

**Yes, and...**

Prophetic Witness

Disaster Response

Global Mission

Designated Ministry Partners

**Conference Board of Directors**  
 Visionary & Directive  
 sets the overall vision, direction, and strategy of the one organism which is the Heartland Conference  
 "I will give them one heart and put a new spirit within them"  
 Ezekiel 11:19

Faith Formation

Annual Gathering

Committee on Ministry

Discernment  
 Credentialing  
 Oversight  
 Training  
 Ministerial Excellence

Worship & Spiritual Development

School of Ministry

Church Vitality & Development

Outdoor Ministries

Resources

Financial/Generosity  
 Human/personnel  
 Buildings  
 Communications  
 Grants/Funding

New and Renewing Church  
 Community Engagement  
 Legacy/Closure  
 Transitions/Search & Call

**Ministry Coordination Council**  
 (Or Coordination Council)  
 Representative & Collaborative

*Council/Board: Conf. Officers, Assoc. Moderators and Vice Moderators, Conference and Association Ministers  
 Leadership Coordination: Representatives from all ministries of conference. Chaired by Vice Moderator?*

Yes, and...

# The Eye of the Heart

*“So that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you” – Ephesians 1:18*



**Yes, and...**



**Notes:**

- Each association would be represented in two-year rotating terms by the Moderator and Vice Moderator
- There would be five elected officers of the Conference: Moderator, Vice Moderator, Past Moderator, Secretary treasurer and a representative of the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ
- Conference Staff at the table would be the Conference Minister and the Executive Director of Outdoor Ministries and the Association Ministers
- Meet quarterly
- Conference personnel and finance committees are specific to the fiduciary responsibility of the Conference BOD

**Questions/Thoughts:**

- Does each association have terms that are one-year Vice Moderator and one year as Moderator? Does the Vice Moderator automatically become the moderator?
- This arrangement offers both historical context and continuity and newness.

Yes, and...

## *Linking the Parts of the Body*



- **Purpose** – To Engage the Missional Direction identified by the Board of Directors by building awareness and collaboration across the ministry of our shared life.
- **Forms/Makeup** – Some of the dimensions of our ministry will have ecclesiological dimensions and other will have missional dimensions.
- **Chaired** by the Conference Vice-Moderator who reports out to the Conference Board of Directors
- **Staffed** by the Conference Minister and Association Ministers (Associated Conference Min)
- **Make-up:** One representative from each of the Various Commissions and Working Groups
- **Meeting Frequency:** 3 or 4 times per year?

**Yes, and...**



**Yellow Circles** are Ecclesial (building up of the church) **Green Circles** are missional – extending transformation into the world

**Yes, and...**

# Mission Engagements That Extend Our Ministry Beyond Ourselves

Representative & Collaborative

Designated  
Ministry  
Partners

Disaster  
Response

## Notes/thoughts

- Makeup of these groups would vary. For example the Designated Ministry partners are those CHHSM ministries and educational ministries (Colleges and CUE) that have been historically connected to churches in the conference and with whom the conference has a connection
- Disaster Response has operated on a representational model from each association that makes sense for coverage and quick response across our geography. This ministry is in need of new members and will be reconstituting in January.

Yes, and...

# Mission Engagements That Extend Our Ministry Beyond Ourselves

Representative & Collaborative

Prophetic  
Witness

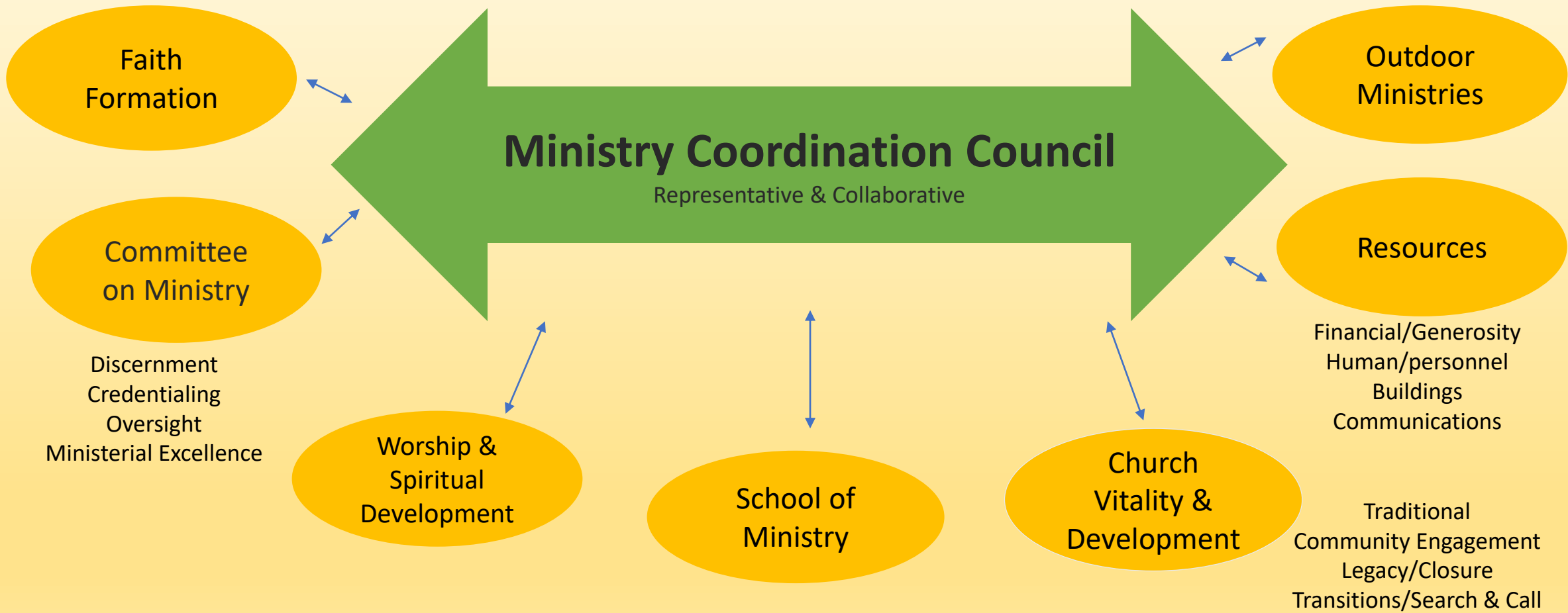
Global  
Mission

## Notes/Thoughts:

- **Prophetic Witness** has not been a commission or working group per se, but in the past there has been a racial and ethnic empowerment/affirmative action committee. I wonder how this work is engaged in your setting **Thought going forward is that the energy of prophetic witness will be organized around specific teams that fall under the Prophetic Witness like climate change or anti-racism work and thus engage people's passion rather than a representative model. Might this be an area where policy advocacy could more robustly be a part of our life?**
- **Global Mission** is an area that has had different expressions in our shared life. For example, should SARA be included in this in a renewed engagement? Mark Frey and I have been in conversation about the Heartland becoming a Global Mission Conference to help raise awareness of our over 300 global connections and also helping congregations not already engaged in partnership find a way to build these connections that strengthen the world as an expression of the commission of Jesus Christ.

**Yes, and...**

# Ecclesial Ministry that Builds Up the Body of Christ





*Yes, and...*

## One Example of a Commission



A collaboration between existing schools of ministry that makes them well known in our shared life, and easily accessible across the geography of the conference for the purpose deepening faith understanding and fostering vocational clarity both in for preparation for authorized ministry and/or for personal growth and development.

*Yes, and...*

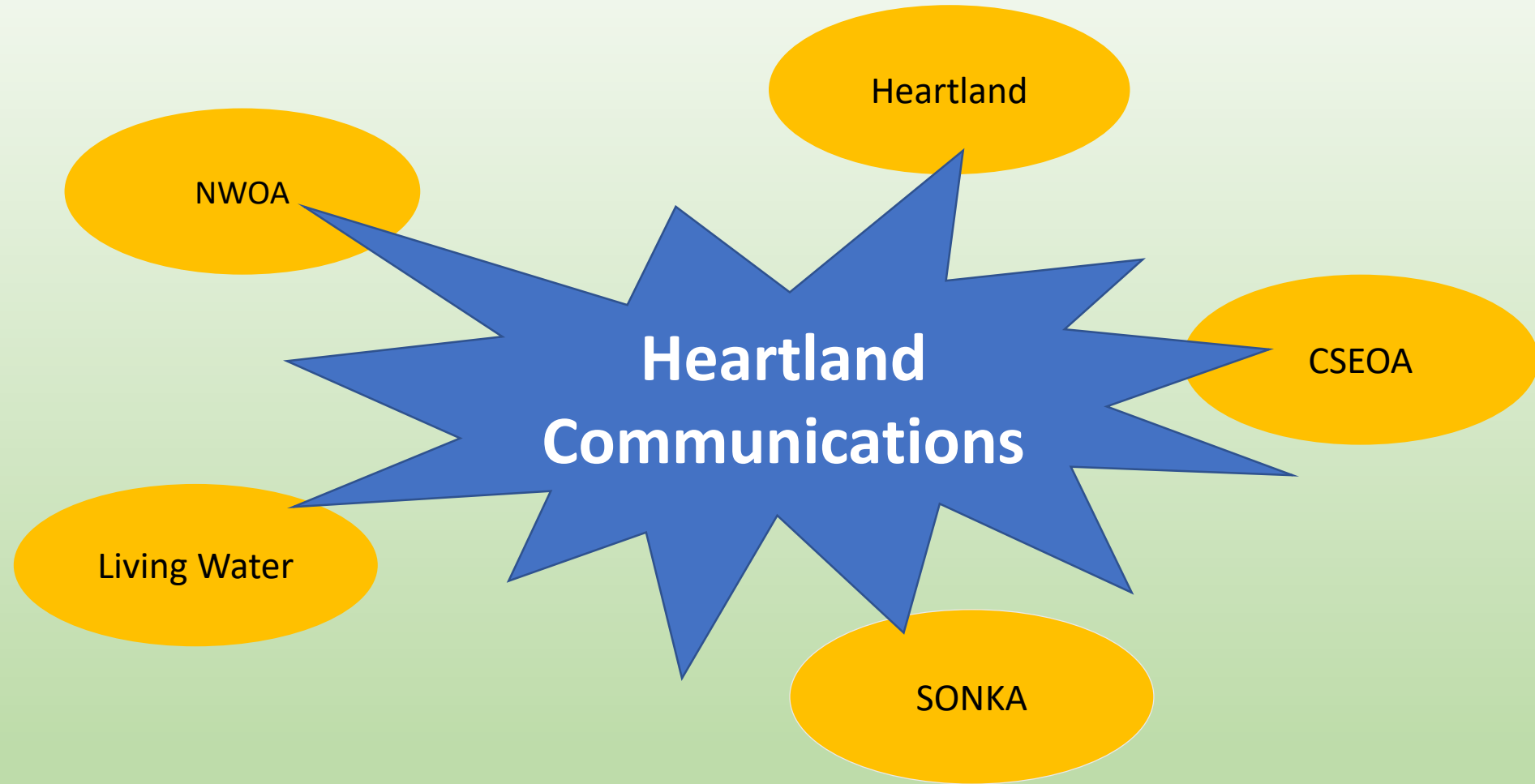
## The Other Thoughts for the Good of the Cause And What's Missing Department

- We will need to give some thought as we go forward to how these different dimension of ministry align with currently engaged structures and determine in what ways it may be important to align our language and structures for clarity and focus
- What's Missing...as in I just realized I left some of these things out.
  - Conference Inclusion Work
  - Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations
  - Specialized Ministries
  - ???

## Next Steps

- Prayerfully consider what is missing and what needs to be rearranged.
- Meet by zoom to share observations and refinements
- Share this with Association Moderators for input
- Bring proposal about the Board and the concept to the Board of Directors Meeting – December 6
  - Introduce Concept for prayerful Discernment and feedback
- Between December and February Board Meetings – receive feedback
- Clarify refinements at the February Board Meeting
- May Vote on proposal for Board Restructure to be brought to the Annual Gathering in September
- Announce proposal to change in Constitution 60 days in advance of meeting together with interpretive materials. (Note: there may be additional constitutional changes which will be considered, as we need to have a major constitutional overhaul.)
- Vote at the Annual Gathering at the end of September.
  - Note: we will need to clarify at what point the change is engaged.
    - Will it be immediately after the Annual Gathering?
    - What will need to happen at the Association Level for this to be fully embraced?

**Yes, and...**



## What Is the Shape of Communication Now?

- What are all of the forms that we use to communicate in every setting?
- What is the vision for communication that informs what we are doing?
- Where is there duplication?
- What do we know about the most effective communication modalities?
- What would increase our capacity to inspire, educate, equip, empower, and engage across the full spectrum of our life?
- What is the totality of staffing for this area of our life?
  - Who and how many hours?

## Branding and Website Development

- Currently we are engaging a graphic designer to develop a new conference logo and a new outdoor ministry logo.
- We are going to see if this same person can also serve our needs for web development.
- An important part of this design will have to do with how we see the centralized site serving the totality of the conference.

## Next Steps

- Summarize your communication strategies and share those by December 8
- Nikki to do a summary to help us see where there is overlap.
  - Nikki to make recommendations about what needs to be done to streamline
  - Nikki to make recommendations about each different site.
  - Can each site be integrated into the whole over time?
- Develop a schemata of what the overall web design might include.
- Engage web designer to build site with flexibility for adding things on.