



Western New York Area Churches in Covenant (WNYACIC)

Council Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2025

7:00 p.m.

ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84129683283?pwd=sChaLb4JiPb6IeLQihTpWmGYF6YAbc.1>

Meeting ID: 841 2968 3283 Passcode: UCCDOC

I. Call to Order-7:03pm

II. Opening Devotional – What’s on YOUR mind?/Prayer - Dona

III. Attendance: Quorum assessed-nothing being voted on****

IV. Review/Acceptance of Agenda

V. Consent Agenda* – *do any items need to be moved to Discussion?* – **Not really; Krista just had 2 comments: She attended the Finance Committee meeting; an internal audit will be scheduled and WAY: an advisory Council has been formed; Pastor Krista Ulrich, Pastor Elizabeth Duffy and 4 others.**

- A. Secretary’s Report* – Vanessa (accepted as written Pastor Krista U./ 2nd Pastor Hope S.)**
- B. Treasurer’s Report* – Lynn Morgan- (accepted as written Vanessa/ 2nd Pastor Krista U.)**
- C. Committee and Department Reports-(accepted as written Pastor Jonathan L./ 2nd Pastor Hope S.)**
 - 1. Associate Conference Minister* – Gary Ferner
 - 2. Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Women – Cheryl Frank
 - 3. Church and Ministry Committee, UCC (CMC) – Paula Gustafson
 - 4. Committee of Community Ministries (CCM) – Ted Brelsford
 - 5. Dunkirk Camp and Conference Center (DCC)* – Krista Ulrich
 - 6. Ecumenical Officer (NRC)* – Jonathan Lawrence
 - 7. *In the Vineyard* Editorial Board – Winter Issue:
[file:///C:/Users/arcpub07/Downloads/Vineyard%20Winter%20issue%202024-25%20final%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/arcpub07/Downloads/Vineyard%20Winter%20issue%202024-25%20final%20(1).pdf)
 - 8. Plymouth Crossroads – Hope Schwartz
 - 9. United Church Home Society (UCHS)/Senior Wishes – no rep. at this time
 - 10. Western Area Youth (WAY)* – Krista Ulrich

*Sent in attached packet

VI. Discussion Agenda

- A. Confidentiality-discussion**
- B. Items moved from Consent Agenda-**none****
- C. Revised Constitution and By-Laws* - timeline**

Monday, March 10, 7 p.m. (Area-Wide Hearing via Zoom) - Ruth preparing for March 10th mtg.

March 2025 (Final draft is approved by Council)

April 2025 (Approved Draft is sent to congregations and ministers)

Saturday, May 3, 2025 (Final Draft is approved at Western Association May Meeting and WNYACIC May Meeting) or, if further revisions are necessary,

May 2025 (Revisions to draft are proposed and approved at May meetings and final documents will need to be approved at November Annual Meetings)

D. WNYACIC Liaisons Needed

1. United Church Home Society – Senior Wishes, Fox Run- **Pastor Jonathan will be liaison/conduit for information**
2. The Refugee Partnership (Journey's End, Jewish Family Services, International Institute, Catholic Charities and Jericho Road) www.refugeepartnership.org/ **-came together when funds threatened to be cut: Dona sent an invitation to Guinevere and Marianne to be liaisons**

E. Proposed: 2025 Council Meetings on Fourth Monday

1. Rationale – **Gary Ferner would be able to join our meeting**
2. Pros and Cons
3. Dates: March 24, April 28, May 26, June 23, July-no meeting**, August 25, September 22, October 27, November 24, December-no meeting**
**urgent/necessary business will be conducted via email
4. Reports due to Vanessa by the Friday before if humanly possible.

F. Things to think about: Envisioning the Purpose (WHY), the Priorities (WHAT), & the Future (HOW) of WNYACIC – **National: Going Deeper in 2025**
– **What's our identity**

G. Other Items:

- **February 27: NRC Annual General Mtg. 6p-9p; \$25 includes dinner; panel discussion on AI in churches**
- **Krista on the Mid-Atlantic Regional Youth Event (MARYE) planning committee**
- **Possibilities for May meeting break-out sessions and beyond:**
AI, DEI, Refugee/Sanctuary,
Supporting each other on social media: encouraging/covenanting/equipping safe guards for marginalized pastors (what are the safe guards),
Conversations/opportunities for 18-35 yr. olds,
Process of resolution writing

VII. Closing Prayer/Devotional – Krista- **Dietrich Bonhoeffer- “Your yes to God requires your no to injustice”**

Adjourned @ 8:11pm

Mark Your Calendar

- Monday, March 10, 7 p.m.: Proposed By-laws Hearing
- Next Meeting: Monday, March _____, 2025 Opening Devotion – _____
- Saturday, May 3: learning Extravaganza, Recognitions, and Celebrations
- June 5-7: UCCNY Annual Meeting, Crowne Plaza Albany, The Desmond Hotel **“The NET Effect: Creating, Community and Connection” Matthew 13:47-48**
- July 11-15: UCC General Synod 35, Kansas City, MO, generalsynod.org – **“Into the Deep” Luke 5:4; Synod Representatives- Pastor Hope S. and Guinevere B.**
- Sunday, November 2: WNYACIC Annual Meeting and Time Change