

**Board of Directors' Meeting**  
**Michigan Conference, UCC (via Zoom)**  
**September 17, 2022**

*Present:* Judith Booker (President), Akua Budu-Watkins, Lillian Daniel (Conference Minister), Judy Furman (Secretary *pro tempore*), Liz Larrivee (Vice President), Mary Ann Martin, Jonathan Riedel, Ralph Sims, Greg Watling, Karen Wheeler (Acting Financial Director), Jean Winther

*Excused Absence:* Ruth Moerdyk

Called to order and opened with prayer by Judith Booker at 10:00 AM.

*Moved and seconded to adopt the agenda.* Moved Treasurer's report to later. Passed.

*Moved and seconded to approve July 16, 2022 minutes.* Corrected spelling to "addressed". Passed.

*Moved and seconded to approve August 19, 2022 minutes.* Passed.

Letter of withdrawal

*Moved and seconded to accept letter of withdrawal of the Philippine American Ecumenical Church, USA, from the United Church of Christ, and send this information on to the National Office.* Passed.

*Report from ACM Cheryl Burke*

Cheryl reported on the activities of the Vital Growth Mission Area Team from 2003 to the present.

- Total funding for 16 ministries in the Conference of \$1,720,604
- Representing nine active ministries
- Including 600 new people participating in person
- Every Board member should be able to answer questions from member churches concerning New Church Starts.

Jonathan Riedel is willing to share insights from his sabbatical visits to churches.

*Resolution/Call to Action*

Resolution Urging Divestment from Fossil Fuel Companies

- *Moved and seconded to send resolution back to Prophetic Integrity Mission Area Team since this has been a Michigan Conference policy since 2000.* Passed.

Call to Action – Water Justice for All

- *Moved and seconded to return to PIMAT for a definition of "Call to Action."* Passed.

\*\*\*Subsequent research by Judith Booker revealed that a 'call to action' is a reaffirmation of a resolution put forth by the Conference. She requested that all reconsider this question and vote again via email to meet the deadline for inclusion on the agenda for the Annual meeting. At 5 PM on September 20 there were 5 "yes" votes.\*\*\*

Judith will contact the PIMAT with this information.

### *Treasurer's Report*

Karen Wheeler summarized/explained unrestricted and restricted income and expense sections of the financial report. She reminded Board members that each ought to make annual contributions to the "Friends of the Conference" fund.

*Moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. Passed*

*Moved and seconded to submit a balanced budget for \$932,517.00 to the Conference Annual Meeting for approval. Passed.*

### *Nominating Committee Report*

Liz Larrivee, chair of the committee, presented a slate of candidates for the Board of Directors' offices. The only vacant slot is the treasurer.

Liz also presented slates for the General Synod delegates, Classes of 2023 and 2025.

*Moved and seconded to accept the slates of candidates and send them to the Annual Meeting for election. Passed.*

### *Announcements*

- Heather Kimmel, from the National Office, will present an orientation for Board members at the January 21, 2023 meeting.
- The Annual Conference meeting will be hybrid with virtual participation on Saturday and both virtual and in-person on Sunday for the installation of the Rev. Dr. Lillian Daniel as Michigan Conference Minister.
- A workshop is planned for Committees on Ministry on September 21, 2022.
- Thanks to those leaving the Board for their years of service.

### *Report from the Conference Minister, the Rev. Dr. Lillian Daniel*

- The preacher for the installation service will be the Rev. Dr. Brad Braxton, new president of Chicago Theological Seminary.
- The Wisconsin Conference will continue to be a source of communication assistance.
- The first in-person staff meeting in two years was held.
- Lillian's self-described "Circuit Rider" approach to getting to know the Conference continues as she works on building relationships with pastors and churches.

### **Next meeting – November 19, 2022**

Respectfully,

Judy Furman, Secretary *pro tempore*