

Creating Community Core Ministry Team Report to Conference Annual Gathering 2025

We create community through connection. In the past year, our committee has emphasized the following:

- Focused on lifting up and publicizing what churches and congregations are already doing, with the goals of:
 - Creating a list of church clusters (and making sure churches know what cluster they belong to!)
 - Finding out more about what clusters are doing and promoting those activities and ministries.
- Second year of “Camp Connections” letter-writing partnership between current MoVal campers and people from previous years of camp.
- Supporting Heritage Committee request for funds to mark anniversaries for inclusion in budget.
- The Youth Ministry Working Group meets monthly and reports to the Creating Community Team on a regular basis. We support their efforts to plan and promote the Spring and Fall Conference Youth Events.
- A Retired Pastors Group has formed. This group has been mostly made up of retired clergy in the Eastern and St. Louis Associations so far, but retired clergy in the Western Association are welcome and encouraged to participate. This group has held fellowship events and online book studies—all retired clergy are welcome to participate. Anyone who’s interested in learning more should contact Karen Eck and Donna Phillips.

Respectfully submitted, the Creating Community Core Ministry Team:

Kathleen Hamilton (convener), Curtis Fyler, Rev. Jeanne Lischer, Alysha Petry, Rev. Susan Shumway