



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Robesonia, Pennsylvania 19551

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The Rev. Dr. Benjamin D. Motz, Pastor & Teacher

The Rev. Mary Etta Mest, Pastor & Teacher

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

Dear Members of St. Paul's UCC & Zion UCC,

Greetings in Christ from the combined Moving Forward Together (MFT) Committee.

On Sunday, February 20, Cory Putt (MFT Co-Chair) gave an update during the worship service about the work and joy-filled progress of our committee. You can still view that on St. Paul's UCC YouTube Channel. We have also included a copy in this mailing. It is very important, exciting, and hope-filled work that we are doing, and we want to help ensure all our members are informed, and hopefully sharing in the growing excitement about the possibilities of our ministries combined together as one. Please continue to look in our respective newsletters for updates, as well.

As Zion UCC and St. Paul's UCC explore the possibility of creating a new congregation together, we have before us the question of, "What will that new congregation be called?" In the beginning of March, a Naming Sub-Committee was formed to discern a process for exploring that question. That is being co-chaired by Wanda Moore (Zion UCC) and Elsa Wertz (St. Paul's UCC). We expect that the naming will potentially be one of the most emotional aspects of this process, and one with which we want to take time to pray, give voice to all, hear well one another's suggestions, and pray some more. In the end, the name will *NOT* be chosen by the Naming Sub-Committee, the MFT Committee, or the Consistories; in the end the name will be chosen by our congregations in mutual agreement together. Our hope is that the naming process will lead us to greater unity in a sense of consensus to a name to which the Holy Spirit is leading us.

On **Sunday, April 3, 2022** after the 10:15am worship service, we will have a combined informal congregational meeting of our two congregations. The Naming Sub-Committee will be leading us in a discussion regarding the process to help us pray, discuss, and discern possible names. This is just the beginning of the process, which we expect to take quite a few months and much discussion and prayer.

If you cannot join in person that day, you can also join that meeting using Zoom (the meeting log-in information is the same for this meeting as it is for Sunday morning worship):

Meeting ID: 104 401 368 Passcode: 301301

To log in either use the Zoom app; or go to Zoom.com and click "Join A Meeting;" or use the following address: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/104401368?pwd=WGs0YnlEYXVGTWl2ZDJCa1NrSkI0UT09>; or use a telephone by calling: 1-301-715-8592 US (Washington DC).

For those who are not able to attend in person, we will also be following up with an additional mailing to help ensure that you receive the information.

Sincerely in Christ,

The MFT Committee

Co-Chairs: Cory Putt (Zion UCC) and Kirk Aulenbach (St. Paul's UCC)

John Eiceman, Jon Henning, George McLain, Steve Miller, Wanda Moore, Sheri Rowe, Ray Trone, Elsa Wertz, Pastor Mary Etta Mest, and Pastor Ben Motz