

OTTAWA PRESBYTERY MEETING, JANUARY 9, 2018

The Ottawa Presbytery was called by the Chair, Rev. Steve Clifton, to meet on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at Kitchissippi United Church, Ottawa.

THE FOLLOWING REGISTERED THEIR ATTENDANCE:

Order of Ministry: Angela Bailey, Elaine Beattie, Nancy Best, Karen Boivin, Teresa Burnett-Cole, Erin Burns, Susan Butler-Jones, Dianne Cardin, Steve Clifton, Ted Colwell, Grant Dillenbeck, Paul Dillman, Boyd Drake, Daniel Gilroy, Ed Gratton, Jennie Leslie, Don Maclean, Laurie McKnight, Hilary Merritt, Robert Merritt, James Murray, Janet Nield, Stan Parkhouse, Whit Strong, Carla Van Delen (25)

Lay: Eileen Ball, Charles Barrett, John Benson, Reg Best, Cam Bowes, Janice Burroughs, Derek Carlisle, Carolyn Clark, Molly Colwell, John Douglas, Elise Farrell, Phil Fay, Jodi Fisher, Dietlind Gardell, Bryan Giffin, Kirsten Gracequist, Beth Gutsell, Patricia Hassard, Nancy Hazen, Joan Heyland, Peggy Kinsley, Gail Kirkconnell, Charles Knight, Mary Laidlaw, Kimberly Lavoie, David Lee, Lorrie Lowes, Cindy Duncan MacMillan, Phyllis MacRae, Norma McCord, Wendy McCracken, Sue Morrison, George Neville, David Patterson, Janice Péron, Kay Porteous, Al Quirt, Barbara Reynolds, Doug Robinson, Joy Ruttan, Ron Scharfe, Jeffrey Smith, Wendy Snelgrove, Cathy Stewart, Desna Sulway, Sara Surjadinata, Beth Sweetnam, Margaret Torrance, Keith Vodden, Joyce Williams, Ev Zytveld (51)

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

Guest: Jamie Hill

Regrets: Margaret Armstrong, Rev. Elizabeth Bryce, Rev. Gail Christy, Rev. Nancy Colton, Rev. Christine Gross, Rev. Manasse Habonimana, Rev. Andrew Jensen, Rev. Christine Johnson, Marilyn Joseph, Rev. Grant McNeil, Rev. Steve Moore, Rev. Caroline Penhale, Rev. Stanley Ralph, Rev. Ken Robinson, Rev. Arlyce Schiebout, Heather Smith, David Stafford, Rev. Kim Vidal, Ron Walsh, Jim Watchorn, Rev. Peter Woods, Joan Wyatt.

Corresponding: Wendy Mather

CALL TO ORDER

Rev. Steve Clifton, Chair of the Ottawa Presbytery, called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. Charles Knight was parliamentarian.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: (Dianne Cardin/Boyd Drake) that the agenda be adopted as distributed. **Carried**

WELCOME TO MEMBERS OF THE COURT & GUESTS

The Chair welcomed the court and guests to the Presbytery meeting. Eileen Ball introduced Jamie Hill from Britannia United Church; Jamie is considering becoming a presbyter.

Motion: (Barbara Reynolds/Eileen Ball) that Jamie Hill be a corresponding member for this meeting. **Carried**

WORDS OF WELCOME

Mary Laidlaw, presbyter from Kitchissippi United Church, welcomed the court. She noted that Kitchissippi has recently done an exercise “Kitchissippi as a Person” as part of its Visioning process. The “person” is Wenoki Hope; “Wenoki” coming from Westboro, Northwestern and Kingsway. Mary began by saying that Wenoki Hope is a gifted, friendly person well worth knowing, who comes from a blend of three families well-known in the community. She spoke of Wenoki’s passions, life events and faith and concluded with, “When Wenoki thinks about her future, the words from scripture, “Be still and know that I am God”, come to mind.

WORSHIP

Rev. Jenni Leslie, Minister of Kitchissippi United Church, led worship. Margaret Hall, a member of the Kitchissippi Choir was pianist. Rev. Jenni began with the Daily Prayer for Late Afternoon or Evening Devotion on page 911 of Voices United. The court sang *When Heaven’s Bright with Mystery*, VU #93, and read Psalm 139 responsively. Rev. Jenni quoted Richard Rohr, “*A good journey begins with knowing where you are and being willing to go somewhere else.*” She reflected on this quote and then asked presbyters to reflect silently. The closing hymn was, *O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word*, VU #84.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: (Ed Gratton/Jodi Fisher) that the minutes of the December 12, 2017 meeting of Ottawa Presbytery be approved as circulated, and the minutes of the November 23 and December 12, 2017 meeting of the Executive be received for information. **Carried**

CORRESPONDENCE

The Chair updated the court on several items; there was no actual correspondence to be shared.

Boundaries Commission Interim Report will be released on January 10, 2018. The Boundaries Working Group will be meeting to review the report and draft a response if necessary. He invited presbyters to send any comments they want considered in the response to the Presbytery Office.

Rev. Steve Clifton visited **Rev. David Sherwin** earlier in the day. David is looking quite well, and within the next week will be finding out whether or not he will be able to return to work in the near future. He passed on David’s thanks for all the emails and cards he has received from presbyters; he really appreciates this love and support.

Rev. Allen Churchill, a long-time member of Ottawa Presbytery, although most recently a member of Four Rivers Presbytery in the Bay of Quinte Conference, died on December 15, 2017. The funeral was in Smith Falls on January 6th.

Rev. Trisha Elliott and Rev. Eric Lukacs were married on January 4th and are now on their honeymoon.

PASTORAL RELATIONS MINISTRY TEAM

The following motions were passed by the Pastoral Relations Ministry Team, acting as a commission, on Wednesday, January 3, 2018.

Bethany Pastoral Charge – Change in Pastoral Relations

That the Ottawa Presbytery takes note of the correspondence from the Rev. Brock Shaver to the Official Board of Bethany Pastoral Charge regarding a change in pastoral relations effective March 1, 2018.

Knox Edwards Pastoral Charge – Change in Pastoral Relations

That the Ottawa Presbytery takes note of the correspondence from the Rev. Brock Shaver to the Official Board of Knox Edwards Pastoral Charge regarding a change in pastoral relations effective March 1, 2018.

Buckingham Pastoral Charge – Extension of Appointment of Stephanie Bates

Motion: *(Fisher/Stafford) that the Ottawa Presbytery transmits with approval to the Montreal and Ottawa Conference the request of the Buckingham Pastoral Charge for the re-appointment of Stephanie Bates, Candidate Supply, effective January 1, 2018 to June 30th 2018, with the following prorated terms: part time 20 hrs. per week, basic salary of \$23,569; 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.***

Motion: (Barbara Reynolds/Jodi Fisher) that Ottawa Presbytery receive the report of the Pastoral Relations Ministry Team working as a Commission from December 12, 2017 – January 9, 2018. **Carried**

PRESENTATION ON YOUTH EXCHANGE TRIP TO FORT RESOLUTION 2017

Rev. Hilary Merritt, Rev. Steve Clifton and six of the nine youth who travelled to Fort Resolution, NWT in March 2017 gave a presentation on their trip. Their hosts in the North were 12 young people from the Deninu School and two of their teachers. The presentation, with wonderful photos of the trip, included information about their travel, accommodation, the hamlet of Fort Resolution and its people, the Deninu School, Great Slave Lake, native traditions, the Dene Games – games meant to teach traditional skills, and meeting with Elder Violet Beaulieu, one of three residential school survivors residing in Fort Resolution [she passed away in November 2017]. They had the opportunity to host their Dene friends in Ottawa in May, showing them the Nation's Capital.

REFUGEES

Norma McCord thanked all the congregations that have and are continuing to sponsor refugees. She noted that there is now an opportunity for congregations that don't feel they have enough funds or people power to sponsor refugees, to do so. She stated that the United Church of Canada is signing a new agreement with the government; there will be more accountability and more reports will be required from sponsors. Norma will provide more information about this at the February Presbytery meeting. She invited to presbyters to contact her with any questions.

FINAL MONTREAL AND OTTAWA (M&O) ANNUAL CONFERENCE

David Patterson stated that, as part of the last M&O Conference meeting (May 26, 2018 at Hudson, Quebec), there will be a celebration of ministries and accomplishments of presbyteries in the Conference. As presently proposed, the morning will be spent sharing stories and Ottawa Presbytery will have a chance to share our stories from congregations, special ministries, chaplaincies, outreach, and youth ministries. The stories of each congregation can be shared through pictures, video, and music. However, because of the large number of congregations involved, each ministry will be limited to one minute. David Patterson is willing to assist with putting this information together. An email will be sent to all congregations within the week with further details.

EARLY YEARS CENTRE AT ST. PAUL'S-EASTERN UNITED CHURCH

Rev. Laurie McKnight announced that the Odawa Native Fellowship Centre was granted \$3.5 million by the Government of Ontario to establish an Early Years Centre in the lower hall of St. Paul's-Eastern United Church. \$1.5 million will be used for the renovation of the lower hall. A lease is being prepared for approval at Executive at its meeting of January 25th. St. Paul's-Eastern has received a \$20,000 grant from Embracing the Spirit for "soft expenses". Rev. Laurie concluded that this is a very busy and exciting time at St. Paul's-Eastern and expressed appreciation for Presbytery's support and prayers.

SOUTHMINSTER-WINDMILL RETIREMENT COMPLEX APPROVAL

Rev. Steve Clifton reported that, just after the last Presbytery meeting, Ottawa City Council voted in favour of the Southminster-Windmill Retirement Complex.

DOMINION-CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH

Rev. James Murray, Minister at Dominion-Chalmers United Church, highlighted the planning for the long-term sustainability of Dominion-Chalmers over the last few years including:

- engaging EDGE to help study various scenarios;
 - establishing a study group to explore possibilities for new ministries and ministry renewal; and
 - discussing and negotiating with Carleton University about selling the building to the University, with the congregation leasing space in it so that the ministry could continue on site.
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In August 2017 a 90-day expression of interest document was signed, which allowed Carleton to perform their due diligence. In December their Board of Governors passed a motion to start formal negotiations with Dominion-Chalmers. Talks are currently ongoing. The goal is to have a final agreement in place by March 31, 2018.

MONTREAL & OTTAWA (M & O) CONFERENCE POLICY STATEMENT ON MINISTRY PERSONNEL INVOLVEMENT IN A FORMER PASTORAL CHARGE

Rev. Whit Strong stated that the Executive of M & O Conference adopted the Policy Statement "Ministry Personnel Involvement in a Former Pastoral Charge" in September 2017. It has been sent to the presbyteries to ratify because, although Conference has approved the policy, presbyteries are responsible for ministers until December 31, 2018. Rev. Strong provided background information about this policy and stated that it would be sent out to all presbyters following this meeting. There will be a vote on adopting this policy at the February 13, 2018 Presbytery meeting.

MOTION TO GIVE FULL POWERS

Motion: (Cindy Duncan MacMillan/Norma McCord) that the Presbytery Executive be given full powers of the Presbytery in all matters including property between the end of this meeting and the next meeting of Presbytery. **Carried**

CLOSING WORSHIP

The Chair asked presbyters to reflect on and pray for what had been discussed at this meeting.

CONCLUSION BY THE CHAIR

Rev. Steve Clifton, Chair, closed the meeting at 8:00 pm.

The next regular meeting of Ottawa Presbytery is called for Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at Glebe-St. James United Church; the Executive next meets on Thursday, January 25, 2018.

Rev. Steve Clifton
Chair

Wendy Mather
Recording Secretary
