

## **OTTAWA PRESBYTERY MEETING, DECEMBER 12, 2017**

The Ottawa Presbytery was called by the Chair, Rev. Steve Clifton, to meet on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at Emmanuel United Church, Ottawa.

### **THE FOLLOWING REGISTERED THEIR ATTENDANCE:**

**Order of Ministry:** Anthony Bailey, Elaine Beattie, Nancy Best, Elizabeth Bryce, Teresa Burnett-Cole, Erin Burns, Susan Butler-Jones, Dianne Cardin, Steve Clifton, Nancy Colton, Ted Colwell, Grant Dillenbeck, Paul Dillman, Boyd Drake, Trish Elliott, Georgina Fitzgerald, Daniel Gilroy, Ed Gratton, Catherine Gutjahr, Stewart Hewlett, Andrew Jensen, Rosemary Lambie, Jennie Leslie, Alcris Limongi, Eric Lukacs, Laurie McKnight, Grant McNeil, Anne Montgomery, Steve Moore, Garth Mundle, Dorothy Naylor, Janet Nield, Stan Parkhouse, Caroline Penhale, Ken Robinson, Jamie Scott, Whit Strong, Carla Van Delen, Kim Vidal, Neil Wallace, Bob Williams, Peter Woods (42)

**Lay:** Margaret Armstrong, Rick Balson, Eileen Ball, Charles Barrett, Nicole Beaudry, John Benson, Reg Best, Derek Carlisle, Malcolm Collins, Molly Colwell, Alyce Dunnewold, Marg Eddy, Phil Fay, Jodi Fisher, Dietlind Gardell, Beth Gutsell, Caroline Harry, Marilyn Joseph, Gail Kirkconnell, Charles Knight, David Lee, Lorrie Lowes, Phyllis MacRae, Norma McCord, Wendy McCracken, George Neville, David Patterson, Evelyn Perkins, Janice Péron, Doug Robinson, Ron Scharfe, Heather Smith, Jeffrey Smith, David Stafford, Cathy Stewart, Desna Sulway, Beth Sweetnam, Sandra Tompkins, Margaret Torrance, Keith Vodden, Jim Watchorn (41)

**Lay Ministers:** (including the categories of DLM, DLM Applicant, DLM not recognized, Retired DLM, Retained DLM, Student Intern and Student Supply): Stephanie Bates-Klassen, Jessica Hetherington, Natalie Istead

**Guests:** Gwen Bell, Louisa Coates, Jeannie Page, Carol Scott, Helen Smith

**Regrets:** Rev. Isabel Black, Rev. Karen Boivin, Rev. Gail Christy, Rev. George Clifford, Cindy Duncan-MacMillan, Bryan Giffin, Rev. Christine Gross, Joan Heyland, Rev. Richard Hollingsworth, Rev. Jack Lovering, Melodee Lovering, Rev. Hilary Merritt, Rev. Robert Merritt, Kay Porteous, Rev. Stanley Ralph, Rev. Arlyce Schiebout, Ruth Sword, Joyce Williams, Joan Wyatt, Ev Zytveld

**Corresponding:** Wendy Mather, Patricia Power, Larry Richardson, Michelle Robichaud, Paul Sales

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Rev. Steve Clifton, Chair of the Ottawa Presbytery, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Rev. Grant Dillenbeck was parliamentarian and quorum was met.

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### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was suggested that three items be added to the agenda:

- Greetings from Montreal & Ottawa Conference;
- News from St. Paul's-Eastern United Church; and
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Multi-Faith Blood Drive

**Motion:** (Alyce Dunnewold/Norma McCord) that the agenda be adopted as amended. **Carried**

### **WELCOME TO MEMBERS OF THE COURT & GUESTS**

The Chair welcomed the court and guests to the Presbytery meeting. Rev. Whit Strong introduced Rev. Rosemary Lambie, Executive Secretary of Montreal & Ottawa Conference, and Larry Richardson, Office Administrator, Montreal & Ottawa Conference. Rev. Paul Dillman introduced Gwen Bell from Riverside United Church. Phyllis MacRae introduced Louisa Coats, Chair of Council of Emmanuel United Church.

### **WORDS OF WELCOME**

Louisa Coates, Chair of Council at Emmanuel United Church welcomed the court to the church. Emmanuel's mission is to be an inclusive, compassionate Christ-centred community: sharing; questioning; justice-seeking; and welcoming all. Louisa highlighted some of the many activities at Emmanuel, including work with Emmanuel's two Global Partners - Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel in San Salvador, El Salvador; and the United Church of Zambia in Chipembi, Zambia. Teams from Emmanuel are sent to work with these partners and, when possible, partners are hosted in Ottawa. There are detailed covenants that set out the goals and priorities of the partnerships. Both focus on education and leadership training of children and youth.

### **WORSHIP**

Worship was led by members of Emmanuel United Church. The opening hymn was *All Earth is Waiting*, VU #5. Following the Call to Worship, *An Advent Prayer*, VU #11, was sung. Special music was provided by Jim Lamb and Joel Brohman singing *Mary Did You Know?* Past Chair Phyllis MacRae read the scripture, Luke 1: verses 26-42. Jeannie Page, LLWL, gave a reflection on "Mary, the Chosen One". The court sang, *There was a Child in Galilee*, MV #134. Carol Scott, LLWL, led the prayers of the people. Worship concluded with the singing of *She Comes Sailing on the Wind*, VU #380 and a blessing.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** (Andrew Jensen/Charles Knight) that the minutes of the November 14, 2017 meeting of Ottawa Presbytery be approved as circulated, and the minutes of the October 26, 2017 meeting of the Executive be received for information. **Carried**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. St. Paul's-Eastern United Church request that the final meeting of the Montreal & Ottawa Conference be an in-person meeting rather than an electronic-only business meeting.
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This request was discussed at Presbytery Executive and the Conference Executive meeting. Plans for the Conference Annual General Meeting have already been finalized.

### **GREETINGS FROM MONTREAL & OTTAWA CONFERENCE**

Rev. Rosemary Lambie, Executive Secretary of Montreal & Ottawa Conference, brought greetings from the Conference to the court. She was pleased to see that there was quorum for the Presbytery meeting, in spite of the snowfall. Rosemary expressed thanks to Ottawa Presbytery for all of the work that it has done preparing for voting on the remits.

### **NEWS FROM ST. PAUL'S-EASTERN UNITED CHURCH**

Rev. Laurie McKnight stated that Odawa Native Centre's \$3.5 million proposal for an Early Youth Centre had just been approved by the Ontario Government. The Centre will start at the Odawa Native Centre's office but the plan is to renovate St. Paul's-Eastern and relocate the Early Youth Centre there. This is good news for both Odawa Native Centre and St. Paul's-Eastern.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MULTI-FAITH BLOOD DRIVE**

Rev. Anthony Bailey announced that Canadian Blood Services is holding its second annual Multi-Faith Blood Drive between December 21<sup>st</sup> and December 26<sup>th</sup>. He asked all presbyters to take the bookmarks (available at the registration table) containing details about the Blood Drive and advertise it.

### **PASTORAL CARE**

Rev. Steve Moore brought greetings from Rev. David Sherwin who is continuing in his journey of convalescence. He asked that presbyters keep David in their prayers. David really appreciated all the birthday cards that presbyters sent to him after the November Presbytery meeting.

### **RECOGNITION OF SERVICE**

Rev. Steve Moore asked Rev Lt (N) Ret Nancy Colton to come forward. Nancy has retired from her work as a Chaplain in the Canadian Armed Forces. She has served in the forces for almost 40 years in a wide variety of roles. Although Nancy is retiring from the military, she is not retiring from ministry. She is looking forward to civilian ministry for years to come.

Rev. Nancy then expressed appreciation to the United Church for the privilege of serving as a chaplain. She thanked those in Ottawa Presbytery who served before her and those who have served with her.

### **2017 WARD 9 VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARD**

Rev. Andrew Jensen, Minister of Knox United Church, Nepean, recognized Rick Balson. Rick has served the United Church in many ways, including as presbyter from Knox and President of Montreal & Ottawa Conference. There was applause and a standing ovation for Rick. Rick and his wife, Judy were recently recognized by the Ottawa City Councillor for Ward 9 as Family Volunteer at their Volunteer Recognition Awards. As per the write-up for the Awards presentation at Centrepointe:

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*Judy has been active in the Knox United Church Community. She is currently a coordinator of the Friendly Visitors program, which ensures that shut-ins or people in difficult circumstances get regular visits by trained church volunteers.*

*Rick has served on the Executive of Knox United Church for many years; he represents Knox at the Ottawa Presbytery and at the Montreal & Ottawa Conference. He has been President of M & O Conference for two years. Rick has also served as the liaison between Knox and the wider community, representing the church at the Manordale-Woodvale Community Association and proposing ways that the groups could support each other.*

Rev. Andrew Jensen announced that on December 18<sup>th</sup> Rick would be awarded Nepean's Canada 150 Anniversary Medal for his volunteering.

### **STAFF COMMITTEE**

Rev. Andrew Jensen thanked Ottawa Presbytery staff for all their work over the past year, which was a busy one. He gave those present, Rev. Steve Moore and Wendy Mather, each a card and gift. These will be sent to Rev. David Sherwin, Rev. Hilary Merritt and Rev. Glen Stoudt. There was a round of applause.

### **PASTORAL RELATIONS MINISTRY TEAM REPORT**

The following motions were passed by the Pastoral Relations Ministry Team, acting as a commission, on Tuesday, November 14, 2017.

#### ***Buckingham Pastoral Charge: Appointment of Stephanie Bates***

***Motion:*** (Jodi Fisher / Beth Sweetnam) that the Ottawa Presbytery transmits with approval to the Montreal and Ottawa Conference the request of the Buckingham Pastoral Charge for the appointment of Stephanie Bates, Candidate Supply, effective November 6, 2017 to December 31, 2017 with the following prorated terms: part time 20 hrs. per week, basic salary of \$23244 1/2 time, plus 4%\* total salary \$24,173.76; telephone supplied; three weeks study leave, including Sundays in each pastoral year; a minimum one month (five Sundays) annual vacation in each pastoral year; part-time volunteer administrative assistance; and participation in the Centralized Payroll Service; reimbursement of travel as logged at the General Council rate (currently 39 cents per kilometer). Step 2, Col 2. ***Carried***

#### ***The Rev. Suzanne Sykes – Transfer of Membership***

***Motion:*** (Bryan Giffin / Robert Merritt) that the Ottawa Presbytery approves the transfer of the Rev. Suzanne Sykes from Ottawa Presbytery, Montreal and Ottawa Conference to Upper Valley Presbytery, Bay of Quinte Conference for an appointment to Glasgow Castleford Pastoral Charge. ***Carried***

#### ***Grace Pastoral Charge – Pastoral Charge Supervisor – Extension – Rev. Boyd Drake***

***Motion:*** (David Stafford / Bryan Giffin) that the Ottawa Presbytery approves the extension of the appointment of the Rev. Boyd Drake as pastoral charge supervisor for the Grace Pastoral Charge until June 30, 2018. ***Carried***

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***St. Andrews Metcalfe Pastoral Charge – Pastoral Charge Supervisor – Rev. Elaine Beattie***

***Motion:*** (Robert Merritt / Beth Sweetnam) that the Ottawa Presbytery approves the appointment of the Rev. Elaine Beattie as pastoral charge supervisor for the St. Andrews Metcalfe Pastoral Charge. ***Carried***

***Buckingham Pastoral Charge – Appointee for Quorum***

Ottawa Presbytery takes note that Jodi Fisher was appointed as the presbytery representative for quorum for a meeting of the Official Board of Buckingham Pastoral Charge on October 30, 2017.

***Buckingham Pastoral Charge – Pastoral Charge Supervisor – Rev. Laurie McKnight***

***Motion:*** (Bryan Giffin / Beth Sweetnam) that the Ottawa Presbytery approves the appointment of the Rev. Laurie McKnight as pastoral charge supervisor for the Buckingham Pastoral Charge till the end of December 2017. ***Carried***

***Grace Pastoral Charge – Natalie Istead – Extension of Appointment***

At the meeting of Pastoral Relations Committee on October 4, 2017, there was a typo in the motion relating to ***Grace Pastoral Charge – Natalie Istead – Extension of Appointment***. The annual salary was printed as \$55,040 and the figure should be \$50,040. Both the ministry personnel and the pastoral charge are in agreement that the figure should be \$50,040. Therefore:

***Motion:*** (David Stafford / Bryan Giffin) that the salary figure in the motion adopted on October 4, 2017 regarding ***Grace Pastoral Charge – Natalie-Istead-Extension of Appointment*** be amended to \$50,040. ***Carried***

***Motion:*** (David Stafford/Jodi Fisher) that Ottawa Presbytery receive the report of the Pastoral Relations Ministry Team working as a Commission from November 14, 2017 – December 12, 2017. ***Carried***

**INCREASING THE SIZE OF OTTAWA PRESBYTERY EXECUTIVE**

Chair Rev. Steve Clifton noted that, when David Sherwin went on leave, one of people who volunteered to help assist with the work of Presbytery was Rev. Jamie Scott. He regularly attended Executive meetings as a corresponding member. He worked in particularly on the Remits and with the churches in West Quebec. Executive has appreciated his wisdom and experience.

***Motion:*** (Anne Montgomery/David Lee) that Ottawa Presbytery Executive increase the number of Members at Large (MaL) by one, bringing the total membership to 14. ***Carried***

**NOMINATIONS REPORT**

***Motion:*** (Dianne Cardin/Andrew Jensen) that the Ottawa Presbytery appoint the Rev. James Scott as a Member-at-Large of the Ottawa Presbytery Executive. ***Carried***

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**PRESENTATION AND VOTE ON REMIT #6: ONE ORDER OF MINISTRY**

Rev. Jamie Scott reminded presbyters that Remit #6: One Order of Ministry is a Category 3 remit. Pastoral charges and presbyteries vote on Category 3 remits. Ottawa Presbytery held workshops on this remit in November. He then invited presbyters to ask any questions about this remit prior to voting on it. There were a few questions about implications for education if this remit passes. Rev. Teresa Burnett-Cole confirmed that educational institutions were consulted before and throughout the process. Rev. Whit Strong, Conference Personnel Minister (West), said that his understanding was that there would still be three educational pathways and invited presbyters to send any other questions to the national office.

Rev. Jamie Scott called the question for Remit #6. Voting was by secret ballot.

**Remit #6: “One Order of Ministry”****Background:**

The 42nd General Council 2015 approved, subject to remit, the recognition of one Order of Ministry within the United Church known as the ordained ministry, and:

- (i) providing within the ordained ministry of the church, for those who so choose through an appropriate educational program, ordination to the diakonia;
- (ii) developing multiple paths of educational formation to the ordained ministry based on an overall equivalency of educational and spiritual formation;
- (iii) incorporating (grandparent) into the ordained ministry all diaconal ministers; and
- (iv) directing the General Secretary to establish a process to incorporate into the ordained ministry designated lay minister currently serving in presbytery-recognized or presbytery-accountable ministries.

At present there is one order of ministry that is made up of ordained ministers, ordained to word, sacrament and pastoral care, and diaconal ministers, commissioned to education, service and pastoral care. There is also a category of ministry made up of those who are recognized as designated lay ministers following successful completion of a specific program of study.

The 42<sup>nd</sup> General Council 2015 authorized this Category 3 remit to presbyteries and pastoral charges to test the will of the church with respect to this change.

**The Question:**

Does the presbytery agree that there should be one new order of ministry encompassing the present categories of recognized designated lay minister, diaconal minister, and ordained minister, with ordination to the ministry of word, sacrament, education, service and pastoral care as the single rite of entry, and with provision for the continued identity of the diakonia within the ordained ministry?

**Remit #6: The court voted No.**

**Motion:** (Anthony Bailey/David Stafford) that the ballots used for voting on the remit be destroyed. **Carried**

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### **COVENANTING WITH CANDIDATES FOR MINISTRY**

Chair Rev. Steve Clifton presided at the Covenanting with Jessica Hetherington, Candidate for Ministry from Riverside United Church and Michelle Robichaud, Candidate for Ministry from St. Paul's-Eastern United Church. Following the promises of the candidates and the promises of the presbytery, the members of the Discernment Committee were thanked and dismissed. Rev. Laurie McKnight, Chair of the Education and Students Ministry Team made presentations to Jessica and Michelle and the court sang, *Halle, Halle, Halle* (VU # 958).

### **PRESENTATION OF THE PHILANTHROPY UNIT**

Paul Sales, Financial Development Officer, Quebec and Eastern Ontario, for the United Church of Canada highlighted the many new resources and opportunities available from the Philanthropy Unit.

### **FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM REPORT**

#### **Proposed 2018 Budget**

Rev. Paul Dillman, Chair of the Finance Ministry Team highlighted a few items from the 2018 proposed budget, including that, for revenue, assessments from pastoral charges will total \$416,500; and, for expenses, the Montreal & Ottawa Conference Assessment has increased by 10%; as in past years, a 2% savings will be found somewhere; and \$50,000 from "unrestricted reserve" is designated for transitional contracts to facilitate United Church change.

**Motion:** (Paul Dillman /Ed Gratton) that the Ottawa Presbytery adopt the attached 2018 budget with an anticipated revenue of \$471,900 and anticipated expenditures of \$483,500 with a goal of 2% savings in expenditures and authorize up to an additional \$50,000 for transitional costs.

**Carried**

#### **Proposed Assessments**

Rev. Paul Dillman thanked the congregational treasurers for the work they had done to assist in calculation of assessments. He noted that this would be good preparation for General Council assessments in future years.

**Motion:** (Paul Dillman/David Lee) that the Ottawa Presbytery adopt the assessments to the Pastoral Charge of 4% of total revenues for the operations of the Pastoral Charge totaling approximately \$416,500.

**Carried**

Rev. Trisha Elliott noted that Southminster United Church has been in the news as some members of the local community oppose the proposed development on the property. Ottawa City Council will be voting on the proposal on December 13, 2017. Members of Southminster have been heartened to see all the letters of support from presbytery, neighbouring churches and community groups and renters. She thanked presbyters for their letter-writing and their prayers.

### **MOTION TO GIVE FULL POWERS**

**Motion:** (Charles Knight/Andrew Jensen) that the Presbytery Executive be given the full powers of the Presbytery in all matters including property between the end of this meeting and the next meeting of Presbytery.

**Carried**

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**CLOSING WORSHIP**

The Chair asked presbyters to reflect on what had been done at the meeting and to prepare themselves for going out into the snowy night.

**CONCLUSION BY THE CHAIR**

Rev. Steve Clifton, Chair, closed the meeting at 9:00 pm.

*The next regular meeting of Ottawa Presbytery is called for Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at Kitchissippi United Church; the Executive next meets on Thursday, January 25, 2018.*

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Rev. Steve Clifton  
Chair

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Rev. Steve Moore  
Acting Presbytery Minister

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Wendy Mather  
Recording Secretary

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