Reconciliation Conference Call

October 27, 2015

6pm EDT

Present: Dwight Bailey, Doug Wirt, Jennifer Kottler, Pat Williams, Al Lopez, Timothy James, April Johnson, Soo Yun, Margie Pride, Mayon Marcellino, Tera Daniels.

Absent with regrets: Sharon Watkins.

Missing: Marcus, Tommy, Yarla

Gathering: The call started by asking all to share a joy. All did. Mayon shared that his congregation will be sponsoring families from Syria.

Opening Prayer: Margie Pride offered our opening prayer.

Pat Williams introduced the Co-moderator caucusing process to get a nomination for a person who is white and one who is a person of color to serve for the next three years. April described further the caucusing process.

Caucusing occurred and Jennifer Kottler accepted the role of one of the co-moderator for the Caucasian caucus. The persons of color caucus will be asking Tera Daniels to serve; if she is unable to serve, Al Lopez has offered to serve.

Margie Pride and Pat Williams shared some reflections about their years of service as co-moderator.

Co-moderators serve on the Standing Rules committee. Our Standing Rules state that all decisions are made by consensus except for membership and grant-making. As it applies to co-moderator, we do not have to vote on that.

Tera Daniels joined the call. She and Pat will talk off-line about whether she is able to serve as co-moderator.

**Nominating Committee:** We discussed the nomination committee report, and the need to populate the committee with lay persons.

**Development Committee:** We discussed the need for Commission members to do fundraising. Margie, even though she is rolling off as co-moderator committed to raising $1000 for the commission.

April talked to Dick Hamm about hiring him for $1 a year to do development work for the Reconciliation Commission. They spoke at GA. He talked about the article in the NYT about racial profiling in Greensboro, NC, and that we needed to tell the story about what God is doing through us. Not just training. That’s not our frame. We need to tell the good news of God in the midst of anxiety that we are seeing everyday.

We need to orient people to fundraising. April asked Dick if she could accompany him on fundraising calls. We are in a moment and can make the moral, ethical, and theological appeal to the public.

**Grantmaking Committee**

April and Jen talked about the work of the Grant committee to modify the grant guidelines to bring them in line with the auditors and to help them be more usable by organizations and churches seeking grants.

**Budget**

We reviewed the budget and discussed the need for fundraising. This budget has already been approved by the Administrative Committee.

**Development and Visioning Task Force**

Lois Artis

John Mobley

Toni Bynum

Sharon Watkins

Doug Wirt

Terri Owens (Jen will approach)

Doug Wirt will send some additional names to April.

We discussed dates for our Spring in-person meeting. April will send out a doodle poll.

April closed the meeting with a quote by Grace Lee Boggs.