

Accessibility Concerns Team, 3 vacancies – clergy or lay

Purpose: To advocate for the role of persons with disabilities in ministry which would include: program development, sensitizing others to the issues of those with disabilities, and to foster cooperation among ministries within the Annual Conference.

Meeting Frequency: There have not been any recent meetings, but they would like to meet quarterly. The team meets at Annual Conference every year. Other work is done through emails.

Archives and History, several vacancies – clergy or lay

Purpose: to collect, preserve, and make accessible the historically significant records of the annual conference and its agencies, including data relating to the origin and history of the conference and its antecedents. They also assist researchers such as local churches as well as genealogists all over the country.

Meeting frequency: tend to have one face to face meeting end of Sept. & beginning of Oct. 4 or 5 meetings via conference call. Sometimes they have subcommittees working on projects. Archival locations are in 3 different spots.

Board of Pensions and Health Benefits, 1 laity vacancy

Purpose: To have the general supervision and administration of the support, relief, and assistance and pensioning of clergy, lay workers of the various units of the Church, and their families.

Meeting Frequency: Four times in person at the Conf. Office, and then at least 2 other times via conference call. They do not meet in January.

Conference Council on Finance and Administration, 2 clergy vacancies and 5 laity vacancies

Purpose: To develop, maintain, and administer a comprehensive and coordinated plan of fiscal & administrative policies, procedures, and management services for the AC.

Meeting Frequency: Monthly Zoom meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month (1 hr. to 1 ½ hours). Twice a year face-to-face meeting at the Conference center from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. These have been in September and January, but this could change.

Commission on Equitable Compensation, 2 vacancies – 2 clergy

Purpose: To ensure fair & adequate support for Conference clergy & churches through: providing a system of financial accountability of stewardship, working with other teams to ensure effectiveness of meeting the needs of the AC, provide policy recommendations for compensation and benefits, and award grants to meet the various compensation needs of churches and pastors.

Meeting Frequency: 4 meeting times per year: Jan., May, August, October; typically, is an afternoon – 3pm conference call; at 1pm for face-to-face meetings at the conference office. May & October are usually in person, January & August are usually by conference call.

Commission on Religion and Race (CORR) 8 vacancies clergy or laity

Purpose: To summarize broadly, we educate, monitor, evaluate & assist AC to develop policies & programs of racial inclusiveness; consult with BOOM for recruitment & itinerancy of racial & ethnic clergy; act as a resource & support for clergy & congregations with cross cultural appointments; coordinate AC support for racial & justice movements & work to that end with GBCS; work with Office of Christian Unity & Interreligious Relationships (OCUIR) to cooperate with African American & other Ethnic churches; review AC practices of employment, business, program, & administration; consult with the bishop & other AC leaders to assist with resolution of discriminatory complaints; and, work closely with General Commission on Religion & Race.

Meeting method and frequency: 4 meetings, usually by conference call.

Commission on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) 2 vacancies minimum clergy or laity

Purpose: to advocate the full and equal participation of women in the total life of the church (including ordained ministry, lay ministry and policy-making) within the Upper New York Annual Conference and its component Districts, Charges and Churches, by educating and monitoring their progress toward that goal, recognizing that Jesus, in his ministry and teaching, called men and women equally as children of God. To that end, COSROW observes, listens, records, reports, and educates.

Meeting frequency: they try to meet by phone on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 8pm. They are currently working on individual projects as articles to present to the Conference via the newsletters, because they tries to host a conference workshop on Educating the roles of women in the church and had almost no interest. So they are working on smaller projects to get information out to the conference as a whole.

Trustees 3 vacancies, 2 clergy and 1 lay

Purpose: They have the authority to hold in trust donations, bequests, real or personal property, and the power to invest, reinvest, buy, sell, transfer, and convey any and all funds and property on behalf of the AC. In all they do they should be making a positive contribution toward the realization of the Social Principals of the church.

Meeting Frequency: Meets the first Tuesday and Thursday of the month via conference call. Four face-to-face meetings throughout the year which are held on Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Nominations 3 vacancies, 2 lay and 1 clergy

Purpose: To identify, develop, evaluate and monitor Christian spiritual leadership for the AC.

Meeting frequency: Team meets in person late winter or early spring face-to-face at the Conference center, and then bi-weekly via Zoom until the work of the team is done by later April. Some work is cared for via email.

Social Holiness Team, 3 vacancies clergy or laity

Purpose: To coordinate and plan areas of social ministry for our conference. To educate and help people experience theology through living.

Meeting Frequency: Usually meets once a month via conference call but will meet at least once in a face to face meeting that has been in the Utica area. This can change based on the location of the members.

Global Ministry Team (¶633), 6 vacancies clergy or laity

Purpose: to maintain the connectional relationship and provide for global ministries responsibilities related to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Global Ministries. Team members provide support to UMCOR, One Great Hour of Sharing, and the personal missionary support for those who have a call to become a missionary. Team also provides Conference Advance special support for those seeking financial backing and advocates for them at the local church and conference level.

Meeting Frequency: The team seeks to meet 3 times a year either through online conference call or in person. Email communication between meetings.