St. Louis Association, MMSUCC, Annual Business Meeting

Saturday, September 30, 2017

Glory To Glory Christian Church UCC, St. Louis, MO

Displays from agencies related to the St. Louis Association were available for browsing as folks arrived and during breaks in the meeting, including before and after lunch.

Welcomes were shared by Rev. Heather Arcovitch Kirkwood UCC, Kirkwood, President of the St. Louis Association Council, and Rev. Wyatt Greenlee (Glory to Glory Christian Church UCC), pastor of our host church.

Worship was led by Heather Arcovitch and Sonya Vann (Christ the King, Ferguson). Music was provided by Rev. Carol Barner (Grace UCC and Mt. Tabor UCC, St. Louis.)

Rev. Dorothy Gannon (Epiphany UCC, St. Louis) called the roll of the churches. Thirty-three churches of the association were represented at this meeting.

The preacher of the day was the Rev. Karen Denise Anderson, an Itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church and proud pastor of Ward Chapel AME Church in Florissant, MO.

Rev. Keith Karau (Samuel UCC, Clayton) and Rev. Ann Wilson (Peace UCC, Webster Groves) introduced clergy recently called to serve in the St. Louis Association -

Rev. Rebecca Turner, Christ UCC, Maplewood

Rev. David Beebe, Epiphany UCC, St. Louis,

Jackie Tyler, Zion UCC, Florissant

Rev. Terry Minchow-Proffitt,

Rev. Kevin Cameron (Parkway UCC) introduced the Members in Discernment (MID) who were present at the meeting -

Doni Driemeier-Showers, Samuel UCC, Clayton
Jackie Tyler, Grace UCC, St. Louis
Sonya Vann, Christ the King UCC, Florissant
Valerie Jackson, First Congregational, St. Louis, is currently a MID candidate who was also with us.
An offering was taken for UCC Disaster Relief Services.
Rev. Dorothy Gannon (Epiphany UCC, St. Louis), Secretary of the St. Louis Association Council, led the roll call of the congregations in the St. Louis Association. 33 churches were present at the roll call.
The business meeting was called to order by Heather Arcovitch.
Speak outs were done by
Rev. Margaret Phillips (St. Thomas, Chesterfield)
Rev. Douglas Anders (Kirkwood UCC, Kirkwood)
Rev. Mike Krewson (Church of the Master, Florissant)
Rev. David Greenhaw (First Congregational, St. Louis)
Report of the Nominating Committee was shared by Lorin Cope (St. Paul, St. Louis).
The slate was approved.
The minutes of the 2016 annual business meeting were approved as submitted.
Report of the Committee On Ministry: Preparation was presented by Rev. Kevin Cameron (Parkway UCC, St. Louis). He also shared information about the Marks of Faithful and Effective Ministry as it is used to support and work with Members in Discernment.
Report of the Committee on Ministry: Oversight (COM:O) was presented by Keith Karrou and Ann Wilson. Discussed new requirement for Cultural Sensitivity training for clergy who wish to retain standing in the St. Louis Association. Douglas Anders asked about the required frequency of the training. Ann Wilson responded that it is still under discussion, that the leaning at this time is to make it every three years like Boundary training but there is not yet a clear decision.
Report from the Association Council was given by Heather Arcovitch. For the past couple of years, the council has been working on how the Association finds and acts on its role in the racial justice issues of our community. We have been working with COM:O regarding the Cultural Diversity training. We have begun to work on relationships within the association, with pastors and congregations, looking at our intra-church relationships in ways that more faithful to the gospel call for justice. It's new and the council acknowledges not being very good at this yet, but seeks the Association's prayers and feedback.

Report from the Mission Outreach Committee was given by Rev. Josh Privett (St. Peter's, Ferguson.) Several questions were asked about requirements for qualifying to recieve funds and Josh addressed those. Josh reported that the committee is reviewing criteria for qualifying for mission dollars.

Rev. Tom Ressler (St. Paul UCC, St. Louis), Association Bookkeeper, presented the proposed 2018 budget. Rev. Starsky Wilson (St. John, St. Louis) asked why Interfaith Partnership and Doorways are not in the mission category but the program category. When the question was answered, Starsky followed up to suggest that when Mission Outreach reviews their standards and requirements for grantees that Interfaith Partnership and Pathways be considered in that same conversation. Budget passed.

New Business: None

Heather Arcovitch led the installation of newly elected leaders.

Heather Arcovitch and Pastor Daketta Marshburn (Glory to Glory Christian Church UCC, St. Louis) invited the gathering to the communion table.

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:53 with the benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy M. Gannon

Association Council Secretary