



Keystone Conference Communications

for your Fall 2026 Association Meeting



Keystone Connections

Keystone Connections is the electronic e-newsletter sent out twice weekly and for special events. Anyone can sign up for Connections. We encourage all pastors and church leaders to be signed up in order to be kept aware of Conference happenings. If you are not receiving “Connections” and would like to, simply go to the Conference website – keystoneucc.org – and on the opening screen click the gold box labeled “Sign up for weekly mailing”.

Keystone Conference Remittance Form

The Keystone Conference remittance form can be found on the Keystone website at this location:

<https://keystoneucc.org/resources/wider-church-remittal-form/> OR go to keystoneucc.org and search “remittance form”. It is available in word and pdf format. This is your form to remit OCWM, the special offerings of the UCC and any donation for special cause or in support of our Ministry partners.

Where to Find Upcoming Events (Conference events/ Boundary Trainings /Installations, etc.)

Are you looking for upcoming Conference events? Perhaps you need boundary training. To find events sponsored by the Conference go to the Keystone Conference website (keystoneucc.org) and click on the “News & Events” tab and then the “Calendar of Events” subtab. Now, on the left side of your screen click the “Event Category” box, to narrow down the options to find specifically what you are looking for.

Clergy Connections Email - The creation of Clergy Connection Monthly Email, sent on the second Thursday of each month, started in April. If you are a clergy not on this list, contact Paul at paul@keystoneucc.org. Things being shared include:

- Boundary, Diversity, Continuing Education trainings.
- Listing of new churches receiving profiles, and link to searching Keystone churches.
- What your ministerial staff is reading, watching, thinking about.
- Clergy Deaths and where to send notes of condolences.
- Transition Section, pastors moving to and from churches/ministry settings
- News on standing issues with clergy, especially termination of standings or other disciplinary actions.

Men’s Clergy Retreat – “Men and Forgiveness” – Oct. 4-6 @ The Hartman Center

The gospel of Jesus Christ lays claim to our lives like nothing else. Throughout his ministry, Jesus recognizes people, honors people, unburdens people, and frees God’s children from every form of bondage, confronting injustice with love and death with life. Jesus re-members our life stories in ways that redefine each person’s sense of identity and purpose. He identifies and calls forth new strengths and capacities from within us. The forgiveness of God in Jesus Christ invites us to share his life deeply and be infused with a power much greater than all the might and blustering control proclaimed in these times of ours. We learn his way by heart and are blessed to carry it into the world. Join us on this retreat, where we will crack open remarkable gospel narratives, meeting them with the authenticity of our own stories and the fullness of ourselves! Register NOW at <https://keystoneconference.regfox.com/mens-2026-clergy-retreat>

Keystone 2026 Fall Meeting – November 14 via Zoom – 9:00 am

We will come together for the single purpose of approving the Keystone 2027 budget. This meeting will be held via zoom. We will need to meet quorum of 1/3 of our 507 churches in attendance.

All pastors with standing will have a vote and churches will be entitled to the following delegates:

Membership up to 100—2 delegates / Membership of 101—300—3 delegates
Membership 301—500—4 delegates / Membership over 500—5 delegates
1 Youth delegate (ages 14-17) with voice but no vote.

Budget Information

The 2027 budget will be posted to the Fall Meeting site on our website no later than October 12th.

<https://keystoneucc.org/event/keystone-conference-fall-meeting-2026/>

Mission Grants Applications

The historic conferences which made up the Keystone Conference had very active programs of providing funds for specific projects or programs to their congregations and faith communities within their boundaries. The money came from endowments, bequests, and donations from individuals and churches. The Keystone Mission Grants Committee is reviewing the different application forms and approval cycles from over 90 funding sources to try to consolidate and make the application and review process as simple as possible, especially considering that some of the funds had restrictions placed by the donors. To see the different grants available, go here: <https://keystoneucc.org/mission-grants-committee/>

Continuing Education Events

Each Association of the Keystone Conference acknowledges that continuing education and lifelong learning is a key component of building transformational leadership in pastoral ministry. Authorized Ministers should discuss their specific requirements with their Association Committee on Ministry chairperson, as policies vary across the conference, please use this link for more information: <https://keystoneucc.org/lifelong-learning/>

January 2027 Keystone Women's Clergy Retreat

A women's clergy retreat is being planned for January 12-14, 2027. Theme will be "A Joyful Rest". Watch the Keystone Connection for registration to open soon.

Clergy Convocation 2027

Clergy Convocation 2027 will take place January 26-28 at the Red Lion in Harrisburg (same location as last year). The theme will be: "Embodied Reconciliation: Congregational Healing as Pastoral Care". The guest speaker will be: Dr. Leanna K. Fuller, Associate Professor of Pastoral Care at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Registration will open soon.

Keystone Conference 2027 Annual Meeting – June 4-6 @ Millersville University

We are thrilled that so many of you felt our first Keystone Annual Meeting was such a success! Due to lack of time to find another venue to be able to accommodate our size and be reasonable in pricing, the 2027 Annual Meeting will return to Millersville. Don't worry, we have heard your concerns, and they are being addressed. Registration will open in the Winter.

***Important!!** A meeting of this size needs many hands to make it successful. From golf cart drivers, people to assist with tech, workshops, to helping people find their way. If you are willing to help in any way, please read the registration carefully when it opens. We will be offering a \$25 discount to all volunteers.

Save these 2027 Dates – All items can be found on the Keystone calendar at keystoneucc.org

Jan. 12-14 – Women's Clergy Retreat at Mariawald Retreat Center in Shillington. Theme : " The Joyful Rest"

Jan. 26-28 – Clergy Convocation at RedLion Hotel in Harrisburg

Jun. 4-6 – 2027 Annual Meeting at Millersville University in Millersville.