

## **2021 NEJCAH Annual Meeting – Zoom**

### **Report from Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference**

For the past year, the Western PA Annual Conference Commission on Archives and History has scaled back most activities because of COVID-19. The Commission has continued to meet regularly, using Zoom each time. We have not visited our Archives or satellite site as a group. Two of our members have continued to work alone at our Archives, and others have published historical articles for our Conference. Our official archivist has continued to work and innovate during this time.

Notably, the Commission has taken on a new project, by request of our bishop. We are now researching the history and experiences of Black United Methodist Christians and churches. We are publishing what we find in our Conference "In Focus" newsletter as we go. Our ultimate goal is to create a video product before Annual Conference 2022, so our research can reach a wider audience.

Finally, the Chair of our Commission, Rev. Eddie Patterson, has stepped down. We are praying for his health, and ask for everyone's prayers for Eddie. Our Vice Chair (and former Chair), Rev. Ed Herald, stepped up as Chair effective March 27, 2021. Rev. Shane Siciliano was elected as Vice Chair that same day. Our entire Commission is looking forward to participating in Christ's ministry in the year ahead.

Report submitted by:

Rev. Shane Siciliano