

Update from the RMC Board of Directors:

Greetings! In March, I gave an update on plans for an intentional transition period for the RMC. We are now submitting [this proposal](#) to the Conference membership for review ahead of the 2024 Annual Meeting (June 6-8 at La Foret; [register here](#)). I expect it will take further shape with the input of the whole Conference. I won't go over the resolution here; I do want to offer some insight into the process and thank those who participated.

In mid-March, the Board appointed 6 of us as a discernment team. We were soon joined by 9 Association representatives from across the Conference to gain broader input. Others from the Board joined in the last two weeks. Our aim was not to "please" everyone, but to discern Spirit's guidance for the RMC in the coming season.

Drafts were exchanged between the discernment group and the Board through April. Throughout, our interactions were lively and, honestly, occasionally prickly. There were times when vestiges of suspicion and hurt were evident. But I saw real courage and beauty as we engaged with one another, rather than disengaged. The commitment to hear from one another, even when we disagreed, certainly made the product better, but I think also set us up to be better with and to one another.

The Board met last week in special session to refine a proposal that was then circulated back to the Association reps, along with several others from across the Conference (of different demographic cohorts, in different settings, and with different roles) to hear their first impressions. Having received yet more input as a result, we have clarified some of the language and offered more context where needed.

The proposal you have is the direct result of the energy, intelligence, imagination, and love of dozens of folks over the last couple months. I have no doubt that everyone involved, without exception, has in mind the best interest of the Conference and has shaped the current resolution in meaningful ways.

A special thank you to those who provided input in various forms: Darlene Avery, MaryEllen Baltracchi, Karen Caton, Tim Clark, Phil Campbell, Teresa Campbell, Kari Collins, Thandiwe Dale-Ferguson, Eleanor Downey, Marta Fioriti, Erin Gilmore, Leigh Green, Brent Gundlah, Laura Gurney, Ben Konecny, Roger Lamoni, Adam McCoy, Allyson Sawtell, Peter Sawtell, Allyson Stauffer, Chuck Wright, Ian Wrisley, and Jan Zans, (Sorry if I missed your name!) and *another* 10 folks who responded to an anonymous survey.

We in the Rocky Mountain Conference have covenanted with one another to support UCC churches and leaders across Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado to uniquely embody divine love and justice in each of our ministry settings. I believe our proposal offers a framework for more clearly and directly aligning our attention, finances, structures, and practices in service to that mission.

As always, I'm so thankful we're in this effort together!

Peace to you,



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