

NOTES LISTENING SESSION

Central Congregational UCC, Madison, OH

March 3, 2018

Six participants including Ian Lynch, convener.

To the question of what “services” are desired from a judicatory:

Educational resources

Orchestrate collaboration with other denominations and other congregations

Pastoral support

Authorization for ministry and congregations

Specialty resources for stewardship, church vitality, disaster emergency, safe church, fund raising, capital improvements

Market place of ideas

Legal issues

In addition to online resources, need personal relationship with resource persons

Not always necessary to be surrounded by professional specialists, but by persons who know where the resource and expertise are

Expand coaching model, communities of practice, pastoral excellence concepts

Widen prophetic witness/justice activities

Avoid geographic naming of areas of ministry if possible.

Create a community/conference communication program – a common source of information, events, etc to simplify information gathering and promotion. A curation of information and resources

Consider returning to programs to orient all incoming clergy to history, distinctions of “the Ohio/WV/NKy experience of the UCC.”