

Penn West Conference Annual Meeting

Association Presidents Report

June 2023

While the Presidents of the six Associations of the Penn West Conference meet quarterly for discussions and updates, the work of the Associations, their officers, and their presidents is far more frequent. During our quarterly interactions we have the opportunity to share the ideas and activities of each association, as well as addressing any special needs, concerns or problems. This also affords us the chance to plan activities that all of us can join together in, such as our “All Associations Meetings” that we’ve held in recent years.

Our combined gatherings give us all the opportunity to come together to learn information and exchange ideas concerning subjects of particular interest to the United Church of Christ at large. Last year, our topic was “Sacred Conversations to End Racism: A Restorative Racial Justice Journey.”

Like other gatherings before it, this gave our members from across all of Penn West Conference the opportunity to see what actions the UCC is taking on this vital issue of social justice, as well as what resources they have accessible to those who wish to become involved. Such information from last year’s gathering can be found at www.jointhemovementucc.org.

Beyond such special functions, Association Presidents have annual matters of maintenance that require attention, such as our yearly acknowledgement and updating of “Conflict of Interests” policies by each association executive committee.

In addition to those, we also look for nominees from each Association to serve on the PWC Board of Directors, to ensure a full representation of our Conference demographics.

Finally, we continued to search for General Synod delegates for the Class of 2025. Again, in seeking full representation of our Conference, we attempt to acquire delegates from each Association.

We truly express our great thanks to those willing to volunteer their time and talents in filling these vital positions to support our ongoing work and mission of the Penn West Conference of the United Church of Christ to ensure “A Just World for All.”

Respectfully Submitted,