Statement of the Permanent Conference of Ukrainian Orthodox Bishops Beyond the Borders of Ukraine

to the Venerable Clergy, Clergy, Monastics and Faithful of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Diaspora:

We write to you all having been informed about recent events in Ukraine surrounding the life of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. If you have not yet heard or read anything about these events, which are filling the social websites and media in and beyond Ukraine, we hereby inform you that the President of Ukraine met in a day-long audience with His All-Holiness, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, Bartholomew I, on Bright Monday – 9 April 2018. The result of this meeting was the beginning of the Patriarchate’s long-awaited consideration of Autocephaly for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

Upon his return to Ukraine, President Poroshenko immediately began the process of rallying the hierarchs of the Ukrainian Orthodox jurisdictions in Ukraine and the Verkhovna Rada (Ukrainian Parliament). All the hierarchs of two of the three jurisdictions and the vast majority of the Rada responded to the President’s emotional appeal to support the process of asking His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew and the Holy Synod of Constantinople to move forward with the process of granting a Tomos of Autocephaly to the Church in Ukraine, which has for 1030 years been the canonical territory of the Patriarchate of Constantinople, since 988 when our nation was baptized and confirmed into the Holy Orthodox Faith.

Not even under 332 years of non-canonical and often tortuous subjugation to a foreign Orthodox patriarchate could the faithful of Ukraine be convinced that they did not belong to the authority of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. This is simple history, as documented by generations of Patriarchs and Synods of Constantinople, which never abandoned its canonical rights and privileges in Ukraine.

The Ecumenical Patriarchate, through releases on its own website and through the media has confirmed that the process of considering the Autocephalous status of the Church of Ukraine has begun, which will continue through the next meeting of the Holy Synod to be held in May.

President Poroshenko in all his public appearances and statements about these current events has been incredibly enthusiastic about the possibility of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Ukraine being granted even by the 1030thanniversary in July 2018 of the Baptism of Ukraine into the Orthodox Faith in 988 by Equal-to-the-Apostles, Great Prince Volodymyr.

The Permanent Conference of Ukrainian Orthodox Bishops Beyond the Borders of Ukraine has written a strong letter of support for the actions being taken by His All-Holiness and the Holy Synod of Constantinople regarding the possible granting of a Tomos of Autocephaly to the Ukrainian Church. We have assured His All-Holiness of the unceasing prayers of not only the hierarchs, but also the millions of Ukrainian Orthodox clergy and faithful in and beyond the borders of Ukraine, for him personally during this process.

With Archpastoral Blessings,

+YURIJ, Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

+ANTONY, Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora

+JEREMIAH, Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Eparchies of Brasil and South America

+DANIEL, Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Western Europe

+ILARION, Bishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

+ANDRIY, Bishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada
From the Consistory Office of Stewardship

The goal of the Consistory Office of Stewardship is to serve as a resource for clergy and parish leaders who seek to develop a vital parish way of life through the implementation of the principles of Orthodox Christian Stewardship. In the first quarter of 2018, there was one direct inquiry to the Office seeking resources and assistance in parish stewardship development.

Many in Christian communities approach stewardship as one of those ‘nice things we ought to do some day’, but rarely get around to doing because of seemingly more pressing needs. But when serious challenges of dwindling financial resources confront us, we somehow look to stewardship as a solution to the problem. Stewardship, is an ongoing way of living Christian life – for individuals, parishes and yes, the Metropolia as well. Financial shortfalls may nonetheless be a symptom of a critical need for a review of stewardship and financial management processes. Done properly, stewardship inspires our Faith and guides our decision-making.

The website: www.orthodoxsteward.com serves as a resource for information on stewardship from an Orthodox Christian perspective, including a blog and other information for seeking a deeper understanding of how stewardship works. Ready help is available by contacting Fr. Robert Holet, the Office Director, at stewardship@uocusa.net or 434-973-2500

COUNCIL OF METROPOLIA CHANGES AND APPOINTMENTS

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony made the following Administrative Appointments, according to Section V of the Constitution of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA:

1. Following the repose in the Lord of Very Rev. Fr. Bazyl Zawierucha, Member of the Council of Metropolia and Vice-President of the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. - Very Rev. Fr. Michael Hontaruk, first Alternate of the Council of Metropolia has been advanced to the full member status of the Council for the remaining term of service of the Council of Metropolia of the Church until the next Regular Sobor of the UOC of the USA in 2019.

2. Very Rev. Fr. Andrii Pokotylo has been appointed as a full member of the Consistory of the UOC of the USA.

3. According to Section VII of the Constitution of the UOC of the USA, Very Rev. Fr. Victor Wronsksyj, member of the Council of Metropolia and the Consistory of the UOC of the USA was formally appointed as Vice-President of the Consistory of the UOC of the USA.

News from the Strategic Plan...

During the past several months, work on the Strategic Plan has been active with many of the teams having conference calls and discussions about various aspects of the work. The members of the task force coordinators for each of the goals are as follows:

Administration - Daria Pishko
Clergy - Fr. Anthony Perkins
Communications - Elizabeth Symonenko
Education - Mark Host
Family and Youth - George Cepynsky
Healthy Parishes - Deacon Ihor Mahlay
Stewardship - Cindy Charest
Technology - Eric Senedak

Some of the highlights of the most recent updates are as follows:

-We have opened up Basecamp (the web interface for the entire Strategic Plan) to any members of the Church who might be interested. If you want to be added to the list, please contact the coordinator for this, Dr. Tanja Paunesku, t.paunesku@gmail.com

-Several surveys have been completed about the needs of the parishes. Once results are collated, we plan to make the tabulated conclusions available to everyone on the Basecamp site. These surveys include information about outreach programs, administrative needs, and others.

-The Technology team has developed a new app that we hope will be available to all Church members soon. It will include prayers, and spiritual tools. (Continued on p. 5)
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From the Ukrainian History and Education Center

Mark your calendars—UHEC events

This spring has been an exciting time for the UHEC staff, which has been very busy preparing for three new exhibitions and the UOC of USA Centennial concert. As our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church of USA celebrates her centennial, we also remember the important events that happened in Ukraine 100 years ago. The newly installed exhibition Cultural Identity to Statehood: Ukraine 1917 - 1921 celebrates the 100th anniversary of Ukrainian independence in 1917-1921 and explores the role of culture, art, and history in the formation of the new nation. Join us on May 20, 2018 at 1:00 PM at the UHEC Library Gallery for the exhibition opening, reception and gallery talk. Visitors will have the opportunity to see the one of a kind, hand lettered greeting by Hryhor Narbut from the Ukrainian People’s Republic Ministry of Education to Supreme Commander Symon Petliura dated December 17, 1918. The exhibition was curated by UHEC Archivist Michael Andrec.

The UHEC staff, Dobrodiyka Oksana Pasakas, Archivist Michael Andrec along with volunteers and UHEC Board members Natalia Pawlenko and Yuriy Mischenko, are redesigning the Patriarch Mstyslav Memorial Exhibit located in the Holy Resurrection Mausoleum. The memorial exhibition highlights the life and accomplishments of Patriarch Mstyslav. The reinstallled exhibition was unveiled during the 25th anniversary commemoration on June 2, 2018. The program on that day also included talks by historians Dr. Olexander Sagan and Dr. Andrii Smyrnov who spoke about the important role played by the Patriarch in the history of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Recordings of the lectures will be made available online to UHEC members.

As part of the Centennial Celebration of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, the UHEC is pleased to be collaborating with the Women’s Bandura Ensemble of North America and Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Pittsburgh on a unique performance of music and dance which tells the story of Ukrainian immigration to the USA, community and church building, in the early 20th century. UHEC staff is poring through thousands of archival photographs to create the projections for this piece. The concert also features the renowned Ukrainian Chorus Dumka of New York City. Don’t miss this truly special event! Friday July 27, 2018 at 7:00 PM Reserve your tickets today. (732) 356-0090.

The UHEC is currently working on the Centennial exhibition Ukrainian Orthodoxy in a New Land: 100 Years in the United States, which will present the history of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and its central organizations over the past century. It will be installed in the Ukrainian Cultural Center Lecture Gallery, with the exhibition opening, gallery talk and reception on Thursday, July 26, 2018 at 7:00 pm. It’s still not too late to submit historical photos from your parishes and organizations to be considered for the exhibition. Contact Natalia at nhoncharenko@ukrhec.org.

Nashi Predky - Our Ancestors Family History Group is holding its 5th annual Ukrainian Genealogy Conference on Nov. 3-4, 2018.

This exciting two day event will feature internationally known speakers presenting topics on research in Galicia, Austria-Hungary and the Russian Empire.


For more information on all these events, visit www.UkrHEC.org or find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ukrhec.

Orthodoxy in a New Land: The History of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the USA

The year 2018 marks the centennial of the canonical formation of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the United States took place in 1918, when the Church received spiritual protection under the omophorion of Bishop Germanos (Shehadi) of the Antiochian Orthodox Church in the USA.

To mark this anniversary, the Museum will mount an exhibit entitled: Orthodoxy in a New Land: The History of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the USA and we need your help to make it happen. We need you, the faithful, of the UOC of USA to participate in the curatorial process.

Does your parish have any:

Original Historical Photographs
- Church building
- Parish
- Parish organizations
- Events
- Historical video/audio
- Articles from local newspapers/journals

Historical Documents
- Incorporation papers
- Deeds
- Mortgages
- Financial Statements
- Membership Rosters
- Metrical books
- Church music

Artifacts
- Vestments
- Service books/Prayer books
- Liturgical vessels and other items (censers, tabernacles, etc.)
- Icons and crosses
- Altar cloths, linens, other textiles

The exhibit will include histories of UOC parishes established in the USA.

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**Summer Camping Ministry** - We are well into the preparations for our annual summer programs. The theme for this year is Christ IS Risen! Our campers will explore the meaning of Pascha as well as how Christ is risen EVERYDAY of their life. Many special activities are planned including: Centennial Day (celebrating the UOC of USA anniversary), A Night in Hawaii, It's a Sports Night at ASC, special interest classes in Ukrainian Dance/History, science, nature, photography and sports. Early Bird registration fees available until May 15th and regular fees take affect after. Scholarships are available for those in need of financial assistance.

**Summer Staff Needed** - To ensure that our youth have proper supervision and mentorship - we are in need of staff for our camping programs. Staff of all ages and ability are needed. We offer both paid and volunteer positions. Please encourage individuals who may have skills and talents that could be utilized for the betterment of our programs.

**Youth Centennial Activities** - Parishes were sent information concerning special sessions and activities to conduct with parish youth to learn about and celebrate the UOC Centennial. A part of those activities are the creation of display boards about your parish to be taken to your local celebration. We are also asking youth to learn the prayer Bozhe Veliky in both Ukrainian and English. Youth who are able to attend a local celebration may participate in a youth choir which will sing this hymn. All materials are available at the OYM website.

**Young Adult Pilgrimage to Ukraine** - To celebrate the UOC Centennial, our Hierarchs have given their blessing for a pilgrimage to holy sites in Ukraine September 22-30, 2018. Please encourage your young adults to apply - this in not only for college age adults but for ALL young adults.

Information on the items above or any needs for youth and young adult ministry may be found at the OYM website www.uocyoung.org. You may also keep up-to-date of our offerings on our Facebook page UOC Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

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**News from the Strategic Plan**

-We have a new logo and branding ideas to recommend to the hierarchs. This will be made available soon.
- The College Outreach group has been meeting to develop plans. Most of the members are older and the team would like to include some college students.

If you know of any college students who might be interested in participating please send names and email addresses to Gayle Woloschak, gayle.woloschak@gmail.com

**St. Sophia Library Update:**

Over the last few months, our staff have been busy assisting all patrons to the Library: we have been working on cataloging new acquisitions, assisting in the research of parish history and history of the UOC of USA as we celebrate the centennial, and the history of the Ukrainian National Republic; as well as assisting individuals who come to use our facility in researching topics such as the Famine of Ukraine, Liturgical services and music, the lives of the saints, and the history of Kyivan-Rus.

**Need to conduct in person research?** Schedule an appointment to browse our circulating and non-circulating collections. You don’t need to be a seminarian to browse our rich collection. Every week, more titles are added to the online collection, which can be accessed by visiting the webpage of the library (http://www.uocofusa.org/library.html) and click on the link “ON-LINE CATALOG”. You will be directed to the new OPAC for a quick and easy search of our Library’s holdings.

The monthly “Book Club” is going on summer vacation after our May 24th meeting with Rev. Gabriel Rochelle, where the Club discussed his latest book, “A Staff to the Pilgrim: Meditations on the Way with Nine Celtic Saints”.

Over the last year, we have met and discussed various religious topics, and we will continue to do so when Book Club returns September 2018. Don’t forget, if you can’t make it in person join us online via “Facebook Live”.

**Want to join in on the conversation?** Submit a question while you watch and hear it addressed on Facebook Live.
Did you happen to walk through St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery this past winter season? If you did, you know it is a beautiful and peaceful site. If you didn’t, we would like to encourage you to do so. The omnipresent green/yellow and red, the fall floral gardens, the new Ukrainian-American Veterans Monument and the icicle sparkles on the new trees make it quite a special place in the beautiful Garden State.

At more than 20 acres, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery is the one of the largest green spaces in the heart of Franklin Township and is within easy walking distance of some important places of the Historic Battle of Bound Brook of 1775. It has nearly 2 miles of walking paths, as well as hundreds of different species of trees and plants. It is the final resting place for many Ukrainian immigrants who came to the United States of America in hope of finding better life and freedom for themselves and their children. It is also a sacred place of final rest of many religious and political leaders of our community. Patriarch Mstyslav, Metropolitan John, President Lewyckyi, veterans of various wars, Fisher Family cemetery section (original owners of the property and witnesses of the signing of the US Declaration of Independence) and dozens of other famous and infamous people. St. Andrew Cemetery is a microcosm of our community’s history.

Over the years, we have welcomed thousands of people visiting the grave sites of their loved ones as well as attending numerous burials. Hundreds of vehicles drive through our property each week in order to experience the spiritual enchantment of the sacred grounds to bring closer generations of living and reposed Ukrainian-Americans.

If we are going to continue maintaining the spiritual legacy of the final resting place of St. Andrew’s, we need to make certain improvements. Surely, all of us want this beautiful legacy to continue for years to come. That’s why this special appeal goes out to you today.

As you know, our historic Ukrainian-American Cemetery depends primarily on the financial support of those who have reserved the right to be buried or of the remaining family members, heirs and friends.

Over the years the driveways to the Cemetery and all the roads have aged and in major need of repairs and repavement. We are reaching out to you with request to consider making a monetary donation towards the repairs, which are estimated at about $220,000.00. This re-pavement project is the single most important and most expensive capital improvement since the establishment of our Cemetery.

Much needed voluntary donations, in any form, ensure the continuing existence of our cemetery. Your continued support is vital as our only sources of revenue are plot sales and generous support from people like you. All of these revenue sources are dedicated to mowing, general maintenance, repairs, and administrative costs.

Please consider making a cash donation to help us maintain the cemetery, as we have always done, to honor your family and friends. Your contribution of $100, $500, $1000 or more will help us to complete this important project.

We hope that you will join us in this important effort by making a generous contribution, which will have a very visible and lasting impact for generations to come.

Your donation for the betterment of St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery is deductible for Federal income tax purposes. You can donate by sending a check to:
St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery
PO Box 495
South Bound Brook, NJ 08873

Thank you for your support.

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Orthodoxy in a New Land: The History of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the USA

To create this exhibit, we are requesting parishes to submit original historical photographs, documents and archival material, and artifacts. All items will be documented as a loan to the Museum solely for this exhibition, and will be returned to the parish upon the conclusion of the exhibit.

Any reproduction of loaned material for posters or publication will be done only with the parish’s written permission, and loaned items will be returned as quickly as practical.

Please contact Natalia (nhoncharenko@ukrhec.org) or Mike (archives@ukrhec.org) or call (732) 356-0132 to discuss details. We look forward to working with you to create a historical exhibit!
From the Vocations Director: Our Vocations...

We have 21 students studying at St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Theological Seminary: eight students in our full-time residency program, six students in our Distance Learning (diaconal formation) program, six students in our Short Residency (priestly formation) program, and one student in our Youth Ministry program. Of the students discerning a call to ordination, eight are from Ukraine, ten were born in the United States, and one was born in Romania.

On June 1st, our Seminary will graduate one of our full-time residency seminarians, two of our Distance Learning seminarians, and eight of our Youth Ministry students. Presently, we do not currently have any seminarians studying in other seminaries.

We are currently accepting applications from men and women for all our programs. The Distance Learning program is a three-year program that provides basic theological instruction and satisfies the educational requirements for the diaconate. With the successful defense of a thesis or passing of written and oral general exams, it confers the degree of Master of Arts in Applied Orthodox Theology. The weekend program, designed to be taken after the Distance Learning program (or its equivalent) is also a three-year program; when completed after the Distance Learning program (or its equivalent), it confers the degree of Master of Divinity and satisfies the educational requirement for ordination to the priesthood. The full-time program satisfies the educational requirement for ordination to both the diaconate and the priesthood. With the successful defense of a thesis, it confers the degree of Master of Divinity. The one-year Youth Ministry program is designed to support youth workers and ministers in their work and offers a certificate to those who graduate. We already have several students planning on starting our various programs in the Fall and would love to have more.

In the Fall, we plan on offering an Icon Workshop (theology and practicum) for clerics and seminarians of the Church and their wives. We continue to offer the Ancient Faith Radio podcast, Good Guys Wear Black, to support all our vocations and priests. We are also actively supporting the work of the Strategic Plan, especially when it comes to the Clergy Wellness, Development, and Recruitment Goals.

Contact Fr. Anthony Perkins (father.anthony@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

AXIOS! WORTHY! AXIOS!

Ordinations & Elevations...

His Eminence Archbishop Daniel formally marked the 10th Anniversary of Consecration as a bishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA on May 10, 2018. Axios!

V. Rev. Fr. Petro Levko was elevated to Mitred Priest at St. George UOC in Yardville, NJ on May 6, 2018 - Axios!

Deacon Volodymyr Yavorskyi was ordained to the Holy Priesthood by His Eminence Archbishop Daniel at St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, New York, NY on May 5, 2018 - Axios!

All Saints Camp Update...

With the winter/spring weather finally giving weigh to warmer and longer days, this year’s camping season will soon be here. And work has already begun to prepare for the guests.

The water system has been turned back on with very little need for repairs.

Finishing the basement of St Thomas Chapel, and installing metal roofs on two cabins (two will be replaced each year until all have been updated) has begun.

We were able to meet our budgetary goals for last year, however, since one encampment chose another location for their program this year, the camp committee is looking for ways to reduce expenditures further, while maintaining and hopefully improving the camper experience.

Several meetings and a visit with the head of the kitchen at our neighboring camp (Camp Nazareth of the Carpatho-Rysun Orthodox Church) were held to discuss ways to accomplish this with our meals budget, since it is a large part of our overall expenditures.

Donors for several items that individuals or parishes could donate to support the camp are still needed. Among these items are: a walk-in freezer that would allow us to take advantage of bulk purchasing power, and a larger golf cart able to securely transport injured campers to the nurses cabin.

Mr. Daniel McNulty has begun coordinating the implementation of the strategic plan developed to meet the needs and goals to direct improvements to the camp in an orderly manner. A meeting was held with the architect to finalize adjustments to the revised plans to renovate the lower floor of the Millennium Cultural Center (which will include the bathrooms, lounge area).

We are working hard to make this camping season the best ever!

Memory Eternal...


Pani-matka Anna Hrynyshyn, of Sts Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Wilmington, DE reposed in the Lord on May 24, 2018.

Pastoral Changes...

V. Rev. Fr. Volodymyr Zinchyshyn is relieved of his pastoral duties of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Portland, OR effective February 12, 2018.

Rev. Fr. Andriy Matlak is temporarily assigned to provide spiritual care for the faithful of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Portland, OR effective February 12, 2018.

Protopresbyter Myron Oryhon is temporarily assigned to provide spiritual care for the faithful of Holy Assumption Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Northampton, PA effective May 16, 2018.