The Progressive Christian Alliance Leadership Council Meeting Minutes September 23, 2016 at 6 PM Central Daylight Time

The meeting was held and recorded on Google Hangout.
The meeting was called to order by Leadership Council Chair The Rev. Lawton
Higgs, Sr.; other attendees were The Rev. Beth Abbott, The Rev. Gina pond, The Rev.
J. T. Ramelis, and The Rev. Fred-Allen Self.

Beth Abbott opened the meeting with prayer and reflection. We were inspired for our PCA work through the report of a young child who was moved to sing a struggling fruit tree back to life. We renewed our commitment to keep singing the PCA to strong life together.

The minutes of the August 12, 2016 meeting were discussed and approved with the following change:

It was noted that the 2.7% processing fee required by a PayPal contributor to the PCA will be reduced when the 501@(3) designation is received. At that time it will be lowered to 2.25%. When we maintain a \$500 checking account balance with Wells Fargo Bank the cost of checking is free, if we have less than a \$500 balance the cost will be \$20 dollars per month.

Treasurer J. T. Ramelis reported that our checking account balance was \$579.20. There have been no expenditures. \$400 of this balance would be used to file the 501c3 application. The application for the 501@(3) tax-exempt designation is almost complete. Gina Pond reported that the Constitution and Cannons Amendment required by the IRS for the 501@(3) application had received 40 votes for and 0 against. The opportunity to vote on the amendment will close September 30, 2016. It was noted that the official mailing address for The Progressive Christian Alliance is PO Box 2144, Birmingham, Alabama 35201.

The leadership council requested that all Progressive Christian Alliance members check their spam folders for PCA email. It is been reported that some PCA emails have gone to the members spam folders. Please check your spam folder for PCA email so that you are informed and can participate in all votes and actions.

Two additional agenda items were added. They were clarifying our RSL region boundaries and the possibility for a Canadian RSL and how the PCA can be fully responsible and transparent in our financial reporting.

The Leadership Council then discussed and decided that we would be faithful in communicating our financial status with postings to the PCA website and regularly posting the minutes of our Leadership Council meetings. A consensus was reached to add a section on the PCA website that post the current balance of our checking account.

An extensive discussion was held about affiliation processes for individual clergy and congregations and the documents required to make these covenants official. It was agreed by consensus that each individual local Progressive Christian Alliance community would have its own identity and apply for its own 501@(3) tax exempt designation and cannot operate under the umbrella PCA 501@(3) designation when it is received. It was also agreed that a local PCA community that operates under the Progressive Christian Alliance banner would agree to ascribe to the developed values of the PCA that are expressed to and agreed to in a covenant relationship. Gina Pond volunteered to develop the documents and covenants required to make these relationships concrete and specific.

It was approved that the PCA Ministers Promise Covenant that was adopted at the last Leadership Council Meeting be required of all future ordination application after January 1, 2017.

The Rev. Julian Adams ordination was acknowledged as complete and official and to be celebrated with acknowledgment to the RSL who mentored Rev. Adam in his ordination process.

The Rev. Julian Adams ordination was recognized as the first ordination approved by the current Leadership Council.

Craig Bartlett was affirmed as the Regional Servant Leader for Asia. Craig resides in Korea. Gina Pond agreed to contact Marie Ba'tel to see if she was interested in becoming the Regional Servant Leader for the Pacific Region.

The Leadership Council agreed for Gina Pond to move forward with contacting our current Regional Servant Leaders and to work with them to clarify the boundaries of the regions that the Regional Servant Leaders are asked to serve. It was also agreed by the Leadership Council to begin giving consideration to the possibility of identifying Regional Servant Leaders for Canada and Africa. To facilitate this process and other communication, Gina Bond agreed to develop an email group that included Regional Servant Leaders and The Leadership Council.

The Leadership Council recognized that all who serve The Progressive Christian Alliance are volunteers and the people who give this service accomplish a great deal of significant work for social justice and radical inclusion. The limitation of the time that is available to all of us to do the work we're asked to fulfill was recognized. It was also noted that the PCA is a guilt free zone and thanks was expressed to all serve the vision and work of The Progressive Christian Alliance.

The Leadership Council ordained Wesley A. Brooks Progressive Christian Alliance clergy.

The Leadership Council ordained Crystal Lewis as Progressive Christian Alliance

clergy.

The next meeting date of the Progressive Christian Alliance Leadership Council was set for October 28, 2016 at 3 PM Central standard time.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

R. Lawton Higgs, Sr.

January 6, 2017