

MISSION COUNCIL REPORT
ANNUAL MEETING
2017

The Mission Council began the year with a daylong retreat in January, an opportunity to get to know each other a little better and to talk about the work ahead. We continue to live into our Moving Forward Together Strategic Plan, considering and adjusting along the way. Much of the work has been challenging and time-consuming, while it has also been rewarding. We didn't achieve all of our goals, but we had a very full and productive year.

Among the most significant of our tasks:

- To learn and adapt to a Board of Directors style of leadership.
- To keep a close eye on our budget, considering how best to put to use the funds that are directed to the ministry and work of the Conference.
- To work with our Conference Minister to outline the most important aspects of our ministry in the Maine Conference.
- To help our Conference Minister to establish priorities.
- To establish and oversee the Pilgrim Lodge Sustainability Team.
- To oversee the development of new bylaws.
- To discuss and pray over the Conference Deacons program. After considerable discussion over a couple of meetings, we voted to end this program. At the same time, we talked about how to maintain the most valuable elements of the program in the life of the Conference.
- To oversee the development of a budget for 2018.
- To oversee the planning of the 2017 Annual Meeting.
- To oversee the Nominations process.

The Mission Council has relied on the gifts and talents of a number of people in the Conference—those who sit on the Council itself, as well as those who serve on one (or more) of our Standing Committees. The Maine Conference is blessed with many people of deep faith and strong dedication to the wider church. The work is rarely easy, but the Spirit has been present. We are grateful to serve the Conference, seeking to strengthen our ministry together.

Blessings,
Susan Reisert, Chair
Geoff Parker, Vice Chair
Bill Walsh, Chair of ACERT
AbbyLynn Haskell, Vice Chair of ACERT
Marc Precourt, Treasurer
Jeff McDonnell, Chair of Finance
Steve Hastings, Chair of Governance
Mark Terison, Clerk

Allison DiMatteo
Linette George
Vanessa Winters
Deb Blood, Conference Minister
Mark Schussler, Business Manager