

Business Agenda Pacific Central Chapter UUMA Fall Retreat Oct 25-27, 2016

Highlights:

Actions: Appointments and Elections

Election-

- *Lucy Bunch, Treasurer through Spr. 2018*

Moved Yvonne Schumacher-Strejcek, seconded by Mary Ganz - passed.

Appointments:

- *Axel Gehrmann, Registrar through Spr. 2017*
- *Melissa Thomson, Membership through Spr. 2018*
- *Bylaws task force -Sarah Moldenhauer Salazar and David Usher volunteered.*

Next retreat dates Spring April 21-23 2017, St. Francis in San Juan Bautista

UUMA Ministry Days, June 19-21, New Orleans

Fall 17-19 October 2017, IONs

Thurs. Oct. 27 9:30-11am

9:32 - Called to order - Counted by Sue Magidson and Susan Conrad - declare a quorum 39-42 people

9:34 Chalice Lighting and Opening Words- From Wheatley - Leadership and the New Science - Elizabeth Assenza and Morgan (from Davis) Power in organizations - generated by relationships

9:35 Covenant check-in-pointed to it, reminded folks of it and got agreement from anyone who was

newly arrived. Identified the Process Observer. Asked everyone else in the room to note what you notice about how we honor and how we stray from the covenant we've agreed to.

9:40 Exec Update-

Pres Wendy Bartel: #Staying for lunch? 32 Thank you to Alyson

Note Wendy's report is on the website.

Also Thank you to our musicians!

The hope for a shorter business is noted, and Wendy is holding that tension.

VP Susan Conrad remarked she is grateful for the opportunity to lead UU worship as well as be here at our gatherings. Humbled and grateful for Wendy's

leadership. Less free time at this gathering was noticed, and appreciated by Susan for our cooperation. The way we have made community is also appreciated.

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Spr 2018, Program ideas

Secretary Sonya Sukalski: Minutes - please send Sonya your revisions

Treas. Lucy stepped up as Lisa Wiggins resigned since the last retreat. Lucy's partner has had an emergency health situation that precluded her participation in this retreat, and assures us we are in good shape financially.

Wendy - we build on the good work of previous Executive committees.

9:50 Better Together - President Wendy Bartel is seeking inspirations about how might we harness love's power to transform oppression into healing in the Pacific Central District? Ideal is to hand Wendy your ideas on paper so we can manifest our collective vision in a powerful way.

9:55 **Reports** -Thanks to timekeeper - Sarah Moldenhauer-Salazar

2 min updates/highlights from reports

Annual Program Fund-Vail Weller - Congrats to our area - high fulfilling area of the country she utilizes to shame/mock/inspire others. Trends in giving - APF gifts are the largest unrestricted funds. Change leads to confusion and drop in income (11%) is what has been noticed in the Southern Region. Leslie Takahashi has helped with a task force. There will be a move to percentage based system, and PWR will be the last to make any kind of change. Increasing our level of attainment and covenant to all the congregations in our association is the most important thing.

CENTER updates-Bonnie Dlott and Neal Anderson - Resting in the mystery of what it means to be a CENTER Rep because we have excellent programing at the national level. Exploring perhaps a program council, or other models. Open to ideas. Maybe have a retreat this is actually retreating.

Good Officer report-JD Benson - who is one of 3 good officers who include Jay Atkinson and Lynn Gardner. JD asked for people who did not receive the e-mail from the officers. There were a few, and she reiterated the content of the letter that is on the website. At GA they were trained, and considered boundaries. People having personal issues don't always know their impact on the work we are doing, so reach out to good officers who might help clarify that. Good officers are reaching out to all in the district on the recommendation of someone.

In-care transition to Ministerial Formation Network-Lindi Ramsden - report has been submitted. We are still working on identifying students in the PCD, and there are 70 different schools training UU seminarians. Sophia Bettancourt is working on a team fleshing this out.

Do we want to have a collegial event this year?

What elements of training are important that students don't always get in seminary?

Invite students to a day prior to collegial retreats?

If there is a single liason from our chapter - the things they are asking liasons to do, do we want to formalize holding the space for people in formation?

Sophia Bettancourt, Michelle Favreault, and Sonya Sukalski have been working on this.

10:05 **Berry St. Lecture and After-Pastor Support**-Wendy Bartel, others

Wendy acknowledges we are holding, acknowledging, healing, accounting for this issue in our space - do we want to respond as a chapter amongst us as a chapter, and

with our congregations in some way? There is history here, that is present to us in a variety of delicate ways. There is no way around, just through, practicing healthy clergy boundaries, and rebuilding trust. Please reach out if you are on the receiving end of inappropriate sexual advances from folks in your congregation or in our group of colleagues. Darcy Baxter and Michelle Favreault are open to you reaching out to them if you need help. Yesterday's program - may have helped you realize how you are holding tension on that topic. Breathe into it, and sing together. Pastoral prayerful moment!

10:01 Singing Spirit of Life with the delightful Kevin Targas on the piano.

10:05 ***Appointments and Elections - Election-***

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- *Axel Gehrmann, Registrar through Spr. 2017*
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10:07 ***Guidelines Conversation*** - Michelle Favreault and Jeremy Nickel serve on this social media guidelines revision committee. See the guidelines study guide and proposal. Clear conversation and commitment to covenant. There are comprehensive study questions, and we will have a brief reflection adapted from them now. Question: Talk in pairs - and forward results to guidelines committee. Reminder that when we use social media, we are posting in relationship.

10:22 - Reconvened from small group discussion by Michelle - Michelle - their charge is to report on social media, but it obviously goes further. Wendy - study guide is very invitational, and there are ways to give individual feedback - please do!

10:32 ***Reports Round 2***

SKSM-Lindi Ramsden - noted that Rosemary Brae-McNatt is at Collegium and can't be here.

Sustaining the Call-Bonnie Dlott - about 5 years ago, the UUMA committed to a goal of increased financial stability. Sustaining the Call is part of that.

We will get treats at our Spring retreat served by UUMA staff, Jeanette sings Happy Birthday, and we have programming we get to choose to offer at Ministry Days 2017. Wake Now Our Vision - Shelter Rock is helping to entice legacy gifts. We get to host a collegial conversation at ministry days. Wendy acknowledged Sarah Salazar on that team as well.

10:40 PCD Board Updates-Steve Burns with Chris Bell

Steve is excited to be with us. In the middle of this year they revised their mission vision with the help of Linda Laskowski, which Steve read. He appreciates having articulated where they want to go. His time has been one of great change, and has 1.5 years left. Now they are doing more virtually. Youth member proposed a tree planting project. Relying on regional staff more than previously. Delegated our administrator to regional staff. Regional gatherings will be held when the new staff stabilizes. Focused on building strong relationships with UUMA. Conducted an online survey to be shared more broadly. Steve needs feedback on Chalice Lighters which is being reworked on a regional level. Do we have the support to join with the others districts on this? It is being expanded to not only single congregational projects. PNWD sets the standard for Chalice Lighters - they get about 3x as much as we have had in our last 3 calls. Do people in our district want to work with it? Can we get congregational ambassadors in every congregation? Show of hands. Steve perceived that there was sufficient ministerial support for this based on the hands he saw. Note that hands were not highly or enthusiastically raised.

Lindi asked if keeping money more localized might be helpful?

Other ways to support growth beyond chalice lighters.

Wendy - how might the board support our ministries around curious behaviors of congregants.

We thank the PCD for their work.

10:55 Any ideas for harnessing love's power? - handed one idea, Sarah Moldenhauer Salazar - we are all in post-traumatic stress - documentary where a woman just in the MOMA, and sat in front of her, and weeping and waiting in line by visitors was powerful. Pastoral care ministry of listening - with guidelines of eye contact, and then talk as long as needed, and offer affirmation.

Bonnie Dlott- Exec - treatment of women, and question about sexual violence, predation, etc. Ask 10 people about their experiences of sexual violence, predations, etc.

Neal Anderson- Sam scientist part of Campaign Zero - law enforcement departments enacted use of force policies - could we research their use of force policies and build power to suggest they adopt these use of force policies which reduce killings of both police and civilians.

10:59 **Announcements**, reminder of worship and group photo

See Wendy or Sonya about being on the chat, website, or facebook page. Please upload and tag those on social media. Also let us know if you do not want to be on social media.

11:05 **Observations of our Shared Process** using the covenant as our guide

Sonya clarified that prizes are not necessary to registrars job

What did we do well?

Sat with discomfort

Stayed on time

Great history play (legend of PCD)

Depth and beauty of the odyssey

Wisdom of ancestors expressed through colleagues

Restorative worship

Fell short?

Same weekend as collegium event

More free time

Pledge to self care is not really a pledge

More time talking with people I know less

When 2 leaders in worship - man talks extemporaneous, and woman reads from script/text didn't sit well

Acronyms and jargon, and wondering how much got lost in that by our speaking in shorthand in that way.

Feedback around mindfulness of leadership in using the microphone to make our words accessible.

Conversation overheard - ministers of color who didn't come to this event - to pay attention to that, and see what we might do differently for ministers of color to be in attendance. Several ministers of color were asked to be part of the planning, and had other things they were obligated to do.

Wendy asks for further dialog, and appreciates all the acknowledgements.

Please consider in planning events about the geographical challenges of our district.

Reminder to recall all those not in the room and send them love.

11:14 Adjourned

Body Break

11:15 Closing Worship