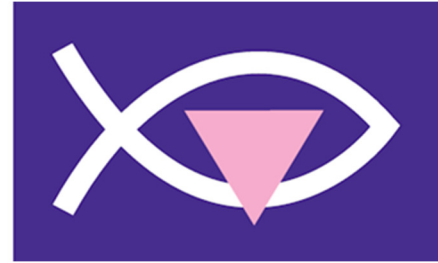


**OPEN AND AFFIRMING
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ONA MINISTRY TEAM
PENN CENTRAL CONFERENCE**



ONA Ministry Team 2018-2019 Annual Meeting Report

The Open and Affirming Ministry Team within the Penn Central Conference serves to connect and support congregations that have voted to become Open and Affirming Congregations of the United Church of Christ and those congregations searching their call in this journey. The ONA Ministry Team meets every other month at the Penn Central Conference offices located in Harrisburg. During the past year, key activities have included:

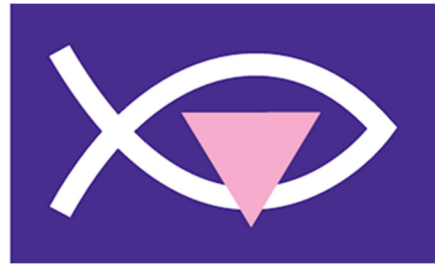
- Maintained contact with churches that are Open and Affirming and those churches that are involved in the ONA Process.
- Served as a resource and offered technical assistance (Speakers, materials, support, and information) to churches going through their ONA process.
- ONA Consultant supported several churches as they consider and move through the ONA process.
- Provided an opportunity for ONA Churches to share effective practices on ways that a church lives out its ONA Covenant. Churches serve as a resource for one another throughout the year.
- Stayed abreast of major state and federal legislation impacting diverse communities with a major focus on inclusive and exclusive legislation. Facilitated a letter and press release signed by ONA churches to oppose the Supreme Court's decision to allow the Administration to begin implementation of a ban on transgender people serving in the military.
- Maintained connections with the National Coalition in order to share information and resources throughout our conference about actions at the UCC National level.
- Sponsored a variety of workshops at Annual Meeting to inform and offer resources to Penn Central Conference. Workshops focused on best practices, the ONA process, and developing connections between churches.
- Sponsored a Winter Gathering. This year's Winter Gathering "Does All Are Welcome" REALLY Mean All?" was a huge success with over 100 attendees. Topics included: Graceful Engagement, ONA 101, Healing from Religious Trauma, & How do we do Faith Formation for people seriously damaged and hurt by church?
- Served as a central point for Central PA PRIDE Festival and other churches participating in local PRIDE events. Sponsored table at the PRIDE Festival to distribute information about local ONA Churches.

For more information:

Convener, ONA Ministry Team - Shirley Keith Knox @ skeithknox@comcast.net

ONA Consultant – Steven Roush @ scroush2@gmail.com

**OPEN AND AFFIRMING
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ONA MINISTRY TEAM
PENN CENTRAL CONFERENCE**



**Penn Central Conference
ONA Churches (April 2019)**

Canoe Camp Church of Christ, Mansfield

Christ, Elizabethtown **NEW!**

Dover UCC, Dover

Emmanuel, Hanover **NEW!**

Emmanuel, York

Faith, State College

First Reformed, Lancaster

Grace, Lancaster

Hayshire, York

Heidelberg, York

Hummelstown UCC, Hummelstown

New Covenant, Williamsport

Penbrook, Harrisburg

Salem, Columbia

Salem, Rohrerstown **NEW!**

Shiloh, Danville

St. John's, Boalsburg **NEW!**

St. John's, Lewisburg **NEW!**

St. Paul's, Dallastown

St. Paul's, Mechanicsburg

St. Paul's, Selinsgrove

Trinity Reformed, Mountville

Wisdom's Table @ St. Peter's, Lancaster