

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
Conference Call
January 18, 2018

1. Call to order: The Leadership Council of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches was called to order by Moderator, Laura Hamby, at 7:30 EST by conference call.
 - a. Roll Call: Secretary, Judy Campbell took roll.
LC Voting Members present: Moderator, Laura Hamby; Vice Moderator, Jim Waechter; Joelle Sommers; Patrick Stewart; Carol Taylor; Irv Gammon; Sarah Gladstone; Mary Prendergast
NonVoting Members present: Secretary, Judy Campbell; Treasurer, Jeff Dillon; Historian, Will Lange; Foundation Board of Governor's Rep, Bob Smith; Executive Director, Michael Chittum
LC Members absent: Janet Wilson
Others present: DODC, Debra Fulton; Congregationalist Editor, Marianne King.
2. Opening Devotion: Irv Gammon offered prayer to open the meeting.
Comments and concerns – participants related activities over the past weeks.
3. Approval of minutes and other actions:
Secretary Judy Campbell read the following motion into the minutes.

2017/18 LC 016 Motion from the Center for Congregational Leadership Sub-team:

The CCL Sub-team proposes:

- That the work of CCL be split into an administrative assistant position and a programmatic coordination position
- Review and revision of the timeline submitted with the 10.4.17 report of the Sub group, splitting this into two timelines, one for each position
- Michael begin working immediately to fill the administrative assistant position. The hope is that this position can be filled no later than mid-March to allow time for training / shadowing.
- The Sub group will continue to work on:
 - Identifying tasks for programmatic position, to assist in building the job description by P&A
 - Identify qualities and tasks for advisory group
 - Creating timeline for filling this position
 - Creating timeline for rolling out some form of a “new and improved and here for you” Center at the June meeting in San Diego (probably not as large as anticipated in the 10.4.17 proposal)

Motion passed by unanimous consent by e-mail on December 11, 2017.

2017/18 LC 017 Motion by Judy Campbell to approve Minutes of the November 16, 2017 conference call. Motion seconded and adopted.

4. Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved as edited. Add reading into minutes a motion passed by unanimous consent by e-mail on December 11, 2017.
5. Staff Reports:

Michael Chittum: His report is on Trello. He met with Steven Corey (Olivet) to discuss the status of the Center office there. He has been working with P&A on the job description for new CCL part-time admin position which will be based at the Oak Creek office. Position will overlap with the retiring admin to ensure training. They will handle assistance to search committees, background checks, convocation planning and other. Will Lange commented that he has noticed an increase of Lay Ministers being ordained and cautioned that the Lay Ministry program should not be a shortcut to ordination. Michael assured that the Vitality Council and the Dean of CFTS are working to develop a more comprehensive program.

Charles Packer was not on the call: Working on plans for “Awakenings” symposium in Marshalltown, IA.

Marianne King: Finishing up brochure “Unleashed” for the AM&C which will go to press next week for mass mailing early February. It is online.

Debby Fulton: Report on Trello. Goal for leadership giving is 100% - we are at 88%. Christmas appeal goal is \$57,000 – so far \$41,600 has been raised.

6. Task Teams

- Plymouth Landing 400th: Historian Will Lange reported on the current activities of the committee. Developing materials to be available to churches. Marianne King mentioned there will a workshop at the AM&C and Bulletin inserts.
- Ambassador Program – no report
- Unified Theory of Congregationalism – no report
- Revitalization – no report
- YRD – no report
- Membership: Michael Chittum presented a new church for membership. They previously voted to leave the UCC and have now voted to become members of the NACCC.

2017/18 LC 018 Motion by Carol Taylor for the Membership Task Team that the LC recommend the Cheney Congregational Church of Cheney WA for membership in NACCC. Motion discussed and adopted.

7. NACCC Updates:

- Youth: Patrick Stewart reported that registration forms are on line. Deadline for applying for scholarships to attend has been extended to March 15. Written report on Trello.
- Board of Directors: Vice Moderator, Jim Waechter reported that at its last meeting, the BoD voted not to pursue selling the Oak Creek office at this time and concentrate on catching up on deferred maintenance. They have approved the job descriptions for all the staff except the new proposed positions for the Center for Congregational Leadership. They have requested the P&A team to put together a view of the next few years to plan for pending retirements.
- Board of Governors: Bob Smith, BOG rep. reported the Christmas appeal is at 86% of the goal. Total leadership is at 91%. Staff is making calls to member churches that have not yet given. Debby Fulton is completing the “case for support”. Working on guidelines for “what” and “how” to accept gifts.
- Treasurer: Jeff Dillon reported that the Finance Committee met yesterday. The MC budgets were approved and will now be submitted for review by the Board of Directors. Full financial reports through December are not yet available.

- Moderator: Laura Hamby reported for the following:
 - Report from CCL – motion read into minutes. Laura thanked the task team for their great work.
 - AMC Attendance – writing to regional moderators to ask that they encourage attendance at the AM&C and promote use of available assistance for those churches with financial need. Joint activities with the youth include preparing materials to make shoes for Uganda. Cal-West is sponsoring a day trip to the Pan-American Institute. You must register by May 1st. Cost is \$40.

8. Ministry Council Input:

Missions & Outreach – Joelle Sommers reported that they really need additional members and questioned if that would require a bylaw change. Discussion followed, but no action. MC is developing “Missionopoly”.

Vitality – Irv Gammon and Sara Gladstone reported their next meeting will be next Thursday. They have completed and submitted their budget.

Growth – Carol Taylor and Mary Prendergast reported they are reviewing the membership application forms. They voted to send devotionals to new churches. They are keeping in contact with new churches and sent Christmas greeting to all 14 who have joined in the past 2 years.

9. LC Round Table: Laura Hamby asked for ideas “in and out of the box”. We’ve been dealing with re-organization issues since 2010. We need to move ahead. What is working, what do we dream of?
- Youth and adults together.
 - Need CFTS task force on how to interest people in ministry
 - Brainstorm in middle of the night
 - Small churches task team to look at specific needs
 - Ways to continue to be church
 - Yoking? Survival tool?
 - Video series – what Congregationalism means
 - Leadership – emphasis in HOPE group
 - Up to date Sunday School materials about our Heritage.
 - Michael Chittum questioned where we are in fulfilling our list of wishes that were fleshed out at the last AM&C.

Discussion will continue next month.

10. For the Good of the Order:

11. Take Aways & To Do’s:

12. Next call: Next call will be February 15, 2018 at 7:30 EST/6:30CST

13. Closing prayer: Joelle Sommers gave the closing prayer.

14. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm EST.

Judy Campbell

Secretary