

## Activities to Date

*Updated June 13, 2023*

The Committee continued its periodic visits with each clergy member, facilitating more in-depth conversation. Mike Mullin attended the June meeting. He reported on the challenges encountered since the Pandemic in attempting to return to the same level of weekly involvement on the part of Youth Group members. Shifting the weekly meetings to right after the 11 am service has helped, and interest in special opportunities like the Church Musical and mission trips is strong. He will continue to explore creative means of engagement with our youth. He also described the present status of his attempts to be ordained in the United Methodist Church. He has met twice with the District Committee on Ordained Ministry, and in both instances his application was not approved. Apparently, the Committee's decisions have been prompted by concerns about his theology. Despite his requests, however, the Committee has yet to identify specific concerns – something which could then lead to a sincere and informed discussion about any perceived differences. He plans to discuss his options with the District Superintendent and the Bishop. The PPRC expressed its strong support of Mike Mullin's candidacy and its gratitude for his excellent performance under these difficult conditions.

The Committee met briefly with Rev. Rebecca Laird who is currently on a personal leave of absence from pastoral ministry, during which she is working in URMIC's Clinical and Translational Science Institute as Assistant Director of the Center for Leading Innovation and Collaboration. To maintain her credentials as a UMC pastor within the Conference, Rev. Laird is required to affiliate with a UMC church within the Conference. The church with which she had been affiliated is leaving the UMC, and Rev. Laird requested that the PPRC approve her affiliation with Asbury First going forward. The PPRC approved Rev. Laird's affiliation with Asbury First, effective immediately, or at such other time as made be appropriate under the rules of the Conference.

The Property Care Director position has been filled with a well-qualified candidate who had just started work. The budget is on target so far this year, with the only challenge being absorbing transition costs in connection with the property care position. No new responses to the salary survey have been received since the PPRC's prior meeting so the process is ongoing. Rev. Dr. Cady and Beth Wilkens, Chair of the Governance Board, have begun the process of conducting annual reviews of the pastoral staff.