

UCC Conference Board of Directors Meeting Summary
Meeting Date - January 10, 2009

This was my first Conference Board meeting since joining as the Disciples of Christ Representative. I have also participated in 2 conference calls. The next meeting will be held March 8, 2009. Items about which the Northwest Regional Church may be interested include:

The Conference is considering a new model of collaborative partnership with their General Church. The Congregational Vitality and Discipleship Ministry Team of the UCC would like to have National staff deployed to different parts of the country where church development opportunities are occurring. The Pacific Northwest conference is one of the places with that potential. A staff person would split his or her time between the work of the National church and work that's conference specific. The General Church pays half the salary and the Conference pays the other half, though the shared staff person is an employee of the Conference.

In this case, part of the person's national responsibilities could be helping to develop connections with our Pacific Islander communities. The person's local responsibility could be assisting Mike Denton, the Conference Minister, with support for the eastside, strategic planning, new church development, or visioning work for the whole conference, etc. The Board would discern the needs of the Conference and work to find a person with the right skills to fill the position.

The meeting also included a delegation from Horizon House, a UCC –related senior housing facility on First Hill in Seattle. Their visit indicated a general desire to strengthen the connection between Horizon House and UCC churches in the Conference.

Also, the Conference's Annual Meeting is taking place in Spokane April 24-26. The theme is *Behold! I/We Do a New Thing* and keynotes will address race and diversity. This annual meeting includes an art show, workshop topics ranging from creative worship to microcredit to becoming a Global Ministry conference.

The Conference Women's Retreat will be at Pilgrim Firs on February 27-March 1st. *Blooming in Uncertain Times* is the theme. And the cost is \$89/person.

Finally, the Conference has made the decision to relocate its Conference Offices from "the portable" behind Bethany UCC in south Seattle to space at Broadview UCC in north Seattle. Since the time of that decision, I happened to be in conversation with a member at Bethany UCC who approached me to ask if the Northwest Region of DOC would be interested in renting the space at Bethany. I informed him that he should contact the Regional office directly, but that I would share his contact information in my report to you. His name is Richard Tupper and his email is richard.tupper@klgates.com

Respectfully submitted,
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