

Keystone Working Group – Bulletin Insert 2

“Together We Are Stronger” Staffing a New Conference

When the four Conference Ministers started meeting to explore options for sharing resources, the topic of staffing was forefront in their discussions. Staffing has been one of the key components of discussion during the Keystone Working Group (KWG) meetings. The staffing subcommittee, previously comprised of the four Conference Ministers, kept the KWG updated every month on their progress. At the time of our joint annual meeting in June the KWG had a tentative staffing model for a Keystone Conference.

The subcommittee is now being expanded to include the personnel chairs from all four conferences so we can begin to look at transitional staffing needs and position descriptions should the November vote be approved by all four conferences. Having a transitional staffing plan in place is key to starting any merger process for the four conferences.



It is important to note that this is a staff model and may be altered as we move forward in the implementation of the merger. Succession planning, especially when it comes to staffing, will have a positive effect on the overall success of every aspect of a new Keystone Conference.

“While the working group initially considered several different forms for sharing resources, they overwhelmingly opted for fully combining the conferences as the best way to serve congregations, conferences, and pastors.”

~ Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates, PNEC Conference Minister

Next Town Hall Sessions

The conversations around the timeline, staffing model and finances are available for registration. Please use the QR code, on all conferences websites or contact your conference office.



QR code.

In each townhall conversation, the timeline will be reviewed for possible action toward our vote, the motion to the General Synod and next steps.

Merger Motion Vote by 4 Conferences Nov. 9, 2024

Each congregation is allowed their usual number of delegates to vote on the merger motion. See each conference for details to register, participate and make your vote count! The full motion is available on the website.

For more information: <https://psec.org/keystone/>

Motion to General Synod, July 11-15, 2025

If approved by all 4 conferences, the motion is presented to General Synod for UCC delegates’ approval.



“We face the unknown, but God is known!”

-- Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson
President and General Minister of the UCC to the delegates at the gathered PA area conferences.