

2017 Annual Report – Development Committee

During this year the Development Committee has continued to live into its expanded mission to oversee all annual giving to the Conference. We grappled with how best to encourage churches to submit OCWM pledges to the Conference so we may more accurately forecast our finances. We strategized how to increase congregational and individual giving to the Conference. And we discussed how to adequately express our thanks to those congregations and individuals supporting the Conference.

We experimented with hosting a Jeffersonian Dinner in October for a small group of Conference donors. It was a pleasant event and it provided a wonderful occasion for people to connect and discuss leadership opportunities for the church going into the future. However, the Development Committee decided it is not the kind of donor engagement event we will pursue at this time.

The Board of Directors has provided assistance to the Development Committee by agreeing to personally extend their appreciation on behalf of the Conference to congregations which pledged their support in 2016.

This year we did not have a Conference Development Officer and we really value Conference Minister, Shari Prestemon, stepping in to staff the Development Committee. We are also very grateful to Melanie Davis, our Liaison from the Board of Directors, for her collaboration.

Committee members include Charles Green, Kim Shaffer, Mary Caroline Henry, and Mary Kay Sauter.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta L. Peterson, Chair