

CMC Fall Conference

October 19, 2025

The CMC Fall Conference was held in person at the Elgin congregation. Members were also able to join via Zoom. Housekeeping items were discussed to make sure everyone was able to participate. Documents were available prior to conference on the mission center website at: <https://chicagomissioncenter.org/cmc-fall-2025-conference/>.

A QR Code was provided for each of the documents. That QR code was displayed on screen just prior to consideration of the document.

Interim MCP Jude Vickery called the meeting to order at 1:02pm, and Sheryl Sawyers offered the prayer of invocation.

A video, "Welcome from the USA Apostles," was shared with the conference.

Field Support Minister, Debbie Bartlett, took the chair and offered greetings from the First Presidency, Presiding Bishopric, and the Field Support Minister team. Debbie also shared announcements from the First Presidency and Presiding Bishopric, including requests for everyone to participate in the survey on Baptism and Membership (available online through the end of the year).

Jude Vickery returned to the chair and called for the receiving of minutes for the 2024 Fall Conference held on October 20, 2024. Corrections were received, and the minutes were accepted as corrected.

Jude Vickery remained in the chair for election of the secretary. It was noted that Ellen Smith was currently serving in the role of secretary. The floor was open for nominations for secretary for 2026. Ellen Smith was nominated. No other nominations were offered. A vote was taken, and Ellen was elected.

Jude Vickery turned the chair over to Field Support Minister, Debbie Bartlett for sustaining Mission Center officers.

Debbie received a motion from Sheryl Sawyers to sustain the mission center leadership. A second was also received.

Debbie said that, without objection, she would read the following letters prior to taking sustaining votes:

- A letter from the First Presidency and the Presiding Bishopric, appointing Jude Vickery to serve as part-time Mission Center President and Mission Center Financial Officer for 2026.

- A letter from the USA Team of Apostles appointing Craig Perryman as the Mission Center Invitation Support Minister for 2026.
- A letter from MCP/MCFO Jude Vickery appointing Sheryl Sawyers and Blake Smith to serve as his counselors for 2026.

A sustaining vote was taken for the appointed leadership, and they were sustained.

Blake Smith announced the setting apart of Jude Vickery, who was then set apart as MCP/MCFO by High Priests Blake Smith & Debbie Bartlett.

Jude Vickery returned to the chair. He acknowledged the current Mission Center Council but added that no vote was required as the council was sustained for a two-year period beginning Jan 1, 2025, and running through Dec 31, 2026.

Council includes:

Marketer Ash
 Teppy Dimmitt
 Roger Hintzsche
 Lisa Jauch
 Olivia Liddell

 Craig Perryman
 Tami Perryman
 Sheryl Sawyers
 Julie Snethen

Jude turned the chair over to Blake for preparatory statement for the Ordination of Marketer Ash to the office of High Priest.

During the preparation for the ordination, the congregation shared in the singing of the first verse of “Lord Jesus, of You I Will Sing.” (*Community of Christ Sings*, #556).

Marketer Ash was ordained to the office of High Priest by High Priests Blake Smith, and Debbie Bartlett.

Jude Vickery again assumed the chair to present the general reports.

General Reports

Jude turned the attention of the conference to the 2023 Financial Inspection Report and explained that this report is inspected by a 3rd party process.

A motion was received from Craig Perryman to accept the report as presented, and it was seconded. There were no questions or discussion, and Jude called for a vote to accept the report. A vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Jude Vickery turned the chair over to Jan Polka, Chair of the MC Finance Board, for the SGF Grant Approvals Report.

- Brainerd \$5000 African American Ministries
- Mission \$1500 Paks for Pals (Seneca)
- Mission \$1500 Paks for Pals (Marseilles)
- Elgin \$1000 Little Free Pantry

The total to-date for grants requested is \$9000.00. Jan shared that the Finance Board was open to receiving additional grants throughout the year as mission opportunities arise.

The chair was returned to Jude Vickery for the purpose of reviewing the financial reports.

Jude expressed his appreciation for Jan Polka's willingness to serve in the role of chairing the Finance Board. Jan Polka returned the sentiment.

Jude drew the attention of the conference to the 2024 end-of-year reports.

- 2024 CMC Year End Balance Sheet and Financial Statement (available on request)

There were no questions asked or clarifications requested. There was no discussion. Reports were received into the record as submitted.

Jude then turned the conference's attention to the 2025 year-to-date financial reports (available on request).

There were no questions asked or clarifications requested. There was no discussion. Reports were received into the record as submitted.

Jude then turned the conference's attention to the proposed 2026 mission center budget.

There was some discussion regarding the decision to give back to World Church now that we are in a stronger financial position.

Jude paused the discussion to receive a motion to consider the budget. Jude Vickery received a motion from Cloyd Dowell to consider the CMC 2026 budget, and it was seconded. Discussion continued.

The generosity of the mission center which allowed the support of full-time mission center leadership was acknowledged and appreciated.

Jude called for a vote on the motion to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed.

Jude turned the attention of the conference to the election of Finance Board Officers, stating that there were currently two openings for a term of 1/1/26 - 12/31/28.

Jude called for nominations and stated the Jan Polka and Cloyd Dowell had agreed to let their names stand. No other nominations were presented. A vote was taken and Jan and Cloyd were elected.

Jude asked if there was any New Business.

No new business was brought to the floor.

Craig Perryman expressed appreciation on behalf of the mission center for Blake Smith's years of service as mission center president and financial officer.

Benediction was given by Craig Perryman.

Conference was adjourned by Jude Vickery.