

# Conference Calendar

If you'd like your committee meeting or event added to the calendar, please send an email to [office@pncucc.org](mailto:office@pncucc.org).

*All meetings are online unless otherwise indicated.*

## 2024

### February

- 1 Moderators Meeting; 7:00-8:30pm
- 1-4 PNC-UCC Men's Silent Retreat and Men's Retreat; Pilgrim Firs Camp
  
- 6 Board of Directors meeting; 6:30-8:00pm
- 7 PNC Staff Meeting; 1:00-2:30pm
- 8 Committee on Ministry-Westside; 9:30am-2:30pm
  
- 12 Annual Meeting Planning Committee meeting
- 13 Church Development Committee; 1:15-2:30pm
- 14 Ash Wednesday
- 14 PNC Staff Meeting; 1:00-2:30pm
- 15 Moderators Meeting; 7:00-8:30pm
- 16 Eastside Committee on Ministry meeting; 10:00am-2:00pm
  
- 19 Conference Office is closed to observe President's Day
- 20 Dismantling Racism Task Force meeting; 5:30-7:00pm
- 21 PNC Staff Meeting; 1:00-2:30pm
  
- 26 Annual Meeting Planning Committee meeting; 6:30-7:30pm
- 28 PNC Staff Meeting; 1:00-2:30pm

## Transitions

**Dane Breslin's** installation at Sunnyslope Church in Wenatchee has been moved to February 11, 2024

**Rev. Lynn Nelson's** request for Exempt status was approved.

**Steve King** was ordained on Saturday, January 27, 2024 at Spirit of Peace UCC in Issaquah.

**Margo Richardson's** Transfer of Standing from the Minnesota Conference has been approved.

## **"Jump In!": A Greeting from the Acting Conference Minister**

Wherever Jesus and the disciples traveled, there was always something to do. Someone to meet. Stories to learn. Lives to come alongside and witness (and often participate in) transformation. As we all experience, that's what ministry looks like even to this day, and as your acting conference minister, it is my joy and a true blessing to walk alongside you for this phase of your journey as the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ!

A conference minister is, at our best, a guide and sometimes coach to clergy, congregations, and the Board of Directors. Our role is one of influence more than authority. A listening ear and a bridge to resources from across the denomination. And these are my goals for our time together. To be in relationship with you across the conference, as one who shares good news, gathers your stories, and helps us to facilitate strong, positive, upbuilding communication as we continue to live into our highest ideals as the body of Christ.

To that end, I will be traveling across the conference for the first time next week, February 5-12, and hope to connect with as many as possible. Additionally, I am available via [Calendly](#) for conversation as your schedule allows. Initially, this scheduler has virtual and telephone appointments, but stay tuned - as I can iron out my travel schedule for the next few months, in a week or two, I will make times available for in-person conversations we can schedule in advance.

Whether it's working with a search committee, consulting with a church council, conversing with a pastor, or visiting with a conference committee, my goal and role is to be approachable and accessible and to jump in and celebrate with you the good work that God is bringing about through your shared ministry as the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ.

Blessings,

Phil

## **Conference Committee Interest Session**

**February 22, 2024 on Zoom from 5:30-6:30**

You may have heard the saying, “*we* are the conference.” In our congregational church structure, we all share the joy and responsibilities of shaping the work of our Pacific Northwest Conference of the UCC. In this time when church is changing so rapidly, conference committees are having to be creative and collaborative in how they fulfill their roles. If you’ve ever been interested in serving on a conference committee, please join us to learn more and discern a place where your talents and passions are needed!

Some of the committees looking for new members include the Committee on Ministry, Church Development Committee, Ministry Resources Committee, Outdoor Ministries Committee, Stewardship Committee, and Justice and Witness Ministry Committee.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81216162011>

Meeting ID: 812 1616 2011

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,81216162011# US (Tacoma)

+12532050468,,81216162011# US

**[Registration is now open](#)** for the **2024 UCC Clergywomen Leadership Event**. “Weaving our Tapestry” takes place April 16-18, 2024 in Charleston, SC, with the 2023 Antoinette Brown Awardees as the keynote presenters. This event is open to all authorized UCC Clergywomen.

***Thank you for stewarding and submitting your church's annual records and information!***

Records management in the congregation is a ministry and a sacred trust of remembering, which is essential for a congregation's well-functioning.

The sacred trust of remembering that we steward in church records is the story of our spiritual journey responding to God in our congregations and world.

Each year, by submitting church data to the UCC Yearbook, our congregations engage in that record keeping ministry so vital for the well-functioning of a congregation. It is important not only for the well-functioning of congregations, but also for our conference and the whole UCC.

Last year forty-eight, (67%) of the seventy congregations in Pacific Northwest Conference submitted their data to the UCC yearbook office. That's a bit higher than the 60% of congregations across the UCC that submit data. Thank you! But, nearly one third of our congregations did not submit data.

The importance of that church data recording starts right with your own congregation, keeping track of your congregation's life, ministry, and mission. Knowing your congregations' strengths as well as seeing your congregations' challenges are helpful aspects of what a vital church annually tracks and reviews.

Your information is critical for the records of our conference, keeping the directory of our churches and pastors updated, as well as helping track the growing diversity, health, and wellbeing of congregations. Your data also informs the understanding of the life and ministry of the whole United Church of Christ; who we are and who we are becoming. See the recently released [UCC 2023 Statistical Profile](#) which highlights the strengths of small churches.

So far this year, four (4) congregations have submitted their annual data to the UCC Yearbook. Churches have until **Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup>** to do so.

Arlene Hobson, in our conference office has sent churches the **Church Yearbook Instructions – 2024**. Please check to see if your church received the instruction document, along with your church ID number which will be needed to enter your information. You can also find the instructions at this [website](#). Please submit your data as early as possible to avoid potential delays if you should need assistance.

Stewarding your church's records is taking care of the remembering, preserving, and retelling of God's spirit at work in the life of your congregation, our conference, and the United Church of Christ.

**Thank you!**

Dave Schoen  
Church Development Committee, PNC

Rev. David Schoen, D.Div. (he/him)  
UCC Church Building & Loan Fund  
United Church of Christ  
1300 East Ninth Avenue – Suite 1605A  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114



### Webinar—Black History: Unsung Heroes of the Environmental Justice Movement

For Black History Month, the UCC will be celebrating past environmental justice leaders and their historic contributions to the movement. We will lift up and reflect upon the lives of champions for justice such as Dana Alston, Damu Smith, Hazel Johnson, and others. To fully appreciate their impact and legacy, we will hear from those in the movement who knew them. Featured speakers will include those who have been at the forefront of the movement: Robert Bullard, Vernice Miller-Travis, and Peggy Shepard. Even if you cannot make the webinar at its scheduled time on February 14<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm ET, still sign-up, and we will send you a link to a recording of it. [Register now!](#)

[Hyperlink: [https://UCC.zoom.us/webinar/register/3317054434730/WN\\_-paE15N7Ty2lmsfnXuFQ3A](https://UCC.zoom.us/webinar/register/3317054434730/WN_-paE15N7Ty2lmsfnXuFQ3A)]



UCF's [Fiduciary Focus articles](#) discuss a variety of topics that are insightful for churches and faith-based investors.

If any churches in the Pacific Northwest Conference are interested in learning more about sustainable and responsible investing, we've created this [video on the Five Tools in Sustainable Investing](#).

For churches that want to dive into planned giving campaigns in 2024, we offer [resources and videos on the topic here](#).

# *February Celebrations*

Best wishes to our clergy and their partners on their special days.

## *Ordinations*

Allen Chase	54 years
Linda Crowe	29 years
Jenn Hagedorn	3 years
Lorraine Leist	14 years
Kristine Zakarison	31 years

## *Birthdays*

Kerby Avedovech  
Sonia Baker  
Kelsey Beebe  
Ruth Brandon  
Jack Coates  
Bonnie Dalious

Niutunu Faiupu  
Douglas Fischer  
Genavieve Heywood  
Jamie Kepros  
Susan Kirlin-Hackett  
Chip Laird

Shauna Lambert  
Esther Sanders  
Peggy Jo Skill  
Mark Travis  
Wes Van Voorhis  
Larry Winters

## *Anniversaries*

Ed & Carolyn Evans  
Roderick Mackenzie & Ruth Flucke

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