

TRUSTEES FOR MINISTERIAL ASSISTANCE FUND: 3 year term. Nominated by the Trustees for Ministerial Assistance.			
LAY PERSONS:			
Irene Hope		Beneficent	
Pat Safstrom		Moosup Valley	
Angelo Mendillo		Kingston	
CLERGY:			
Rev. Charles Simonson	Chairperson	Amicable	
Rev. Joe Runner		Middletown	
Rev. Bill Sterrett		Amicable	
Rev. Eileen Morris		Slatersville	
LIST OF RI CONFERENCE UCC CHURCHES WITH BOARD REPRESENTATION:			
NAME:	REPRESENTED?		
Amicable Congregational UCC	Yes		
Armenian Evangelical UCC	No		
Barrington Congregational, UCC	Yes		
Beneficent Congregational UCC	Yes		
Central Congregational UCC	Yes		
Chapel Street Congregational UCC	Yes		
Chepachet Union Church ABC/UCC	No		
Edgewood Congregational UCC	No		
First Christian UCC (Rice City)	No		
First Congregational Church in Bristol, UCC	Yes		
First Congregational Church of Warwick, UCC	No		
First Korean Church of Rhode Island UCC	Yes		
Four Corners Community Church UCC	Yes		
Hispanic Evangelical UCC	Yes		
Hope Congregational UCC	Yes		
Kingston Congregational UCC	No		
Moosup Valley Congregational UCC	Yes		
Newman Congregational UCC	Yes		
Newport Congregational UCC in Middletown	No		
Park Place Congregational UCC	No		
Peace Dale Congregational UCC	Yes		
Riverside Congregational	No		
Seekonk Congregational Church, UCC	Yes		
Sheldon Street UCC/ABA	No		
Slatersville Congregational UCC	Yes		
Smithfield Avenue Congregational UCC	No		
United Congregational Church of Little Compton	Yes		
United Congregational Church of Newport	Yes		
United Congregational Church of Westerly UCC	No		
Woodridge Congregational UCC	Yes		

RHODE ISLAND CONFERENCE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

SPRING ANNUAL MEETING

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019

EDGEWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1788 BROAD STREET
CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND



**RHODE ISLAND CONFERENCE,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
SPRING ANNUAL MEETING
SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019
EDGEWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

AGENDA

8:00	REGISTRATION	
8:30	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST / 2-MIIN SHOUT OUTS	
9:00	WORSHIP	REV. DAVID PIERCE, PASTOR FOUR CORNERS COMMUNITY CHAPEL
9:30	WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS	REV. MARILYN KENDRIX TRANSITIONAL CONFERENCE MINISTER, RIC
	THANKS TO THE PLANNING COMMITTEE INTRODUCTION OF RICUCC STAFF INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUEST	
9:35	CALL TO ORDER DECLARATION OF QUORUM	PRES. FRANCES MUNRO REV. DR. BEVERLY EDWARDS
	VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AUTUMNAL MEETING MINUTES ANNUAL REPORTS	FRANCES MUNRO
9:45	PRESENTATION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT VOTE ON NOMINATIONS	EVELYN WATSON FRANCES MUNRO
9:50	PRESENTATION "WEIRD CHURCH"	REV. DON REMICK TRANSITIONAL CONFERENCE MINISTER, MASSACHUSETTS CONFERENCE UCC
10:50	TOGETHER, AS ONE UPDATE--GENERAL INFORMATION	REV. CLEO GRAHAM VICE PRESIDENT, TA1 BOARD
11:10	TOGETHER, AS ONE--QUESTIONING CIRCLES	REV. REBECCA FLOYD MARSHALL REV. CLEO GRAHAM LARRY KELLAM REV. MARILYN KENDRIX FRANCES MUNRO REV. BOB NOLAN LINDA SABLE GRACE STEERE RIC CONFERENCE MINISTER & MEMBERS, TOGETHER, AS ONE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
11:30	CLOSING PRAYER AND COMMUNION	

Clergy members (4):			
Rev. Scott Spencer		Woodridge	2021 (2020)
Rev. Kurt Walker		Chapel Street	2021 (2020)
Rev. Caroline Patterson Inlow		Central	2019 (2020)
Rev. Joe Tripp (2)		Middletown	2020 (2020)
General Synod Delegates from the Rhode Island Conference UCC:			
Elected Delegates to General Synod: 2 year terms unless filling a prior Delegate's term. Two years based on year(s) of General Synod. Next General Synod is in Milwaukee, WI in 2019.			
Nikole Yuomans-Nosko (Y)	1 st General Synod	Newman	2021
Rev. Cleo Graham		Beneficent	2021
Wayne Gage	2 nd General Synod 2019	Newman	2019
Rev. Julio Filomeno		Hispanic Church	2021
Associate Delegates:			
Frances Munro	Conference President	Central	
Rev. Marilyn Kendrix	Transitional Conference Minister	RICUCC	
Member in Discernment (Attending General Synod at the invitation of the National Setting)			
Gabrielle Sclafani	Newman		2019
Respectfully submitted,			
NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2018/19 2 year term, renewable 1X (2 consecutive terms)			
Evelyn Watkins (2)	Chairperson	Seekonk	2019 (2020)
Rev. Julio Filomeno (2)		Hispanic	2019 (2020)
Rev. Betsy Garland (2)		Moosup Valley	2020
Myong Cho (2)		Chapel Street	2019 (2020)
Rev. Burton Bageby-Grose		Bristol	2020
Addendum to Nominating Committee Report including Committees with positions filled by the RICUCC Board of Directors.			
INVESTMENT COMMITTEE:			
Chair – Geoffrey Hopper		Bristol	
Treasurer – Rev. Bob Nolan		Woodridge	
Richard Bushnell		Hope	
William Claflin		Central	
Rev. David Shire		Newman	
Rev. Dr. Beverley Edwards		Little Compton	
Dr. Jay Jhung		Korean	

Rhode Island Conference – United Church of Christ (Historical Conference Org Chart until 2020)			
"Proposed" REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE – March 27, 2019			
– The number in parenthesis designates first, second or third term in position.			
POSITION	NAME	HOME CHURCH	TERM EXPIRES
OFFICERS:			
President	Frances Munro (2)	Central	2020
Past President	Rev. Dr. George Peters	Newman	2020
VP for Admin.	Rev. Cleo Graham (2)	Beneficent	2020
Clerk	Grace Steere (2)	Bristol	2020
Assist. Treasurer	Geoffrey Hopper (2)	Bristol	2020
Treasurer	Rev. Bob Nolan	Woodridge	2020
Registrar	Rev. Dr. Beverley Edwards	Little Compton	2020
DIVISIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS: 2 year term, renewable 2X (limit – 3 consecutive terms)			
Christian Education	Rev. Claudia Demick and Tracy Baron	Central	2020
Justice & Witness	Rev. Brendan Curran	Barrington	2020
Mission Interpretation	Kleo Becker (3)	Slatersville	2020
Outdoor Ministries	Rev. Chontell Washington	Beneficent	2020
Church Life & Leadership	Rev. Timoth Sylvia (3)	Newman	2020
Haiti Task Force	Suzanne Swanson	Newman	2020
Stewardship	Rev. Burton Bagby-Grose	Bristol	2020
BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE: 2 year term, renewable 1X (limit – 2 consecutive terms)			
Rev. Linda Filomeno		Hispanic Church	2020
Rev. Eileen Morris (2)		Slatersville	2020
Rev. Dale Azevedo		Barrington	2020
Rev. David Pierce		Four Corners	2020
Shirley Hardison		Little Compton	2020
Cheryl Gherardini (2)		Seekonk	2020
CHURCH & MINISTRY COMMITTEE: 3 year term, renewable 1X (2 consecutive terms)			
Chair: Rev. Gary Bagley (2)		Peace Dale	2020
Registrar : Rev. Dr. Beverley Edwards (see above also)		Little Compton	2020
Lay Members (4):			
Vice-Chair: Linda Sable (2)		Seekonk	2020
Ann Roussel		Bristol	2019
Wayne Gage		Newman	2021 (2020)
Valerie Tutson		Beneficent	2020

Minutes For The Annual Meeting Of The Rhode Island Conference Of The UCC

218th Meeting

Saturday, June 16, 2018

MassMutual Center, Springfield, MA

Call to order by Frances Munro at 10:15 am

Introductions of Conference Staff and Special Guests- Barbara Libby

Staff- Bob Nolan, Jennifer Geary, Sandy Tremblay, Kristin Putney, Peggy Matteson, Tiffany Vail, Barbara Gregory

Special Guests- Rev. Daehler Hayes (in absentia), Rev. Bonnie Bates(Conference Minister from Pennsylvania North East Conference)

Cleo Graham introduced our new Transitional Conference Minister, the Rev. Marilyn Kendrix.

Determination of Quorum- Grace Steere announced there were 17 churches represented and indeed we had a quorum.

Business meeting

Consent Agenda

Minutes from the June 17, 2017 Annual Meeting and the 2017 Autumnal Meeting- (available online)

Annual Reports (except Nominating Committee) (full reports are online at the RICUCC website and were distributed in advance)

Action to accept the 1/19/16 request from Riverpoint Congregational Church to be removed from the RICUCC roles. This is the first of two votes required by the bylaws.

Motion to accept the consent items by George Peters and seconded by Susan Rotblat-Walker. Vote was unanimous in favor with no abstentions.

Resolutions/ Documents (Resolution is online and was distributed)

Anti-Racism and Racial Justice training for all authorized ministers. Committee on Church and Ministry seeks to make training available for all authorized ministers and to Members in Discernment. Gary Bagley noted that this training will be required and will not be included with Boundary Training. Financial resources will be available to facilitate the training.

Proposed Covenant and Affiliation Agreement-the covenants, schedules, and technical documents will be put online. The RI Board will review all documents.

Proposed Bylaws for the new Together As One Conference

Elections of the new TA1 Board of Directors-proposed nominees' names were distributed. From RI the nominees are Cleo Graham, Larry Kellam, Rebecca Floyd Marshall, Frances Munro, Bob Nolan, Linda Sable, and Grace Steere.

Motion to approve the above resolution proposed by Timoth Sylvia and seconded by Leslie Simonson. The vote in favor was unanimous, with no abstentions.

Together As 1 Documents (certificate of vote was distributed) The certificate cannot be amended because all 3 Conferences are voting on the same Certificate of Vote in the same form.

The Certificate has 3 parts: 1.) Covenant agreement with CT Conference and MA Conference for the purpose of creating a regional conference 2.) Affirmation of Covenant Documents, which are, attached as Exhibit A 3.) Delegation to the RI Conference Board of Directors, working with the TA1 planning team, the legal authority to finalize the Covenant Documents. George Peters assured everyone that the UCC Bylaws and Constitution clearly states that the local church has autonomy in case of a dispute. Each Conference will be represented by 7 people on the new TA1 Board.

Motion to vote on all the Together As One documents in one vote was proposed by Timoth Sylvia and seconded by Susan Rotblat-Walker. The vote in favor was 91, 3 nays, and no abstentions.

Nominating Committee Report- (Betsy Garland reported for Evelyn Watkins) (full report is online and was distributed.)

New members to the Board are Rev. Burton Bagby-Grose, Rev. David Pierce, Rev. Claudia Demick, Tracy Baron, and Rev. Brendan Curran.

Ruth Graham is the new registrar.

Corrections to Church and Ministry Committee: Rev. Gary Bagley term expiration is 2020, Wayne Gage is from Newman and his term expires in 2021, Valerie Tutson is from Beneficent and her term expires in 2020, Rev. Kurt Walker's term expires in 2021.

Betsy Garland, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, moves to adopt the slate.

Jennifer Geary moved for the clerk to cast 1 ballot for the slate as corrected. The motion was seconded. The vote in favor was unanimous with no abstentions.

Financial Report- (Bob Nolan)(report was distributed)

Thumbnail sketch is as follows for revenue:

Total Actual Net Revenue in 2017- \$392,000

Budgeted Revenue- \$446,500

Unfavorable Variance -\$55,000

Per capita actual-\$88,000

Per Capita Budget- \$95,000

Unfavorable Variance- \$7,000

Basic Support actual- \$156,000

Basic Support budget- \$200,00

Unfavorable Variance-\$44,000

Local Missions actual- \$15,500 (primarily goes to support the Hispanic Church)

Local Missions budget-\$14,000

Favorable variance-\$1,000

Together, As One Conference— Our Vision

*I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ~ **Isaiah 43:19** ~*

Here are the values that the Together, As One Board of Directors , the various committees of the Board and the three Conference Ministers return to again and again as they work to make this new Conference a reality:

Following Jesus' call to discipleship, and bound by the covenant we share as siblings in Christ, we – the members of the United Church of Christ in southern New England declare these values essential to our shared ministry together:

† We understand the local church exists to make disciples of Jesus and we welcome all people unconditionally to share in this calling.

† We commit to making God's love and justice real by loving our neighbors, children, and all of creation through our collective work, such as seeking racial, economic, environmental, and LGBTQ justice.

† We believe God calls us to bring new life as agents of change and so we embrace and encourage adaptive and transformative leadership wherever the Body of Christ is gathered.

† We encourage local congregations and varied ministry settings, inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit, to form covenant partnerships with all who work for the common good in their local communities and throughout the world.



The Future

The Haiti Task Force is looking forward to working with other churches in the TA1 Conference that conduct work in Haiti. Many individuals have introduced themselves to us at events like Super Saturday. We plan an outreach effort to churches throughout the new conference to determine Who, What and Where other churches are working in hopes that we might join our efforts and provide additional energy and efficiency in our work in Haiti.

Respectfully Submitted by Shirley Hardison, VP Haiti Division

Rhode Island Conference Disaster Ministries

Committee Officer: Barbara Gregory, RI Conference Disaster Coordinator (CDC)

Mission/Purpose/Role in the life of the Rhode Island Conference:
Be identified to the UCC Disaster Ministries office as the CDC of the RI Conference

Maintain the UCC-RI membership with the Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD)

When natural disaster occurs

- Explain how congregations may donate and otherwise respond to the needs of people after a disaster occurs through the venues provided by the UCC (ex: CWS Buckets/Hygiene Kits);
- Share relevant information with the congregations about what the UCC is doing in the RIUCC newsletter;
- Emphasize that the need for resources is ongoing because the UCC continues to support recovery efforts for months and years after the date of the disaster.

Programs/Projects completed this year:

October, 2018 – Disaster Preparedness Webinar coordinated by UCC Amanda Sheldon.

December, 2018 – Invited to join and participate in monthly Disaster Rapid Response Team (DRRT) meetings in Framingham, MA by Rev. Fred Meade, MA CDC. Recently became available online through ZOOM.

January, March - Participated in UCC Disaster Ministries Conference Calls providing updates on regional disasters from CDCs. Also provided an opportunity to share information.

February - Contacted Church World Services and Newman Church to better understand the 2017 Bucket and Hygiene Drive in which storage and distribution of materials occurred.

April 2 – 5 - Attended Annual Conference Coordinator's meeting in Puerto Rico. Met 20 CDCs serving throughout the USA. Discussed the current work and needs of Disaster Ministries to ensure preparedness and long-term recovery aid both domestically and internationally. Specific speaker's panel on the on-going work being done in Puerto Rico and needs.

April – Reached out to RI Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) regarding spring meeting date which has yet to be established.

Submitted April 12, 2019 by Barbara Gregory

Discussion:

Numbers on the roles do not truly reflect pledging members. Difficulties in removing names from roles- many churches are using "associate member" designation. Suggestion to educate our members about the \$20 per capita fee Finance Committee asks for each church's annual report so that the Conference budget can be more accurate.

Churches are encouraged to pay monthly.

Jennifer Geary noted that the income for Irons Homestead, \$34,000 is not reflected in the report. Bob noted that income from Irons Homestead and income from the Haiti Mission is not comingled with our operating funds. It has not been decided how funds from the 3 Conferences will eventually be distributed. Everything for understanding UCC's mission work is online!

Thumbnail sketch for expenses:

Basic operations actual- \$326,000
Basic operations budget--\$312,000
Unfavorable Variance- \$14,000
Program Expense actual- \$71,000
Program expense budget- \$73,000
Unfavorable variance- \$2,000
Missions expense actual- \$40,000
Missions budget- \$42,000
Favorable variance- \$2,000
Ecumenical Support Actual- \$18,000
Ecumenical Support budget- \$18,000
Net Variance Expenses Total- unfavorable at \$14,000

We also have a \$100,000 line of credit, which needs to get paid down. We are moving our office to save money. Office admin position may be changed.

Rev. Burton Bagby-Grose moved to accept the treasurer's report with a second by Wayne Patenaude. The vote in favor was unanimous with no abstentions.

Recognitions-report by Barbara Libby

Newly Installed Pastors- Rev. Cleo Graham, Beneficent Church; Rev. John Ecklund, Chepachet Union Church; Rev. Burton Bagby-Grose, First Congregational Church Bristol.

Newly ordained- Rev. Shelley Moses, Rev. Helen Bodell

Members In discernment- Chontel Washington, Gabrielle Sclafani, Brendon Yaghijian -Tison, Alyssa Browning Gray

4 Members of the Board who have completed service- Wayne Patenaude,

Susan Rotblat-Walker, Nancy Soukup, Jeff Richardson

Ordination Anniversaries- Rebecca Floyd Marshall-5y; Cleo graham- 5y; Timoth Sylvia-10y; Marilyn Ricci-15y; Jack Jones-25y; Weldon Palmer-25y; Patricia Hazeltine-30y; Bill Sterrett-30y; Joy Utter-35y; Julio Filomeno-35y; George Peters-45y; Charlie Simonson-50y

Rev Joe Runner has served as the Annuitant Visitor for RI and Cape Cod for 28 years and is now retiring.

Leslie Simonson is now beginning her service as the new Annuitant Visitor for RI and Cape Cod.

7 Churches Are 5 For 5- FCC Bristol, Edgewood Congregational, Moosup Valley congregational, Newman Congregational Church, Park Place Congregational, United Congregational of Warwick, United Congregational Church of Westerly UCC

22 Churches for Basic Support Contributors- Amicable, Barrington, Beneficent, Chapel Street, Central, Edgewood, 4 Corners Community Chapel, FCC Bristol, FCC Warwick, Hispanic Evangelical, Hope, Kingston, Moosup Valley, Newman, Park Place, Peace Dale, Seekonk, Slatersville, Smithfield Avenue, Little Compton, Westerly.

Parting Service for Interim Conference Minister, Barbara Libby- (Cleo Graham)

George Peters gave moving words for Barbara's retirement. He expressed the tremendous gratitude of the Conference for her service.

Frances Munro gave Barbara a gift card and a book of photos to remember her time here.

Linda Sable expressed her profound gratitude for their relationship and work together on the Committee on Church and Ministry.

Barbara Libby expressed her gratitude for being part of TA-1 and the discussions about what it means to be the church of Jesus Christ in the 21st century, as we imagine a new future together. Today's vote moves all 3 of our Conferences together.

Service of Parting for Rev. Barbara Jane Libby.

Introduction of Transitional Conference Minister, Marilyn Kendrix- Final prayer delivered by Marilyn. Benediction delivered by Barbara and Marilyn.

Announcement to please join Barbara for an ice cream social farewell party on June 24, 3-5 pm, at Beneficent Church.

Meeting was adjourned at 12 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Grace Steere
Grace Steere, Clerk



Orphanages

Participants in the most recent Mission Trip painted several buildings at the Notre Dame Orphanage.

New Horizons orphanage continues to receive eggs five days a week as part of the OneEgg Nutrition Program

Adult Tuition Support

A student we have helped attend a professional school for accounting is completing her last year of the program and will finish in June.

One student who attended a training program to work on diesel engines is now employed.

Four new students are being assisted in vocational/technical programs that vary from one to three years.

Nutrition Program

Provided funds for nutrition program as partner with OneEgg Haiti (approximately \$11,000)

The grant from Tyson Foods came to an end. We worked with OneEgg Farm to identify other sources of funding for the sites that had been receiving eggs.

Added the Franz Breda School in Delmas as a new site to receive eggs. Absorbed the children from Jean Bonte Institution Mixte who had been covered by the grant into our regular program.

Co-ordinated numerous fund-raising projects with various churches and sold OneEgg Bracelets at many events both church-sponsored and private.

Egg deliveries continue to be made to the sites in the program. However, since early February, violent demonstrations have occurred throughout Haiti and in some cases have caused us to re-schedule deliveries. Our team on the ground has been instructed to only travel on the roads when they feel that it is safe. We have not had to miss any deliveries and the program participants have received all the eggs that were scheduled to be delivered.

Water Wells

Continued to support the completion of a water well in Mirogoane for the community. The initial funding for this project was provided by the Slatersville Congregational Church.

Special Event

For many years now, we have worked to help Jonas Azolin, one of our long-time translators and a recipient of tuition assistance to attend and graduate from the STEP Seminary in Haiti, to obtain a Visa to visit the US. Two years ago Jonas was married to Manika Breville. Manika is from Haiti but has lived in New Jersey with her family while she attends school. This year, Jonas was finally awarded a visa to come to the US to be with Manika. Jonas and Manika joined us at the Fall Meeting of the Conference. He spoke to the gathering eloquently expressing his gratitude for all that the Haiti Task Force has done for him over the years. It was a moving tribute. We are so happy for the couple who have since welcomed a baby daughter into their family.

Report of the Haiti Division December 2018

The Haiti Task Force continued to accomplish its mission this year despite several obstacles that restricted our travel to Haiti as often as in other years.

Mission Trips

We were able to conduct one mission trip to Haiti in January 2018 and another in January 2019.

The May 2018 trip had to be cancelled because airfare to Haiti had increased so much that the cost of the trip was prohibitive. The November trip was also cancelled because the political unrest that exploded in February 2019 had begun. We deemed that it was not prudent to take a trip at that time. The atmosphere in Haiti had settled down by January 2019 so a Mission Trip was conducted. It was an Orientation Trip in which the travelers visited many of the sites where we work – schools, orphanages and the OneEgg Haiti Farm. They attended church services in both the Fontamara Church and Ti-Marche Church. They also visited shops where we purchase Haitian crafts that are then sold at various craft fairs and venues here in Rhode Island to raise funds to support the needs of the clinic in Fontamara and to help support the OneEgg Nutrition Program.

Churches

Both the Fontamara Church and the Ti-Marche Church continue to provide popular places of worship in each of their communities. Neither church has required financial support this year. The mission trips that were able to travel to Haiti have attended Sunday services at both churches.

Medical Clinic, Fontamara (serving between 400 – 700 patients per month)

Central Congregational and Newman Congregational Churches continued to provide financial support for the salaries of the nurses and doctor that staff the clinic.

Monies from sales of Haitian crafts continued to provide the funds to be sent to Haiti to purchase medicine.

School and Student Sponsorships

Fontamara School – The Task Force provided financial support to help cover the expenses for those children who cannot afford to pay any tuition.

Community School of Bellevue – We provided financial support for operating expenses for this school which has grown to over 200 students.

An extensive painting project at the school was undertaken by the most recent Mission Trip participants.

Provided partial funding for school tuition to children of F. Gauthier, long-time translator and the children of two nurses from the Fontamara clinic. In addition, Peace Dale church continues to provide funding for four children in the Dukensen and Rose Pierre's family. Dukensen Pierre has been a long-time translator for the Task Force and is one of our trusted on-the-ground people in Haiti. We also provide tuition funding for the young daughter of Wilfrid Villason, our in-country coordinator of the One-Egg Nutrition Program.

Annual Report: Transitional Conference Minister

The Rhode Island Conference of the United Church of Christ holds its last meeting as a conference of the UCC on April 27, 2019, making this the final Conference Minister Annual Report to be filed with this historic Conference.

I was called to this position in July of 2018 to both lead the Conference during this final year and to provide leadership for the transition of our 30 churches into the new Together, As One Conference in Southern New England. Thus, my call here has been twofold.

First, my work as the Conference Minister of the Rhode Island Conference:

- Coming to this call on July 1, 2018, I faced a very steep learning curve. As someone who had not served the church at the Conference level before, I have spent many hours learning various aspects of the technical job. I have attended the following trainings:
 - * Two weeks On-The-Job with outgoing Interim Conference Minister, Barbara Libby
 - * Profile Validation
 - * Manual on Ministry
 - * Data Hub
 - * Fitness Review
 - * Church Closure and Legacy
- Perhaps the aspect of this call that the Board of Directors felt was most important was the need to strengthen the relationship between the Conference and the Churches of the Conference. I have spent many hours doing this work including:
 - * Preaching at RIC churches: Peace Dale, Beneficent, Chapel Street, Middletown, Bristol, Central, Seekonk, Newman, Smithfield Ave, Hispanic Evangelical, Slatersville, Sheldon Street, Little Compton, Four Corners, Westerly, Edgewood, Kingston, Central, Park Place, Amicable, Armenian Evangelical, and Riverside.
 - * Leading a Spiritual conversation with two church's deacons, Bristol and Kingston.
 - * Speaking to the Earnest Workers at Seekonk.
 - * Attending RI Ministers Association meetings and the retreat in January.
 - * Speaking at Beneficent Church's Peace Symposium
 - * Attending the presentation by Rev. Barry Black, former Chaplain of the US Senate at Central Congregational Church,
- In accordance with the wishes of the RIC Board of Directors, I facilitated a reduction in staff with the layoff of Sandy Tremblay, whose work with CFO Bob Nolan to move the Conferences offices from Pawtucket to Cranston was invaluable. Sandy kept a wonderful attitude throughout and went on to full time employment elsewhere. We were able to secure very part time clerical help (three hours per week) in the person of Raymond Dexter of Edgewood Church. Raymond opens the mail, logs in the checks and has begun our project of digitizing all ministerial records.
- As chief of staff for the Conference, I helped the Personnel Committee navigate through a grievance against the Conference by Irons Homestead Director, Jennifer Geary. The grievance was settled amicably for both parties. I also instituted a formal performance management process with all the employees of the Conference and have continued the once a month staff meetings that were the norm during the last CM's leadership.
- Working with the Rhode Island State Council of Churches, racial justice training has been scheduled for RIC clergy to fulfill the requirement passed by the Spring Annual Meeting last year. It will take place in May, 2019.
- I had the joy of participating in two ecclesiastical councils which resulted in approving the Rev. Chontell Washington for ordination which took place in December and approving the Rev. Donnie Anderson for privilege of call.

- I met with numerous good folk from many of our churches and have enjoyed making those relationships every day.

My Work as the Transitional Conference Minister – moving toward the Together, As One Conference:

The Together, As One Conference Board of Directors has been working diligently over the last 11 months and I have been participating in all their meetings, in person or by zoom, along with my counterparts in Connecticut and Massachusetts, Rev. Kent Siladi and Rev. Don Remick. The Rhode Island members of the board make up 1/3 of the Board membership: Rev. Cleo Graham (Beneficent), Grace Steere (Bristol), Frances Munro (Central), Larry Kellam (Central), Linda Sable (Seekonk) and Rebecca Floyd Marshall (Little Compton). The bylaws of the TA1 Board call for 7 members from each of the three states that make up the Conference. In addition to all the other work of birthing a new Conference, the Board read a book for discussion: *Canoeing the Mountains* by Tod Bolsinger (which I also had our RI Staff read).

- The TA1 board held a 4-board retreat where all the members of the three historic Boards of Directors met with the TA1 Board of Directors, further enabling our collaboration during this 'in-between' time. Another 4-Board Retreat is planned for May 2019.
- The Due Diligence Process, whereby each historic conference's Executive Committees read through all of the details about the other two conferences to make sure that there was nothing that would prevent our merging, was complete and signed off.
- The lead staffs of all three historic Conferences met for a two-day facilitated discussion where ideas about how to best serve all the churches of the TA1 Conference were discussed and became input to the TA1 Staffing Subcommittee.
- The three conferences have been living into the practice of doing things together on several fronts already:
 - * Super Saturdays held in October 2018 and March 2019.
 - * The Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island Conferences along with the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts and the New England Synod - ELCA Lutheran have together received a \$1 million grant for clergy development from the Lilly Endowment. Some of our clergy in Rhode Island are already participating in the program that this grant has made possible,
 - * I have partnered with the Massachusetts Conference in a robust Search and Call process whose goal it is to help our churches make the best possible decisions when they are calling a new pastor.
 - * The Ministerial Aid Funds of the three Conferences met to compare their practices and funding for providing financial aid to clergy. We discovered much in common and also, that CT and MA have a great deal more endowment funds for this ministry. All three groups are exploring how they might work together in true TA1 spirit.

Regionally and nationally, I have been busy as well.

- I have attended 3 meetings of the Council of Conference Ministers:
 - * In October, Creating Congregations of Generosity held by the UCC's Office of Philanthropy, Technology, Identity and Communication.
 - * In December, Authorized Ministry for the 21st Century held by the UCC's Ministerial Excellence, Support and Authorization.
 - * In March, Creating a Guiding Mission for the Council of Conference Ministers held by the Council itself. We also met with the UCC Board of Directors and the Pension Boards of the UCC.

Collaborated with National Alliance on Mental Illness of Rhode Island (NAMI RI) and Kristin Putney RI Conf. Christian Education & Youth Ministry Resource Consultant to develop and present a program titled "Inside Mental Health" to 35 youth and a number of youth leaders from RI and MA at the Seekonk Congregational Church.

Co-organizer of the January retreat for the RI UCC Ministers' Association.

Collaborated with NAMI RI, Rev. Aiden Kelley, Asso. Minister of Youth and Young Adult Ministries of Central Congregational Church, and Kristin Putney to develop a program for the parents and youth at this church. Created an integrated labyrinth walk as part of the "Inside Mental Illness" presentation by two educators from NAMI RI.

Met 10 times with RI Conference staff for sharing and to further collaboration.

Attended three days of meetings held in Framingham for the lead staff of the three conferences working towards Together As 1.

Attended meetings of the *RI Governor's Overdose Prevention and Intervention Task Force* to gather information about the growing number of resources for: prevention, rescue, treatment, and long term recovery that we can utilize for the benefit of individuals and families within our congregations and the communities we serve.

Attended meetings of the *Faith Partnership to Address the Opioid Epidemic* organized by the RI Dept. of Health (RIDOH) and the RI Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals (BHDDH) in order to create a collaborative response so that more individuals and families within our churches and communities will be reached and supported.

Provided a series of items in the RI Conference newsletter, that are also posted on our RI conference website, explaining how individuals and congregations can respond in a caring and helpful manner to those affected by prescription drug mis-use, addiction and the resources available to us.

Developed a collection of resources for distribution at the RI Conference Annual meeting.

For the Wider UCC community

Accepted an invitation to share our success with introducing mental health programming to our youth groups at the 48th Annual Conference of the New England Association of United Church Educators (NEAUCE). Christian educators, youth leaders, and pastors from the TA1 conferences will be in attendance.

Responded to a request for editing from a faith community nurse (FCN) leading a health ministry in a congregation in MA as the church created a document intended to enhance safety for all entering its facility.

Mentored a faith community nurse (FCN) in developing a Ministry of Health and Wholeness in a CT UCC congregation.

Co-leader of the Wellness Ministries of the UCC. As guest of UCC will be attending Synod to staff an information table in exhibit area and provide information. Have collaborated in development of a wellness/retreat room at Synod and will make a brief presentation at the Health and Wholeness Advocacy Luncheon.

Submitted April 11, 2019 by Peggy Matteson, PhD, RN-BC, Faith Community Nurse, Minister of Congregational Health, Health Ministry Consultant to RI Conference of UCC

NYE 2020 I am on the planning team for the National Youth Event 2020 and responsible for parts of worship, art installations and specialty group spaces during the event. I have zoom meetings 2-3 times a month with team members and a youth ambassador group.

CE certificate program, Lynnfield, MA, enrolled in 2 year program
The Confirmation Project: Oct 4&5 seminar, Princeton, NJ, Webinar Class Jan/Feb
Sparkhouse: resources & church school Webinar Feb 21, 2019
Super Saturday collaboration with tri-state leaders: playground & worship

Overall, it has been another great year of collaborating with many CE leaders, nurturing faith formation for churches and families. The tri-state Faith Formation leaders are brainstorming new ways in preparation for change in Jan 2020 with the merge.

Respectfully submitted on April 13, 2019 by Kristin Putney, Christian Education and Youth Ministries

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Mission/Purpose/Role in the life of the Rhode Island Conference:

The Minister of Health and Wellness shall support the local churches of the Rhode Island Conference – United Church of Christ (RIC-UCC) in understanding and developing ministries that support the health of body, mind, and spirit of each of God's children.

Programs/Projects completed this year:

For individuals and congregations

Answer many requests for information and materials. Made referrals as appropriate.

Collaborated with Barbara Gregory, RI Conference Disaster Preparedness Coordinator, in response to a request from Beneficent Congregational Church to do a basic assessment of risk and provide resources so that the leaders of the congregation could prioritize and respond in the manner within which they felt most comfortable. A list of local programs that would provide speakers and information available from The Insurance Board was shared and the benefits explained.

For the RI Conference

Created a folder of information on the demographics of suicide in RI and suggestions from evidence-based practice on how a congregation might respond and distributed it to interested pastors and lay leaders.

Attended the Health Ministries Asso. (HMA) annual conference to connect with others leading UCC health ministries and to learn more about activities within the UCC, other Christian denominations as well as other faith groups. (Attended at own expense)

Developed a brief piece explaining activities that a congregation might develop as a ministry of health and healing for the combined program of the RI Autumnal meeting.

- I attended the Conference Ministers of New England's Retreat where I had an opportunity to begin relationships with the Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont CMs in addition to my two colleagues here in Southern New England. It was time well spent at Hallelujah Farm in New Hampshire.

This first ten months has been extremely busy but also tremendously rich as I work to bring into being what had only been a vision of a new Conference, one based on making disciples, making God's love and justice real, being agents of change for church in the 21st century and making covenant partnerships with anyone who seeks the good for all people.

Submitted on April 11, 2019 by the Rev. Marilyn Baugh Kendrix

Annual Report: Rhode Island Conference & Rhode Island Association Board of Directors President

During 2018-2019, the Rhode Island Conference and Rhode Island Association have continued to act as a single body, while preparing to continue as the Rhode Island Association following the formal incorporation of the three-state body currently known as "Together As One" into a conference representing the three states of Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Conference delegates have already approved a separate set of bylaws for the Rhode Island Association, replacing the Constitution and Bylaws of the combined Conference and Association. Representatives from the Board of Directors and the Conference have continued to be active in the planning process. As agreed, Rhode Island has equal representation on the TA1 Board elected at the June 2018 annual meeting of the three conferences in Springfield, including two of the six officers (RICUCC Board members The Rev. Cleo Graham as Vice President, and Grace Steere as Secretary/Clerk) and five of the fifteen members of the TA1 Board (myself and Treasurer The Rev. Bob Nolan, by reason of our positions on the RICUCC Board, along with Larry Kellam, The Rev. Rebecca Floyd Marshall and Linda Sable). In addition, Rhode Island is represented on almost all of the sub-committees, which have been working on developing the specifics for the new conference: Executive Committee – Cleo and Grace; Finance Committee – Larry (chair) and Bob; Governance Committee – Frances; Vision/Alignment & Implementation Committee – The Rev. Burton Bagby-Grose; Staffing Structure Committee – Cleo and The Rev, Dr. George Peters; Communications Committee – The Rev. David Pierce; Nominating/Volunteer Development Committee – Linda Sable

Annual Meeting Committee

– The Rev. Dr. Claudia Demick; and Human Resources Committee – Tracy Baran. The TA1 Board has held nine meetings over the past year, five of them in Woodstock, Connecticut, and four via computer on ZOOM - not including the various committee meetings. The next Annual Meeting of TA1 is scheduled for November 1 and 2, 2019, in Worcester, Massachusetts; but prior to that meeting, the Synod of the United Church of Christ, meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in June, 2019, will have to approve the creation of the new conference.

Here at home, the Board of Directors of the Rhode Island Conference/Association has met ten times, also utilizing new technology to meet via computer in the summer and during bad weather in February. We have also continued our practice of meeting in member churches throughout the state for many of the Board meetings. In July, we welcomed The Rev. Marilyn Kendrix as our Transitional Conference Minister. At the same time Marilyn started, we moved out of the offices in Pawtucket and into space leased from Edgewood Congregational Church- UCC in Cranston. We celebrated our new home and our new Transitional Conference Minister in a Koinonia service, held in the Edgewood church in September.

Over the year, the Board of Directors has addressed issues concerning our association with TA1. The Board provided historical and financial material to the Massachusetts and Connecticut Boards of Directors and has reviewed their material in return, as part of a due diligence process, examining the fiscal health of the three bodies. All three Boards have signed off on this examination, clearing the way for the next legal steps in creating the TA1 conference. We have also started a discussion of ways the Conference/Association can continue to support the Hispanic Church and its ministries.

As President, in addition to the meetings noted above, I have presided at or attended Ecclesiastical Counsels and Ordinations. In March, I also represented the Conference at the 50th Anniversary of the United Congregational Church of Westerly - UCC, in March, celebrating the union of the Pawcatuck (CT) Congregational Church and the Broad Street Christian Church of Westerly. I will be attending the UCC General Synod 32 in Milwaukee in June, in an ex officio role, along with Marilyn Kendrix as our Transitional Conference Minister and our Conference delegates The Rev. Cleo Graham, Wayne Gage, The Rev. Julio Filomeno, and youth delegate Nikole Yuomans-Nosko .

Throughout the coming year, we will strive to continue to emphasize transparency and to ensure that our Rhode Island member congregations have a voice and remain informed, both of what is happening within the Rhode Island Conference/Association and with the TA1 process.

Peace, Frances Munro, President

Annual Report of the Rhode Island Committee on Ministry

Committee Officers:

Chair, Rev. Gary W. Bagley, Vice Chair, Linda Sable

Members: Rev. Joe Tripp, Rev. Kurt Walker, Rev. Scott Spencer, Ann Roussel, Rev. Caroline Patterson Inlow, Val Tutson, Wayne Gage

The Church and Ministry Committee of the Rhode Island Conference of the United Church of Christ meets monthly on the 1st Wednesday except in July and August when they meet if needed. This committee is responsible for the authorization and granting of standing of all authorized ministers in the Conference. Members in Discernment are granted that standing by the committee who then commits to advise those discerning ministries.

Meeting with authorized ministers for periodic reviews are also part of the committee's work. In addition, an Information Review is sent yearly to all authorized ministers by the committee who compiles the information. The Church and Ministry Committee is also available to consult with congregations and ministers who seek support.

This year a great deal of our time has been spent going through the new Manual on Ministry and making the needed adjustments and changes to our policies and practices when necessary. One change that we have already addressed and put a new policy into place is concerning the licensed pastors and commissioned ministers in the Rhode Island Conference.

According to the Manual on Ministry there is a new Ministerial standing for Lay Persons. We will no longer have Licensed Pastors or Commissioned Ministers. The new category is Lay Ministerial Standing. We will no longer license, or commission lay persons into specific ministries. However, The Committee on Ministry voted to maintain the License of those already serving as Licensed Pastors and to maintain our current Commissioned Ministers prior to the New Manual on Ministry.

5 Annual Youth Events: successful and well attended.

10/12/18 **Mini Youth Concert & Mental Illness Awareness** 6th-12th grade, Seekonk (25 Youth & 10 Adults - 4 churches) Partnered with Peggy Matterson and NAMI.
REPEAT event at Central Congregational church- March 24, 2019 w/ labyrinth

12/02/18 **"Advent Adventures" Youth Event** 3rd-8th grade at Woodridge Church (24 youth, 4 Adults - 3 churches)

1/06/19 **SKY ZONE Youth Event** 3rd-8th grade at Seekonk Church then to trampoline park (30 youth- 6 Adults - 3 churches)

1/27/19 **Racial Justice Awareness Confirmation Youth Event** at Seekonk Church (30 youth, 8 adults, 4 churches)

2/10/18 **Sliding with Faith Youth Event** at Peace Dale church then **Tubing at Yagoo** (30 youth, 7 Adults, 4 churches)

Youth Group Sharing: 2 churches, co-youth group experience

Sept 21, 2018 Apples Everything! 3rd-8th grade- Seekonk & Woodridge

March 8+9 2019 Camp Irons maple sugaring, confirmation retreat- Chatham & Seekonk

March 31, 2019 Monster Love (monster golf)- Seekonk & Woodridge

Leadership and Retreats

Millennial Ministries: In collaboration with Katie Howe from Woodridge church, we started up in Oct 2018, gatherings for young adults in their 20's & 30's. We meet about every 6 weeks. The group represents about 7 churches with about 15- 20 gathered each time. Events thus far: pumpkin carving, Christmas gift exchange, bowling, game night.

Faith Formation Summit 1 Framingham, MA Dec 1, 2018

Faith Formation Summit 2 Niantic CT, Feb 2, 2019

Above 2 events gathered F. F. leaders together to hear presentations by the Tri-Conference leadership. Well attended.

NEAUCE New England Association of United Christian Educators, April 30-May 2, 2019

3 day retreat in Swanzey, NH with the theme: " PLANT. NURTURE. NOW! FAITH IN THE HOME" with keynote address given by Rev. Traci Smith. 10 participants for our RI representation from churches: Seekonk, Middletown, Chapel Street, Kingston, Woodridge, Four Corners. Stacy Inman (Seekonk Church) served on the planning team for her 3rd year. I served on the NEAUCE planning team this year as the conference staff rep. I was a workshop presenter as well as staff members, Peggy Matterson and Rev. Marilyn Kendrix.

AUCE (Association of United Church Educators)

I have served my 3rd year as the **AUCE RI Rep** and continue to meet quarterly on Skype for meetings. I also traveled to Eden Seminary (Missouri) for the annual 3 day meeting that was in Nov 2018.

Youth@Synod 2019 RI Youth delegation traveling to Synod 32 in Milwaukee June 21-26, 2019 (14 participants, 4 churches) Several meetings held for preparation to learn about the resolutions and their "Voice without Vote" opportunity.

We hosted 13 Providence Experience groups providing thousands of hours of volunteer service around the state. I set up and coordinated most of the work sites for these groups, providing us with additional revenue. We are on track to host 15 groups this year with requests still coming in.

We created a new logo for the ministry, please see top of the page. Thanks to Rebecca Almeida for the design concept. We also began advertising in the newspaper, RI Monthly and facebook, all of which appear to be bringing in new customers. Our Sugar Eat fundraiser brought in \$100 and several potential campers.

A new roof was put on the Lodge and solar panels were installed by Newport Solar. These panels are expected to generate \$2500-\$3000 each year as revenue. This expense was paid for using the Marion Harley Fund which was being used to generate about \$1900/year for the ministry of Irons Homestead. There is a small amount remaining in the Fund to be used as a reserve fund for Irons Homestead.

We are indebted to the Champlin Foundation who has generously supported this ministry with over \$117,000 in grants since 2014. For 2018, we received \$11,620. \$4,000 was used to purchase 15 kayaks with paddles, 2 paddle boards and 46 lifejackets. The remainder is being used right now to replace the roof on the pavilion. A 40ft storage container was purchased and positioned at the waterfront in which to store all this new equipment. This year we received \$68,000 for the purchase of a dump truck with plow and to build an arts center. The truck was purchased in December just in time for winter plowing. I am so grateful to no longer be out on an open-air tractor doing snow removal. The Outdoor Ministry Division will need to make decisions about the Arts Center over the next few months.

I am so grateful for the many volunteers and generous donors who make this ministry possible. I am especially grateful to the Outdoor Ministry Division who, under the capable leadership of Mark Dennen has spread the name of Irons Homestead and supported me in my labors.

I am sad to be leaving this ministry but will go where God sends me. I believe the ministry of Irons Homestead is a vital component of the wider ministry of the Together As One Conference. Concrete plans are in place for continued growth which I am confident the next person to fill this role will bring to fruition.

Submitted by: the Rev. Jennifer Geary

Annual Report: Christian Education & Youth Ministry Resource Consultant

Mission/Purpose/Role in the life of the Rhode Island Conference:

As the CE & YM Resource Consultant for the RI Conference, I have continued to reach out to Christian Educators, paid and volunteer in our RI Churches. I continue to provide them with information, resources, connection and guidance throughout the year. I have engaged multi church youth groups to come together several times over the year, including some events for younger youth starting in 3rd grade. This year's focus has been in four areas: 1) Faith Formation in the Home, 2) Confirmation Models, 3) Millennial Group, 4) Tri-State Collaborations

Programs/Projects completed this year:

ERYE 2018 A tri-state bus trip travelled to PA, July 18-22 for the **Eastern Regional Youth Event**. I was on the ERYE planning team, a presenter of several workshops and planned worship. I was the leader of the RI delegation of 17 (5 Adults, 12 youth from 4 churches). An impactful experience was had by all!

This year the Committee working with the Rhode Island Council of Churches has developed the Merciful Conversations on Race program for the Clergy of the Rhode Island Conference. This training will take place on three different dates and in three different locations and times in order to make it convenient for all our clergy to attend. The first course will begin on Thursday May 2 at 7 p.m. at Chapel Street UCC, the second will begin on Tuesday, May 7, at 10 a.m. at Peace Dale Congregational Church, and the third will begin on Friday, May 17 at 4:00 p.m.

Members in Discernment:

Linda Hartley, Brandon Yaghjian-Tison, Ashley Walker, and Gabrielle Sclafani

Ecclesiastical Councils:

Rev. Dr. Donnie Anderson – Central Congregational Church

Pending Ecclesiastical Councils:

Gabrielle Sclafani – Barrington Congregational Church

Installations:

The Rev. Betsy Garland– Moosup Valley Congregational UCC

Pending Installations:

The Rev. Elizabeth Chandler Felts – May 19, at 3:00 P.M. at Beneficent Congregational Church

Privilege of Call

The Rev. Elisabeth Smith
The Rev. Dr. Donnie Anderson

Dual Standing:

The Rev. Betsy Garland—Moosup Valley Congregational

The Rev. Robert Hollis—Mount Vernon Larger Parish

The Rev. David Pierce—Four Corners Community Chapel

The Rev. Yong Hwan Noh – First Korean Church

Licensed Ministers:

Bill McMillan and Wayne Patenaude (Park Place Congregational),

Transfers of standing to the RI Conference:

Rev. Burton Bagby-Grosse

Respectfully submitted, Submitted on April 12, 2019

The Rev. Gary W. Bagley

Rhode Island Ministers' Association (RIMA) Annual Report

Once again, the Rhode Island Ministers' Association (RIMA) had a wonderful year of continuing education and fellowship activities. Unlike previous years, we held our annual retreat in January to accommodate the numerous requests to move it away from September. Another change was to return the Craigville Retreat Center in Centerville, MA, where the retreat had been held in past years. The relocation did not work as well as the date change. The lodge we stayed in was wonderful for meeting and sharing in fellowship. However, the sleeping arrangements were challenging, and we will seek an alternative venue that provides more availability of single rooms. Our retreat leader was Rev. Kirk Byron Jones, who led us through workshops focusing on Soul Talk, based on his book by the same name. Kirk was the greatest asset during this event. We would like to invite him back again.

In addition to our annual retreat, we continued our practice of holding monthly meetings around the state. As we have visited many of the different ministry locations around the RICUCC, we discussed a number of topics relevant to ministry in the current age. We discussed topics such as "Imaginative ways of engaging with busy families" and "Using creativity to make \Lent and Easter worship more meaningful," among many others.

As has become an annual tradition for RIMA, Kathy Henry hosted our Epiphany party. It is always a joyous time to gather with colleagues after the Advent and Christmas seasons to laugh, reunite, and eat wonderful food. Thank you, Kathy, for hosting us.

Throughout this year we welcomed a number new clergy into our midst and look forward to getting to know them better as we move forward in common ministry. May we continue to be a support and strength for each other and our various ministry settings.

Respectfully submitted on April 8, 2019

Rev. Dale Azevedo



Director of Irons Homestead Report covering May 2018 – April 2019

Irons Homestead is a sacred space that enables lives to change through encounters with God, nature and others.

Our Mission is to make a positive impact on the world by honoring each person's integrity and worth, while providing a nurturing, safe and challenging environment for them to grow socially and spiritually. We use gracious & generous hospitality and purposeful community to share God's love and grace.

Our Vision is, refreshed and challenged, guests will re-engage daily life with a deeper understanding of the interdependence and value of all of creation, making changes to lighten their foot print on earth and to live in harmony with all.

We Value: A place apart from the everyday life; Respect for the natural world and order; The uniqueness of each person; Interdependence; Play; The teaching of Jesus the Christ

Our Goals are to: Provide quality facilities and spaces; Provide a nurturing and safe environment; Honor each person's integrity and worth; Teach creation stewardship; Teach life skills; Expect fun to happen; Be the Body of Christ here and now; Worship God in all ways every day.

This is my seventh and final annual report as the Director of Irons Homestead.

I am proud of the work accomplished at Irons Homestead over these past seven years. The property is now well groomed, our buildings and equipment are on regular maintenance plans and our facilities are being used now more than ever. The statistics from 2018 describe it well.

For the first time, annual rental revenues were over \$40,000. We increased our overnight usage by 30% and our day usage by 5%: 1200+ bed-nights and 3000+ day guests.

Summer Camp is back! Nine weeks of Forest Day Camp were offered. Due to the large number of snow days schools recessed much later than expected so we only had campers for eight weeks. I cleared the woods near the ball field creating an all outdoor camp experience of woods, fields and water. I had one full-time counselor for the entire summer and a number of part-time counselors who worked with her. Lisa Waterman, a neighbor, volunteered to be our camp nurse all summer. I was the camp cook for most of the summer.

In addition, I ran two weeks of Overnight Camp. I had three full-time counselors. Our programming was led by volunteers. Two UCC missionaries, Andy Jepson and Lindley Kinerk were on-site for a full week engaging with the campers for Mission Possible. For Paint the Town, Kristin Putney and Kristine Gervais split the program time. What made these two weeks special was the number of campers who were at that time living at the homeless shelter. Through your generosity to the Campership Fund and a \$5000 grant from the Champlin Foundation we were able to give them full camper-ships for which they were very grateful. We utilized the cabin tents purchased in 2015 for summer camp and for some of the Providence Experience groups. We were able to operate Summer Camp through generous donations from Barrington Cong'l UCC, Chapel Street Cong'l UCC and an anonymous donor. We ended the season with approximately \$3000 in the Summer Camp Fund.

In preparation for Summer Camp 2019, I created a Camp Health and Wellness team which is working on creating all the health documents needed to maintain our American Camp Association Accreditation. Irons Homestead will have an accreditation visit in August 2019 to include day and overnight camp.