

**JUNE 9, 2017**

**MMSC BUSINESS SESSION I**

The Annual Business Meeting of the MMSC of the UCC was called to order by Moderator Rev. David Mehl. He introduced Rev. David Beebe as the Parliamentarian. The Credentials Report was given by the Secretary, Rhonda Stockglausner. There were 66 churches present with 207 delegates. A quorum was declared.

A motion was made by Cindy Nuelle, Salem UCC, Higginsville and seconded by Joyce Bathke, Faith UCC, Wentzville to adopt the Agenda and the Standing Rules for the 2017 CAG. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Don Bizer, St. John's UCC, Weldon Springs and seconded by Bruce Moeller, Eden UCC, Afton to adopt the Rules for Introduction of New Business for CAG 2017.

The Gathering prayer was given by Bethany Meier, MID, Western Association.

We received video greetings from Rev. John Dorhauer, General Minister and President of the UCC.

The minutes from CAG 2016 were presented. A motion to accept them was made by Stanley Begge, Emmanuel UCC, Jackson and seconded by Steve Redmon, Ivanhoe UCC, Raytown. Motion passed.

Conference Minister Rev. Ginny Brown Daniel introduced guests: Edith Guffey, KO Conference Minister, Rev. Tara Barber, Keynote Speaker, Rev. Dr. Bill Roseheim, Regional Minister DOC, Rev. Dr. Paul Koch, Transformational Minister DOC, and Grace Johnson, worship leader and it was recommended that they be given voice without vote during the meeting. Karen Redmon, Ivanhoe UCC, Raytown moved and John Harwell, New Life Christian Church, Poplar Bluff seconded the motion to give our guests voice without vote and privilege of the floor. Motion passed.

CM Brown Daniel introduced the Vision Implementation Team and our Strategic Plan.

The Conference Treasurer's Report was given by David Rauch. Copies of the report, the OCWM report, and the Pyramid of Giving were presented in powerpoint and hard copies were available. He noted that we have a unified budget for the Conference, MoVal, and Shannondale. We had a balance of \$367,089 in all accounts at the end of 2016. The primary source of income is OCWM. Other budgeted income is from the Friends of the Conference, earnings on investments, and the legacy Carbon Credit sales. Expenses include 20% of OCWM income goes to national office, 7.9% MoVal, and 5.9% to Shannondale. The balance goes to Administration and Programatic efforts including the Covenanted Ministries. In 2016 we had a budget deficit at the end of the fiscal year of negative \$24,786. He noted that the reason for

the negative balance was that we had over projected income while expenses continued to go up. In February of 2017 the Conference Council approved cuts in the budget for 2017.

Treasurer Rauch presented the 2018 budget proposed by the Finance and Administration Committee which includes an increase of \$1,000 more than the 2017 budget. Ken Ulmer then presented a Resolution from the Conference Council (see attached) seeking authorization from the 2017 CAG to withdraw a maximum of \$105,000 from the Conference Reserve Fund for cash flow requirements in 2017. The Conference Reserve Fund would be reimbursed the amount of the principal withdrawn plus the rate of earnings of the funds as if they invested in the United Church Funds. Repayment of principal and interest will occur before June 1, 2018.

At the end of the Treasurer's report the session adjourned with a closing prayer by Christy Tennyson, MID, Eastern Association.

**JUNE 10, 2017**

### **MMSC BUSINESS SESSION II**

The annual business meeting Session II of the MMSC was reconvened by Moderator David Mehl. The opening prayer was given by Sonja Vann, MID, St. Louis Association.

Treasurer David Rauch made a motion to accept the 2018 budget as presented by the Finance and Administration Committee. The motion coming from committee does not require a second. The motion passed with one vote opposed.

The Treasurer then moved the Adoption of the Resolution from the Conference Council authorizing borrowing from reserve funds up to \$105,000 (see attached resolution.) The motion passed with a vote of 121 in favor, 4 opposed, and 2 abstained.

Rev. Donna Smith-Pupillo, Leadership and Development, presented a motion to accept the slate for the Conference Council, class of 2020. There were no nominations from the floor. Motion passed with 1 abstaining.

The Conference Minister's Report was given by Rev. Ginny Brown Daniel:

(See written report online.) She addressed her theme for 2017, "Living Our Change." Highlights include: The Naomi Project; she created a task force to minister to churches which are closing. Administration and Personnel Oversight; changes in the office due to budget cuts and resignation. Finally, streamlining of the CM and ACM job duties.

The theme for 2018 will be "Serving Beloved Community Now." There will be two areas of focus in the coming year. The first will be forming a task force to discern possibilities for the MMSC to become an Open and Affirming Conference. She proposes that the task force be led by one person who is a member of an ONA church and one person who is a member of a church which is not currently ONA. She proposes a presentation and vote at next year's CAG.

The second area of focus will be formal conversation with the KO Conference on uniting possibilities as approved by Conference Council.

Reports from our Conference:

ACM Dale Parson gave his report during which he submitted verbally his retirement/resignation effective October 1, 2017.

Rev. Nia Chandler, Communications Staff, reported that she has gone over the eCourier and Conference websites. She has also completed a new Conference Directory.

Shannondale Update, Jeff Fulk, report is online. He asks for more youth work/mission groups.

MoVal, Jeremy Force, report is online.

General Synod 2017 delegates were introduced by Rev. Laura Mignerone. A resolution to require that seminaries include diversity training in their curriculum was written by Rev. Margaret Diz Phillip of St. Thomas UCC, Chesterfield is on the agenda for GS.

Lorin Cope, Chair of the OCWM Covenanted Ministry reported on OCWM and the Friends of the Conference efforts. So far \$4,000 in offering to OCWM has been made at CAG. The Covenanted Ministry plans to update figures for both efforts in the eCourier regularly.

Stephanie Delong, Youth Ministry Covenanted Ministry, referred CAG to the online report.

Jan Roddy, Justice Witness Covenanted Ministry reported that Rev. Dr. Vernon Howard will be the new chair. Goals are to collaborate with other Justice Witness ministries across the state and, secondly, encourage a caucus for African American and Pastors of Color.

Michael Stephens representing Church Vitality Covenanted Ministry noted that our contract with the Center for Progressive Renewal will be ending this year. The big news is that every church in the MMSC is a member of CPR and can take advantage of their materials.

The Covenanted Ministry for Older Adults and the Covenanted Ministry of Ambassadors were recognized but no formal reports were given.

The new Heritage Covenanted Ministry has been approved by Conference Council. Rev. John Bracke was recognized as the Chair. This Ministry was formerly known as the Heritage Committee.

Numerous people were recognized and thanked for their work on and during CAG.

Rev. Eric Moeller, St. Lucas UCC, St. Louis moved that the meeting adjourn after worship.

Closing worship was led by the Moderator. Installation of the Conference Council Class of 2020 and commissioning of the General Synod Delegates was held during worship.

Respectfully submitted, Rhonda Stockglausner, Secretary

**Resolution from Conference Council  
June 6, 2017**

**Subject: Authorization to borrow for cash requirements in FY 2017**

**Whereas**, in May 2017, the Finance & Administration Committee reviewed the projected cash flow needs of operations and determined that the period from June to October 2017 will be when anticipated revenue will not cover cash flow requirements;

**Whereas**, the Finance & Administration Committee quantified the cash requirements from June through October of 2017 to amount to \$105,000.

**Whereas**, the Finance & Administrative Committee took an action to recommend that the Conference Council obtain authorization to borrow \$105,000 from the Conference Reserve Fund to cover the anticipated cash flow needs;

**Whereas**, the Reserve Fund Policy states in paragraph G.2. that, ". . . annual distributions to the Conference from all Conference Reserve Funds shall be an unitrust amount calculated pursuant to the provisions of Section 469.411 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri (or the provisions of any similar subsequent law) not exceeding five percent (5%) of the net (i.e. after all expenses) average fair market value of the Reserve Funds on October 31 for each of the four (4) preceding years. by paragraph 2. above may be made only if approved by seventy five percent (75%) of the voting delegates present at a duly called meeting of the Conference and only for a period which does not exceed one (1) year;

**Whereas**, "distributions which exceed the amount as determined by paragraph G.2. above may be made only if approved by seventy five percent (75%) of the voting delegates present at a duly called meeting of the Conference and only for a period which does not exceed one (1) year;

**Whereas**, "distributions from Conference Reserve Funds may be made only to the Conference for the purpose or purposes specified by the donor or for the support of the Conference's mission and ministries as reflected in its duly adopted annual budget";

**Therefore**, the Conference Council seeks authorization from the 2017 Conference Annual Gathering to withdraw a maximum of \$105,000 from the Conference Reserve Fund for cash flow requirements in 2017. The Conference Reserve Fund would be reimbursed the amount of principal withdrawn plus the rate of earnings of the funds as if they were invested in United Church Funds. Repayment of principal and interest will occur before December 31, 2018.