

The Southwest Conference UCC met for its Annual Meeting April 23, 2021, through April 24, 2021, via Zoom videoconference.

Rev. Dr. Barb Doerrer-Peacock, SWC Associate Conference Minister, called Day 1 of Annual Meeting 2021 to order at 10:00 am AZ/ 11:00 am NM&EP. Words of welcome and gathering were offered.

Barb led an opening prayer.

An overview of Friday's schedule and of the speakers was provided with the grounding of this year's theme: *Both/And*. Each of the following presenters was provided time to introduce themselves and their work:

- Rev. Marta Fioriti and Mandy, who serve at Black Forrest Community UCC, Colorado Springs, CO
- Rev. Ian Holland, who serves at First Church in Swampscott Congregational, UCC, 15 Miles north of Boston
- Rev. Cean James, who serves at Salt and Light UCC, Philadelphia, PA. Cean is also the Associate Conference Minister for the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference.

Time was provided for reflection and for conversation with all panelists, moderated by Barb.

Barb thanked panelist for their presentations, work, and sharing among us. She also shared how each panelist will be hosting workshops during the time open for Hearings and Workshops.

Morning session ended at 11:36 am Arizona time/ 12:36 New Mexico & El Paso time. Meeting delegates took a break for lunch.

Annual Meeting 2021 reconvened after lunch and delegates participated in one of the following: Hearings on the proposed Resolutions for those who were randomly assigned to Hearings; Workshops with the morning panelists.

Southwest Conference UCC (SWC) Virtual Annual Meeting 2021 – Day 2, Business Session and Voting **Saturday, April 24**

Rev. Rock Fremont, SWC Moderator, offered welcome and salutations. Delegates were asked to type their names and church names in the chat to complete a chat Roll Call for attendance and ensuring a quorum.

Rev. Dr. Barb Doerrer-Peacock, SWC Associate Conference Minister, opened with prayer: Blessing.

Multimedia prayer and reflection was shared with land acknowledgement.

Karen Richter, Annual Meeting Coordinator, and Genevieve Benham, Executive Assistant to the Conference Minister, announced there is a quorum of churches represented among the delegates, as based on the chat roll call, with more than half of the churches and communities represented. 33 total churches with delegates in attendance.

Moderator called Annual Meeting 2021 Day 2 to order at 9:32 am Arizona time/ 10:32 New Mexico and El Paso time.

Rock informed the Delegates that instead of a written ballot, there will be a Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda will be voted on using the *with no objections* method.

Consent Agenda is as follows:

1. The agenda for 2021 Annual Meeting
2. The Executive Board shall serve as the Business Committee for the 2021 Annual Meeting, for matters related to changes to the agenda or other questions about the way the meeting is conducted

3. Brendan Mahoney is appointed Parliamentarian
4. Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting
5. 2021 Annual Meeting Standing Rules
6. Committee on Church and Ministry Section A [COCAM-A] Report
7. Committee on Church and Ministry Section B [COCAM-B] Report
8. Endowment Committee Report
9. Personnel Committee Report
10. Lay Ministry Report
11. Officers and Board Members of the United Church of Christ; Officers, Board Members, and Official Representatives of UCC Affiliated and Associate Ministries; Amy and Marc Gerardis (our UCCIB Agents); are welcomed as guests and granted voice during the 2021 SWC Annual Meeting

Without Objection voting method – **With no objection, motions are adopted as presented**

Moderator's Report

The report was written and shared by Rev. Rock Fremont, SWC Moderator.

Introduction of Southwest Conference Staff:

Share URL to Staff Page on the SWC website <http://www.swcucc.org/staff>

Nancy Ackley, Commissioned Minister for Faith and Money

Gordon Street, Commissioned Minister for Reimagining and Connecting with God of One's Own Understanding

Michael Curry, Southwest Conference Lay Minister for Disability Education, Advocacy, and Awareness

Phil Shea, Disaster Services Coordinator

Wende Gonzales, Relational Communications Coordinator

Genevieve Benham, Executive Assistant to the Conference Minister

Rev. Liana Rowe, Administrative Assistance for Finance

Acknowledged Liana's upcoming retirement

Associate Conference Minister's Report,

The report was written and shared by the Rev. Dr. Barb Doerrler-Peacock, Associate Conference Minister.

With no objection, Associate Conference Minister's Report received

Conference Minister's Report

Written and presented by Rev. Dr. Bill Lyons, Conference Minister.

With no objection, Conference Minister's Report received.

Moderator announced time for break at 10:00 am Arizona time/ 11:00 am New Mexico and El Paso time.

After break, continued with Morning Business at 10:05 am Arizona time/ 11:05 am New Mexico and El Paso time.

Moderator invited Rev. Dr. Barb Doerrler-Peacock, Associate Conference Minister, to introduce panelist churches who would share stories from around the SWC about how they adjusted worship in the pandemic. First Church Phoenix decided to wait until a later point in the meeting to share.

Pastors of the Good Shepherd in Sahuarita, Rev. Dr. Rebecca McElfresh and Rev. Dr. Randy Mayer, shared their experience of living into hybrid worship during the pandemic.

Barb offered thanks to The Good Shepherd Sahuarita for their sharing and reminded delegates of the after-hours conversation offered later in the evening at 5:00 pm Arizona/6:00 pm New Mexico & El Paso to continue this discussion.

Moderator moved for order of the day, will work First Church Phoenix into the schedule to share during the afternoon session.

Scott Greenwood, SWC Treasurer, presented the Financial Report

Presented the Statement of Financial Position (the balance sheet) for the SWC.

Scott shared the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2022, as recommended by the Executive Board. Major line items were covered in more specific detail.

Budget is moved by the Executive Board and no second is needed. Motion from the Executive Board is:

The 2021-2022 Southwest Conference Budget shall be adopted as proposed. Opened for questions.

Nancy Splain, Shepherd of the Hills UCC & Beatitudes Campus, called the question. **With no objections, the budget is adopted as proposed.**

Rev. Dr. Barb Doerrer-Peacock shared the 5-for-5 and 7-for-7 recognitions by sharing a video recording from Rev Liana Rowe. She also shared the Anniversaries and Celebrations by sharing a video recording.

Moderator announced will stand in Recess for Lunch Break at 11:00 am Arizona time/ 12:00 pm New Mexico and El Paso time.

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Moderator Rock Fremont called the meeting back to order after lunch at 1:00 pm Arizona time/ 2:00 pm New Mexico and El Paso time. He turned session over to Rev. Sarah TevisTownes, Moderator Elect and Pastor at Church of the Good Shepherd in Albuquerque.

Sarah offered the opening prayer to the afternoon Business session and guided the afternoon's discussion.

Rev. Sarah TevisTowes, Moderator Elect, introduced First Church Phoenix UCC panelists who shared stories about how they adjusted worship in the pandemic.

Rev. Susan Valiquette, Pastor, and Chris Wickersham, Moderator of Care and Community at First Church Phoenix, shared their experience of living into hybrid worship during the pandemic.

Rev. Rock Fremont, SWC Moderator, presented the proposed By-Laws Revisions. The By-Laws revisions are moved by the Executive Board and no second is needed.

THE MOTION: Rev. Rock Fremont, Moderator, moved that the 2021 Annual Meeting of the SWC adopts the amended By-Laws that the hearing affirmed. Opened for discussion. Opened Zoom Poll for voting; if two delegates on the same device, one delegate votes via Poll, and one delegate votes via chat. **Poll Results: Motion Carries.**

Resolutions for Annual Meeting 2021 were presented to the delegates

Rev. Dr. Rebecca McElfresh, Committee Chair, presented the Resolution: To Encourage All Congregations of the SWC to Become Welcoming Immigrant Communities of Faith. This resolution is moved by the hearing committee. No second is needed.

THE MOTION: On behalf of the Committee number one, I, Rev. Dr. Rebecca McElfresh, move that the 2021 Annual Meeting of the SWC adopts the resolution and recommends approval as amended by committee. Opened for discussion. Opened Zoom Poll for voting; if two delegates on the same device, one delegate votes via Poll, and one delegate votes via chat. **Poll Results: Motion Carries.**

Rev. Dr. Donna Cavedon, Committee Chair, and Ms. Carol Turpin, Committee member, presented the Resolution: Response to the Far-Reaching and Long-Lasting Effects of the COVID19 Pandemic. The resolution is moved by the hearing committee. No second is needed.

THE MOTION: On behalf of the Committee, I, Rev. Dr. Donna Cavedon, move that the 2021 Annual Meeting of the SWC adopts the resolution and recommends approval as amended by committee. Opened for discussion. Opened Zoom Poll for voting; if two delegates on the same device, one delegate votes via Poll, and one delegate votes via chat. **Poll Results: Motion Carries.**

Nominating Committee Report and Slate presented by Christopher Schouten, Nominating Committee member. The Nominating Slate is moved by the committee. No second is needed. Nominations were opened from the floor to fill an open position from Northern Arizona on the Nominating committee- No nominating made during time. The Committee will work to fill this open position.

THE MOTION: The Nominating Committee moves that the Nominating Slate be approved. Opened for discussion. Opened for discussion. Opened Zoom Poll for voting; if two delegates on the same device, one delegate votes via Poll, and one delegate votes via chat. **Poll Results: Motion Carries.**

Expression of gratitude shared by Rev. Rock Fremont, SWC Moderator, for: Brendan Mahoney, Parliamentarian; SWC staff; Executive Board members, especially to outgoing members Rev. Carol Reynolds and Rev. Dr. Donna Cavedon.

Rev. Dr. Bill Lyons, Conference Minister, shared the *Order for Affirmation of Ministry*, a litany for installation to transition officers.

Rev. Rock Fremont, Moderator of the SWC, handed the gavel to incoming Moderator, Rev. Sarah TevisTownes.

Rev. Sarah TevisTownes, Moderator of the Southwest Conference, called for a movement to adjourn. Rev. Rock Fremont, moved to adjourn. No second is needed.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:10 pm Arizona time/ 3:10 pm New Mexico and El Paso time.