



Name and Title: Renaming Pilgrim Center

Date: June 2021

S

Situation

What is going on? What is the situation about which you are communicating?

A recommendation for renaming UCCI – Pilgrim Center is being presented to the UCCI Board of Directors. The new naming recommendation utilizes the root name of ‘Day-cho-lah’ which is Ho-Chunk for Green Lake. Celebration of the name change and a re-dedicating of the UCCI facility is proposed to take place on Monday, October 11, 2021, Indigenous People’s Day. This action is symbolic in the 400th year anniversary of the first Thanksgiving.

B

Background

What is the background or context of the communication?

In 2019, at the WI Conference UCC Annual Meeting, a formal resolution was adopted to Repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery. Conversations started at that time identifying the need to ‘rename’ Pilgrim Center. A collaborative team of respective stake holders has been working on the renaming project since January 2021. UCCI began laying the groundwork for this project in October 2020. The collaborative team is at the point where naming suggestions are being presented for consideration. Members of the Team include Rev. Jim Schleif, Larry Little George, Rev. Jan Davis, Joe Scary, Rev. Bob Ullman, Judnard Henry and others.

A

Assessment

What is the problem?
What are your assumptions about why the problem is occurring?

The collaborative team utilized storytelling and sharing of experiences related to Pilgrim Center as they began this work. An extensive effort was put into evaluating historical information related to the Native American stewards of this land and the camp history. Priority has been given to reclaiming the Native American voice. Daycholah combines the deep spiritual naming of Green Lake by the Ho-Chunk people with the first name of the camp, which was Green Lake Bible Institute in 1902.

R

Recommendation

What is the next step or steps that can be taken?

‘Daycholah’ is presented as a recommendation for renaming. Ho-Chunk voices also recommend adding “Creation Care Center” or, “Spiritual Enrichment Center” however other team members recognized that these are descriptive elements of what ALL UCCI sites do, not just Pilgrim Center. The recommendation is for “Daycholah Center” or simply “Daycholah.”