

COM COVENANTED MINISTRY

REPORT TO THE 2017 CONFERENCE ANNUAL GATHERING

The Committee on Ministry Covenanted Ministry is composed of the chair person and one additional member from each of the Association CoM or a designated member from each committee and the chair person and another member of the St. Louis Association CoM Prep, and one At Large Member from each Association plus the Boundary Training coordinator. One At Large Member is appointed each year to serve a three year term. At Large Members may serve no more than two consecutive terms.

The responsibilities of the committee are as follows:

- Provide opportunity for consultation, support and sharing of best practices between the Association Committees on Ministry and the St. Louis Association CoM Prep.
- Planning and Leadership of the annual Conference Committee on Ministry Retreat.
- Oversight of the Boundary Training Program
- Yearly review and recommendations for the Conference Clergy Compensation guidelines.

This covenanted ministry is accountable to the Missouri Mid-South Conference Council through the Wider Church Ministry committee. In relation to the Committees on Ministry of the three associations, it has no policy-making authority, but rather functions as a forum for problem-solving, sharing best practices and making recommendations.

Primary staff support is provided by the Conference Minister.

We would like to share with you some of our major accomplishments over the past year:

- Some meetings were conducted by Zoom.
- Mark Robinson joined this committee as Boundary Trainer Coordinator.
- Priority is to have two Boundary Training sessions in each Association at times and locations that are most accessible to individuals needing Boundary Training.
- Boundary Trainers will be trained by the conference ministry staff in collaboration with MESA.
- The CoMs should send a reminder to those individuals that need Boundary Training.
- Discussion on the concern that few clergy and CoM members are attending installations.
- Support for the resolution that will be brought before General Synod from the MMSUCC regarding cultural sensitivity.
- It appears that the new Marks will be more useful to the CoMs and possibly useful when conducting a fitness review. The Ministerial Code is the main criteria for a fitness review.

- The retreat was held in Kansas City this year with the K-O Conference with MESA members part of the leadership. Discussion was around the new revised MOM that is still a work in progress.
- We have discussed the Naomi Project: Many churches are facing the reality of both declining attendance and declining revenue and the real possibility of not being able to continue as a congregation.
- Omega ministers are ministers that are retired and do not represent the church in any way.
- The Association committees will assume some of the Conference Office responsibilities, such as files, etc.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Kevin Cameron
Ginny Brown Daniel
Tim Fairley
Betsy Happel
Ron Hill
Keith Karau
Melissa Larson
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Linda Stenger
Rhonda Stockglausner
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