
2020 Annual Report of the Conference Minister

If ever there were a time when the Missouri Mid-South Conference supported and empowered its local churches and ministers, it would be during the pandemics of Covid-19 and white supremacy. In 2020-2021, we fully embodied our Unifying Call and four Core Ministries in the following ways:

Creating Community

- Six Suggested Guidelines for Churches Throughout the Pandemic (written by me)
- Pandemic microgrants of \$500 for MMS Churches
- Weekly Webinars for Church Leaders led by MMSC Staff through the first quarter of the Pandemic
- Clergy Support and Resources (partially funded by \$10,000 grant from the United Church Funds I applied for and received)
 - Weekly clergy zoom gatherings and chaplain zoom gatherings
 - Clergy Pandemic Leadership Event from Kansas Leadership Center
 - 3 Community of Practice groups (including one solely for Black Clergy) and a chaplain support group led by Care and Counseling services
 - Clergy Wellness Retreat sponsored by the Pension Boards

Empowering Congregations

- Virtual Children's Sunday School video series using curriculum created by the Indiana-Kentucky Conference.
- Church Council Webinar for all of the Church Councils with workshops on Patoral Relations Committee, overseeing finances, faith formation for children and youth.
- Four Worship Services Created by MMSC Staff (2) and Council of Conference Ministers (2)
- Faithful Giving to OCWM and Friends of the Conference

Pursuing Justice and Mercy

- Vigil after the murders of George Floyd, Breanna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbury
- Five Anti-Racism book studies led by me
- Creation of the Racial Equity Task Force
- Renewal of Medical Debt Relief initiative

Visioning the Future

- Development of the Unifying Call and 4 Core Ministries
- Revision of the MMSC Bylaws to reflect our Unifying Call and Core Ministries
- Associate Conference Minister called and Communications Specialist Hired
- Camp MoVal Discernment process to listen for God's guidance in this significant moment

I am grateful to the Conference staff members, who went above and beyond to provide excellent support to our local churches and ministers. It has been an immense honor to be in ministry with you. May God's love continue to unify you in your service to our neighbors of Arkansas, Memphis, and Missouri. Blessings, Ginny