Jeffrey Kapp (W) (C) (First)

Mrs. Linda Van Til (W) (LW) (Second)

Mr. Charles Goodge (N) (LM) (First)

Mr. Scott Johnson (S) (LM) (Second)

Mrs. Lorraine Haw (E) (LW) (First)

Mr. Manuel Arroyo (E) (LM) (First)

Ms. Valerie Langston (S) (LW) (First)

Mr. Luke Taylor-Storm (S) (LM) (First)

Religion and Race, Commission on

PURPOSE: Advocates for inclusion, respect, and justice for all persons regardless of racial/ethnic identity or religion

MEMBERSHIP: 10 people. One from each district plus 6 persons for expertise or interest.

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: 1st Thursday of the month at the Conference Office from 1:00-2:30 p.m. OR Conference Call from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Co-Chairpersons

The Rev. Alicia M. Julia-Stanley (W) (C) Email: rev87mom@gmail.com

The Rev. Diana Esposito (S) (C) Email: diana.a.esposito@gmail.com

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

The Rev. John Wesley Coleman (E) (C)

The Rev. Dr. William Brawner (E) (C)

Mr. Mertice M. Shane (N) (LM)

The Rev. David Wesley Brown (E) (C)

Members

Dr. Annie Kingcade (S) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Tracy Ann Duncan (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Beverly Andrews (W) (C) (First)

The Rev. Tamie Scalise (S) (C) (First)

Ms. Cheryl Myers (S) (LW) (First)

The Rev. David Piltz (E) (C) (First)

The Rev. Robert Johnson (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Tanksley-Brown (S) (C) (First)

Mr. Dennis Fisher (E) (LM) (First)

The Rev. Sukja Bang (N) (C) (First)

The Rev. Mel Lehman (S) (C) First
The Rev. John Bletsch (S) (C) First

The Rev. Dr. Anita Powell (S) (C) (First)

Safe Sanctuaries

PURPOSE: Educates and creates guidelines for providing safe spaces for children and youth in church-related activities

MEMBERSHIP: 10 persons representing all districts, one laity, and one clergy, 1/2 of whom shall be persons of diverse racial/ethnic background. Three classes of 4 persons serving a 4-year term. Ex-Officio: Chairperson of I-Care Team, Director of Administrative Services, Representative of Conference Trustees, Conference Legal Counsel.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: Four times a year as scheduled by the chairperson to review all church's Safe Sanctuaries policies for compliance

Chairperson

The Rev. Jacqueline D. Daniszewski (E) (C) Email revjackieedd@gmail.com

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Mrs. Jo Fielding (LW)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Representative of Conference Trustees

Mr. Matt Morley, Chancellor (S) (LM)

Chairperson of I-Care

Members

The Rev. David Piltz (E) (C) (First)

The Rev. Eva Johnson (S) (C) (First)

Mrs. Maryann Griffith (S) (LW) (First)

Ms. Kathy Dries (E) (LW) (First)

Mr. Lemuel (Jack) Ross, Jr. (S) (LM) (First)

Status and Role of Women, Commission on

PURPOSE: Advocates for the status and the role of women in all Conference events and promotes women in leadership positions

MEMBERSHIP: Determined by Annual Conference in compliance with Discipline, paragraph 643.

Recommend: One representative from each district; 1 representative from the Board of Ordained Ministry; 1 representative from UMW and UMM; 6 members for expertise and/or balance.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: As determined by committee

Chairperson

The Rev. Debra A. Coulbourn (E) (C) Email:dcoulbourn115@gmail.com

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Mr. Clifton Hubbard (S) (LM)

Resource/Ad (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Members

Mrs. Ethel L. Malone (E) (LW) (First)

Ms. Patricia Wilson (N) (LW) (First)

Mrs. Gladys B. Hubbard (S) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Betty Murphy (E) (C) (First)

Ms. Janet A. Mills (E) (LW) (First)

Mrs. Ethel K. Hibbs (E) (LW) (First)

Ms. Tonya Goodwin (E) (LW) (First)

Trustees, Board of

PURPOSE: Oversees the maintenance, use, and value of all assets owned by the Conference.

MEMBERSHIP: 12 persons. It is recommended that 1/3 be clergy, 1/3 laymen, and 1/3 laywomen. Three trustees shall be elected each year for a term of 4 years and may serve a second term.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries, District Superintendent selected by the Bishop, the Bishop, Director of Administrative Services, Conference Treasurer, Conference Chancellor

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: 1st Friday (September to June) from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Conference Office
President

The Rev. Dr. Mary Catherine Miller (First) (S) (C) Email: mccmill@yahoo.com

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Mr. James P. Brown (LM)

Mr. Matt Morley, Chancellor (S) (LM)

District Superintendent Assignment

Bishop John Schol (C)

Mrs. Jo Fielding (LW)

Vice-President

To be elected at the July meeting of the Board of Trustees

Treasurer

Mr. James P. Brown (LM)

Secretary

Mr. Scott Johnson (S) (LM) (Second)

Members

Mr. Jon M. Gruber (W) (LM) (Second)

Mr. Rick Wrisley (S) (LM) (Second)

The Rev. Sunil Balasundaram (E) (C) (First)

The Rev. Julian Milewski (N) (C) (Interim)

Ms. Amey Reid (S) (LW) (Interim)

The Rev. Dr. Larry D. Pickens (N) (C) (Second)

The Rev. Coleen Painter (E) (First)

Mr. Vipulkumar Macwana (E) (LM) (First)

Mr. Miguel H. Pichardo (W) (LM) (First)

United Methodist Men

PURPOSE: To engage all United Methodist men in ministry, missions, and spiritual growth opportunities

MEMBERSHIP: As determined by the UMM.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries, Conference Lay Leader, one District Superintendent selected by the Bishop and Cabinet

Nominated by: the Membership

MEETINGS: 2nd Monday of every month

President

Mr. Clifton Hubbard (S) (LM) (First) Email: chub21@aol.com

Vice-President

Mr. Herman E. Turnage (E) (LM) Email: hermsturn@earthlink.net

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

Bishop John Schol (C)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Secretary

Mr. David Marks (S) (LM)

Members

The Rev. David Botzer (N) (C)

Conference Lay Leader

The Rev. Dr. Andrew L. Foster, III (E) (C)

Treasurer

Mr. Delno Moyer (S) (LM)

The Rev. Derrick Gutierrez (W) (C)

The Rev. Sterling Eaton (S) (C)
Mr. Tyler Santone (E) (LM) (Y) (First)

Mr. Medford Pinkett (E) (LM) (First)

United Women in Faith

PURPOSE: To engage all United Methodist women in ministry, missions, and spiritual growth opportunities

MEMBERSHIP: As determined by United Women in Faith

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries, Conference Lay Leader

Nominated by: the Membership

MEETINGS: As planned annually throughout the Annual Conference

President

Ms. Sandra Wilson (E) (LW) (First); Email: wilsonsan@aol.com

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Bishop John Schol (C)

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

Janet A Mills, National Program Advisory Group (PAG), (E) (LW)

Vice-President

Ms. Bernadette Jones (E) (LW)

Secretary

Mrs. Susan Kepner (W) (LW)

Treasurer

Ms. Barbara McIntosh (S) (LW)

Members:

Ms. Carol Gifford (W) (LW)

Dr. Annette Onema-Orbach (E) (LW)

Dr. Polly Riddle (E) (LW)

Mrs. Belinda Ogitis (E) (LW)

Ms. Barbara Skarbowski (W) (LW)

Mrs. Gladys B. Hubbard (S) (LW))

Mrs. Nancy Matthews (S) (LW)

Mrs. Maryann Repsher (N) (LW)

Mrs. Susan Dizuk (E) (LW)

Ms. Barbara Drake (S) (LW)

Ms. Linda Youngstrom (S) (LW)

Mrs. Anna Bickhart (S) (LW)

Urban Commission

PURPOSE: Works to advocate for ministries related to children, youth, and adults in urban settings

MEMBERSHIP: 25 persons, lay and clergy, who are passionate, and/or, sense a call to and/or, are presently engaged in

urban ministry with particular attention to diversity and location in metropolitan areas in the Eastern

Pennsylvania Conference. **Ex-Officio:** Coordinator of Office of Urban Ministries; one District Superintendent selected by the Bishop and Cabinet

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: As determined by committee

Co-Chairpersons

The Rev. David Eckert (E) (C) (First) Email: pastor.messiahchurch@verizon.net

The Rev. Myra Maxwell (E) (C) (First) Email: pastormyraimax1@gmail.com

Resource/Advisory (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor Storm (S) (C)

The Rev. Evelyn Kent Clark (S)(C) (First)

Mr. Terry Bridges (E) (LM)

Members

The Rev. Dr. Brunilda Martinez (W) (C) (Second)
The Rev. Alicia M. Julia-Stanley (W) (C) (Second)
The Rev. Victor Gimenez (S) (C) (First)
The Rev. Kevin Babcock (S) (C) (First)
The Rev. Navin Satyavrata (N) (C) (First)
Dr. Lewis Wilford (S) (LM) (First)

Mr. Maurice Simmons (E) (LM) (Second)
The Rev. Robin Hynicka (E) (C) (Second)
The Rev. Eric Carr (E) (C) (First)
Mrs. Correen Russo (W) (LW) (First)
Ms. Lenora Thompson (S) (LW) (First)
Mrs. Jean Kershaw (E) (LW) (First)

Volunteers in Mission

PURPOSE: Promotes and supports the Volunteers in Mission program that sends workgroups to various mission sites.

MEMBERSHIP: Recommend: one from each district

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: As determined by committee

Chairperson

The Rev. Russell Atkinson (S) (C) Email: ratkinson@epaumc.org

Resource/Advisory (Voice only)

The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

Mrs. Denise Shelton (S) (LW)

Members

The Rev. Dr. David P. Harris (W) (C) (First)

Mrs. Susan Grimm Mattox (W) (LW) (First)

Mr. Bob Simcox (S) (LM)

The Rev. J. Allen Keller (S) (C)

The Rev. Nicholas Camacho (S) (C) (First)

The Rev. Bernard J. Kefer (N) (C) (First)

Young Adult Ministries, Council on

PURPOSE: Plans and supports ministries that enable young adults (ages 19-35) to be actively involved in the life of the church

MEMBERSHIP: 650 - recommend one per district

Minimum 12 persons. Representation from all four districts. Ex-Officio: Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministries. Assistant Coordinator of Youth Ministries

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries, Conference Lay Leader, one District Superintendent selected by the Bishop and Cabinet

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: 3 to 4 times a year as needs arise

Chair

The Rev. Kia Lockman (S) (C) Email: kaiataylor@mac.com

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

The Rev. Dr. William Brawner (E) (C)

Resource/Ad (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn E. Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

District Superintendent Assignment

Young Adult Executive Team

Mrs. Denise J. Harris (E) (LW) (First)

The Rev. Daniel P. Roth (E) (C) (Second).

Members

Mrs. Krystl Gauld (S) (LW) (First)

Mr. Ian D. Keretzman (E) (LM) (First)

Ms. Jezerel Gutierrez (W) (LW)

Conference Lay Leader

Ms. Maria Tonnies (N) (LW) (First)

Mr. Benjamin L. Hornberger (E) (LM) (First)

The Rev. Victor Gimenez (S) (C) (Second)

Mr. Uriah Alleman (S) (LM) (Second)

The Rev. Zimran Y. Khan (E) (C) (First)
Ms. Prerna Balasundaram (E) (LW) (Second)
Ms. Jessica Eden (E) (LW) (First)
Mr. Matt Calderone (E) (LM) (First)

The Rev. Jason Perkowski (W) (C) (First)
The Rev. Eric W. Carr (S) (C) (Second)
Mr. Christian Revel (E) (LM) (First)

Youth Ministries, Conference Council on (CCYM)

PURPOSE: Plans and supports ministries that enable youth (ages 12-18) to be actively involved in the life of the church

MEMBERSHIP: As determined by the organization and in compliance with Discipline, paragraph 649 - no more than 1/3 is adults. Recommend: no less than 7 and

no more than 11 youth from each district; Mission of Peace Coordinator and Youth Service Fund Coordinator (both with vote). Ex-Officio: Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Assistant Coordinator of Youth Ministries.

RESOURCE: Director of Connectional Ministries, one District Superintendent selected by the Bishop and Cabinet

Nominated by: Conference Committee on Leadership

MEETINGS: 4 to 6 times a year in various settings based on events throughout the year

Chairperson

Miss Janaysia Costello (W) (LW) (First)

Ex-Officio (Voice and Vote)

The Rev. Dr. William Brawner (E) (C)

Ms. Jezerel Gutierrez (W) (LW)

Resource/Ad (Voice Only)

The Rev. Dawn E. Taylor-Storm (S) (C)

District Superintendent Assignment

Conference Lay Leader

Youth Ministries Executive Team

Mrs. Denise J. Harris (E) (LW)

Ms. Maria Tonnies (N) (LW)

The Rev. Eric Chelton (E) (C)

Mr. Michael Gold (N) (LM)

Ms. Amy Smith (E) (LW)

Members

Mr. Tyler Santone (E) (LM) (First)

Miss Lydia Ermer (E) (LW) (First)

Miss Claudia Smith (E) (LW) (First)

Mr. Nathan Johnson (E) (LM) (First)

Mr. Isaiah Lynch (W) (LM) (First)

Miss Rachel Lynch (W) (LW) (First)

Mr. Michael Revell (E) (LM) (First)

Mr. Jacquell William (S) (LM) (First)

Miss Lucille Chelton (E) (LW) (First)

Miss Ayanna Melendez (E) (LW) (First)

Miss Aixa Preston (E) (LW) (First)

Mr. Collin Carter (E) (LM) (First)

Mr. Harold Monteroso (S) (LM) (First)

Mr. William Brawner Jr. (E) (LM) (First)

Miss Jesse Wallace (S) (LM) (First)

Mr. Jaines Figueroa (E) (LM) (First)

Mr. Mickey Villalva (E) (LM) (First)

Mr. Christopher Serrano (S) (LM) (First)

Mr. Jasir Lawrence (S) (LM) (First)

Miss Michelle Garcia (E) (LW) (First)

Ms. Julia Tarlue (S) (LW) (First)

Mr. Nate Rios (E) (LM) (First)



RESOLUTION 2022-05 DISCONTINUANCE OF FGM ST. THOMAS UMC

- 1 **RESOLUTION 2022-05**
2 **Relating to the Discontinuance of Philadelphia: Frankford Group Ministry-St.**
3 **Thomas United Methodist Church** (GCFA # 962786 / Ch. ID # EP350385)
4 **Submitted by the East District of the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference**
5
- 6 **WHEREAS** Philadelphia: FGM: St. Thomas United Methodist Church, located in
7 Philadelphia County at 4701 Tackawanna Street Philadelphia, PA 19124 and has a
8 proud history of ministering to the community since 1872.
9
- 10 **WHEREAS** The congregation is remembered especially for developing strong lay
11 leadership, powerful preaching, participation in the Frankford Group Ministry, and
12 overall excellence in urban ministry.
13
- 14 **WHEREAS** the church/charge conference of St. Thomas United Methodist Church
15 voted unanimously on February 23, 2022, to discontinue the church effective May 15,
16 2022.
17
- 18 **WHEREAS** the District Superintendent has recommended the discontinuance of
19 Philadelphia: FGM: St. Thomas United Methodist Church and transfer of membership
20 to local United Methodist Churches in the area.
21
- 22 **WHEREAS** the consent to discontinue has been granted by the presiding Bishop; the
23 district superintendents, and the East District Board of Church Location and Building;
24 and all proper Disciplinary requirements have been complied with; and
25
- 26 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Philadelphia: FGM: St. Thomas United
27 Methodist Church be discontinued effective: **May 15, 2022.**
28
- 29 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Trustees of the Eastern PA Conference
30 distribute any assets as result of the sale of the properties of Philadelphia: FGM: St.
31 Thomas United Methodist Church to the Urban Fund held at the Mid Atlantic United
32 Methodist Foundation and administered by the EPA Urban Commission for future use
33 according to the 2016 Book of Discipline Paragraph 2549.7 "If a local church in an
34 urban center with more than 50,000 population is closed, any proceeds of the sale of its
35 property must be used for new and/or existing ministries within urban transitional
36 communities as described in Paragraph 212."
37
- 38 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** those historical records be forwarded to the archives of
39 Historic St. George's United Methodist Church in Philadelphia, PA.



RESOLUTION 2022-06 DISCONTINUANCE OF SHAMOKIN: ZION UMC

1 **RESOLUTION 2022-06**

2 **Relating to the Discontinuance of Shamokin: Zion United Methodist Church**
3 **Presented by The Rev. Steven Morton, North District Superintendent**

4
5 **WHEREAS**, Shamokin: Zion United Methodist Church, established on February 16,
6 1916 in Shamokin, Pennsylvania has a long and proud history of serving the people of
7 Shamokin; and

8
9 **WHEREAS**, Shamokin: Zion United Methodist Church contacted the North District
10 Office of the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference to inform the District
11 Superintendent that the congregation, after prayerful assessment of its potential for
12 effectiveness, has concluded that it no longer serves the purpose for which it was
13 organized and intends to close, and

14
15 **WHEREAS** a letter was sent to each member household of the congregation,
16 requesting information as to where that membership, and

17
18 **WHEREAS**, Bishop Peggy Johnson and the Cabinet of the Eastern Pennsylvania
19 Annual Conference gave its approval on Wednesday, August 18, 2021 (para 2549.4b);
20 and

21
22 **WHEREAS**, the North District Board of Church Location and Building gave its approval
23 at a meeting on August 30, 2021 (para 2549.4b), and

24
25 **WHEREAS** that Shamokin Zion United Methodist Church discontinue, with deep
26 gratitude for 104 years of faithful service to the Shamokin area, effective Sunday,
27 September 12, 2021 following a final worship service and subject to Annual Conference
28 approval in May 2022.

29
30 **WHEREAS** the people of Shamokin: Zion United Methodist Church requested that
31 proceeds from the sale of the church property be used for ministry in the Shamokin
32 area.

33
34 **WHEREAS** the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference Board of Trustees was
35 granted full responsibility for the care and disposal of its assets.

36
37 **WHEREAS** the physical church building was sold on December 3, 2021 under the
38 guidance and direction of the North District Board of Church Location and Building
39 Committee and Eastern PA Conference Chancellor, along with the full support of Bishop
40 John Schol, the Cabinet and Eastern PA Conference Board of Trustees.

41
42 **WHEREAS** the historical records of Shamokin: Zion United Methodist Church were
43 forwarded to the archives of St. George's United Methodist Church in Philadelphia, PA.

44



45 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Shamokin: Zion United Methodist Church be
46 discontinued effective June 30, 2022.

47

48 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Trustees of the Eastern Pennsylvania
49 Conference distribute after all financial obligations have been met, the remaining assets
50 from the sale of the property and other financial assets for use for local ministry in the
51 Shamokin area under the direction of the North District Superintendent.

52

53 **Person responsible for presenting this resolution: The Rev. Steven C. Morton**

ELECTION OF NEW CONFERENCE LAY LEADER

- 1. Nominee Name: William P. Thompson Sr.**, known to many as “Bill Thompson.” Graduate from the University of Baltimore with a degree in Psychology with an emphasis in business, Raised in West Philadelphia in a Methodist household with his two brothers and two sisters; Alfred (deceased), Lenora, Cheryl, and Kenneth, Bill is the middle child.
- 2. Home Church:** Wharton-Wesley United Methodist Church, which is in the South District and located at 5341 Catharine Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19143.
- 3. Employment/Appointment:** Owner, *Thompson Consulting Service*, specializing in serving the client’s business or personal need to become more efficient with their computer skills, such as Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint, and Access. This is achieved with presentations, class instruction, and personal consultation for the novice, intermediate, and advanced level client since the year 2000. Bill is sought for his ability to present complex and challenging information in an easy-to-digest manner. Through his company, he has provided training to many well-known companies such as *The Philadelphia Corporation for Aging (PCA)*, *Jewish Employment Services (JEVS)*, *Orleans Technical College*, *Alex’s Lemonade*, *Congreso de Latinos Unidos*, *Mayor’s Office of Community Service (MOCS)*, *Manor College* and *Catholic Charities*.
Bill is well-recognized as a leading software trainer and presenter in Philadelphia and the surrounding counties for over 25 years.
- 4. Local Church Activities:** a) Active member of the Wharton-Wesley family for over 50 years, serving in many capacities. b) Member of Wharton-Wesley’s Board of Directors, c) President of the Wharton-Wesley chapter of the United Methodist Men, d) Launched & chaired Wharton-Wesley’s Grantsmanship Team, which successfully procured several grants to support our various church ministries. e) A technical advisor for Audio Sound Design, Video & Still Photography, f) State Senatorial Community liaison. **Previous ministries include**, a) the Boy Scouts of America under the leadership of Louis M. Stukes, (Bill later became a Scout Master) b) The Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) led by Miss Nan Fletcher, c) Junior Ushers, led by Mr. Brewington and d) Youth Choir led by Vernon Lathan, which began his lifelong affiliation with the local congregation of John Wesley. ***Bill accepted Christ as a teen and formally joined John Wesley UMC (later became Wharton-Wesley), in 1966 and remains a member to this day.***
- 5. Annual Conference:** Within the Eastern PA Conference, Bill serves on several boards and committees; a) the Conference Committee on Episcopacy, b) District Council of Ministries (DCOM), c) Metro Ministries board, d) South Superintendency Committee and shares, e) South District Co-Lay Leader responsibilities with Jennifer Lafferty. Bill & Jennifer led two very successful and well-attended trainings for Lay Members titled “Calling all Lay Leaders” to assist Lay leaders with Discernment, Laity Duties, Establishing Communication & Mission Links, Cultivating Relations, Silent Killers (ex: burn-out, inability to delegate responsibilities, etc.) & Effective usage of time, following with scheduled vignettes for learning.
- 6. Community Service:** Wharton-Wesley’s liaison with the Fire House Activity Adult Center’s PA State-Sponsored Food Voucher Program & The Red Cross of Philadelphia; Boy Scouts of America (BSA), Brokered the agreement between Wharton-Wesley’s Property & Our Brothers Place Homeless Social Service Support, Making the Wharton-Wesley the first Church to have a partnership of this kind. Philadelphia Corporation for Aging’s (PCA) City-wide Presenter for Computer Fraud Prevention.



- 
7. **Awards/Publications:** Created, photographed & produced an award-winning short film, *Revenge*, which was broadcasted by request, several times on WHYY TV. Bill was a staff photographer for the Religion and Society sections of The Philadelphia Tribune, which is the oldest African American publication in the country; he was also a well-known Wedding Photographer. He is often seen with his camera as he voluntarily documents the Eastern PA Conference, local community, political, family, and Wharton Wesley church events. Bill enjoys providing instruction to anyone interested in experiencing the magic of photography.
 8. **Family:** Bill married his wife, Carolyn, 28 years ago in the sanctuary of Wharton-Wesley. They are the parents of three adult children William P. Thompson, Jr., Andrew L. Thompson, Ashley D. Thompson, and grandson, Joele Tosson. All his children are active in his home church.
 9. **Interest in Serving as Conference Lay Leader:** After much prayer, I am answering God's call to give my best effort to help the ministry required for conference leadership. To help lay members discover their duties as the laity, such as advocacy, model discipleship, leadership, and service to assist church council. To share proven techniques to enhance the use of lay people's time and resources. To cultivate a team approach to ministry. I have established meaningful relationships with Laity and Clergy which will support lay initiatives. Be an advocate for the needs of the laity. Share my experience with how to motivate people. Prioritizing the well-being of lay members. Inspire more joy and fellowship within our congregations. Supporting the value of having youth in the church.
 10. **Ability to Serve as Conference Lay Leader-Availability:** My schedule will allow me to plan, organize, attend, lead meetings and trainings as needed. I am able to travel.



**RESOLUTION 2022-07 COMMITMENT TO DISMANTLING RACISM:
A PATH TOWARDS WHOLENESS**

1 **RESOLUTION 2022-07**
2 **Relating to EPA's commitment to Dismantling Racism**
3 **WHEREAS** Black/Indigenous/People of Color have experienced racism by The United
4 Methodist Church since its founding and racism continues today in United Methodist
5 organizations and structures; and
6 **WHEREAS**, here in The Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, African-Americans were
7 segregated and treated unjustly in our congregations and communities; and
8 **WHEREAS**, EPA committed in 1996 to end the sin of racism and continues to work
9 towards this vision; and
10 **WHEREAS**, EPA has committed to being an interculturally competent church and to
11 doing the work of justice.
12 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** The Eastern Pennsylvania Conference courageously
13 commits to work together to dismantle racism in EPA and create a more racially just,
14 inclusive and equitable church by carrying out ***A Path Towards Wholeness*** with yearly
15 reports from conference leadership to the Annual Conference on progress made.
16 **FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that herein named EPA Wholeness Team, with others
17 named to the team by the Bishop, so long as 1/3 of the team remains comprised of
18 African-American persons and no less than 1/2 of the team is comprised by persons of
19 color, shall oversee and have decision making authority over all grants, consultants,
20 competency trainings & curriculum development by this legislation.
21 **Supported by:** The Extended Cabinet; Connectional Table; Conference Council on
22 Finance and Administration; EPA Conference Board of Trustees; Congregational
23 Development Team; Commission on Religion and Race; Economic Justice Council;
24 Urban Commission; Black Methodists for Church Renewal; EPA Latino Commission;
25 EPA Korean Caucus; Healing the Wounds of Racism CORE Team, Committee on
26 Native American Ministries
27 **Submitted by Economic Justice Council:**
28 Members: Rodney Brailsford; Eddie Cameron; Milicent Clark; Johnson Dodla; Greg
29 Impink; Annie Kingcade; Larry Pickens; Tamie Scalise; Keima Sheriff; Alicia Juliá-
30 Stanley
31 Advisory: Will Brawner; James Brown; Evelyn Kent Clark; Luky Cotto; Steve Morton;
32 Dawn Taylor-Storm
33 **Presented by: Rev. Steve Morton; Rev. William Brawner; Rev. Evelyn Kent Clark;**
34 **Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm**



EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

The United Methodist Church

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

A Path Towards Wholeness

A Church for All People Serving All People With Justice & Equity

Report to the Eastern PA Annual Conference

May 20-21, 2022

Executive Summary

*Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is **now** the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. (Romans 13:11)*

As baptized Christians, we commit to renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world and repent of our sin. We accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves. We confess Jesus Christ as our Savior, put our whole trust in his grace and promise to serve him as our Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations and races.

A Path Towards Wholeness is an urgent calling to our Conference to adopt a comprehensive strategy in order that all of our churches and communities may experience wholeness. We understand that only through a just and equitable church will wholeness be possible for all of our churches. Racial economic justice means building economic/financial systems and processes that enable all people to live more equitably in all areas of life. This requires us to address some of the inherited system inequities within our congregation and the resulting disadvantage of churches of color.

As we build upon the past work of generations (see Addendum A), **A Path Towards Wholeness** continues this work to create **a more just, inclusive and equitable church**. We seek to act **NOW** by creating:

- **N**ew ministries and revitalized ministries with churches of color;
- **O**pportunities for advancement with churches of color and clergy of color in leadership and ministry; and
- **W**itnesses in every local congregation who will work to dismantle racism in our churches and communities

New ministries and revitalized ministries with churches of color:

METRICS:

- Revitalize 10 existing congregations of color by Dec. 31, 2027
- Develop 4 new faith communities of color, including at least 1 new black faith community, by Dec. 31, 2027
- Develop 10 new ministry centers serving with communities of color in Eastern PA between now and Dec. 31, 2027



Opportunities for advancement with churches of color and clergy of color in leadership and ministry

METRICS:

- \$300,000 Investment in 2023; \$300,000 Investment in 2024, with a conference goal of 1.5M investment by Dec. 31, 2027, in clergy of color and churches of color through equitable salary, reduced apportionments and targeted development funding.
- At least 50% EPA agency chairpersons/co-chairs are People of Color by June 2024.
- Increase the total number of African American/Black; Hispanic/Latino & Korean clergy serving in EPA by 20% by 2027 (13 new recruitments)
- Development of 10 clergy of color transformational leaders measured by increase from ¼-½; ½ - ¾ and ¾-Full-time by Dec. 31, 2027.
- Apportion all EPA churches using median household income formula (see formula pg. 5).

Witnesses in 90 local congregation who will work to dismantle racism in our churches and communities

METRICS:

- Thirty (30) trained EPA facilitators who are actively engaged with 90 congregations that are developing a Dismantling Racism Plan in their local context

A Path Towards Wholeness

A Church for All People Serving All People with Justice & Equity

The Report

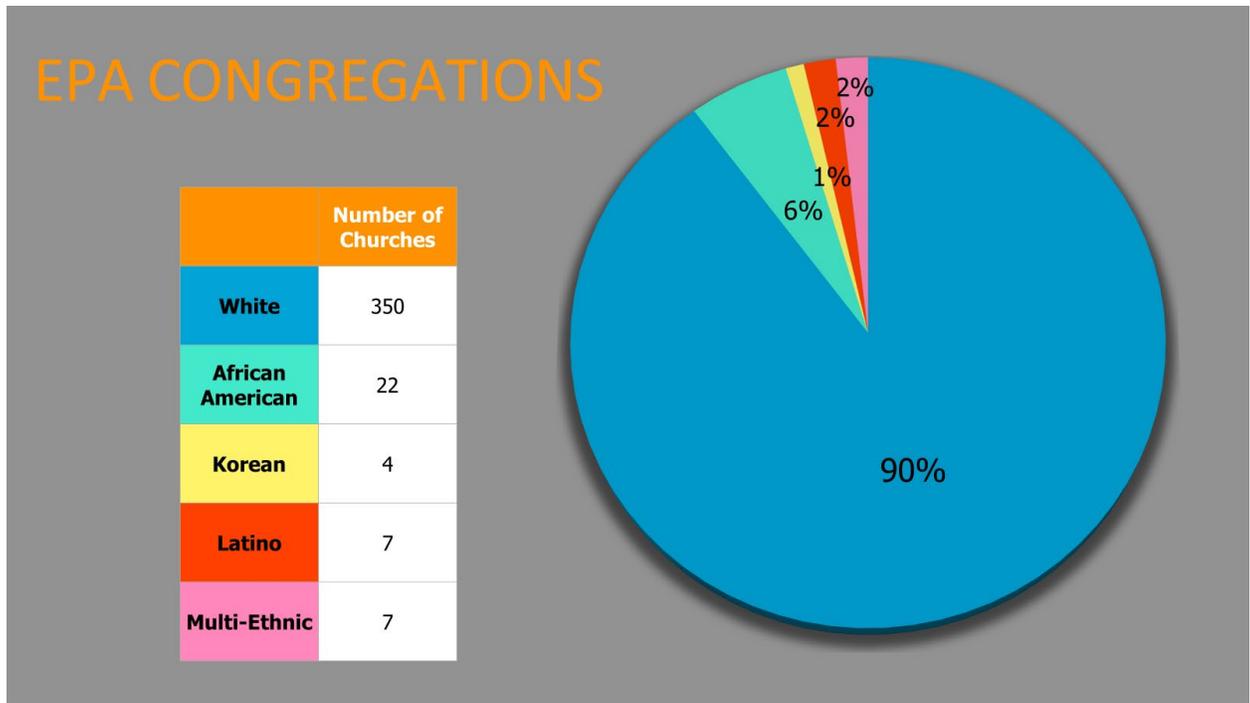
VISION: Dismantle Racism in EPA

EPA will intentionally work NOW to dismantle systems and structures within the church that perpetuate racism

The Eastern PA Economic Justice Council, under the direction of the Conference Commission on Religion and Race, was formed in 2021, out of a deep concern for the realities facing our racial and ethnic churches. The Council recognizes that if key measures are not taken now to address current concerns and invest in our racial/ethnic churches and clergy leaders of color, the future of our racial and ethnic churches will be in greater jeopardy. An economic equity audit was completed by the Council members looking specifically at compensation practices, apportionments for churches of color, and church property/assets. We believe the time is now to focus as an Annual Conference on:

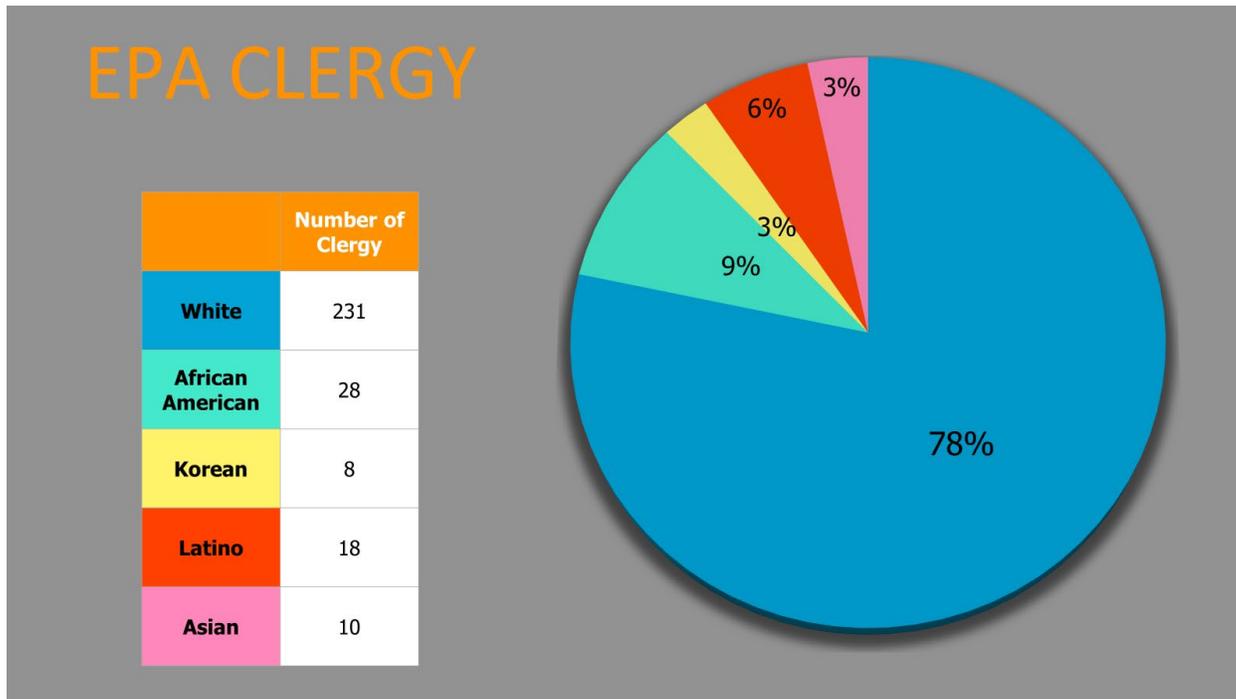
New ministries and revitalized ministries for churches of color. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we believe God is doing something new (Isaiah 43:19) and this requires us to also be open to the new ways God is moving. Through new technologies learned during the pandemic and new ways of partnering beyond geographical borders, we believe the time is NOW to develop new ministries and revitalized ministries for churches of color. We believe these ministries will be contextually developed; community centered and engage new technologies and innovative strategies. The economic justice council studied the current racial/ethnic break-down of EPA Congregations (Graph 1) and believes that we must continue to develop new faith communities of color that reflect our changing community demographics.

Graph 1 (2022 EPA Congregations Race/Ethnicity)



Opportunities for clergy of color advancement in leadership and ministry. We recognize that the playing field is not level and that years of oppression have continued to perpetuate unjust systems. Our goal is for leadership and membership in each congregation we serve to reflect the wider community. The economic justice council studied the current racial and ethnic demographics of our clergy (Graph 2) and believe that we must continue to recruit and develop transformational leaders of color.

Graph 2: 2022 EPA Clergy Race/Ethnicity



Witnesses in every local congregation who will work to dismantle racism in our churches and communities. All congregations and every member of our conference is called to commit to ending the sin of racism in our congregations and communities.

Eastern PA Conference has three focused goals as a conference: new disciples; transformational leaders and fruitful vital congregations that work to transform the world. We believe these goals will only happen when EPA churches engage in community ministry by developing ministries and partnering with others in action and service that transforms lives and conditions particularly in the areas of ending the sin of racism and oppression and ministry with the poor.

Who are disciples of Jesus Christ working to end racism?

A disciple is a follower of Jesus Christ who intentionally serves others and engages in life-long learning. Disciples of Jesus Christ follow Jesus' call to "make disciples of all nations" and as they engage in this multiplication effort, disciples intentionally seek to end the sin of racism in our churches and communities.

Who are transformational leaders?

Grounded in faith, these proactive innovators leverage spiritual gifts, culture & resources to empower teams, navigate change and accelerate growth to cultivate God's preferred future. Transformational leaders empower and equip others to end the sin of racism in our churches and communities.

What is a Fruitful, vital congregation that works to end the sin of racism?

Fruitful, vital congregations follow the Acts 2:42-27 mandate in order to 1) welcome all people as they are 2) Engage in hands-on mission in their communities 3). Create inspiring and uplifting worship experiences 4) Train people to share their faith with others and invite others into the life of the church 5) Provide small



groups for learning and discipleship. Vital Wesleyan congregations are congregations that intentionally work to end the sin of racism in the life of the church and the wider community.

A Path Towards Wholeness Metrics

A. New ministries and revitalized ministries with churches of color:

Transformational Measures and Actions:

- Provide funding and other resources, including but not limited to equitable salary and benefits, technology, training and consultants that will strengthen and increase the vitality of 10 existing congregations of color by Dec. 31, 2027 (Assigned to CCFA & Extended Cabinet)
- Develop 4 new faith communities of color, including at least 1 new Black faith community, by Dec. 31, 2027 by using new technologies and innovative strategies by Dec. 31, 2027 (Assigned to Extended Cabinet & CDT)
- Develop 10 Ministry Centers serving racial/ethnic communities with a focus on locally based missions that intentionally connect, engage, and partner with their communities for sustainable transformation. Include Black & Indigenous Persons of Color (BIPOC) and community leaders and representatives to assess community needs and design plans to strengthen and resource identified needs. Foster relationships with local businesses and organizations in order to operate in an asset-based development model. Train congregations and community leaders through the Ministry Center in cultural awareness and to assist congregations to serve the people in their communities. (Assigned to Extended Cabinet, CDT & Urban Commission)

B. Opportunities for advancement with churches of color and clergy of color in leadership and ministry:

Transformational Measures and Actions:

- \$300,000 Investment in 2023; \$300,000 Investment in 2024, with a conference goal of 1.5M investment by Dec. 31, 2027, in clergy of color and churches of color through equitable salary; reduced apportionments and targeted development funding. (Assigned to CCFA; Cabinet; CDT & Urban Ministries)
- Using Eastern PA median household income, apportion (Connectional Ministries Fund - CMF) all EPA churches using the following metrics:
 - Communities with median household income \$35,000-40,000 – apportion at 70% of current figures.
 - Communities with median household income \$30,000-34,999 – apportion at 65% of current figures.
 - Communities with median household income \$25,000-29,999 – apportion at 60% of current figures.
 - Communities with median household income \$20,000-24,999 – apportion at 55% of current figures.
 - Communities with median household income below \$20,000 – apportion at 50% of current figures.

With concern for gentrification, we are using the median household income related to that church's specific race or ethnicity.

Those who believe they should be considered for a greater reduction may petition the Cabinet.

- At least 50% of EPA agency chairpersons/co-chairs are People of Color by June 2027 (currently 41%) (Assigned to EPA Conference Committee on Leadership)
- Increase the total number of African American/Black; Hispanic/Latino & Korean clergy serving in EPA by 20% by 2027 (13 new recruitment) (Assigned to Board of Ordained Ministry and Cabinet)
- Development of 10 clergy of color transformational leaders measured by increase from ¼-½; ½ - ¾ and ¾-Full-time positions by Dec. 31, 2027. (Assigned to Cabinet)
- Ensuring accountability to equal pay for equal work by conducting regular administrative compensation reviews and consistent adherence to policies. (Assigned to Human Resources)

C. **Witnesses** in 90 local congregation who are culturally competent to lead EPA and its congregations to dismantle racism and will work to dismantle racism in our churches and communities:

Transformational Measures and Actions:

- Thirty (30) trained EPA facilitators who are actively engaged with 90 congregations that are developing a Dismantling Racism Plan in their local context (Assigned to DCM/Commission on Religion and Race)
- Create an anti-racism audit to be used in pilot local churches as part of the charge conference process by June 2023 and all local churches by June 2027. (Assigned to the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Team)
- (Assigned to the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Team)
- Provide intercultural competence and implicit bias training materials for leaders and congregations by June 2023 (Assigned to CORR; CR/CC Support Team of Companions & Trainers)

Accountability Moving Forward

The above measures and actions shall be the priority of the Annual Conference for the next five years and modified as needed to adapt to the changing needs of the conference in order to create a more just, inclusive and equitable church. Each year, the Path towards Wholeness Team, along with the EPA executive staff, shall report to the Annual Conference the progress on the objectives that include but not limited to:

1. The number of new clergy of color recruited and in process towards candidacy in EPA and their retention rate
2. The number of new faith communities of color and how these faith communities are being resourced for future viability
3. The number of ministry centers and plans for future sustainability
4. The number of racial/ethnic churches engaged in a process of revitalization
5. The percentage of congregations in EPA that have taken the step to become Witnessing Congregations
6. The number and amount of grants given to African American and other ethnic congregations
7. The number of racial/ethnic churches that are receiving reductions in apportionments and the percentage of reductions
8. The number of policies that have been reviewed and edited to ensure equity and consistency



Addendum: Building Upon Generations

We confess a history of racism that began in the settlement of the land in Eastern PA in the 1700s when Indigenous People were forcibly removed from the land. Due to forced relocation, today there are not any tribes native to Eastern PA. Descendants of Pennsylvania Indigenous Peoples are active in our churches and communities.

Eastern PA Conference's history is marked by centuries of participation in institutional racism. Our actions and activities that support racism include (but are not limited to) segregating African Americans and supporting policies that reduced African Americans to a lesser status in the life of the church; devaluing the gifts of persons of color in leadership, passively and often ineffectively addressing racism in our church and community. We have sinned both by acts of commission and acts of omission.

Richard Allen's forced removal from the altar of St. George's UMC while praying is one example of the countless ways that African Americans have experienced harm and horror inflicted by the church. Until 1864, petitions for black local preachers to be ordained as deacons and elders were denied by the General Conference. The organization of the Delaware Conference in 1864 provided opportunities for advancement of African American clergy and laity. During its century of existence, the conference had 72 presiding elders and district superintendents. The dissolution of the Delaware Conference sought to provide opportunities for African Americans in the full life of the denomination; yet, we are aware that this vision for a just and equitable church was often not fulfilled and racist practices continued a history of disempowerment for African American clergy and laity.

In 1996, Eastern PA Annual Conference passed its *Plan toward the Elimination of Racism* within the Annual Conference. This effort was originally known as "Healing the Wounds of Racism" and later "Changing Racism" and most recently, "Dismantling Racism." In 2018, Dragonfly Partners was hired to analyze institutional racism and white supremacy in the Eastern PA Conference. In a tangible act of justice, in 2019, Eastern PA Conference voted to forgive 3M in unpaid apportionments for black congregations.

Eastern PA Conference began a *Fight for Floyd* movement in 2020 following the horrific death of George Floyd, an African-American suffocated by a white police officer. Rather than a series of workshops, the Fight for Floyd movement sought to provide space for grassroot conversations leading to change in policing; policies and education.

We give thanks for moments when EPA worked to dismantle racism. We give thanks for the founders of the Healing the Wounds of Racism movement and the work that continues to educate every clergyperson, conference staff and agency chairpersons in the sin of racism. We give thanks for the Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural work of the past decade and celebrate **54** Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural appointments in Eastern PA. We give thanks for the ministry of Healing the Wounds of Ministry Core Team; Commission on Religion & Race; Urban Commission; Metro Ministries; Black Methodists for Church Renewal; the Korean Caucus and the Latino Commission who have worked tirelessly for justice and equity. We confess our own failure in not prioritizing the growth of ethnic and racial congregations.

RESOLUTION 2022-08 DISCERNMENT PROCESS

1 RESOLUTION 2022-08

2 Relating to Discernment Process for EPA Churches

3
4 **WHEREAS**, the Eastern PA Conference is committed to forwarding the mission of EPA
5 to create disciples, celebrate diversity, connect communities and commit to love and
6 justice, and,

7 **WHEREAS**, EPA leadership seeks to assist congregations to discern their purpose and
8 path; and,

9 **WHEREAS**, current challenges, including the shifting cultural views of faith and
10 organized religion, racism, concerns of congregations disaffiliating from The United
11 Methodist Church, emerging from the pandemic and a host of individual congregational
12 challenges calls the church to discern what does God have next for the congregations
13 and mission of EPA; and,

14 **WHEREAS**, EPA, based in its commitment to the mission, is resourcing all EPA
15 congregations willing and ready to deepen faith, develop leadership, grow
16 congregational vitality, and end the sins of racism, sexism and exclusion, and,

17 **WHEREAS** some of these key initiatives and resources include:

- 18 • Growing a vital mission congregation – *training, planning and coaching to*
19 *develop and carry out a plan to grow any one or more of the following: worship,*
20 *small groups, mission engagement, new disciples and generosity.*
- 21 • Sustainability – *understanding your congregation’s sustainability and how to*
22 *strengthen your congregation’s long-term sustainability.*
- 23 • *A Path Towards Wholeness Training and Planning – learning, understanding and*
24 *growing to end the sin of racism.*
- 25 • Re-Envisioning Space/Property Development – *assessing your property for*
26 *future mission (building expansion, turning space into community ministry, selling*
27 *property).*
- 28 • Conflict Resolution – *a facilitated process for congregations experiencing conflict*
29 *about direction, mission, leadership or programing.*
- 30 • Connectional Relationship – *a facilitated process for congregations discerning*
31 *their connectional relationship with The United Methodist Church and Eastern*
32 *Pennsylvania Conference*

33 **And,**

34 **WHEREAS** this is a time of missional focus for EPA to recruit and develop
35 transformational leaders to make disciples and grow missional vital congregations for
36 the transformation of the world, and,

37 **WHEREAS**, discernment is a spiritual practice, calling us to seek God’s wisdom for our
38 future knowing *all things work together for good for those who love God and who are*
39 *called for the purposes of God.* -Romans 8:28; and,

40 **WHEREAS**, EPA proclaims as one of its core values that Christ is the source of our
41 faith, hope and unity.

42 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that EPA recommits to its mission and strategic
43 priorities, goals, and resourcing strategies to recruit and equip transformational leaders
44 that make disciples and grow vital congregations for the transformation of the world.

45 **BE IT RESOLVED** that information regarding each pathway will be shared with
46 congregational leadership
47 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that EPA set the next year as a time of discernment and
48 renewal for congregations to explore God's calling for their future ministry.
49 **Presented by: Rev. Bumkoo Chung, Dean, EPA Cabinet and Ms. Lenora**
50 **Thompson, Chair, Connectional Table**

Information Only:

PATHWAYS FOR EPA CHURCHES

We would like to introduce Pathways to Congregational Development. Pathways offers congregations an intentional process to prepare, assess, learn and grow in your understanding of what it means to be a healthy, fruitful congregation post-COVID-19. Pathways offers the tools to create a plan that provides clarity and focus to take the next faithful steps in ministry and mobilize leaders and disciples to world-changing discipleship and ministry. Pathways builds on the work your congregation has already done and offers new directions for being connected and engaged in mission and ministry.

EPA wants your congregation to have a great future. Pathways is a tool to discern God's calling and plan for your congregation. People in your community need to experience God's healing love. Vital congregations connected and engaged missionally with the people in the community are bearers of God's love as experienced through the life of Jesus Christ. The following resource will help you get there, and along the way will carry your congregation toward becoming more sustainable, vital and culturally competent.

Pathways is not another program, instead this is a process for a congregation. Your journey will be supported by a facilitator to have deep, meaningful conversations about their current mission and ministry. We invite each EPA congregation to discern the Pathway that is right for you in this season. We offer the following Pathways here in EPA. You will be invited to select one Pathway by July 2022 and begin your journey on that Pathway by September 2022.

EPA PATHWAYS 2022-2023

- I. **Growing a vital mission congregation** – *training, planning and coaching to develop and carry out a plan to grow any one or more of the following: worship, small groups, mission engagement, new disciples and generosity.*
- II. **Sustainability** – *understanding your congregation's sustainability and how to strengthen your sustainability.*
- III. **A Path Towards Wholeness Training and Planning** – *learning, understanding and growing to end the sin of racism.*
- IV. **Re-Envisioning Space/Property Development** – *assessing your property for future mission (building expansion, turning space into community ministry, selling property).*
- V. **Conflict Resolution** – *a facilitated process for congregations experiencing conflict about direction, mission, leadership or programing.*



VI. **Connectional Relationship** – *a facilitated process for congregations discerning their connectional relationship with The United Methodist Church and Eastern Pennsylvania Conference*

PATHWAY I: Growing a Vital Mission congregation

I. Growing a vital mission congregation – *training, planning and coaching to develop and carry out a plan to grow any one or more of the following: worship, small groups, mission engagement, new disciples and generosity.*

EPA Purpose

Recruit and develop transformational leaders to make disciples and grow vital, missional congregations for the transformation of the world.

Vital Mission Congregations

Holy Spirit-led communities of passionate disciples who are working together to grow new disciples, inspiring worship, active small groups, risk taking community mission, and generous giving to mission. (Acts 2:42-47)

A vital congregation has:

- Inviting and inspiring worship
- Engaged disciples in mission and outreach
- Gifted, equipped and inspired lay leadership
- Effective, equipped and inspired clergy leadership
- Small groups and strong children's programs and youth ministry

Vital congregations are led by and made up of vital disciples. These are some marks of vital disciples:

- Disciples worship
- Disciples make new disciples
- Disciples engage in growing their faith
- Disciples engage in mission
- Disciples give to mission

Through the **Vital Congregation Pathway**, EPA Congregations will work with a facilitator to develop one or more of the vital congregation markers. EPA congregations will be invited to assess their current gifts and the gifts within the wider community. Congregations will develop and implement their action plan focused on one or more of the vital congregation markers.

PATHWAY II: Sustainability

II. Sustainability – *understanding your congregation's sustainability and how to strengthen your sustainability.*

A United Methodist congregation is a part of a worldwide movement, and each congregation is the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27). The congregation exists for the



purposes of God by being the body of Christ, the embodiment of the teachings and life of Jesus demonstrated through disciples actively witnessing to and serving others.

The congregation is rooted in the mission field to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world through vital congregations (Acts 2:41-47) who:

- Gather disciples to **worship** God by planning and leading regular worship services that connect with people in the community and inspire people to follow Jesus Christ.
- Organize disciples into **small groups** to form, nurture and shape disciples of Jesus Christ to live and account for a Christ-like life in the world.
- Develop disciples into **witnesses** who by their life and testimony lovingly attract others to become disciples of Jesus Christ.
- Send disciples to engage in **mission** locally and globally to do justice and mercy ministries.
- Inspire disciples to **give** generously to the mission of the church.

EPA develops lay and clergy leadership to develop congregations and engage disciples in service to the world. Many of our congregations, congregational leaders and pastors have engaged in the resourcing of EPA and are growing the mission, developing skills as leaders and increasing congregational vitality. We praise God for the growth of our mission, leaders and congregations. We also recognize that current challenges impact congregational sustainability. While many congregations are thriving, other congregations are declining and struggling. There is no one reason.

Congregations become at-risk because of cultural shifts, congregational crisis, internal church conflict, difficulty in adapting to new forms of not being able to connect with people in the community, or combinations of these, and many other reasons

EPA has three urgent challenges that threaten our mission and the health of all our congregations. They require immediate attention and action.

1. Financial Concerns
2. Declining Congregations
3. Liability Issues

Financial Concerns

When finances become the driver of ministry, the long-term sustainability of a congregation is in question. Through the **Sustainability Pathway** congregations will look closely at future sustainability and other options to consider for increase financial sustainability.

Declining Congregations

Small churches are a gift to many communities. They provide an intimate worship experience and a place where people feel at home and useful to the mission of the church. The difficulty is when congregations become so small that they are no longer able to have a robust mission in the community, meet financial and administrative obligations and attract new people.

As congregations have become smaller, we see:



Fewer new disciples: 273 congregations failed to make one new disciple in the most recent statistical year and many struggle to carry out basic ministry: These congregations may not raise enough money to sustain basic levels of mission, ministry and operations.

Deferred building maintenance: Disrepair of church property creates greater liability for all our congregations.

Lack of administration and accountability: Congregations are failing to carry out in a timely manner administrative responsibility (Safe Sanctuary policy, charge conference and statistical reporting, clergy and congregational evaluations, etc.).

Liability Issues: The inability to administer basic ministries and operations in our churches place the entire conference at great risk of causing harm to people. As United Methodists we follow John Wesley's rule to "do no harm." Deferred maintenance and lack of administration can lead to liability concerns.

The **Sustainability Pathway** supports churches who are willing to look closely at the health and vitality of their congregation and their mission to determine an appropriate path forward for the congregation. In the Sustainability Pathway, the Sustainability Team will work with the local church on how to strengthen current sustainability. Through prayer, focus groups, community demographics assessments & congregation self-assessments, the facilitator will support the church in developing an action plan.

PATHWAY III: A Path Towards Wholeness

III. A Path Towards Wholeness Training and Planning – learning, understanding and growing to end the sin of racism.

Eastern PA Conference has three focused goals as a conference: new disciples; transformational leaders and fruitful vital congregations that work to transform the world. We believe these goals will only happen when EPA churches engage in community ministry by developing ministries and partnering with others in action and service that transforms lives and conditions particularly in the areas of ending the sin of racism and oppression and engaging in ministry with the poor.

Who are disciples of Jesus Christ working to end racism?

A disciple is a follower of Jesus Christ who intentionally serves others and engages in life-long learning. Disciples of Jesus Christ follow Jesus' call to "make disciples of all nations" and as they engage in this multiplication effort, disciples intentionally seek to end the sin of racism in our churches and communities.

Who are transformational leaders working to end the sin of racism?

Grounded in faith, these proactive innovators leverage spiritual gifts, culture & resources to empower teams, navigate change and accelerate growth to cultivate God's preferred future. Transformational leaders empower and equip others to end the sin of racism in our churches and communities.



What is a Fruitful, vital congregation that works to end the sin of racism?

Fruitful, vital congregations follow the Acts 2:42-27 mandate in order to 1) welcome all people as they are, 2) Engage in hands-on mission in their communities, 3) Create inspiring and uplifting worship experiences, 4) Train people to share their faith with others and invite others into the life of the church, 5) Provide small groups for learning and discipleship. Vital Wesleyan congregations are congregations that intentionally work to end the sin of racism in the life of the church and the wider community.

Through **A Path Towards Wholeness Pathway**, 90 congregations will be invited to develop a Dismantling Racism Plan in their local context. Beginning with an anti-racism audit congregations will assess their current work and then develop a plan to build on intercultural competence for members and the wider community. Thirty (30) trained EPA facilitators will actively engaged with 90 congregations that are developing a Dismantling Racism Plan in their local context (Assigned to DCM/Commission on Religion and Race)

PATHWAY IV: Re-envisioning Space/Property Development

IV. Re-envisioning Space/Property Development – *assessing your property for future mission* (building expansion, turning space into community ministry, selling property).

The United Methodist Church began as a movement, often meeting in homes and community centers. Through the years, we have been blessed with many properties, including churches, parsonages, fellowship halls, land and cemeteries. Some of these properties now house closed churches and currently sit vacant. Others are historic facilities that are in disrepair. Still others are underused and yet sit in the midst of communities in desperate need for the love of Christ. Through the **Re-envisioning Space/Property Development Pathway**, EPA wants to work with congregations that are discerning new ways to be stewards of their most valuable financial resources to expand mission and make disciples to transform the world.

Some of our churches may want to consider repurposing their underused property for expanded mission. For example, The Garden Church in Landsowne, PA discerned that the need in the community was for senior housing. Through a bold God-sized vision, the church demolished their sanctuary and worked with an anchor partner, Simpson Senior Services, to build an assisted living facility with the new sanctuary housed inside the facility.

Property repurposing for expanded mission can be simple or complex depending on the needs of the community. Other reasons for repurposing include: vacancies due to building damages in excess of the current structures' value, unoccupied buildings resulting from mergers, and buildings that would better serve mission in a changing community in different ways (including more cost effective, sustainable use)

The **Re-Envisioning Space/Property Development Pathway** is for churches considering building expansion, turning space into community ministry or selling property. Outside consultants may be used in this process.



PATHWAY V: Conflict Resolution

V. Conflict Resolution – *a facilitated process for congregations experiencing conflict about direction, mission, leadership or programming.*

Every congregation experiences conflict as a part of normal, healthy growth and change. These periods of conflict can be difficult for individuals and congregations. The United Methodist Church of Eastern Pennsylvania recommends a process to move congregations to resolution and growth. If your church is experiencing conflict regarding direction, mission, leadership or programming, the **Conflict Resolution Pathway** will guide you through a facilitated process.

Biblical & Theological Foundation

Then Peter came and said to Him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.” – Matthew 18: 21-22

Both the Old and New Testaments are filled with stories about conflict between individuals, within groups, between cultures and, yes, even between God and humanity.

Conflict can be a catalyst for renewal, health and change and serve as a mechanism for growth. At other times, however, conflict can be destructive and cause serious dissension. A clear and healthy process for working through conflict empowers a congregation to move forward in the midst of the challenges and increase faithfulness and fruitfulness.

Healthy relationships include communicating honestly, reconciling willingly, and sharing and receiving forgiveness. We honor God when we work to resolve differences, offer forgiveness and reconcile differences within the congregation.

Growing our congregations beyond conflict requires intentionality, hearts for forgiveness and well-trained Staff-Parish Relations Committees (SPRC) and church leaders. We are committed to equipping leaders to lead through conflict.

Three Steps for Resolving Conflict

1. COMMUNICATE

If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. – Matthew 18:15

Begin with prayer for yourself and the people in conflict. Invite God to share wisdom, enable understanding and open communication that resolves differences.

If you have a concern about an action of a pastor, staff member, or parishioner, attempt to work it out directly with the person. Speak to each other face-to-face. Explain how you are affected and provide an opportunity for reconciliation. You are encouraged to start the conversation by saying – “I experienced (describe what you felt or experienced) when you (describe the action of the individual) and I would like to resolve our differences.”



2. COMPANIONS

But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. – Matthew 18:16

If your concern is not reasonably resolved by direct communication, speak to a member of the SPRC and ask for help to resolve your concern. The SPRC may take one of several actions:

- Ask a member of the committee to mediate a conversation between the people in conflict.
- Have those with concerns meet with the full SPRC and pastor so that they may hear the concerns identified.
- Connect with an outside resource person if there does not appear to be a path forward to address the concerns. If the conflict involves the pastor, contact the superintendent first.

SPRCs are encouraged to participate in conference training on conflict resolution and to seek consultation about mediating conversations.

3. COUNCIL

If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. – Matthew 18:17

If you do not believe that the SPRC has adequately addressed the concern or believe that the SPRC has not acted objectively, you may ask the SPRC chairperson to contact the superintendent. The superintendent will further review the concerns and determine if additional steps are warranted.

When the conflict arises because of an allegation of sexual misconduct, sexual harassment or sexual abuse, the SPRC chairperson or the pastor should contact the district superintendent immediately (within eight hours) so that the Sexual Misconduct Policy is implemented.

- Connectional Relationship – *a facilitated process for congregations discerning their connectional relationship with The United Methodist Church and Eastern Pennsylvania Conference*

If your church is experiencing conflict regarding direction, mission, leadership or programming, the **Conflict Resolution Pathway** will guide you through a facilitated process.

MISSIONAL PATHWAYS FOR EPA CHURCHES

We invite your congregation to enter into discernment regarding the Pathway for your church to take in this season. Through an online system provided by your District Office, we will invite each EPA congregation to choose a pathway by July 1, 2022. For congregations seeking to engage more than 1 Pathway, we ask that you choose one Pathway for the first cycle. We will continue to offer cycles of each program through 2023. Congregations will be paired with facilitators through the summer, with Pathway sessions to begin in September 2022. If you have questions or need further information about the Pathway program, please reach out to the Director of Connectional Ministries, Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm at dtaylorstorm@epaumc.church

[For more information on the Connectional Relationship Pathway, please click HERE and see pages 11-14: https://www.epaumc.org/wp-content/uploads/EPA-Resolution-Pathways-Doc-14-pages.pdf](https://www.epaumc.org/wp-content/uploads/EPA-Resolution-Pathways-Doc-14-pages.pdf)



RESOLUTION 2022-09 BUILDING FELLOWSHIP IN THE FACE OF DIVISION

1 **Resolution 2022-09**
2 **Building Fellowship In the Face of Division**
3 **Relating to Working Through Our Different Viewpoints on Human Sexuality**
4 **Presented by Rev. Timothy Carl Anderman**
5

6 **WHEREAS**, the heritage and purpose of The United Methodist Church has been to
7 honor, live, and grow in God's Covenant of grace and love for us, and our covenants
8 together; and to see our lives and faith from God's perspective while we give care for
9 souls; and to grow as we mature in our love by God's grace in sanctification, seeking to
10 live lives in pursuit of holiness, as we create trust in building relationships in fellowship
11 in Christ,
12

13 **WHEREAS**, We seek to provide good pastoral care to each other, through deep
14 listening and seeking to understand one another, by assertively choosing and creating a
15 fruitful setting, as we seek to share our understanding in both the challenges and the
16 ways God has blessed us,
17

18 **WHEREAS**, Jesus taught through the use of parable and story, which continued the
19 practice through the centuries in the Jewish traditions in the Old Testament of sharing
20 our experiences in stories of our journeying in faith and receiving and living in God's
21 Covenant, and which continued and continues in our Christian traditions of sharing our
22 witness, and we are people of the Quadrilateral, valuing the Bible, human experience,
23 tradition, and rational thinking,
24

25 **WHEREAS**, Human sexuality is one of the most complex and personal dynamics we
26 experience as human beings, and we face a great challenge to speak of the origins of
27 our view points and we have a variety of reasons and experiences for our views and
28 positions, and the Annual Conference setting does not provide the ideal or complete
29 venue for such deep discussions as is required for such a complex, personal dynamic of
30 our lives,
31

32 **WHEREAS**, when conflicts in human relationships occur, the issue and dynamic
33 showing often has underlying, unnamed and hidden dynamics that are often ignored or
34 avoided, thereby undermining relationships and reconciliation with one another and with
35 one's own covenant with Christ wherein we are claimed by grace,
36

37 **WHEREAS**, whether our denomination stays together, or divides in some way, in
38 faithfulness we still need to actively seek understanding and wholeness in our
39 relationships, even while dismantling or keeping the current institutional structure,
40 remembering our purpose as United Methodist has always been to learn, grow, and
41 mature in our love in Christ together as we learn from one another in the process of
42 sanctification as envisioned in I John 3:2-3, 14, 18-20, 23-24, 4:1, which includes
43 following the command from Jesus to love even our enemies, which leads us to seek to
44 understand the hearts and souls those who have different points of view, not just their
45 stated position.
46



47 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Eastern PA Conference as a Conference,
48 and in our local churches, will commit to creating specific places and times to meet in
49 Christian fellowship throughout the next two years at various levels of groups in
50 fellowship in our local churches, and as a Conference Community one or two times in
51 the next year at our church camps, Innabah, Pocono Plateau, and Gretna Glen, or other
52 settings. Our purpose is to build trust and understanding by listening and hearing one
53 another one on one, in small group setting, and when possible, larger group settings,
54 specifically examining for greater insight, by responding to and sharing the question,
55 “What one or two personal stories would you tell and share that would help someone
56 understand your position on the issue of homosexuality in our churches and
57 denomination?” The purpose to be helping others understand our experiences in how
58 events and people in our lives have influenced, shaped, or clarified our faith and
59 viewpoint.

60
61 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** Individual churches are encouraged to work towards
62 creating specific times, and places in their fellowship for sharing our faith journey
63 through answering the question above, telling and sharing our stories which provide
64 greater opportunity to learn from one another’s perspective.

65
66 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we are building upon our history and tradition of
67 our Church of sharing faith and fellowship in Christ in small groups to envision our faith
68 journey forward, by taking care not to ignore, and instead more intently listen to one
69 another; we seek to understand with renewed respect our conflict’s root causes and
70 dynamics, and how God wants us to faithfully move forward, building community in
71 Christ’s love.

72
73 **Person responsible for presenting this resolution: Rev. Timothy Carl Anderman**



**RESOLUTION 2022-10 CLARITY AND TRANSPARENCY FOR CONGREGATIONS
TRANSFERRING OR DISAFFILIATING IN THE EASTERN PA CONFERENCE**

1 **RESOLUTION 2022-10**

2 **Relating to Clarity and Transparency for Congregations Transferring or**
3 **Disaffiliating in the Eastern PA Conference**

4 **Presented by: Rev. Nelson Alleman**

5
6 **WHEREAS**, The 2019 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist church contains
7 options for a local church to either transfer or disaffiliate from the United Methodist
8 Church: 1) Paragraph 2548.2 relating to release of the trust clause to transfer to a
9 church “represented in the Pan-Methodist Commission or another evangelical
10 denomination;” or 2) Paragraph 2553 which grants the limited right until December 31,
11 2023, for United Methodist congregations to disaffiliate for reasons of conscience over
12 the practice of ordination or marriage of self-avowed practicing homosexuals; and
13 **WHEREAS**, the *Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace through Separation* offers a
14 proposal to restructure the United Methodist Church by separation as the best means to
15 resolve our differences, and allow each part of the Church to remain true to its
16 theological understanding, while recognizing the dignity, equality, integrity, and respect
17 for every person; and

18 **WHEREAS**, prolonged uncertainty regarding if and when General Conference will meet,
19 and whether the Protocol will be enacted, as well as limited information about
20 requirements in Eastern PA Conference for congregations desiring to transfer or
21 disaffiliate continues to create anxiety and distraction in United Methodist
22 congregations; and

23 **WHEREAS**, clarity and transparency about transfer and disaffiliation processes and
24 requirements will reduce anxiety and empower local churches to make informed
25 decisions;

26 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the 2022 Session of the Eastern PA Conference
27 directs all the officials, boards and agencies of the Annual Conference to be governed
28 by the following principles, policies and processes in engaging congregations desiring to
29 transfer to “one of the other denominations represented in the Pan-Methodist
30 Commission or to another evangelical denomination” (Paragraph 2548.2), or to
31 disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church “for reasons of conscience regarding a
32 change in the requirements and provision of The Book of Discipline related to the
33 practice of homosexuality or the ordination or marriage of self-avowed practicing
34 homosexuals as resolved and adopted by the 2019 General Conference, or the actions
35 or inactions of its annual conference related to these issues which follow” (Paragraph
36 2553).

- 37 I. Congregations transferring to one of the denominations represented in the Pan-
38 Methodist Commission or other evangelical church may, at their sole discretion,
39 choose to transfer under the provisions of Paragraph 2548.2.
- 40 II. The EPA Conference recognizes both the Liberation Methodist Church and the
41 Global Methodist Church, once they are formally launched, as legitimate
42 denominations to receive transfers under the terms of Par. 2548.2.
- 43 III. Only congregations disaffiliating to an independent status shall be required to use
44 the provisions of Paragraph 2553.
- 45 IV. Any required payments for unfunded pension liability shall be based on Wespeth
46 calculations of the aggregate unfunded liability of the Annual Conference. This

47 calculation shall be made public. The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits
48 shall determine the aggregate funding obligations of the annual conference using
49 market factors similar to a commercial annuity provider, from which the annual
50 conference will determine the local church's share. Allocation of a proportional share
51 of that liability to the local church shall be determined using the Eastern PA
52 Conference apportionment formula.

53 V. Eastern PA Conference officials shall adhere to the following policies in
54 administering Paragraph 2548.2, which states:

55 "With the consent of the presiding bishop and of a majority of the district
56 superintendents and of the district board of church location and building and at
57 the request of the charge conference or of a meeting of the membership of the
58 local church, where required by local law, and in accordance with said law, the
59 annual conference may instruct and direct the board of trustees of a local church
60 to deed church property to one of the other denominations represented in the
61 Pan-Methodist Commission or to another evangelical denomination under an
62 allocation, exchange of property, or comity agreement, provided that such
63 agreement shall have been committed to writing and signed and approved by the
64 duly qualified and authorized representatives of both parties concerned." (United
65 Methodist Book of Discipline, 2019);

- 66 a. Transfer Decision Regulations: The local church shall make the decision to transfer
67 under 2548.2 at a charge conference or a church conference duly called according
68 to the provisions of The Book of Discipline.
- 69 1. The local church council (or its equivalent) shall initiate the process by writing
70 to the district superintendent for permission to hold a charge or church
71 conference to approve a transfer request.
 - 72 2. The district superintendent, with the consent of the presiding bishop and a
73 majority of the district superintendents, and the district board of church
74 location and building, shall approve the request of the Church Council, and
75 shall preside or choose another elder to preside at a charge conference or a
76 church conference, to take place no later than sixty (60) days after the
77 request by the Church Council is made to the district superintendent.
 - 78 3. The local church council (or its equivalent) shall determine whether a charge
79 conference or church conference is called, and whether a simple majority or a
80 two-thirds supermajority shall be required for approval of the motion to
81 transfer.
 - 82 4. Special attention shall be made to give broad notice to the full professing
83 membership of the local church regarding the time and place of a charge
84 conference or church conference called for this purpose of approving transfer,
85 and to use all means necessary, including electronic communication where
86 possible, to communicate.
 - 87 5. As part of the local church's decision-making process, its representatives
88 shall negotiate with its district board on church location and building the exact
89 financial details of the transfer. These details shall be presented to the local
90 church prior to the charge conference or church conference at which the vote
91 for transfer is to be taken. These shall also be reported to the Annual
92 Conference Board of Trustees to be presented to Annual Conference.

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6. The Annual Conference session, whether regular or adjourned, immediately following the local church's official decision to transfer shall approve the transfer request by a simple majority. Upon approval, it shall immediately direct the board of trustees of the local church to deed its property to the transfer-receiving denomination, provided the local church shall satisfy all other debts, loans, and liabilities, or assign and transfer them to its receiving denomination, prior to transfer.
 7. In the case of a denomination with no trust clause, once the transferring local church has reimbursed the EPA Annual Conference for all funds due under the transfer agreement, and provided that there are no other outstanding liabilities or claims against The United Methodist Church as a result of the transfer, the Annual Conference shall release any claims that it may have under ¶ 2501 and other paragraphs of The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church commonly referred to as the "trust clause." The Annual Conference shall release the local church from the United Methodist Church's trust clause.
 - b. Transfer Financial Regulations: Any allocation, exchange of property, or comity agreement shall include the following requirements. No additional sums shall be required.
 1. The local church shall be current in apportionments for the period of two years (24 months) preceding transfer. Payment of unpaid amounts for the 24 months preceding transfer shall be made preceding the effective date of the transfer.
 2. Apportionments in arrears from periods preceding the 24 months prior to the effective date of transfer shall be forgiven.
 3. The local church shall repay previously documented loans from the Annual Conference.
 4. Whereas, grants from the Annual Conference are generally used for immediate active ministry, only grants received within the immediate 12 months prior to the final approved date of transfer shall be repaid.
 5. Pension Liability:
 - i. If the local church transfers to a sister denomination which is served by Wespath, the church's proportional-share of past pension liability will carry forward under Wespath in the new denomination. If this arrangement should fail, the past-pension liability agreement may be in the form of a promissory note to spread payments over time.
 - ii. If the local church transfers to a sister denomination that is *not* served by Wespath, it shall repay the Eastern PA Conference for the local church's proportional share of the unfunded liability. This repayment agreement may be in the form of a promissory note to spread payments over time.
 - iii. The unfunded Pension liability shall include unfunded obligations related to The United Methodist Church's pre-1982 pension plan, the Ministerial Pension Plan, and/or the Clergy Retirement Security Program.
 6. Payment of all unpaid sums shall be made by the local church prior to the date of transfer, except in the case of a promissory note for past pension liability.

- 
- 139 7. The local church retains all its assets and liabilities, according to the rules of
140 the sister denomination to which it transfers. No additional sums will be
141 required to obtain release of all the congregation's property and assets from
142 the trust clause.
- 143 VI. The Eastern PA Conference Trustees and officials shall adhere to the following
144 additional policies in administering Paragraph 2553:
- 145 a. In the case of a disaffiliation request under 2553, the district superintendent shall
146 approve the request of the Church Council (or equivalent body) and shall preside or
147 choose another elder to preside at a church conference to take place no later than
148 one hundred twenty (120) days after the request for disaffiliation by the Church
149 Council is made to the district superintendent.
- 150 b. No additional sums shall be required for release of the local church's property and
151 assets beyond those defined in Paragraph 2553.4 b – h, and defined by Eastern PA
152 Conference Resolution 2021-6, passed at the 2021 Annual Conference, except that,
- 153 1. The required apportionment payment (Paragraph 2553.4b) shall be for the
154 twelve months immediately preceding the effective date of separation, plus
155 twelve times the most recent month apportionment amount prior to
156 separation.
- 157 2. Apportionments in arrears from periods before the 24 months prior to
158 separation shall be forgiven.
- 159 3. Payment of any unpaid sums shall be made by the local church prior to the
160 date of separation.
- 161 c. No additional terms, standards or otherwise, shall be imposed by the Annual
162 Conference on the disaffiliating local church.
- 163 **Presented by: Rev. Nelson Alleman**