

Cabinet Recap – December 6 and 7, 2021

Present: Larry Whitehead, Lore Blinn Gibson, Russ Abel, Aleze Fulbright, Mitch Gieselman, Marti Lundy, Saneta Maiko, In Suk Peebles, Shannon Stringer, David Robinson

Loving

- We welcomed David Robinson, our new Director of Administration, and did introductions.
- On both days, Mitch led us in a time of scriptural reflection prayer based on 1 Samuel 17 and Micah 5.
- We revisited our Cabinet Covenant and Christian Conferencing Guidelines, with discussion about communications with each other in between meetings. A new Slack Channel for informal conversations and learning will be created. We discussed our holiday ‘off dates’ and coverage of all districts.

Learning

- *Team learning* – Rev. Annetra Jones Stephens led a discussion of the resource *Mission of God and the United Methodist Church*. There was discussion regarding being “Perpetual Foreigners,” gaining better insight into others, and what changes can be done in our appointment making process for us to be better. “All appointments are, to some degree, cross-cultural.” Annetra will lead us in Session 2 at our January retreat.
- *Ministry Overview* - Cabinet is currently having all directors and superintendents present learnings about their districts and ministry areas. Russ presented the East and Northeast Districts, and Mitch led us in prayer for those districts and for their leaders.

Leading

- *Bishop’s Items* – We continue in prayer for Bishop and his family as he is in Virginia.
- *Clear Opening Letter* – We reviewed the list of churches that will be open due to retirements and leaves, for publication the week of December 12.
- *Assistant to the Bishop Items* – Larry updated us on the possible relocation of the Conference office. Target move date is July 1, 2022.
- *Children Matter Most Task Force* – Shannon reported they will receive an intern to assist, as well as on their work toward a symposium on February 19. “Dream and Do” awards to children and youth will be announced in January.
- *Appointment-processing Best Practices* – As we prepare for another appointment ‘season,’ we discussed effective processing and communication of appointments. Russ and Marti will ensure that we process clergy couple appointments effectively, and that parsonages will be considered when families are affected.
- *Willingness to Serve process and forms* – Aleze instructed us to schedule our District Conferences with Ruth Ellen, to be held between March 1 and 14, 2022. We determined that additional business

could be conducted at the same time by ending the DC after the vote. Thus District budgets and leadership can be approved without calling a separate meeting.

- *Duties of CSs* – InSuk will take on the task of operating our Webshare for appointment processing. Saneta will now serve as point for the International Leadership Task Force.
- *Retirements* – Several retirement requests were approved.
- *Limited Itineracies* – Several pastor requests for limited itineracy were received.
- *CFA Report* was given by Lore.
- *Clergy Assessment* – After meeting with the subgroup of Aleze, Marti, and In Suk, Shannon shared that four primary issues were addressed in reworking the clergy assessment.
 1. End of year stats were removed because of duplication on other forms
 2. SPRC didn't want to evaluate personal disciplines, so that was removed
 3. Save feature is available if using Google. *Shannon is still looking into options for a self-populating form.*
 4. The timing of the assessment was addressed.

The SPPR Form is still in process and Shannon will be working on the final draft next week. The clergy assessment will be released Sept. 1, 2022 and be returned by Dec. 1, 2022. Letters will be sent to clergy on January 15 and in April addressing the assessment, background checks, boundaries training and summer conversations
- *Summer Conversation Form* – Marti presented the form for 2022. It will be sent to all clergy on March 1, and due back in May on a date the CS determines.
- *Several Personnel issues were discussed*
- *Appointments*

Several part time appointments were made. One appointment of UMW Deaconess was made. This appointment is the Bishop's work for UMW.

Live appointment list can be found at <https://www.inumc.org/ministerial-services/appointments/appointments-as-announced/>
- Instructions were given regarding our upcoming Cabinet Retreat and Inventory Day, January 3-6, 2022.