



2020

**Annual Meeting
Report Booklet**

Pacific Northwest Conference
of the United Church of Christ

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Churches of Our Conference

Alaska

Anchorage	Fa'avae Fou (New Foundation) Feagaiga Fou (New Testament) Satauro Ole Manumalo (Victorious Cross)	Rev. Edwin Galeai Rev. Niutunu Faiupu Rev. Faalefu Savusa
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Idaho

Lewiston	Congregational-Presbyterian Church	Rev. Steve Wilbraham, Senior Pastor Rev. McLane Stone, Associate Pastor
Wallace	United Church of Christ-Congregational	Rev. Alice M.C. Ling

Washington

Anacortes	New Pilgrims Community	Rev. Rebecca Withington
Bainbridge Isl.	Eagle Harbor Congregational	Rev. Dr. Dee Eisenhauer
Bellevue	Eastgate Congregational UCC First Congregational Church	Rev. Brigitta Remole, Interim Rev. Lisa Horst Clark Rev. Patty Ebner
Bellingham	First Congregational Church	Rev. Sharon Benton Rev. Deanna Murray Rev. David Weasley
Blaine	United Church of Christ (Cong.)	Rev. Sandy Wisecarver
Carnation	Tolt Congregational UCC	Rev. Stephen Haddan
Chewelah	Chewelah United Church of Christ	Pastor Jess Peacock, Licensed
Colfax	Affirmational UCC - Plymouth Cong.	Rev. Lynn Nelson
Colville	First Congregational Church	Rev. Jim CastroLang
Dayton	First Congregational Church	Rev. Marj Johnston
Eltopia	Eltopia United Church of Christ	Rev. Esther Sanders
Everett	Everett United Church of Christ	Pastor Jermell Witherspoon
Federal Way	Wayside United Church of Christ	Rev. Allysa De Wolf
Ferndale	The United Church	Rev. Bobbi Virta
Forks	First Congregational Church	Pastor Warren Johnson, Licensed
Fox Island	Fox Island United Church of Christ	Rev. Janet Matthews
Guemes Island	Guemes Isl. Community Church, UCC	Rev. Sally Balmer
Kirkland	Kirkland Congregational Church, UCC	Rev. Ryan Lambert
Lacey	Church of New Beginnings	Rev. Aleni Tonuao
Lummi Island	Lummi Island Congregational	Rev. Jamie Kepros
Malden	Malden Community Congregational	In Transition
Mercer Island	Congregational Church on Mercer Island (UCC)	Rev. Roberta Rominger
Metaline Falls	Metaline Falls Congregational UCC	Rev. Tara Leininger
Monroe	First Congregational Church of Monroe	Rev. Jane Sorenson
Newport	United Church of Christ	In Transition
Olympia	Community for Interfaith Celebration	Pastor Corey Passons, Licensed
Olympia	The United Churches of Olympia	Rev. Tammy Stampfli, Co-Pastor Rev. Lara Cruetsinger-Perry, Co-Pastor
Pullman	Community Congregational UCC	Rev. Steve Van Kuiken
Renton	United Christian Church	Rev. Cynthia Meyer
Richland	Shalom United Church of Christ Central United Protestant Church* Northwest United Protestant Church*	Rev. Stephen Eriksen Rev. Kim Fields, Lead Pastor Rev. Dr. Peter Kalunian, Interim

Ritzville Sammamish Seattle	Westside United Protestant Church*	Rev. Ralph Kienecker, Lead Pastor
	Zion Philadelphia Congregational UCC	Pastor Janel Rieve, Licensed
	Spirit of Peace UCC	Rev. Susan Fairo, Interim
	Admiral Congregational Church (UCC)	Rev. Andrew Conley-Holcom
	Ala Ile Ola Church #5	Rev. Enoka Gatologi
	Alki United Church of Christ	Rev. Dr. Kelly Wadsworth, Transitional Minister
	All Pilgrims Christian Church	Rev. Greg Turk
	Bethany UCC	Rev. Angela Ying
	Broadview Community UCC	Rev. Gary Southerton
	Columbia Lakewood Community	In Transition
	Fauntleroy Church UCC	Rev. Leah Atkinson Bilinski
	First Samoan Cong. UCC (#1)	Rev. Karyn Frazier, Associate Pastor
	German United Church of Christ	Rev. Topelagi Siva
	Japanese Congregational Church	Rev. Thom Wert
Keystone Congregational UCC	Rev. Tim Johnson	
Liberation UCC Magnolia United Church of Christ		Rev. Richard Gamble
		Rev. Lauren Cannon
		Rev. Yuki Schwartz
		Pastor Jermell Witherspoon
		Rev. Marci Scott-Weis
		Rev. Michael Haven, Specialized Minister
		Rev. Amy Hitchens, Contracted Pastor
		Rev. Kelle Brown, Lead Pastor
		Rev. Steve Davis, Executive Minister
		Rev. Kevin Bechtold, Minister of Children & Families
Normandy Park Cong. Church Plymouth Church, UCC		Rev. Donene Blair, Minister of Community Care
		Rev. Meighan Pritchard
		In Transition
		Rev. Kelekolio Koloï
		Rev. Nofoniga Moi
		Rev. Jerry Chang
		Rev. Catherine Foote
		Rev. Amy Roon
		Rev. Todd Smiedendorf, Bridge Minister
		Rev. Paul Ashby
Shoreline	Richmond Beach Congregational UCC	Rev. Dan Stern, Spiritual Director Lay Leadership
		Rev. Andrea CastroLang
Spokane	Shalom United Church of Christ	Rev. Genavieve Heywood
	Westminster Congregational UCC	In Transition
Spokane Valley	Veradale United Church of Christ (Cong.)	Rev. Tupulua Tagaloa
	Suquamish United Church of Christ	Rev. Ulises Sala
Suquamish	Cong. Christian Church of Am. Samoa	
Tacoma	First Samoan Congregational Christian Church of Tacoma	
Tonasket	Tonasket Community Church, UCC	In Transition
	University Place	Rev. Cathlynn Law
	Walla Walla	Rev. Nathaniel Mahlberg
	Wenatchee	Rev. Russell Clark (begins in May)
Woodinville	Sunnyslope Church	Rev. David Schlicher
	Northshore United Church of Christ	Rev. Paul Forman, Pastor Emeritus
Yakima	United Christian Church	In Transition

* Indicates an affiliated church.

Conference Transitions

Memorials

Gerald Montgomery April 29, 1939 - June 13, 2019



The Rev. Gerald Montgomery in Minnesota. He was ordained in 1984 at University Congregational UCC in Seattle. He earned a B.A. from Macalester College, and a Ph.D. from California Coast University, along with postgraduate studies at UTS.

In addition to being a pastor, Jerry was president of his own public relations company, and a reporter for UPI, Port Angeles Daily News, and The Seattle Times. He developed and implemented the first county-wide emergency medical care system in King County in the 1970's. He served with the USA Naval Reserve in the 1960's.

He married Ruth Ann Huntsinger in 1960 and they had one son, Eric, and a daughter, Lisa who pre-deceased Jerry.

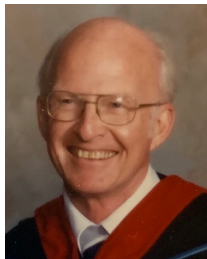
He served as senior pastor of First Congregational Church of Oakland, CA, Lakeview UCC in Tacoma, Anderson Island Community Church, and as a police and fire department chaplain. Most recently he had been working with military personnel returning from conflict in the Middle East.

Kunnan Chen January 3, 1939 - June 14, 2019

The Rev. Kunnan Chen was born in Taiwan. Rev. Chen received his M.Div. from the Tainan Theological College in 1968, and a Master of Theology from South East Asia Graduate School of Theology in 1974. He continued his education in Switzerland, and the United States.

Rev. Chen was ordained in 1970 by the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan. He served churches in Taiwan, Orlando, Florida, Decatur, Georgia, and in Seattle, Washington, when he was called as the first pastor of at the Taiwanese Christian Church (UCC) from 1991 until his retirement in 2004. He also served as the chair of PAAM NW Region for 2 years in the late 90's. He is survived by his wife, Pichu, and their children.

David Nelson April 15, 1929 - July 22, 2019



The Rev. David Nelson was born in Seattle and spent his early years on Mercer Island. He graduated from Franklin High School and then the University of Washington with a BA in Sociology. He received his Master of Divinity from Andover Newton Theological School. He also attended the University of Oslo.

Dave and Georgia married in 1953. He was ordained in 1956 in our conference. He served our churches in Tonasket, Ferndale, University Place, Cathlamet, and then retired after serving Newport UCC. He also served churches in Colton, CA and Hooksett NH. He was an Annuitant Visitor for our conference.

He and Georgia moved to Horizon House in 1999. Dave loved baseball, traveling, and riding ferries. He is survived by his wife, Georgia; daughter, Tamara; and son, David.

Berton Connerly December 9, 1918 - August 14, 2019

Berton Darrel Connerly was born in Sedgwick, Colorado. After earning his Master's of Divinity at Andover Newton Theological Seminary, he served in Massachusetts, North Dakota, Nebraska, and Washington for close to 20 years, then taught English for Clover Park School District for 17 years. After retiring, he threw himself into many hobbies including traveling the US and 11 other countries while also working part time as a writing tutor at Tacoma Community College. He was a devoted husband to his first wife, Edith for 51 years. After Edith's death in 1993, he was an attentive husband to second wife Vivian, third wife Marge, and dear friend Phyllis before they passed. He is survived by his son Darrel Connerly, daughters Wendy Sutich (John) and Christine Connerly (Jay Fuller), grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Bert lived his life with gusto and left a legacy of creativity and curiosity in his descendants.

Doris Waggoner August 27, 1944 - November 20, 2019

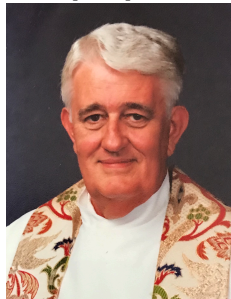


The Rev. Doris Waggoner was born in West Seattle. She lived in South Dakota, Indiana, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Florida before returning to the Seattle area. She earned a BD in English Education from the University of Washington, an MA in Sociology from Kent State University, and her M.Div. from Eden Theological Seminary.

Doris was ordained in 1995 by the United Church of Christ. She served as an associate pastor, and as a chaplain in Florida and a CPE Resident in Missouri. She was also a computer instructor and consultant at the University of Wisconsin. She transferred her standing to our conference in 2004. She was a resident of Horizon House since 2005. Her hobbies included bird watching, making jewelry, reading, and doing jigsaw puzzles. She is survived by her

brother, Henry, and her friend, Catherine.

Jerry Symonds September 1935-February 5, 2020



The Rev. Jerry Symonds went to high school in Findlay Ohio, and continued his education at Asbury College in Kentucky, where he received his B.A. He received a B.D from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. He was ordained in 1960 then served churches in Massachusetts and Ohio before becoming a partner in the Murphy, Symonds, and Stowell Management Recruiting Firm where he worked for 15 years. He was the founding pastor of the Church of the Pacific on the island of Kauai, Hawaii and served there from 1984-1990.

In our conference, he served the United Christian Church of Renton from 1992-99 and was instrumental in the building of the congregation's sanctuary building. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Janet Symonds.

Clergy New to Our Conference

Jerry Chang was ordained and is serving at Taiwanese Christian Church, UCC in Seattle.

Tamara Roberts was ordained at University Congregational UCC to serve St. Paul's UCC as their Pastor for Youth Spiritual Formation.

Kelly Wadsworth is the Transitional Minister at Alki UCC.

Newly Retired Clergy

Amy Furth is a member of University Congregational UCC in Seattle.

Tim Devine retired after serving as pastor of St. Paul's UCC in Seattle.

Joy Haertig retired after serving as pastor of Magnolia UCC in Seattle.

Marcia McLaughlin retired from Commissioned ministry at Richmond Beach Congregational Church in Shoreline.

Carol Scott-Kassner retired from Commissioned ministry at University Congregational Church, UCC in Seattle.

Joan Sulser retired last summer. She is in the Spokane area.

Specialized Ministers

Tara Barber, a member at Liberation UCC, currently works as Minister of Ministerial Accountability at the national office.

Jennifer Butner is a chaplain at Children's Medical Center, Seattle. She is in covenant with University UCC where she is a member.

Susan Cutshall, a member of Wayside UCC, is retired.

Michael Denton, our conference minister, is a member of Plymouth Church, UCC, in Seattle.

Benjy Files is a member of University Congregational UCC, currently on leave of absence.

Andy Gill is a chaplain at Seattle Children's Hospital. His membership is in transition.

Debra Jarvis is a Writer in Residence at University Congregational UCC where she is also a Covenant Partner and member.

Beverly Jenden-Riedlinger is a member of The United Churches of Olympia.

Greg Kammann is a chaplain at Western State Hospital and a member of United Churches in University Place.

Bill Kirlin-Hacket is a member at Wayside UCC. He is in residence at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Bellevue as the director of The Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness.

Jill Komura is a member at The United Churches of Olympia. She has a private practice of pastoral counseling and spiritual direction.

Penny Matthews, a member of Alki UCC, is a chaplain at Providence Hospice of Snohomish County.

Beth Plumbo, a member of Westminster Congregational UCC, is a chaplain with Providence Health & services in Spokane.

Lindalee Purdy is the Director of Spiritual Care at Horizon House. She is in covenant with All Pilgrims Christian Church, where she is a member.

Rosemary Raynaud, a member of First Congregational Church in Everett, is a chaplain at Lutheran Counseling Network.

Judith Rinehart-Nelson is a Spiritual Care Professional and Founder/Director of Hope Filled Ways. Her membership is with Colville UCC.

Diane Schmitz, is a member of Everett UCC and her specialized ministry focus is racial justice.

Cheryl Smith, a member of First Congregational Church in Bellingham, is a chaplain at Whatcom Hospice.

Jeannette Solimine is in covenant with Affirmational UCC-Plymouth Congregational Church in Colfax, where she is a member.

Courtney Stange-Tregear, Minister for Church Vitality for the conference, is a member at St. Paul's UCC in Seattle.

Dan Stern is a Spiritual Director in covenant with and a member of Richmond Beach Cong'l UCC.

Bruce Wilson is a member of, and in covenant with University Congregational UCC in Seattle, is a chaplain at MultiCare.

Wayne Wilson does ministry with United Way of King County where he is a Housing Executive. He is in covenant with University Congregational UCC in Seattle, where he is a member.

Licensed Ministers

Warren Johnson is serving at First Congregational Church in Forks.

Corey Passons is serving at Community of Interfaith Celebration in Olympia.

Janel Rieve is serving at Zion-Philadelphia UCC in Ritzville.

Commissioned Ministers

Amy Johnson is serving the UCC as a coordinator for Our Whole Lives program. She is a member of Wayside UCC.

Members In Discernment

Trina Banks is a member of Liberation UCC and is Chaplain for UW Seattle Cancer Care Alliance.

Jennifer Castle is a member of Plymouth Church, Seattle, attends Christian Theological Seminary and is Director of Faith Formation at Plymouth Church.

Elyse Fairweather is a member of Eagle Harbor Congregational Church and is Chaplain for UW Palliative Care.

Elizabeth Gordon is a member of Plymouth Church. She has an M.Div. from Fuller Seminary Northwest.

Jennifer Hagedorn, a member of Plymouth Church, Seattle, graduated from Union Theological Seminary and is a Chaplain for Emory Hospital.

Stevi Hamill is a member of Fauntleroy UCC and attends Seattle University School of Theology and Ministry.

Amy Johnson is a member of Wayside UCC and is the Coordinator for Our Whole Lives.

Emily Linderman is a member of Liberation UCC and completed a UC Stanford Palliative Care Chaplaincy Fellowship.

Maureen McLain, a member of Magnolia UCC, is approved for ordination pending call.

Sophie Morse is a member of Suquamish Congregational Community UCC. She has been approved for ordination pending call.

Corey Passons is a member of and serves the Community for Interfaith Celebration in Olympia.

Jess Peacock is the lay minister of Chewelah UCC.

Sam Rennebohm is a member of Prospect UCC and is approved for ordination pending call.

Terry Rice, a member of First Congregational Church in Walla Walla, is a health care chaplain. His M.Div. is from Andrews University Theological Seminary.

Tara Young-Brown is a member of University Congregational UCC.

Reports from the Conference Staff

Mike Denton, Conference Minister

April 19th, 2020

Dear Siblings in Christ:

Almost exactly a year ago, I attended worship at Keystone UCC (a church with a building in Seattle) where Lauren, my beloved, is one of the pastors. It was Easter so we drove there a little early. There were lots of handshakes and hugs as well as some food to share. We sang together in the sanctuary. We shared communion by intinction as we lined up to break a piece of bread off of the same loaf and dip it in a common cup. After worship, the kids hunted for eggs outside as the adults alternated between taking pictures and huddling up for small conversations here talking about their plans for the day before we all headed back home.

Today, I attended worship with the members of 1st Congregational Church of Walla Walla from our front porch. The worship consisted of a series of YouTube videos from several of their members reading scriptures and prayers as well as sharing music. Everyone was encouraged to watch the videos starting at 10 am and then attend a time of prayer using Zoom at 11. Folks attended from their own home using laptops, desktops, smartphones, and tablet computers. By the time I started attending worship with Walla Walla, I'd already been with my son in a Zoom breakout room attending Sunday School at Keystone UCC as Lauren was in the other room greeting people before worship. When I headed to the front porch, I left Leo in the living room to read and play until he was invited to attend worship and share in communion with Lauren in our study. Leo was able to wave at his grandmother, too. She's been attending regularly the last several weeks and lives in Virginia.

We've all been stunned by the events of the past month and, at the same time, it's stunning how quickly and how much we've adjusted to this new reality. I don't say that to suggest that we've figured it all out or know exactly what we're doing or know exactly what news the day will bring or have certainty that whatever we're practicing or trying out is the best way to do everything we're doing. These just aren't those kind of days. We're learning a lot. We're in the middle of a natural disaster almost invisible to most of us until we hear a friend or family member is on a ventilator or plan a trip to the grocery store or look for our facemask or see someone walking towards us and, then, both start to adjust to a distance that feels safe. It's almost invisible to us until we listen to a news report or try and make plans for the day or turn on our computers for one more damn videoconference.

Still, it's stunning how quickly we've adjusted. Churches are not generally well-known for the speed of our decision-making process. The number of people who need to have input is broad as we dance between some form of somewhat representative democracy and consensus; text and subtext. The Pacific Northwest Conference is an expression of the collective powers, collective challenges, and the collective church cultures of our region. At this moment, we're also an expression of the cumulative work that's been done over the years by all of us.

We're adjusting to this moment well and the only reason we are is because of the good work that's been done up to this moment. We wouldn't be moving through this moment as well as we have without the work that our staff, board, and committee members had already been engaged in. It was just January that switching from one listserv to another gave us the

opportunity to double-check the accuracy of our contact information for authorized ministers, committee members, and committee chairs, and invite folks to use new communications platforms. We've been learning about the relational power of community organizing for several years, now, and are living into this calling in a new way. We have camps - established decades ago - that move into this crisis on steady ground with a network of relationships that allow them to serve their communities in ways we never imagined they would have to. We have financial clarity and transparency that, due to our work over the last several years, is the best it's ever been. We have relationships throughout the denomination and our region that have helped us aid, resource, and support each other.

There is still work to be done in all these areas, too. **All the challenging realities that were important, before, become more acute, now, as timelines for change are becoming shortened from years to months or even weeks.** Within the life of the Church, we - and many other long-existing organizations - have been living with institutional uncertainty for decades and this uncertainty has been exacerbated by COVID-19. To get to the other side of this we need to continue to invest and draw from the relationships we already had and to center down and recognize God's call to us at this moment.

A few years ago, the board of the Pacific Northwest Conference established these intentions, "To deepen relationships, to do justice, to love kindness, and walk humbly with God." Those intentions are continuing to guide us through this moment. We are providing means for us to deepen relationships through near-daily COVID-19 related communications and opportunities for leaders within our congregations to learn from, support, and resource each other. We are doing justice as we advocate for those who were already neglected before this crisis and insist on the fair treatment of those increasingly vulnerable. Our camps have become centers for kindness as Pilgrim Firs (in cooperation with Kitsap County) hosts a place where those emergency workers who have been exposed to COVID-19 are provided a place to sleep, quarantine, be served good meals, and rest in the middle of our outdoor sanctuary. N-Sid-Sen has become a place where, every day, some first responders are able to have some time moments to walk with and reconnect with their families in a place that has enough room for social distancing and other first responders are simply able to have some time alone. We have provided a means for churches without electronic giving options to receive offerings through our conference website and are exploring the possibility of a copywrite license we can all share. Together, we worship God together and pray with each other online as we face the challenges of this moment.

We have asked for you to give and in this extraordinary moment and many of you have. Thank you so much. If you haven't been able to give to the conference and our camps to support this good work, I ask that you consider doing so soon by going to www.pncucc.org, clicking on the donate button, and becoming a Friend of the Conference and our camps. **We cannot continue to do what we've been doing without your financial support.**

We do not know exactly what these days ahead will hold for us but we can decide the spirit with which we will face them. Our autonomy recognizes the reality that our contexts for service to God and God's people are different but our covenant recognizes that we cannot do this work alone. **In the coming days, we will continue to deepen relationships, to do justice, to love kindness, and walk humbly with God. This is our calling. This is what God has made us for.**

With hope,
Mike

Courtney Stange-Tregear, Minister of Church Vitality

- Sabbatical Replacement: filled in for the Conference Minister, Mike Denton, for the months on June, July and December.
- General PNC Leadership: Board of Directors, Stewardship, Church Development
- Local church: continued support of our local churches through regular preaching and leading worship, leadership retreats/coaching, workshops, conflict/crisis management, and regular check ins
- Virtual Office Hour: Wednesday mornings, this launched in November and has had steady participation, primarily PNC clergy.
- Camp Support: Women's retreat, Eastside Clergy Retreat, Family Camp 1
- Local Church Pilot Program: trained additional CDC members to help with this project, but between illness, sabbatical coverage, and the fall gathering, this project did not progress as expected.
- Fall Gathering/Weaving Together: pointe person for the planning and leadership of this first ever organizing oriented event. Learned and practiced community organizing, identified leaders from within our institution, and highlighted new ways of working on issues. Over 100 in attendance, very positive feedback
- This is Me: Coordinated submissions, edited, and sent out by email and on social media, our second year of this Lenten Story telling practice.
- Wider Church: General Synod, Antoinette Brown Society Selection Committee, Cornerstone Fund Board of Directors, Steering Committee of the newly formed ACM Alliance, Keynoting and Consulting with other Conferences (IL, SW, CAC), and part of a leadership team looking at how General Synod might evolve
- Wholiness Project: this is the project engaging potential future collaboration between PNC, Central Pacific and Montana N. Wyoming Conferences.
- Dmin: Continued to progress on my course work and thesis, focused on organizational systems/organizational development through storytelling

Mark Boyd, Managing Director N-Sid-Sen Camp and Conference Center

1) N-Sid-Sen prior to Covid-19

N-Sid-Sen ended the 2019/2021 fiscal year on a high note. Our income broke \$445,000 with almost all groups increasing campers and dollars. We were able to finish our fire break work around the cabins and lodges and planted 300 trees onsite. We installed new water heaters in the bathhouse and Forrester kitchen. We upgraded the bbq in the cove for our picnics. We built a wonderful shelter viewpoint on the South Loop trail. Spirit Lodge has new paint inside throughout. And we updated the sound system in the pavilion. We have a new functioning well. We were working hard to be sure that everything is ready for all of you. We had work camp planned to add changing spaces in all the cabins, replace some old fencing in front of Forrester,

some dock work and of course trail clearing. And then the storm came and dropped a tree on cabin 8. No problem let's add that to work camp.

2) N-Sid-Sen with Covid-19

February 28 we saw our last group and began to receive the cancelations. We had outside user groups canceling into October. We reached out to other camps in the area as well as other UCC camps. We offered our site as a place for 1st responders and their families to be able to get away for a few hours or the day. Wander the trails, bring a picnic lunch, etc. We have offered to provide housing and meals to any 1st responders needing to isolate or quarantine. This is not a county sponsored program.

We recognize that our clergy are working extra hard doing things they could not have imagined. With that in mind we have extended a welcome for all clergy who need a respite to come on home to the lake.

Summer camp. We are currently looking at all the new ways we can be and do camp this year. We do know that it will be different and your Outdoor Ministry folks are weighing all the options as we look into the future. We expect to have some better answers in May as the information changes.

3) N-Sid-Sen after Covid-19

We all know that we will come out of this time changed. Covid-19 has shown us that we can do church differently, it will also show us we can do camp differently. This has hit us all hard in many ways. N-Sid-Sen's income has slipped away for now, so we are tightening our belts and slowing things down. Our goal is to be better equipped to serve you in 2021 as we weather this storm. And yes, you can help. You can donate by going to our www.n-sid-sen.org or dropping a check in the mail. You can help by simply calling and checking in as the summer unfolds.

Wade Zick, Managing Director Pilgrim Firs Camp and Conference Center

These are strange days for writing an annual report and to know how to communicate what all has been happening. The story is really at least 3-fold with the time before COVID-19, the time we are currently in which is during this COVID-19 experience, and with the last phase yet to be realized which will be the coming out of COVID-19. I have no doubt that the financial stresses will be experienced differently in each phase - all of which require creativity, generosity and staying true to the purpose of the camp.

BEFORE COVID-19

The story I was prepared to write in February was about the best year we have experienced regarding usage and being financially in great shape. Our increased usage had 18 new groups on site this fiscal year with retaining almost all of our groups from previous years. In addition to the new groups, we were seeing increased attendance numbers among our returning groups that had us projecting our year ending with a healthy margin for projects needing to be addressed.

Some of the improvements and projects that we had accomplished included;

- South Lodge Renovations (many thanks to the generous lead \$25,000 matching gift from Brenda & Don Mallett!) that included new heating throughout, new propane fireplace insert, new lighting in main area, painting, new lights above beds and work in the restrooms.
- Sculpture piece purchased last summer through the stone sculpture organization that is here in July

- Ongoing landscaping improvements (huge thanks to our volunteer master gardener Neve Norton who manages that project)
- New kitchen equipment that included a dishwasher heating booster, ice machine, food warmers and serving trays
- Replacement of two vehicles; the housekeeping van & the camp director car

WITH COVID 19

In the beginning of March we started to understand that having groups on site may not be possible as the impact of Covid-19 was starting to be realized. We reached out to our Kitsap County commissioner to see how we might be helpful for the community and within a few days we were contracted to be a Covid-19 Isolation & Quarantine Center through May. That experience has allowed us to partner with the county in providing housing and shelter for those in need of a safe place to be as they either were positive with the coronavirus or awaiting results of the test. Our main role in this work has been focused on food service and general hospitality.

We have been very grateful for the generosity expressed from folks who made masks for our guests and staff, donated health kits, sent get-well cards, made donations of money to support our work, gifts of comfy clothing, and leisure time activities that included games, puzzles and magazines/books.

The staff of Pilgrim Firs has been amazing in stepping up in this very difficult time and wanting to be part of our community story of how we take care of our neighbors. I am so grateful for their creativity of working through the transition of spaces, hauling mattresses, extending hospitality to the many county staff that have been present on staff and providing an extravagant welcome to our guests. This has truly been life-changing and life-saving work!

COMING OUT FROM COVID-19

Really this could just be blank as we have no clear answers on when we can receive groups again and how we financially weather a pandemic that erodes the very reason we exist in bringing people together. Our ministry and business model is providing a sacred oasis for creativity and community through shared communal spaces that nearly necessitates that we do not have social distancing. In the next period of time, until there is safety in bringing people together again for the purpose of having camp or a retreat, we will be looking at various ideas of how we might generate some kind of income. This will be the time period where Pilgrim Firs will almost certainly need financial support from individuals, churches, our outside user groups and from the conference itself. While our camp financial model works in times without a virus pandemic - we are not equipped to do business as usual with constraints of social distancing and likely limitations on groups being together.

The good news is that every group that we work with who has had to cancel plans to return and have rolled their deposits over for the next year! We are still scheduled to be doing more ministry and provide hospitality for more groups than ever. And we will need help in getting us through this next period to get to the other side of this pandemic and again running camps and retreats.

From the Board of Directors

Moderator's Report

Wendy Blight

I love to watch remodeling shows on TV. It's fun to think about how a home can be redesigned and new spaces created. And I'm fascinated with the process of taking separate rooms and configuring them in a way that makes it all flow together.

I realized recently that I've taken a similar approach with my Conference work. With the combined efforts of the Board of Directors and the staff, we have done some rethinking. We've tried to approach issues from a variety of perspectives. We've had some successes, and there's a lot of remodeling left to do in order to design the Conference for a new era.

It's much easier to start new and build from the ground up. We don't have that luxury in our churches or in our Conference. We have a rich history that we want to bring with us as we reconfigure for the future and it's difficult to identify those things that we won't need as we move forward. If we tear down one wall, will the whole structure fall? If we build an addition, better suited to our current situation, will it be an improvement to the overall design?

We have worked on structure this year, more than I would have wanted to, but it was the work that needed to be done. For example, we needed a functioning Personnel Committee and a revised Personnel Manual. We needed a Safer Church Policy, a Gift Acceptance Policy and an updated Fiscal Policy. We also needed Board members who clearly understood their role and their work. We needed to create priorities and set goals that would create continuity for our efforts. We did those things.

The Board also realized that our bylaws needed to be revised to reflect new realities in our Conference. After last year's Annual Meeting, we wanted to acknowledge in writing that racism and other intersectional oppressions have existed and continue to exist in our Conference, and we wanted to commit to changing that. We also needed to recognize that Conference Areas are not functioning, and that our Leadership Committees need more flexibility.

The Board reimagined the work we do together as a Conference. We experimented at the Fall Gathering with stretching beyond learning into action. We found out how hard that is for us. We signed up, but following through is difficult. We did find out that together we know a lot about injustice in the world and how racism is woven into our society. Some of us left with new perspectives.

On the horizon I see a Conference Board of Directors with continuity in membership and a younger woman with fresh perspectives who will lead them as Moderator. It is a Board of faithful and committed people who are willing to look at issues with fresh eyes and open hearts and they are ready to lead the Conference into the future. I have high hopes that the foundation we laid this year and the overarching goals that we set will propel the work of the Board. Those goals include deepening relationships across the Conference among clergy, congregations and communities, amplifying our call for justice through action, and increasing our extravagant welcome throughout our region and the world. All of that in order to reveal God's dream for Creation that builds a home for everyone. May it be so.

Treasurer's Report

Martha Baldwin

Our financial results for the past year again continue to tell the story of a people of faith in our conference and churches. We are continuing to look into the future acknowledging that we need to find a new way of doing church and connecting with each other. My report outlines some of the financial highlights of the upcoming year.

In looking at our Projected Conference Ministries Operations for our fiscal year ending May 31, 2020, we continue to face challenges and also see some healthy trends:

- Our total revenue for the fiscal year will be \$464,000, just slightly below our budgeted total revenue of \$466,000. This excludes the one time bequest from the estate of Doris Waggoner.
- We continue to receive healthy donations to the newly established Friends of Conference Fund, as well as Friends of Pilgrim Firs and Friends of N-Sid-Sen. Our next year's budget includes a challenge to continue Friends of the Conference donations at \$24,000 and Friends of the Camps donations at \$25,000.
- In addition to the Friends of the Camps donations, both camps received gifts for capital projects this fiscal year. N Sid Sen received \$4,000 for Capital Projects and Pilgrim Firs received \$31,000 for Capital Renovations to South Lodge. We are grateful to our Stewardship Committee, our Camp Managing Directors, Conference Ministers and Board of Directors for their work on developing a conference donor base.
- Our net operating loss (after transfers from reserve funds) will be \$24,500. This loss is slightly greater than budgeted due to projected revenue being slightly below budget.
- Once again we are committed to paying living wages to all staff. Next Year's budget includes a 3% Cost of Living adjustment for all current staff.
- Our total expenses for the fiscal year are projected to be \$614,000 which is slightly over the budgeted expenses of \$612,000.
- At the end of February 2020, the Pacific Northwest Conference had total assets of \$5.7 million. \$3.7 million of those assets were in cash and investments. The other \$2.0 million were in fixed assets, primarily land and buildings at our two camps.

As a people of faith we continue to do the work and have the conversations around investing in the vitality of our local churches and our conference. I want to thank the Conference staff, Board of Directors and Committees for guiding us forward.

Committee Reports

Committee on Ministry

Lois Farnsworth-Whysong, Chair of Eastside

Cassie Emanuel and Peggy Derick, Co-chairs of Westside

The Committee on Ministry (“COM”) has responsibility for support and accountability of those who hold, or seek, authorization for ministry. Along with that responsibility comes the privilege of walking alongside our clergy at important times in their ministries, including preparation for ordination, ordination, installation, completion of ministry, and transfers of standing. We are one committee, though we generally meet separately on the East and West sides of the conference. COM-E and COM-W communicate regularly to ensure uniformity of policies and processes.

We continue to “live into” the new Manual on Ministry (“MOM”), www.ucc.org/ministers.manual, applying it in the context of the PNCUCC. We greatly appreciate the many resources that MESA is developing and making available online (MOM Section 3) to share best practices with everyone.

Much of our work involves oversight of Members in Discernment (“MIDs”) who are preparing for ordained ministry. It is extremely rewarding to observe and encourage these remarkable people who represent a bright hope for the future of the UCC. In recognition of their substantial personal and financial commitment, we offer scholarships to MIDs. Funds for these scholarships come from offerings at ordinations and installations. We hope to be able to continue to offer this financial aid.

This past year the Conference has faced a blessing and a challenge with our Communities of Practice (“COP”). We appreciate the value of these groups for providing support and education for our clergy. We also recognize that the program, as currently structured, is not financially self-sufficient. The COM has agreed to oversee the COP program, and a task force has been working on revising the structure and finding sources of funding. We will continue our efforts to make this valuable program successful.

The COM is also responsible for accountability for authorized ministers. In 2020 COM is completing the three-year cycle of the new Boundary Training that was developed and facilitated by Tara Barber, and we will be considering what kinds of Boundary Training are appropriate going forward. Our accountability responsibility also includes Fitness Reviews if issues of clergy ethical violations arise. Fortunately, these situations are rare, but it is critical that we be prepared to act if necessary. In 2019 COM arranged for Fitness Review training so we will be better prepared. Thanks to the people who were willing to be trained and are now ready to serve in this difficult but important ministry.

COM-E conducted one Fitness Review in 2019. Following this review, Minister Steve Lucas’ standing was terminated.

Over many years, the Rev. Tara Barber has provided many kinds of ministry in the PNCUCC, mostly focusing of the kinds of work done by the COM. We have particularly appreciated her work leading both Boundary Training and Communities of Practice. We thank Tara and congratulate her on her new call at the national setting of the UCC as Minister of Ministerial Support and Accountability. We will miss Tara!

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Derick, Co-Chair (Westside)
Cassie Emanuel, Co-Chair (Westside)
Lois Farnsworth-Whysong, Co-Chair (Eastside)

Outdoor Ministries Task Force, Kaila Russell, Chair

This has been a wonderful year of growth, transition, and success at our camps. This past summer N-Sid-Sen hosted all our youth camps. Kids Camp and Sr High Camp shared a week, and Intermediate and Jr High shared a week. This model, while new to us, is a model that has worked with great success in many camps across the country. We were eager to try new things and learn from one another. Each camp ran their own program, but overlapped during meals, swim time, some field games, and craft activities. We look forward to this next summer where we can stretch and grow even more. This year's theme is "This is Our Prayer". We have some wonderful volunteer directors and counselors in place and look forward to the journey with our campers as we discover new ways to connect with God. Our family camps at N-Sid-Sen continue to be vibrant as well.

Pilgrim Firs offered another summer service mission program. This was a great experience for the participants as well as the local church that helped sponsor the activity. While this program was successful the last 2 years, there does not seem to be great momentum with this program moving forward. Pilgrim Firs offered a Jr/Sr High Midwinter Retreat in January.

With much gratitude to Kevin Peterson, we now have a Safer Camp Policy in place for this summer. Kevin, a member of our OM Task Force, worked with a small group to revise and update this policy for us.

Our Task Force is looking for ways to support our camps beyond the summer program. As we meet, we are looking at ways to support both Mark and Wade throughout the year, focusing on programs, budgets, policies, publicity, and facilities. Together, we continue to seek volunteers who have a passion for working with children and youth as we build community and share the good news with our campers. We look forward to a year of new possibilities and opportunities at our camps. Our Task Force continues to pray for wisdom as we serve together in this powerful ministry of creating safe and sacred spaces for all to experience God in nature while growing in our faith.

See you at camp!
Kaila Russell

Youth & Young Adult Ministries Task Force Lara Crutsinger-Perry, Chair

Members: Cristina Airaghi, Lara Crutsinger-Perry, and Hanna Kutas.

The group faced some challenges this year, primarily a lack of time by committee members. At times the group was only 2 people. This doesn't seem very sustainable. We are wondering if a revisioning of the task force is in order. Some ideas the group has had include supporting scholarships to denominational events or micro grants to youth groups with the conference funds designated for this group or hosting large one-day conference wide youth event. The biggest limitation to this is that historically that would mean having an event in the Seattle area, which greatly limits who can attend. We are also open to collaborating with another committee to leverage our resources.

We were not represented at the Network of Wider Church Youth Ministries (NOWCYM) meeting due to cuts in funding.

Global Ministries Committee

Rick Russell, Co-Chair

Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ

Mary Olney-Loyd, Co-Chair

Northwest Region Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

The Global Ministries Committee is composed of 12 people; 6 appointed by the PNC-UCC and 6 by the Northern Lights Region of the Disciples of Christ (Christian Church). We meet in person twice a year and by conference call once a year. The other co-chair is Rev. Mary Olney-Loyd.

Mission Co-worker Itineration of Michael Joseph

Michael Joseph was present in the Pacific Northwest from September 14 through September 30, 2019. He spoke to several congregations: 6 Disciples and 6 UCC (including Great Falls, MT), and met with a Disciples clergy group in Seattle, and a group of retired clergy in Seattle. He also met with the Global Ministries Committee for several hours. We found Michael's message engaging and very helpful as we are working toward a Partnership with groups in Colombia. Please see below. We are learning about their peace process after a lengthy civil war. When a Disciples congregation hosts the mission co-worker we urge them to invite their neighboring UCC congregation to the gathering.

Partnership Relationships

Committee members share in zoom conference calls almost monthly with persons on the east coast, GM staff and persons from Colombia. We are learning a great deal about the situation in Colombia through participating in the calls. If you are interested please contact Mary to get involved.

We are moving forward with developing partnership relationships with organizations in Colombia: JUSTAPAZ, a peace and justice non-profit and the Peace Commission of the Evangelical Council of Colombia (Consejo Evangelico de Colombia), a Council of Churches.

We are planning a People to People Pilgrimage to Colombia in the fall, September 12 - 21 are possible dates. This would involve traveling to Colombia with a group of Disciples and UCC persons, meeting with our potential partners in Colombia as well as local churches. We would witness the work for peace they are doing. It would involve some travel in Colombia. Cost will be in the range of \$1,500 -2,000 per person, including airfare from the USA. There would be translation available; a Spanish speaker would be welcome in the delegation! The delegation will be limited to 8 - 12 persons for ease in transportation once in Colombia. You can go to globalministries.org, then to People to People Pilgrimages for more information. We are very excited about this new venture.

Our Partners in S. Korea have contacted us and are interested in continuing this Partnership. They have reorganized their structures and have more interest now in connecting around current issues such as immigration. No immediate visits are planned.

Connecting with Local Congregations

The GM Committee members are working on contacting all local congregations, Disciples and UCC in our Region and Conference. We are asking whom to contact about global ministries events/activities, as well as learning about the congregations' local and global mission involvement. It's been a great way to connect with our new friends in Montana (part of the Northern Lights Region for Disciples) and tell persons about our Global Ministries Committee activities. We hope this project will be completed soon.

Puerto Rico

Unfortunately our 2020 mission pilgrimage to Puerto Rico did not work out. We have a leader who is planning a winter 2021 mission pilgrimage to Puerto Rico. We hope this is possible considering recent earthquakes. Certainly they could use assistance and certainly our prayers!

For more information contact Rev. Dr. Rick Russell, co-chair, myrtos@comcast.net

Global Ministries Committee meets next at Englewood Christian Church in Yakima on Saturday, May 2 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Personnel Committee, Tara Leininger, Chair

What a difference a year makes! With Karyn Frazier and Wendy Blight as the guides in our journey, the members of the Personnel Committee are making headway in a difficult process. Work on an evaluation questionnaire on/for Conference Minister Mike Denton is nearing completion, but it comes with the awareness that an actual job description and a contract are also lacking/missing/need updating. What came out of this work was also the awareness that the Conference itself needs to be “evaluated”, and that work is now in the hands of the Board of Directors. An understanding of who we are and where we are going as a conference will aid the Personnel Committee in understanding the role that leadership has in the PNC. Besides Mike and Courtney, we have front office staff, and camp managers and their staff. Who is contract, full time, part time, seasonal, etc. - all these factors work into how a contract is established and under what parameters an individual is paid and compensated. What the Personnel Committee also discovered is how we work with and for the Board of Directors, the Camp managers, and the Committee on Ministry, in completing any task before us. In 2020, we hope to conclude our evaluation of Mike Denton (not done since 2014) and set aright all job descriptions and contracts for all individuals working for the PNC. My thanks to Personnel Committee members Rev. Leah Atkinson, Laura Giddings, Rev. Jamie Kepros, Ryan Lambert, and Sally Watkins.

Stewardship Committee, Roberta Rominger, Chair

Through the 2019-20 year, the Stewardship Committee has operated through its two subcommittees, Finance and Stewardship Interpretation.

The Stewardship Interpretation subcommittee has been responsible for raising the money to support the budget. We are grateful to the churches for their ongoing commitment through Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM). In addition, nearly 200 people have responded to the invitation to become Friends of the Conference/Camps, an outstanding response.

The Committee also sponsored two informal events, one in Spokane and one in Tacoma, where church members had the opportunity to meet with Conference staff to hear news and engage with plans for the future. Future events are planned for North and West Seattle. If you would be willing to host such a meeting in your home, please contact Ron Patterson.

We want to record our warmest thanks to Ann Lev who stood down as our chair in the summer. Ann's leadership combined powerful finance skills with a deep love for the Conference and its people. We have missed her.

The tasks of the Stewardship Finance subcommittee are to monitor the financial affairs of the conference during the F/Y and to develop budgets for the conference for the coming F/Y. Budgets are then presented to the Board of Directors (BoD) for approval. The budgets approved by the BoD are presented to the conference Annual Meeting for approval.

This past F/Y the finance subcommittee presented F/Y 21 budgets to the BoD, which were approved for presentation to the Annual Meeting.

Since the advent of the coronavirus crisis and the closing of our camps at Pilgrim Firs and N-Sid-Sen the subcommittee has prepared and presented to the BoD, for approval, a financial plan to carry the Conference through the first six months of F/Y 21. This includes a new set of conference budgets. This proposal along with the new F/Y 21 budgets were approved by the BoD on March 30.

Special Interest Reports

Pacific Northwest Conference News, Mary Stamp

Since 1988, we have been publishing news of conference life, programs, ministries, people and witness. This fiscal year we shifted to publishing online four times a year in June, September, December and March at www.pncuccnews.org with a PDF digital newsletter that congregations can print for members. We announce each issue through our email list, the Pacific NW Conference News Facebook group and the Pacific Northwest Conference-UCC Facebook page.

We cover PNC committees, local church projects, camping, global partnerships, justice and witness ministries, mission and evangelism, national representatives, retreats, youth events, pastoral changes, people news, Annual Meeting and ecumenical/interfaith efforts.

The 2019-20 stories have included coverage of annual meeting's focus on racism, the fall gathering, camps, the Tri-Cities Immigrant Coalition, United Churches of Olympia partnering to support a sanctuary family, solar power at Mercer Island and First in Walla Walla, Bellingham's Ground Floor drop-in center, Kizzie Jones new book, Fauntleroy's tiny houses, John Eisenhower's online platform, a bill on truth and reconciliation for indigenous people, Faith Leaders and Leaders of Conscience challenging white supremacy. Renton United Christian's witness on open doors, Andrew Conley-Holcom's class on white supremacy, Colombia mission partner visiting, Tolt's 125th, a fire at N-Sid-Sen, insights from Intermediate Camp, a climate strike in Seattle, Board proposals to remove racism from the bylaws, arts and music at Pilgrim Firs, and much more.

We ask people receiving emails when new editions are online to copy articles for bulletin inserts, include them in newsletters, add links on their website and spread the word by email.

Minutes of Annual Meeting 2019

April 27, 2019

9:11am Call to Order

Wendy Blight, Moderator

Welcome to our sacred space settled early by our indigenous people and throughout the generations.
A gathering of One Spirit for us all.

Theme is Many Gifts and One Spirit

Hillary Coleman, Vice Moderator

Agenda Business

- Establish Quorum: 245 delegates and 45 churches so we have a quorum.
- We celebrate the pastors present and thank you for your work among us.
- Specialized Ministers. Past Moderators, Retired Ministers. Encouragement, efficacy, praise and support to help us move forward faithfully. Members of Discernment. New clergy. Laity...who get the jobs done! The "conference" is all of us. New delegates. Staff: Mike D., Courtney, Mark B, Arlene Wade, and Andy.
- Introductions, grant voice w/o vote
 - Delegate Orientation

Conference Minister Report

Rev. Michael Denton

Mike is one of the longest serving conference ministers in our denomination

- We are entering into a make or break moment for our Conference. Mostly, as I have been participating throughout the Conference, I feel overwhelmed by the fragility of our Conference and our entire the world. Looking back, I see our lack of responsibility or our lack of courage to persevere. We are always looking for doing something the right way. Some subtle or not subtle at all choices have been made. Who is responsible, who? Where do we seek approval from the powers and principalities. Every single marker is not a problem we can solve...yet, it is hope, life and peace that passes understanding and gives us courage to go on. If we can continue these conversations for the morning, and then continue to have these discussions throughout the year amidst our committee meetings and in our local churches, we will do well!

Moderator's Report

Wendy Blight

- Annual report for the BOD: What we worked on. What we hoped to work on.

We wanted to structure using limited resources, yet working in a positive and constructive way to increase our relationships with each other and then throughout the Conference. Our churches are feeding the hungry, providing shelter, advocating for the incarcerated. We are doing amazing and abundant ministry in a myriad of settings. Our pitcher is overflowing. Taken together our individual ministries have a tremendous impact on our world and bring us closer to God's dream for community.

The Board's priorities for this year have been:

- Deepening connections with clergy and colleagues
- Deepening connections within and between all congregations.
- Deepening connections between our churches and our communities.

- Improving communications throughout the whole conference.

The world needs our story of lifting up, of hope and celebration. May we live into that.

Budget Presentation

Ann Lev, Chair. Martha Baldwin, Treasurer

From singing to struggles and joys to pledging. How many looked at the budget numbers? We took a look at our budget and have decided to fund that which we need in order to do the work of the Conference. Let's look into it briefly. Those who want to look into it more deeply are encouraged to attend the budget hearing.

Income and Expenses can be reviewed on the detailed budget pages.

Ministry Resource Committee

Dee Eisenhauer

Presentation of Nomination Slate. There are many opportunities for your service and dreams. Please contact me, or any member of the MRC to nominate an individual for these opportunities. Will the members of the committee please stand so that folks will know who you are.

Green New Deal Resolution

Terry Teigen

We are in a time where we can take nothing for granted. Folks who live on the margins there is little security. It is season for not taking things for granted. All of our gifts are needed to commit to the changes that must be made. We no longer take your gifts for granted.

There are still a few openings that are needing to be filled to continue our ministry as a conference to keep it vital and going forward. No nominations from the floor, so please consider where you can best serve, talk among yourselves and bring the MRC their names.

We have a right to live. Congressional issue arose, Green New Deal...our denomination through General Synod have the opportunity to stand up for this issue. Now is the time for our denomination to recognize that the world is God's creation and we must heal our planet. We can vote on this today and be part of this New Deal, we have the resources, we can lead our denomination by carrying this to General Synod Supported by JWM of our Conf. There is a hearing at lunch and we will vote later this afternoon.

The Dance of Inclusion

Steve Clagett

The beginning of transformation is telling our own stories. Village of Hope in partner with Plymouth and Bethany to work with folks touched by the sun and the issue of injustices to people in our community. Mary Flowers, Human services Dept. City of Seattle organizer of People's Institute Northwest. There is no longer an excuse to ignore, the job is to tell shite people to wake up! We need to "Tell the truth!" IT IS TIME. Rev. Rick Derksen, Mennonite, organizer of People's Institute Northwest, and European "Dissent". "I no longer ask myself, am I a racist, but ask how does my racism affect others and manifest itself in my world and work?"

A Time of Listening, Reflection and Support for our Clergy of Color

Wendy pledges, as leader of this conference, this will not be the only or last hour for a discussion. Asks for us to keep her to her word. It is now life work. Take this conversation to the next level of leadership. Take this home to our congregations and keep the conversation going. We need to have a major change in our nominations for leadership of this conf.

Rev. Kelle has been at Plymouth UCC Seattle for 5 years. She has spent many hours coming to terms of this call. God offers us liberation. The welcome of our churches and Conference has been partial. Together let us have a time of reflection, healing and walking together through the stations provided throughout the room. First is a bowl of coins. Pick one up and hold it. Ask how has this coin affected lives? Then drop it in another bowl. Another station has strips of cloth symbolizing the rented cloth of the Temple when transformation was begun even before the resurrection. Pick up a piece of cloth...tear it, and leave it there. Know that there

is hope. Next is a bowl of stones. "The stone was rolled away for the resurrection to occur". Take the stone with you for a reminder. The final station is communion. Come for all things are ready.

LUNCH BREAK Rev. Jill Komura. The Christmas People who provide food for homeless shelters in County has provided our lunch. Blessing Rev. Diane Schmidt

Speak Out (subjects)

Mission of 25 to Puerto Rico. "Your job is to give hope."

Women's Weekend Mother's Day at Pilgrim Firs

1619 council forebear of June 1st Plymouth UCC

Environmental activist needs housing for a period of time. Contact Tim Divine

Traveling exhibit of the story of environmental concerns for earth.

Jr Hi Aqua Camp. One week of summer camp is worth a year of Sunday School. Time to live with, join with, play with, consider life and God. Come to Camp.

Conference News and Fig Tree Paper: sign up with email in the resource center

Revised Manual on Ministry, copies on registration table. Can also be downloaded from ucc.org.

Friday May 3rd climate strike. Support our youth in their fight for environmental change.

140 year celebration at Westminster in Spokane.

Shalom UCC coalition for working with Immigration issues. Film: So Close to America

Poor People's campaign website: WApoorpeoplescampaign.org

Stewardship Awards

- Largest OCWM gifts per congregation ~~~ golden cups
- Per capita increases ~~~golden ladle
- Highest increase ~~~ golden whip
- 5 for 5 certificates
- Acknowledgement of Stewardship Committee

Minister for Church Vitality Report

Courtney Stange-Tregear

It's not about what I've done in the last year; it's about what we've done in the last year. Courtney shared what we have done in the last year within our Conference and among other Conferences.

Another outer circle was added to our diagram: Congregational, Collegial. Community – demonstrating our dependence and interdependence.

- Pilot program launched a Strengthen the Church. Challenges for churches who need support to help with program, buildings, consultants. However, we have resources within our Conference to do the work and walk with folks in their new ideas. To provide: Encouragement. Vision, and Support. We hope to bring 3 more churches into the program this year.
- Grant application was made to apply for aid.
- Another highlight this year was the Weaving with Wonder Lenten Devotional. 150 email/300 social network/ day. A member or friend of Conference contributed their stories about deepening relationships. At the end there was an evaluation. We had a great response and effect...over90% had a positive feeling about the project. Do you feel more connected today than in previous years? Over 80% positive responses. It impressed on me, even more strongly than I had previously felt, how important it is that we share our personal stories. It is the power of all of us together that makes our Conference a place of vitality... our churches are growing in vitality.
- The work isn't done! There is going to be more coming. One day is not enough so look for more information about October 18 and 19. Just save the dates. You will want to be there!

Church Development Committee

Steve Davis

This committee has 2 distributions a year. You must apply for assistance through this committee with proposal and estimate of cost to make your dreams a reality. We are here for you. This year Loaves and Fishes award was given to Eltopia...generosity is contagious. Mustard Seed Award to First Congregational Church in Bellingham for their "Ground Floor" project: remodeling the church basement and partnering with NW youth Services, offers job counseling, mental health and substance abuse counseling. Showers, clothing bank, washer and dryers, and a place to rest, hang out and relax.

Delegate Orientation.

Jim Castro-Lang Parliamentarian

All ordained folks have right to vote. Delegates from congregation also have right to vote.

Voice without vote granted to Charles Blaisdel, other clergy and guests, retired in 4-way covenants with UCC; and visitors: Motion Second Passed.

Manual on Ministry Presentation

Lois Farnsworth

16 members voted in 2013 after application to work on MOM. It is an ecclesiastical document.

Revision of the 1986 MOM were made because of many redundancies. Alternative paths for ordination. More bi-vocational, part-time clergy and, older population. This requires a need for it to be revised. Common, language, common basis of call. The document was written for the laity/ congregation member to understand so the tool will be useful to local church and search committees. It has been reduced to 3 sections: #1 Your Theology with assessment tool; #2 Call to Discernment, Standing, Lay Ministerial Standing. Authorization. Support and Accountability; and #3 best practices. You can check it out online.

Communities of Practice Report

Tara Barber

Corinthians 12: No part of the body is expendable. For example, the grey wolf in Yellowstone. Such is the function of the CoP. Do you see me? Recognize the work I do? Do you recognize all the gifts we have to offer? 17 of conferences have CoP in our denomination. It is essential, yet it isn't claimed by a "body" of our conference. We are asking whether it is really essential for PNC? Are we willing to make an investment in our leaders? How can we have good programs sustained? The leaders of the CoP groups were acknowledged. A task force has been established to wrestle with how the next chapter of CoP might come into being. Jennifer Castle led a prayer for the clergy of our conference and the further discernment of the part they play in it and with us.

Camp Directors' Reports

Wade Zick: Purpose statement: from BOD and PNGW folk "*Sacred oasis for community and creativity*". A year of growth with a youth service camp (Chicago); youth from Planned Parenthood; 4 other new groups. An increase in revenue. Needs: buffer from nearby clear cutting; deferred maintenance for septic and Huckleberry; replace camp car, gator and riding mower.

Mark Boyd: The Community of N-Sid-Sen (community within community) is a place to deepen relationships in a safe place. "Partner" (*outside*) groups come to NSS. It is changing their perspective on their ongoing relationship with NSS. Lady of the Lake dance group; Sr. Hi Unitarian Universalists; Montessori groups (1-3 increase); weeklong Sufi group among others. Financial growth slowed last year but increasing again this year. Needs: overnight shelters on east side of highway; improved well in cove; golf carts; and development of a management plan-including timber, creeks, wetlands, waterfront and sacred spaces. Suggestions: Link Camps to our churches' websites for ease of access.

Business of the Conference

Vote on Budget

The budget was presented without additions or amendments. No second needed. Passed.

Vote on New Green Deal Resolution

Report on hearing. Unanimous decision. How do the church and government coexist? Didn't want to cause divisions among folks in conference. Motion is in place from JWM. No second needed. Passed.

Vote on Nomination Slate

Additions to slate given. What do you do if you decided "I should have volunteered"? Call/email Arlene or a member of MRC. Move to present the slate of volunteers. No second needed. Passed.

Vote to Adjourn at end of worship today Moved, seconded, passed.

Thank you for your participation in this meeting. Deepening relationships is risky but so worth it.

Next gathering of the conference will be in October 2019.

Next year's Annual Meeting, AM20, will be a weekend event at Westminster Congregational Church in Spokane.

Thank you to Bellevue First Congregational Church for extending such wonderful hospitality this year.

Blessings and Peace.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Morgan, Scribe