

February Packet

The Pacific Northwest Conference **Annual Meeting** will be held in Bellingham, April 28 and 29, and closing in worship on the morning of April 30, 2023. We are very pleased to be welcoming the Rev. Traci Blackmon, Associate General Minister and Vice President, Justice and Local Church Ministries, as our special guest. The business portions of our meeting will be in person. More information including theme, agenda, accommodations and registration is coming soon!

Go to our website to see the articles in this newsletter and other information by clicking [here](#).



N-Sid-Sen Update

We are excited to announce that we have hired a Bridge Managing Director - Bill Bourdon! Bill started on January 18th, stay with us until March 6th, and potentially longer. Bill Bourdon has extensive experience with the Outdoor Ministry Association of the UCC, which resources the UCC camps and conference centers across the country.

Transitions

As we move to more virtual practices, we have come to the decision, after researching other conference about their practices, that we will be sending memorial cards and notices via email or packet notices. We will transition this through the next year. If you previously received the cards and want to continue to get them through the end of 2023, please contact Arlene Hobson at the Conference Office at arlene@pncucc.org.

Conference Calendar

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

February 2023

- 1 Courtney's Office Hour; online at 9:30-10:30a
- 3 Admin & Finance Check-in; Admin & Finance Check-in online; 1:00-2:00pm
- 4 Board of Directors Retreat; online; 10:00am-2:00pm

- 7 Annual Meeting Planning Committee; online; 4:30-6:00
- 7 Board of Directors Meeting; online; 6:30-8:00pm
- 8 Courtney's Office Hour; online at 9:30-10:30am
- 9 Westside Committee on Ministry meeting; online; 9:30am-2:30pm

- 14 Church Development Committee Meeting; 1:30-3:00
- 14 Annual Meeting Planning Committee; online; 4:30-6:00
- 14 Board of Directors meeting
- 15 Courtney's Office Hour; online at 9:30-10:30am
- 17 Eastside Committee on Ministry meeting; 10:00am-12:00pm
- 17 Admin & Finance Check-in; Admin & Finance Check-in online; 1:00-2:00pm

- 21 Annual Meeting Planning Committee; online; 4:30-6:00
- 22 Courtney's Office Hour; online at 9:30-10:30am

- 28 Annual Meeting Planning Committee; online; 4:30-6:00

March

- 1 Courtney's Office Hour; online at 9:30-10:30a
- 3 Admin & Finance Check-in; Admin & Finance Check-in online; 1:00-2:00pm

April

28-30 **Annual Meeting**; Bellingham; times to be determined

Staff Column

Arlene Hobson

We are one month into collecting data for the UCC's Yearbook. This data is supplied by each local church, who has access to the DataHub to enter their own 2022 data. It opened on January 4th and then closes on March 1 at 9:00pm PT.

There are at least 12 Important Reasons to Report Your Annual Church Data

1. Cultivates UCC covenantal relationship with other Local Churches, Associations, Conferences, and National.
2. Updates your church's contact information in the [UCC Yearbook & Directory](#), [Access UCC](#), and on [Find a Church](#)
3. Contributes to denominational trends in the annual [UCC Statistical Profile](#), which tracks overall membership, ministerial compensation, and church finances over time
4. Helps your Conference, Association, and/or National understand your congregation from a statistical perspective in order to better provide appropriate support and resources
5. Determines the number of delegates your Conference can designate for General Synod, which is one of the essential ways your voice is heard on important issues
6. Assists with benchmarks to determine appropriate church staffing configurations and compensation guidelines from the ministerial compensation data you provide
7. Supports and reporting your church's OCWM and special offerings allows Conferences and the National Setting to recognize and thank you on behalf of the wider church and to encourage future support
8. Enables CARDD to conduct statistical analyses that contribute to important research for all mainline denominations e.g. some of the research reported on [CARDD's weekly blog](#)
9. Calculates the dues, or apportionments, that your church gives to your Association or Conference
10. Annual reporting helps ensure continued financial support and is usually a requirement for churches to receive funding from the National Setting?
11. If your church is seeking loans through the Church Building & Loan Fund or Cornerstone Fund, these entities view annual statistics for verification and clarification of information provided in the loan application
12. Creates a historical statistical record for your congregation that will long outlive current generations and that historians will be able to learn from in the future

If you need assistance, please contact the conference office at arlene@pncucc.org.

THE LAND BACK MOVEMENT

Putting Indigenous Lands in Indigenous Hands

FREE WEBINAR February 8th at 1 pm ET/12 pm CT/11 am MT/10 am PT/8 am HT



UCC Webinar—The Indigenous Land Back Movement

The Land Back Movement has been succinctly described as the generations long struggle to put “Indigenous lands back into Indigenous hands.” In this webinar, organizers and practitioners within the movement will place the struggle within the context of dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery and the ongoing work of reparatory justice. Speakers will include Katerina Gea from the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery, Angie Comeaux from Hummingbird Springs Farm, and Sarah Augustine who authored “The Land Is Not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery.” Even if you cannot make the webinar at its scheduled time on February 8th at 1 pm ET, still sign up, and we will send a link to the recording. [Register now!](#)

[Hyperlink: https://UCC.zoom.us/webinar/register/6016740752484/WN_ua_nheG1T7OqyrZJSZ4cvA]



**THE COALITION FOR UCC RURAL MINISTRIES
PRESENTS**

NOURISHING THE SEEDS OF FAITH
(ISAIAH 55:10-11)

**A VIRTUAL NATIONAL GATHERING OF
RURAL/SMALL TOWN CHURCHES &
MINISTRIES IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

SAVE THE DATES: FEBRUARY 9-11, 2023

REGISTRATION TO OPEN IN JANUARY 2023

HOSTED BY

FAITH EDUCATION, INNOVATION & FORMATION (FAITH INFO)

JUSTICE AND LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRY OF THE UCC

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

REV. ROBERTO OCHOA – ochoar@ucc.org



Resolutions for Annual Meeting

In our covenant with one another as members and congregations, resolutions are a way to identify areas of concern, causes that need our attention, and offer a way to seek God's guidance. Resolutions are the voice of the people speaking to, and on behalf of, the Conference as we seek to respond to the needs of our communities. Resolutions may come from a local congregation, a standing committee of the Conference, or by petition of ten individual members from at least two churches. Resolutions must be submitted to the Pacific Northwest Conference Board of Directors, c/o arlene@pncucc.org by March 1, 2023.



General Synod will be held June 30-July 4 in Indianapolis, Indiana. All voting delegates will be in-person but the production team is looking into ways to add cost-effective virtual elements.

For more information click here: https://www.ucc.org/next-synod-now-a-year-away-will-be-in-person-hybrid-aspects-bei-ng-explored/?inf_contact_key=58d474aa756bbfab8cbea5f8b71c165209c74070ac2bf3cfa7869e3cfd4ff832