

**June 8, 2018**

**MMSC BUSINESS SESSION I**

The annual business meeting of the Missouri Mid-South Conference of the United Church of Christ was called to order by Rev. David Mehl, Moderator. Rev. David Beebe was introduced as the Parliamentarian. The Credentials Report was given by Rhonda Stockglausner, Secretary. There were 168 delegates present, of which 88 were clergy representing 74 churches. A quorum was declared.

A motion was made by Rev. Stephen Redman, Ivanhoe UCC Raytown, and seconded by Ron Hill, Pilgrim UCC St. Louis, to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rev. David Beebe, St. John UCC St. Charles, and seconded by Mickey Clark, Peace UCC Webster Groves, to adopt the Rules for Introduction of New Business for the 2018 CAG business meeting. Motion carried.

The Gathering Prayer was given by Tanya Jeffcoat, MID from St. Louis Association.

The minutes from 2017 CAG were reviewed. A motion to adopt them was made by Mike Mueller, St. Paul's UCC Hermann and seconded by Elaine Hudson, Zion UCC Mayview. Motion passed.

Guests were introduced by Conference Minister Rev. Ginny Brown Daniel: General Minister and President of the UCC Rev. John Dorhauer, Rev. Paul Koch, Transformational Minister in the DOC, and Grace Johnson, worship music leader. She moved they be granted voice without vote during the meeting. Seconded by Rev. Jim Hogue, Ebenezer Stone Church Gerald and the motion passed.

Conference Treasurer David Rauch gave his report, referencing five documents which are posted on the Conference website. He also presented the 2019 Proposed Budget which is posted on the website. A vote on the budget will be taken in Session II. Mike Mueller from the Finance and Administration Committee presented a Resolution from the Conference Council: Authorization to Borrow for Cash Requirements in FY 2018. He explained that last year a similar resolution

was passed but we did not need to utilize a loan from reserves. A vote will be taken in Session II.

An explanation of the UCC Constitution and Bylaws Ratification was made by Rev. Laura Mignerone who was a Delegate at GS last year. Rev. John Dorhauer and Rev. Ginny Brown Daniel also gave their perspectives on the changes proposed. Essentially, the first change is a mutual agreement between the UCC and the United Church of Canada to acknowledge authorized ministers across borders. The second changes which affect our national management is the reduction in the number of Executive Officers to a General Minister and President and two Executive Ministers. Discussion, questions were fielded. A vote to ratify will be taken in Session II.

Lorin Cope made a presentation on the "Friends of the Conference" fund. Gifts of the fund are lower than anticipated this year. The members of the Conference Council have all made commitments to donate to this fund. Rev. Rick Oberle challenged the delegates to contribute \$50 in honor of his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The Moderator declared the meeting to be in recess until June 9<sup>th</sup>. Prayer was given by Dori Dremeier Showers, MID St. Louis Assn.

**June 9, 2018**

## **BUSINESS SESSION II**

The meeting was reconvened by Moderator Rev. David Mehl. The Gathering Prayer was given by Geneva McAuley, MID Western Assn.

David Rauch, Treasurer, moved to accept the 2019 Conference budget as approved by the Conference Council. The motion passed.

Mike Mueller, Finance and Administration Committee moved to accept the Resolution from the Conference Council to authorize borrowing to meet cash flow requirements from Reserve Funds up to \$150,000 in the current fiscal year. The motion passed.

Rev. Donna Smith Pupillo presented the slate of officers and members of the Conference Council Class for 2021 from the Leadership and Development Committee and moved to accept the slate. Motion passed.

A motion was made by the Moderator on behalf of the Conference Council to ratify the proposed changes to the UCC Constitution and Bylaws. A ballot vote was taken: There were 110 votes in favor of ratification and 8 votes opposed. The motion passed.

The Conference Minister Rev. Ginny Brown Daniel gave her report. She recapped the past year. See full report on [mmsucc.org](http://mmsucc.org). Regarding her vision for last year, she reports that we are no longer in conversation with KO Conference in the exploration process to unify. Her vision was to become an ONA Conference. A Task Force has been formed and a report is expected at CAG next year. Her 2018 Ministry Theme is "Building Courageous Relationships." Vision #1 is to develop 3 new church starts by the year 2020. Her #2 Vision is to double our under age 40 authorized ministers to 30 by 2020 and that half of those be persons of color.

See Conference Ministry Staff written reports are on the [mmsucc.org](http://mmsucc.org) website.

\*Courtney Chandler, Youth Events Coordinator gave an update on the upcoming Regional Youth Event.

\*Rev. Nia Chandler, Minister for Authorized Ministry Development included in her verbal report that she has noted implicit bias in Association COMs.

\*Rev. Tyler Connoley, Minister for Search and Call Discernment verbalized his goal is to post publicly vacant ministerial positions. He also seeks for his position to be one of integrity and to build systems to overcome biases.

\*Jeremy Force, Director of Outdoor Ministries Mo-Val reinforced that all OCWM money allocated goes to camper scholarships to assure that anyone can attend camp. He encouraged the churches to find new ways to get kids to camp as we are underutilized at this time. A Task Force for Camp Mo-Val future visioning will be attending Association and Cluster meetings in the coming year to provide forums for discussion.

\* Rev. Ginny Brown Daniel reported for Nate Fulk, Interim Executive Director at Shannondale. Great news is that the school district where Shannondale is located

will fund a staff position at the Timbertime Afterschool Program. This is in order to give support to the mission as the district sees the value in the program.

See numerous Standing Committee and Covenanted Ministry written reports on the mmsc.org website. In addition, the following verbal reports were given:

\*Rev. Donna Smith Pupillo, Ambassadors CM Team reports that there are currently 17 Ambassadors now visiting 44 churches.

\*Rev. Rick Oberle Communications CM Team reported that his team is about building relationships by connecting with each other.

\*Nancy Litzinger, OCWM CM Team reported that during CAG \$2100 was collected by Lorin Cope.

\*Joyce Bathke, Older Adult CM Team talked about what this CM is and how it is developing.

\*Sonya Vann, Congregational Vitality CM Team reported that this team is in the process of revitalization. She requested that anyone with an interest in church planting contact her.

Acknowledgments and Thanks were given. Rev. Ginny Brown Daniel thanked Conference Staff, the CAG Planning Team, Parliamentarian Rev. David Beebe, Grace Cox Johnson and Shamar Jordan for their music leadership, Bethany Meier for social media leadership, Judi Privitt for powerpoint control, Rev. Kimmie Yokohama for worship leadership, and the Moderator Rev. David Mehl for chairing the meeting and his leadership over the last two years. Rev. David Mehl thanked the Holiday Inn Executive Center Staff, CHHSM leaders for sponsorship of meals and providing workshops, child care providers, Faith Sharing Lunch leaders, and the Conference Officers. He then turned over the Moderator's Gavel to Rev. Chase Peebles.

Rev. Stephen Redman, Ivanhoe UCC Raytown moved that the meeting be adjourned after worship, that the secretary be instructed to complete the minutes, that they be reviewed and approved at the next regular meeting of the Conference Council, and that they be reviewed at the next Conference Annual Gathering. Seconded by Sonya Vann, Christ the King UCC St. Louis.

During closing worship, the Conference Visioning Implementation Team was decommissioned and new Conference Council Officers and Members were installed. The Closing Prayer was given by Stephen Stark, MID Eastern Assn. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Stockglausner

Secretary