

**2020**

**General Meeting Report Book**



**East Central Ontario  
Regional Council**  
of the United Church of Canada

September 25<sup>th</sup> 2020

**Table of Contents**

<b>Information</b>	<b>Page</b>
Living Mission .....	2
Assembly of Elders evaluates progress based on .....	2
At Your Service .....	3
Regional Council Staff.....	4
Agenda .....	6
The Rules of Debate and Order .....	7
Enabling Motion .....	11
<b>General Council Representative .....</b>	<b>13</b>
Rev. Dr. John H. Young, Executive Minister, Theological Leadership .....	13
<b>Candidates .....</b>	<b>13</b>
Michiko Bown-Kai .....	13
Kim Lawrance.....	14
Cheryl McMurray .....	14
Stephanie Richmond .....	15
Marilyn G. Zehr .....	15
<b>Retirees .....</b>	<b>16</b>
Rev Bruce Fraser .....	16
Rev. Nadene Grieve-Deslippe .....	17
Rev. Beverly Sumbler.....	18
<b>Milestones .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Memorials .....</b>	<b>21</b>
Rev. Dr. Michael Bohler.....	21
Rev. Joseph Sahadat .....	21
Rev. Dr. Arthur 'Lloyd' Shorten.....	22
Rev. Dr. Bessie Lane .....	22
Rev. Dr. D'thea Webster.....	23
Rev. Dr. Roger Mac Freeman .....	24
Rev. Bob Flyndell.....	24
Rev Kenneth Purden .....	25
Rev Dr Robert Francis McGrath.....	25
Rev Paulene Graham .....	25
<b>Regional Council Reports.....</b>	<b>27</b>
Summary of Action by the Assembly of Elders .....	26
<b>Leadership Team Reports.....</b>	<b>60</b>
Executive Minister .....	60
General Council Executive .....	61
Assembly of Elders.....	65
Nomination .....	66
Nominations List (Part 1) .....	67
Nominations List (Part 2) .....	68
Covenant Support .....	70
Property and Finance .....	70
Formation Nurture and Justice.....	72
Equity.....	74
Affirm Forum.....	75
<b>ECORC Financial Update and 2021 Budget .....</b>	<b>76</b>
Report .....	76
Financial Statement.....	78

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## **LIVING MISSION OF THE EAST CENTRAL ONTARIO REGIONAL COUNCIL**

“Seeking to be aligned with God's new and renewing Spirit”,  
we affirm that we are the United Church of Canada in the East Central Ontario Regional Council  
seeking to live out God’s call to us –  
valuing equity, inclusiveness, and difference committing to full participation of people of all  
racialized groups, physical and mental abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities, ages, economic  
and social status, in the life and work of East Central Ontario Regional Council.

We affirm that we are called to be conciliar church

- called to care for each other;
- care for creation;
- foster connections;
- maintain and build relationships between the courts of the church;
- support our existing and new ministries,
- encourage, facilitate and support ministries within ECORC becoming and continuing to be Affirming Ministries.
- while working in partnership with other denominations , faiths, and community groups.

## **VISION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF ELDERS BY WHICH WE EVALUATE PROGRESS BASED ON:**

- Supporting and enhancing the life of Communities of Faith where ministry takes place
- Nurturing Social Justice and Outreach programs
- Building Communications

**At Your Service**  
**Questions may be directed to...**

- Speaker of Assembly of Elders .....Rev. Paul Reed
- Chair of AGM Planning Team.....Rev. Paul Reed
- Nominations..... Rev. Wanda Stride
- Facilitation Team .....Rev. Rosemary Lambie, Rev. Paul Reed, Rev. Jean Wilson, Steve Coles, Rev. Phil Wilson,  
..... Sharon Hull, Joel Miller
- Equity Monitor..... Rev. Phil Wilson
- Recording Secretary..... Joel Miller
- Tech Team ..... Rev. Jean Wilson, Rev. Phil Wilson, Rev. Ryan McNally, Karen Smart, Joel Miller
- Worship Team..... Rev. Sharon Ballantyne, Rev. Mary-Margaret Boone, Penny Culverson, Sharon Hull,  
..... Rev. Stephanie Richmond, Rev. Wanda Stride, Patricia Teskey, Rev. Phil Wilson, Sharon Woodrow  
*\*A special Thank you to Rev. Phil Wilson for his editing skills, Dianne Pelletier for singing the verses in  
our version of Let us Build A House and Rev. Wanda Stride for composing and sharing her beautiful song  
Would you Meet Us At The Table with us.*
- Theological Reflector..... Rev. Bill Smith
- Registrars ..... Louise Slobodian
- Scrutineers .....Members of Tech Team
- Parliamentarians.....Rev. Don Wilmer, Tom Smart and Rev. Steve Spicer.

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## **East Central Ontario Regional Council Staff**

### **Rev. Rosemary Lambie**

#### **Executive Minister**

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6147

Email: [rlambie@united-church.ca](mailto:rlambie@united-church.ca)

*Rosemary's focus is to provide leadership, counsel and support for the governance and oversight of the administration of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, for East Central Ontario Regional Council, and Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council. She supervises staff, and engages the regional council in the priorities and decisions of the General Council of the United Church of Canada. General Council deployed staff of the Office of Vocation, the Community Capacity Development Officer and the Philanthropy Unit will work in parallel relationships with all three regional councils. She communicates and interprets the decisions and perspectives of the regional councils and the Executives to the General Council, other regional councils and communities of faith, and fulfills the duties outlined in The Manual (2019) Section C.3.4.*

### **Joel Miller**

#### **Program Assistant to the Executive Minister**

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6152

Email: [jmiller@united-church.ca](mailto:jmiller@united-church.ca)

*Joel's staff responsibilities include daily, high level, ongoing administrative support to the Executive Minister, recording secretary for the Assembly of Elders and Annual General Meetings of each of the three Regional Councils; prepares report books for general meetings, manages wedding licences in Ontario and Quebec: new and temporary applications, transfers from other Regional Councils, annual updates as required provincially, responds to phone, email and in-person enquiries by providing information and referring enquiries to colleagues as appropriate.*

### **Rev. David Timpson**

#### **Pastoral Relations Minister**

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6116

Email: [dtimpson@united-church.ca](mailto:dtimpson@united-church.ca)

*David's staff responsibilities are to assist the East Central Ontario Regional Council to serve, support and provide oversight, and pastoral relations support to the Communities of Faith, and for encouraging and supporting Ministry Personnel toward health, joy and excellence in ministry practice.*

### **Sharon Hull**

#### **Minister for Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationships and Justice with All Ages**

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6165

Email: [shull@united-church.ca](mailto:shull@united-church.ca)

*Sharon's focus is to promote/resource/support ECORC priorities around faith formation, ecumenical and inter-faith relationships, regeneration and new ministries, lifelong education, and social justice with all ages and stages. Sharon will animate and support Children and Youth participation in the ECORC Inaugural Meeting. Sharon will support Clusters and Networks for one-time and ongoing gatherings and events within the ECORC and beyond. Sharon is engaged to work 4 days/week which can have flexible hours to allow weekend events. Sharon works from a virtual office.*

**Rev. Rodney Smith-Merkley****Minister for Respectful Relationship and Indigenous Justice (part-time)**

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6164

Email: [rsmerkley@united-church.ca](mailto:rsmerkley@united-church.ca)

*Rodney's focus is to promote/resource/support East Central Ontario Regional Council priorities around Truth and Reconciliation; and support Clusters for one-time and ongoing gatherings and Networks (including the Network formerly known as Dancing the Circle of Right Relations). Rodney is passionate about re-imagining relationships between Indigenous Peoples, Settlers, and the Land. Rodney is engaged to work 1 day/week which can have flexible hours to allow for weekend events*

**Louise Slobodian****Communications and Administrative Support (half-time)**

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6146

Email: [lslobodian@united-church.ca](mailto:lslobodian@united-church.ca)

*Louise's primary responsibilities are to be a supporting role as a communication/social media specialist for East Central Ontario Regional Council (11) and expand community engagement and connections, particularly (but not exclusively) through use of the website, various social media platforms and publications. Other responsibilities include offering some administrative support (updating community of faith, leadership teams, cluster and network lists; emails, website, and newsletters, annual meeting preparation).*

**Karen Valley****Minister for the Office of Vocation**

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6107

Email: [kvalley@united-church.ca](mailto:kvalley@united-church.ca)

*Karen's focus is the Candidacy Pathway and the oversight and discipline of ministry personnel for East Central Ontario Regional Council, Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council and Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council.*

**Joe McGill and Tim Hackborn****Community Capacity Development Coordinator for Ontario and Quebec**

Aboriginal Ministries Circle

Email: [JMcGill@united-church.ca](mailto:JMcGill@united-church.ca) / [THackborn@united-church.ca](mailto:THackborn@united-church.ca)

*Joe and Tim are focused in working with the First Nations Communities of East Central Ontario Regional Council, Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council and Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council.*

**Rev. Roger Janes****Stewardship & Gifts Officer**

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*Roger supports churches and individuals in all areas of stewardship whether that be setting and reaching mission and service goals, developing an annual budget or leaving a legacy gift.*

**AGENDA**

**\*\*\*\*Note that this agenda is current as of the time of circulation,  
but last minute changes may develop**

3 hours Friday morning

8:30 – 9:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zoom meeting room opens</li> </ul>
9-12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tutorial on how to use Zoom (voting, etc.)</li> <li>• Acknowledging the land/ Words of Welcome</li> <li>• Worship (Equity and Affirming)</li> <li>• Covenanting with new staff; acknowledging retirees, memorials and Candidates             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consent Document</li> <li>• Report from General Council</li> <li>• Affirm</li> <li>• Break (15 mins)</li> <li>• Formation Nurture and Justice</li> <li>• Remit 1 – Amendment to the Basis of Union’s Article 10.0 on Ministry Personnel                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial Report, Budget 2021</li> <li>• Theological Reflection (Bill Smith)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

3 hours Saturday afternoon

10 – 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in Indigenous Event “Pathways to awareness, understanding &amp; right relations” (online)</li> </ul>
14 – 17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tutorial on how to use Zoom (voting, etc.)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Response to Indigenous presentation in morning</li> <li>• Visions Statement (break-out rooms)</li> <li>• Priority setting 2021 – extending priorities from 2020,</li> <li>• Motions to approve Vision Statement and priorities for 2021</li> <li>• Travel Policy</li> <li>• Nominations Report (motion to accept)</li> <li>• Break (15 mins)</li> <li>• Discussion/responding to questions from Affirm presentation on Friday                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motions to receive Financial Report and approve 2021 Budget                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth presentation</li> <li>• Office of Vocation</li> <li>• New Philanthropy staff person (RC 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 16)</li> <li>• Closing Motion</li> <li>• Closing worship incorporating recognizing LLWL and covenanting with them; Covenanting with Assembly of Elders</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Theological Reflection (Bill Smith)</li> </ul>

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## **THE RULES OF DEBATE AND ORDER**

### **1. Presiding Officer**

The function of the Presiding Officer is to preside, with all that that implies. The Presiding Officer should not attempt to control the decision of the Court, but may express opinions on any matter before the Court. If the Presiding Officer wishes to introduce a motion or to present a report, the Presiding Officer shall ask another member to preside, and while out of the Chair shall be an ordinary member of the Court and must not assume the chair until the matter is disposed of. The Presiding Officer does not vote except in the event of a tie.

### **2. Questions of Privilege and Order**

(a) A point of order may be raised while a matter is pending or while another member has the floor. When a point of order is raised it must be dealt with by the Presiding Officer without debate. If a member has the floor when a point of order is raised by another member, that member must yield the floor until the Presiding Officer has made a ruling.

(b) Any member of the Court may appeal from a ruling of the Chair, but only at the time when the ruling is made. But where a ruling is a precedent the general question of its correctness may be brought up later when there is no business pending, but cannot then affect the business transacted under the ruling.

(c) When an appeal from a ruling is made, the Presiding Officer should state the point at issue, and may give reasons for the ruling. The Secretary shall then put the question in the following form: "Is the ruling of the Moderator (or such other title by which the Presiding Officer is known) sustained?" If the vote is a tie, the Presiding Officer is sustained. The Secretary shall declare the result.

### **3. Orders of the Day**

(a) When an agenda has been adopted that does not specify the time for its items, such items are considered without time limit, unless the Court decides otherwise by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those voting.

(b) When an agenda has been adopted that specifies the time for particular items, such time shall be strictly adhered to, unless the Court decides otherwise by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those voting.(2010)

### **4. Order of Priority on Motions**

(a) To close (2010)

(b) To fix the time to adjourn.

(c) To adjourn.

(d) To take an immediate vote (two-thirds (2/3) vote required).

(e) To limit or extend limits of debate (two-thirds (2/3) vote required).

(f) To postpone definitely.

(g) To commit or refer.

(h) To amend.

(i) To postpone indefinitely.

(j) To deal with main motions.

## 5. Procedures on Motion

- (a) A member of the Court proposes a motion.
- (b) It is seconded. If there is no seconder, the motion fails.
- (c) When the motion is duly moved and seconded, the Presiding Officer states the motion and declares it open for discussion. If the mover has not already done so, the mover has the right to introduce the discussion.
- (d) A motion is out of order when it conflicts with a resolution previously passed at the same session unless it is a motion to reconsider.
- (e) Without the permission of the Court, no member may speak more than once on any motion or on any amendment thereto.
- (f) The mover of a motion has the right of reply before any vote is taken thereon or on any amendment thereto. Even when the Court has directed that an immediate vote be taken on a motion, the mover still has the right of reply.
- (g) When a motion has two (2) or more clearly defined parts or points of issue, and any two (2) members request that it be divided, a separate vote must be taken on each part.
- (h) Any motion may be withdrawn but only with the consent of its mover and seconder.
- (i) After a motion is under consideration a question of order cannot be raised against it unless the motion is ultra vires.

## 6. Procedure on Amendments

- (a) Any member except the mover or the seconder of the motion may move a relevant amendment thereto.
- (b) An amendment must be seconded, and if there is no seconder it fails.
- (c) A motion is amended by striking out certain words or clauses, adding certain words or clauses, or striking out all after the word “Resolved” (or the word “that”), and inserting another motion that will dispose of the matter. An amendment that merely negatives a motion before the Court is out of order.
- (d) There may be an amendment to the amendment, provided it has been duly seconded.
- (e) There is no limit to the number of amendments, but at any one time there can be before the Court only the motion, the amendment, and the amendment to the amendment.
- (f) When an amendment is disposed of, other relevant amendments may be proposed.
- (g) The discussion is always on the immediately pending question, and it must be voted on first. When a motion, an amendment, and an amendment to the amendment are before the Court, the two first named are “pending questions” and the last is the “immediately pending question.” When the immediately pending question is disposed of, the one above it then becomes the immediately pending question, until the whole matter is disposed of.
- (h) When an amendment carries, it is not thereby adopted as the finding of the Court, but only changes the proposition under discussion.
- (i) When a motion, an amendment, and an amendment to the amendment are before a Court, three (3) separate votes including “for” and “against” must be taken. The first determines whether the amendment shall be amended, the second determines whether the motion shall be amended, and the third determines whether the motion, in whatever form it is then before the Court, shall be adopted or rejected.

## 7. Procedure on Voting

- (a) A vote is generally taken viva voce or by a show of hands. The Presiding Officer may ask for a standing vote. Upon motion duly passed, the vote shall be taken by ballot. In all actions of Church Courts regarding membership in the Order of Ministry requiring voting procedure, the vote shall be taken by ballot unless waived by unanimous consent; that is, on motion to waive, no dissenting vote is cast. See also sections C.5.7 and D.4.4 of the bylaws.
- (b) In the event of a tie, the Presiding Officer shall cast the deciding vote.
- (c) An affirmative vote on a motion does not validate any motion that is ultra vires of the Court, or that contravenes a decision of a higher Court.
- (d) In the conduct of United Church business, voting by proxy or by mail-in ballot is not permitted. Voting by telephone or by email is permitted only when it occurs during a meeting that is held in a manner that allows all of the persons participating to communicate with one another simultaneously and instantaneously.(2010)

## 8. Procedure on Motion to Reconsider

- (a) A motion to reconsider may be made at any time when the floor is vacant; but the actual reconsideration has only the same priority as the motion to be reconsidered.
- (b) A motion to reconsider must be moved by a member who voted with the majority. Any member may second.
- (c) If a motion to reconsider is dealt with at the same meeting in which the original motion was adopted, it will fail unless two-thirds (2/3) of those voting are in favour thereof. If a motion to reconsider is dealt with at a subsequent meeting of the Court, a majority of those voting determines the question.
- (d) When any motion to reconsider has been duly seconded, all action on the original motion is suspended until the motion to reconsider has been disposed of. No motion to reconsider can be entertained by the Court where action has already been taken under the original motion.
- (e) A motion cannot be reconsidered twice unless materially changed on the first reconsideration. If a motion to reconsider has been lost, it cannot be repeated.
- (f) A motion to reconsider is debatable only when the motion to be reconsidered is debatable. It cannot be amended, postponed indefinitely, or committed.

## 9. Motion to Refer

A motion to refer is debatable, but only as to the wisdom and manner of the proposed referral. It requires only a majority of those voting.

## 10. Motion to Postpone Indefinitely

A motion to postpone indefinitely, when in order, must be put without debate. If the motion is lost, it cannot be repeated or reconsidered. If carried, the motion along with all amendments is removed from debate. At any time it may be brought back before the Court by motion duly seconded and carried. In such case the question is before the Court in exactly the position it held at the time it was removed from debate. A motion to postpone indefinitely can have no conditions attached to it. If a time is specified, it immediately ceases to be a motion to postpone indefinitely and becomes a motion to postpone definitely and is debatable.(2007)

## 11. Motion to Take an Immediate Vote

If a motion to take an immediate vote (for which a two-thirds (2/3) vote is required) is carried, the vote shall be taken immediately. The mover of the main motion, however, shall have the right to reply before the vote is taken. If such a motion fails, debate on the main motion shall continue. A motion to take an immediate vote is not debatable.

## 12. Motion to Adjourn

A motion to adjourn is intended to suspend a meeting until another time. A motion to adjourn is in order only if there is already an agreed-upon time and place for resuming the meeting, or if the motion specifies a time and place for resuming the meeting. A motion to adjourn requires a seconder. Only the conditions attached to the motion to adjourn, such as time and place for resuming the meeting, are debatable; the wisdom of adjourning is not debatable.(2010)

## 13. Closing a Meeting (2010)

(a) A motion to close is intended to terminate a meeting. A new meeting may commence, at a future time, by previous agreement or by call. There can be no conditions attached to a motion to close. A motion to close requires a seconder. A motion to close is not debatable.(2010)

(b) When all the business and purposes of a meeting have been attended to and the Presiding Officer is satisfied that there is no further business before the Court, the Presiding Officer may declare that the meeting is closed, without the need for a motion to close.(2010)

## 14. Committee of the Whole

(a) Any Court, for greater freedom of discussion, may, on motion duly made, seconded, and carried, move into a Committee of the Whole. Any such motion is neither debatable nor amendable, except only as to the scope of the subject to be discussed. The motion is not in order if there is a pending motion to adjourn the meeting or to postpone discussion on the subject.(2007)

(b) The first act of the Committee of the Whole is to appoint a chairperson and a secretary. A separate minute of the proceedings is taken.(2007)

(c) The ordinary limitations of debate do not prevail in the Committee of the Whole. The chairperson restates the matter(s) to be considered. Discussion is then opened and is conducted informally. Motions need not be seconded. Unless the resolution creating the Committee of the Whole imposes restrictions, there are no restrictions, within reason, on the number of times a member may speak or on the length of speeches, except that priority is given to a member who has not yet spoken.(2007)

(d) When the deliberations of the Committee of the Whole are concluded, the Committee will dispose of a motion that the Committee rise and report; this motion does not require seconding and is neither debatable nor amendable. When this motion is passed, a report is prepared and submitted to the chairperson of the main meeting, who reconvenes the main meeting.(2007)

(e) A Committee of the Whole can neither adjourn nor terminate; it only can report back to the main meeting. It can, of course, recess briefly to prepare its report.(2007)

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## 15. General

(a) When a member utters language that another member considers offensive, the latter may require that the words be taken down. The speaker is then allowed to proceed. When the speaker yields the floor, the words complained of may be considered and dealt with. Such words may not be privileged.

(b) Members of any Court should at all times therein conduct themselves with dignity, fairness, and understanding. The prime concern should be the good order and welfare of the church.

(c) In any point not covered in The Manual, the parliamentary rules accepted in Canada (Bourinot) shall be followed.

### **ENABLING MOTIONS**

1. **Regional Council Roll:**  
That the Ministerial Roll of the Regional Council and the non-Ministerial Roll of the Regional Council thus constituted be now taken as read.
2. **Other Delegates:**  
That anyone who has a role to play at the General Meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council (e.g. members of the Regional Council Assembly of Elders, Chairs of Leadership Teams and who has not been appointed as a delegate by her/his Community of Faith, be a full delegate with all the privileges of other delegates, and that the youth and young adult representatives from each Community of Faith be full delegates.
3. **Corresponding Members:**  
That the students serving this Regional Council; the candidates for Ordination, Commissioning and re-admission, those present as invited guests of this Regional Council, staff, resource persons, all who have registered for the Youth and Young Adult Event and other guests recognized by this court, be invited to sit as corresponding members of the Court.
4. **Minimum Number of Members at Meetings:**  
That the minimum number of members for any session of this Regional Council is present (C.4.3, The Manual 2019).
5. **Agenda:**  
That the agenda as printed and circulated, the reports, and the daily Agenda, be adopted as the Agenda for this meeting, subject to such changes as may be approved by this Court.
6. **Procedures for Reports:**  
That the following procedure with respect to reports being presented at the Regional Council be adopted.
  - a. Reports and any attendant recommendations be dealt with in the allotted time.
  - b. If action has not been completed in the allotted time, then the Regional Council may:
    - i. Request that additional time on the Agenda be arranged by the Business Leadership Team
    - ii. Refer the report with its recommendation(s) to the appropriate body or bodies concerned, along with power to issue
    - iii. Refer the report with its recommendation(s) to the Assembly of Elders of the Regional Council for such action as the Assembly of Elders deems appropriate.

7. Meeting of the Assembly of Elders:  
That the Assembly of Elders (which is empowered to act on behalf of the Regional Council between the meetings of the Court) be empowered to meet, if necessary, during the sessions of this Regional Council meeting and report those matters which require the approval of this Court.
8. Inclusive Language:  
It is recommended that every attempt be made to use inclusive (non-sexist) language in all worship, reports, petitions and discussions in this Court.
9. Business Leadership Team:  
That the *Business Leadership Team* be members from the Facilitation Team
10. Scrutineers/Stewards:  
That the *Scrutineers/Stewards* be appointed from the membership of the Court.
11. Financial Policy to address requests for unbudgeted expenses:

#### **Policy Regarding Financial Appeals at Annual Meetings**

POLICY NAME: Policy regarding Financial Appeals at the Annual Meeting of the Regional Council	<i>Date Approved: February 25, 2019</i>
	<i>Review date:</i>
Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to clarify limits of the budget process. <b>The Manual C.2.5.</b>	

#### **Preamble**

This document outlines the East Central Ontario Regional Council's policy and best practices regarding requests for funding outside of the approved annual budget at the annual meeting.

#### **Policy**

It is the policy of East Central Ontario Regional Council to affirm and uphold the use and function of the Business Committee for matters coming to the floor of the Annual Meeting of the Regional Council.

It is the policy of East Central Ontario Regional Council that any motion committing the East Central Ontario Regional Council to the expenditure of non-budgeted sums of money be required to have a budget attached;

It is the policy of East Central Ontario Regional Council that any motion committing the East Central Ontario Regional Council to non-budgeted expenditures which are presented during the Annual Meeting be automatically referred to the Assembly of Elders who may request input from the Mission through Property Leadership Team first before making the decision;

It is the policy of East Central Ontario Regional Council that in the interests of fairness and justice, requests for funding of projects or groups not covered in the existing financial budgets be subject to conditions and criteria similar to those that are currently expected of requests for Mission Support, and other funds available within the Regional Council.

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**Rev. Dr. John H. Young**  
**Executive Minister, Theological Leadership**  
**Representative of the General Council Office**



John grew up in Douglastown, New Brunswick. He attended Mount Allison University and the Atlantic School of Theology before completing a Ph.D. in the History of Christianity at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas. He was ordained by Maritime Conference in 1978. He served pastoral charges in Nova Scotia and in eastern Ontario before joining the faculty of Queen's Theological College (now the Queen's School of Religion), where he taught from 1991 until 2016. In 2016, he began serving in his current position in the General Council Office. Since his ordination he has offered leadership in many ways at all levels of the United Church. He is the author, along with the Rev. Dr. Catherine MacLean, of *Preaching the Big Questions: Doctrine Isn't Dusty*, published by the United Church Publishing House in 2015.

**Michiko Bown-Kai**  
**Candidate for Ordination**  
**Pickering Village United Church, Ajax, Ontario**



towards ministry.

I am loved and blessed by so many and I deeply honour these relationships as a child, sibling, partner, friend, minister, comrade, colleague (among many others) that nourish and challenge me every day. I am honoured and humbled by the support that has been given to me by all of those who have accompanied me on this 8 year journey as a candidate for ordained ministry. I am grateful to be able to bring my full self into ministry as a queer, non-binary, mixed race person. I am thankful and mindful that so much of my faith has been shaped by people living, teaching, and struggling on the margins of society; artists, activists, bloggers, sex workers, queer and trans communities that have held me, people who are underhoused and homeless, and those who are lonely and isolated. Beyond the privilege of studying in seminary, it was also your thoughtful questions, models of loving and caring, challenging questions, and so much more are such an important part of my journey

**Kim Lawrance**  
**Candidate for Ordination**  
**St. Paul's United Church, Ajax, Ontario**



I am Kim Lawrance and I live in Ajax with my spouse, Gregors. I grew up in the United Church and enjoyed membership in youth groups, choirs and committees. I completed a Master of Theological Studies at Emmanuel College and upon graduating, returned for a Master of Divinity, which I received in 2018. My faith shapes every part of who I am, a hope-filled disciple of Jesus Christ who loves God's people and creation. I believe that God has called me to ministry and has equipped me for this. Against a backdrop of brokenness in the world, I seek to bring compassion, healing, wisdom, gentleness, love and hope for better days and new possibilities. I am delighted to have accepted a call to Mount Zion United Church in north Pickering, where I have been serving since September 2015. Thank you to myfamily, friends, congregations and to all those who have helped and cared for me on this journey.

**Cheryl McMurray**  
**Candidate for Ordination**  
**New Hope United Church, Port Hope, Ontario**



I am Cheryl McMurray - a child of God: daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, friend, knitter, quilter, fan of the Blue Jays, Louis L'Amour westerns, and the Marvel Universe. I was born and raised in the rural village of Campbellcroft, and my childhood faith community of Garden Hill United Church through amalgamation became New Hope United Church, located north of Port Hope, Ontario. I come to this work in ministry later than some, but I consider my previous work in family services just as much a calling as this is. I am blessed to have the support of my family throughout this adventure. I am blessed to have attended Emmanuel College where I learned much from faculty and peers. I am blessed to have practiced ministry thus far at New Hope United Church, at Trinity United Church, and now at the United Churches of Arden, Henderson and Mountain Grove. I offer my gratitude to God, Christ and Spirit for gifts given, and I pray for guidance in their use in service to God.

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**Stephanie Richmond**  
**Candidate for Ordination**  
**Janetville United Church, Janetville, Ontario**



I am created in the image of God, and to me this means I am created in love, to love. I have often said that I am grateful to have been called to ordained ministry, within a church that is willing to look at it's self and ask the difficult questions, a church that has made apologies in the past, and is willing to do the work of Christ in the word, a church that seeks justice and is guided by the Spirit of God.

God has gifted me with the spirit of enthusiasm, creativity and compassion. I thrive when challenged to try new things. My love and appreciation for the children in my congregations brings joy to my heart. Hearing that a seven year old is highlighting parts of the bulletin so she can play church at home with her Daddy makes my heart sing. God is good and I am filled with gratitude today as I experience the laying on of hands of those who have journeyed with me and have supported me along the path towards Ordination. Thanks Be to God.

**Marilyn G. Zehr**  
**Candidate for Admission**  
**Maynooth Madawaska Pastoral Charge,**  
**Maynooth, Ontario**



I am grateful for all that brings me to this moment. Born and raised Mennonite, my call to ministry began in me as a child and I responded formally to this call by entering MDiv studies in my late-twenties. I've worked as a Chaplain in an intergenerational facility and as a Spiritual Director (ongoing) and for 8 years as lead-minister at a vibrant Mennonite Church in Toronto. When my rural roots reclaimed me, I moved to Maynooth, On, and sought a call within the United Church of Canada. Within this call, my wife, The Rev. Svinda Heinrichs and I have been able to begin a forest church, The

Cathedral of the Trees, sponsored by the Maynooth Madawaska communities of faith and Edge ministries of the UCC. Spirit brought me to serve the good people of the Maynooth Madawaska Pastoral Charge and the land and waters of this region. In the words of a new favourite hymn, "Called by Earth and Sky, promise of hope held high, this is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified, ..." I treasure this calling, the people, the land and her creatures among whom we make our home.

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## Retirees

### Rev. Bruce Fraser



I was born and raised in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. My parents were faithful members of one of the United Churches, but for some reason I wasn't baptized as an infant, like my two older brothers. When the time came for confirmation, I went through the course with about a dozen other youth. At the end, I was the only one who said, "No thanks, I don't believe all that stuff." But I still attended worship occasionally, out of interest.

When I was away at university, my girlfriend had a form of leukemia which brought on spasms of pain. She found relief by someone pushing against her hand while she pushed back. She was a Christian, and I asked her if she ever prayed about her illness. She replied, "Yes I do. Would you like to?" I told her I didn't believe in that. "Why not?" "I would need solid evidence to base my life on something." We talked for about an hour, and at the end I prayed the ol' bargain prayer: "God, if you're there, and if you heal her, then I will give my life to you." And that's how I became a follower of Jesus.

I became part of a local church. That summer I was baptized in the church back home. That's when I announced my desire to be a minister. For years my aim was to be a medical doctor. But then I felt God pulling me in a new direction. I was accepted to medical school, but told them to give it to someone else.

Being adventurous, I chose Halifax for theological studies, rather than Saskatoon. After my first week, I wrote home about Terry Prendergast, the Jesuit priest who taught New Testament. "It is clear that for this man, this book [i.e. the Bible] means life." He had a profound effect on me, imparting a deep love for the Bible, and the aim to be faithful in communicating the truths of the Scriptures. I have sought to do that throughout my ministry.

Four years later I was ordained in the Roman Catholic Church. Conference met in Prince Albert that year. The Catholic church was the largest church in town, and the bishop graciously allowed us to hold the celebration of ministry service there.

During those four years I also met and married the love of my life, Jane. We have three daughters. Two of them are nurses like Mom, and they married pastors like Dad. We think that's pretty cool.

I have served the 5-point Englee pastoral charge in northern Newfoundland, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Prince Edward North, Merlin, and Stirling (the last three all in Ontario). In those churches I have known wonderful people of deep faith, who have inspired and challenged me.

You're probably waiting to hear whether or not God healed my girlfriend. It turned out that she was never sick in the first place! She had faked the whole thing. She was desperately lonely, and this was the only way she knew to get people to be around her. Once I discovered that she had been lying to me all along, our relationship didn't last much longer. But the seed of faith had been planted, it had sprouted up into a relationship with Jesus, and it's still growing today. Prayer certainly does work in mysterious ways!

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**Rev. Nadene Grieve-Deslippe**

I was ordained in 1981 by Hamilton Conference and settled in Manitoba Northwestern Ontario Conference. I have a BA (1978) from McMaster University, an M. Div. from Queen's (1981) and a D. Min from McMaster (2005). My thesis was on the Community of Goods.

I have served congregations in Eastern Ontario in addition to my ordinand charge in Manitoba. I was privileged to be the start-up minister for Faith United, a New Church Development Project established by Kingston Presbytery in 1989, that I am pleased to say is still a viable congregation. I served at St Margaret's United during the amalgamation with Queen Street which has resulted in Crossroads United Church. I have also served as Supply at Selby-Empey Hill when their incumbent was ill and covered a maternity leave in Whitehorse Yukon Territory in 2007. I am retiring from Cooke's-

Portsmouth United Church in Kingston, a call that I have very much enjoyed.

For several years I was a columnist with the Kingston Whig-Standard writing a monthly column on the religion page. My columns were usually slice of life more than theological and I enjoyed a dedicated following. In preparation for retirement I gave this up a couple of years ago but may publish an anthology of columns in the future. I will dust off my golf clubs and hope to take up painting-both on canvas and on some badly neglected walls at home. I have written a children's story and may investigate creative writing as a retirement hobby. My husband, Michael and I hope to do some local travel so that he can pursue his photography hobby. I will continue to enjoy my family and hope to add to the roster of grandchildren. Our family gets together for Sunday dinner which will continue to make Sunday's anticipatory. I will seek out local congregations and sit in the back pew-if I arrive early enough to get a back row seat- and replenish my depleted reserves. I have loved ministry and I am looking forward to retirement. After working weekends and holidays for 39 years it will be nice to spend them like ordinary folk.

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**Rev. Beverley Sumbler**

I am so fortunate and excited to celebrate a milestone birthday this November. Being blessed with good health which has afforded me 42 years of work life, I am retiring on December 31st, 2020 from Westdale United Church in Peterborough Ontario where it has been a profound joy to minister for the last 6 years.

As a second career minister in the United Church of Canada I have experienced abundance, blessing, care, kindness, authenticity, questioning, and rich journeying with all the folks I have had the privilege of serving during the last 15 years.

My previous secular career was in Retail Management for 27 years. The question I am asked most often when someone finds out that I am now a minister is “how do you go from working in retail to being a minister?” My answer is always the same “you have to love people to work in retail and in the church.” Both contexts certainly challenged my philosophy from time to time. However, those times are minimal and ultimately love wins!

I began my journey toward ministry when I stepped foot into the hallowed halls of Queen’s Theological College in September 2001. My first day of class was 9/11! I will never forget the first day of what has been a rich privilege to experience. During my 15 years of ordained ministry I have served 2 Pastoral Charges and 1 Community of Faith. Each of these places and its people taught me so much and offered themselves willingly to my ministry journey as a fellow disciple of Christ. Together we worshipped, sang, laughed, cried, hammered out Board issues, stood next to one another as we said good bye to loved ones, celebrated baptisms of all ages, wished newlyweds well, socialized, learned, questioned, raised funds, and so many countless other ways together we strived to be Christ’s church and God’s loving presence in community both within and outside the church walls.

As I make my way toward a new journey in my life all that I bring to retirement has in many ways been informed by all that has been with me not only in my first career but most truly from my call as an Ordained Minister of the United Church of Canada.

I offer profound thanks to the United Church of Canada for your faith in me to call me as an ordained minister. I offer profound thanks to my mentor, the professors, field placement sites, internship site, all the congregations I have served and their people for the blessing each of you have brought into my life as I prepared for and served as ordained minister. I take a piece of you and those experiences with me in my heart.

However, my deepest thanks must go to my family...my husband Sean, my children Charles and Charlotte. I never ever could have come to this place without each of you. So now, on January 1st, 2021 I step into what I can only imagine will be the next wonderful ride of my life...that of retirement!

May God’s love and deep peace continue to be with the United Church of Canada and all her disciples for many years to come! Take care everyone!

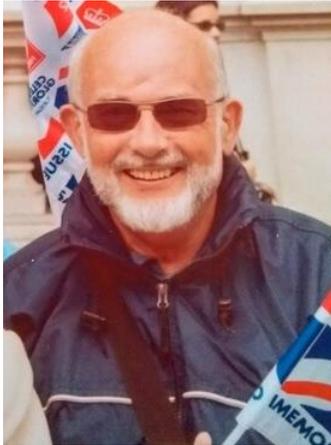
**Milestones and Anniversaries**

<b>Minister Name</b>	<b>Minister Type</b>	<b>Anniversary (years)</b>
Springate, Laura Irvine	Ordained Minister	5
Hammond Croxall, Karen Nadine	Ordained Minister	5
McNally, Ryan Johnathan	Ordained Minister	10
Graham, James Malcolm	Ordained Minister	10
Sloan, Christine Anne	Ordained Minister	10
Lawton, Kenneth A	Desig. Lay Min. - - Recognized	15
Smart, Karen Marie	Ordained Minister	15
Doyle, Lawrence Price	Ordained Minister	15
Sumbler, Beverley Elizabeth	Ordained Minister	15
Fulcher, Victoria A	Ordained Minister	15
Giesbrecht, Caroline Ruth	Ordained Minister	20
York, James Robert	Ordained Minister	20
Brotherton, Michelle Elizabeth	Ordained Minister	20
Mahood, Barbara E	Ordained Minister	20
McAllister, Susan D.B.	Ordained Minister	20
King, Barry Donald	Ordained Minister	25
Sedore, Leslie Ann	Ordained Minister	25
Trothen, Tracy Joan	Ordained Minister	25
Davidson, Aleace R. F.	Ordained Minister	25
Rush, Alan Douglas	Ordained Minister	25
Elliott, Deborah Ann	Ordained Minister	25
MacDermaid, M. Anne	Ordained Minister	25
Constable, Kirby Blake	Ordained Minister	25
Derry, Kevin C.	Ordained Minister	30
King, G. David	Ordained Minister	30
Lecomte, Gloria Audrey	Ordained Minister	30
Uhryniw, Jennifer L.	Ordained Minister	30
Moorhouse, Paul F.	Ordained Minister	30
Reeve, Allan D.	Ordained Minister	30
Stobie, Janet L.	Ordained Minister	30
Uhryniw, Donaldson	Ordained Minister	30
Reed, Wayne W.	Ordained Minister	35
Milley, Timothy R.	Ordained Minister	35
Weeks, R. Bradley	Ordained Minister	35
Mewett, B. Josephine	Ordained Minister	35
Deline, Terrence R.	Ordained Minister	35
Macdonald, M. Elizabeth	Ordained Minister	35
Burnham, M. Anne	Diaconal Minister	40
Esdon, Norman S.D.	Ordained Minister	40
Genge, Susan L.	Ordained Minister	40

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Mundy, David G. V.	Ordained Minister	40
King, Leslie-Elizabeth	Ordained Minister	40
Gowans-Blinn, Anne L.	Ordained Minister	40
Duke, Janet P.	Diaconal Minister	45
Miller, Allan K.	Ordained Minister	45
McManiman, John B.	Ordained Minister	45
Robinson, Susan J.	Diaconal Minister	50
Tadeja, Beltran C.	Ordained Minister	50
McDonald, Arnold A.	Ordained Minister	50
Wallace, Robert Golston	Ordained Minister	55
Stiles, Donald A.	Ordained Minister	60
Lane, Bessie E.	Ordained Minister	60
Hainer, Charles A.	Ordained Minister	60
Parsons, Victor M.	Ordained Minister	60
Lucyk, Stanford R.	Ordained Minister	65
Rose, Hugh A. A.	Ordained Minister	65
Norman, E. Kenneth	Ordained Minister	65

## Memorials

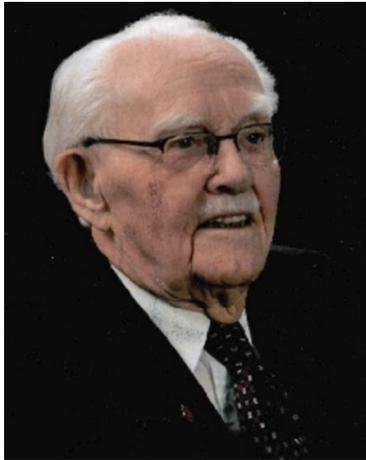


**Rev. Dr. Michael Bohler**, died on Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup> 2020 at the Wellington House L.T.C.F. Prescott Rev. Dr. Michael Bohler peacefully entered into rest at the age of 77 years. Rev. Dr. Michael Bohler beloved husband of the late Penny Bohler (nee Roberts). Dear Father of Laurence, Robert (Celine) and Caroline Gordanier (Derek), Cherished Grandfather of Drake, Veronica, Victoria, Calvin Gordanier, and Celeste Labelle- Bohler. Survived by his sister Anna Howell. Michael was predeceased by his parents Leslie & Rosa Bohler and sister Janet.



**Rev. Joseph Sahadat BTH, MDiv, OM**, February 16, 1949 – July 17, 2020 Peacefully, on July 17, 2020, Joseph Sahadat passed away at his home in Picton, Ontario, with Lynda, his wife of 28 years, at his bedside. Joseph was baptized when he was nine and educated at Naparima Boys School founded by Canadian Presbyterian Missionaries. In his last two years at Naparima, he attended St. Andrew's Theological College in preparation for youth and Sunday School formation. He travelled to Jamaica where he studied at the United Theological College of the University of the West Indies. He then returned to Trinidad to the Seminary of St. John's Vianney and the Ugandan Martyrs on Mount Saint Benedict, at the St Augustine Campus of the University of the West Indies where he graduated with his Bachelor of Theology. Joseph's formation led him to be a Liberation Theologian with a strong emphasis on

social justice. He served in many pastoral charges in Trinidad and Jamaica as a student/lay minister. Joseph came to Canada at the request of the All Nations Baptist Church in Sudbury, Ontario. He became ill with heart problems and a few months later in 1988, and had five coronary bypasses. Later on he learned that he needed to take studies at a Canadian University to become part of the Canadian milieu. He studied at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, where he graduated with the Master's in Divinity (M DIV) and accepted ordination with the United Church of Canada in 1992. He accepted the call to Kapuskasing United Church in June 1990. In 1991, he met Lynda Parks, from Tweed, Ontario, who was working on contract at the Sensenbrenner Hospital in Kapuskasing, Ontario. They were married on May 30, 1992 and have enjoyed 28 years together. He introduced soccer to the community and coached both English and French High Schools and won the Coach of the Year award in 1995. Joseph opened a community food bank, was the Chaplain of the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 85, Kapuskasing and won a seat on municipal council and delivered on his promise of providing clean water. Joseph and Lynda were missionaries with the Presbyterian Church in Grenada from 1996-1998. Due to Joseph's illness, they returned to Canada and their home in Picton, Ontario where Joseph did pulpits and preaching in the Belleville Presbytery and was a Voluntary Associate Minister at the Picton United Church. Twice, he ran for a seat as a Member of Parliament in the Hastings & Prince Edward Riding: once as an Independent and once for the Green Party. As well, he volunteered at Health Sciences North when he and Lynda lived in Sudbury and was member of the Prince Edward County Memorial Hospital Auxiliary. During Joseph's 47 years of ministry, he embraced his faith on the basis of Isaiah 30:15 "In quietness and confidence shall be your strength". He maintained his relationship with God in devotion on a daily basis.



**Rev. Dr. Arthur 'Lloyd' Shorten** ( B.A., B.D., S.T.M., D.D. ), died peacefully on Wednesday, January 8th, 2020 at the Hastings Manor in his 102nd year. Born in Hatley, QC, son of the late Rev. Arthur and Myrtie Shorten. His wife and co-worker in ministry for 55 years, the late Marion (Daniels). Loving father to Mary Ruth Begbie (late Rev. Michael) and Carolyn Globe (late Ron). Ever remembered by his grandchildren Amanda Murugan (Gavin), Sarah Gillespie (Brian), Warren Lough, Thomas Lough (Elizabeth Burt) and his great grandchildren Madison, Audrey, Luke and Adeline. Predeceased by siblings Evelyn Day, Jean Hamilton and Rev. Robert Shorten.

Lloyd's mission in life was as a minister of his beloved United Church. He served congregations in Wolfe Island, Foxboro, St. James Peterborough, Southminster Ottawa, Runnymede Toronto, College Hill, Bridge Street and Eastminster of Belleville. His life of service touched the lives of many people. He took leadership roles in Christian Education as National Youth Secretary, Chairman of Peterborough, Ottawa, Toronto West and Belleville Presbyteries, and as President of Toronto Conference.



**Rev. Dr. Bessie Lane** Passed away on December 3, 2019 after a full and distinguished life in her 95th year. Born on Manitoulin Island on August 4, 1925. Bessie was both a Diaconal and an Ordained Minister of The United Church of Canada. Commissioned in 1966 and ordained in 1976, Bessie has demonstrated her commitment to the ministry of Jesus Christ through faithful service to the church and its people for 40 years.

Bessie has been an inspiration to women, men, youth and children as educator, pastoral care provider, preacher, colleague, social activist, hospitality giver and friend. Her high energy and exceptional leadership have been dedicated to innovative and diverse programs in both Canada and abroad.

Bessie has served congregations in Lindsay, Sudbury, Whitby and Oshawa, Ontario. Under her leadership, such diverse activities as a lay leadership development program and the building of a new church structure flourished. Bessie has shared in team ministry, emphasizing Leadership Development, World Mission, Bible Study, Confirmation and Chaplaincy. She has filled many leadership roles in Presbytery and Conference. In wider service, Bessie has worked with Habitat for Humanity in Central America since 2001. In 1996, Laurentian University in Sudbury recognized Bessie's contributions with an Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree.



**Rev. Dr. D'thea Maeve Webster** was born on January 14, 1956. She was the ninth child born to Rev. Frank Hobbs, and Rev. Florence Allen Hobbs, both Ordained Ministers of the Pilgrim Holiness Church of Canada (now The Wesleyan Church).

Her formative years were spent in United Church manses after her Dad came into the United Church in 1962. From 1970 that was the Grace Church manse in Trenton. D'thea graduated from Trenton High School.

After studying at Victoria College, University of Toronto, D'thea left before graduation to marry Rev. Ross Carson. She gave birth to daughters Emma and Lydia. While Ross was serving at Rock Island, Quebec, D'thea completed her B.A. at Bishop's University in Lennoxville.

Having felt a strong sense of call to Ministry since her teens, D'thea went on to study theology at McGill University.

After her marriage ended, D'thea met and later married the love of her life, Maureen O'Neill. She withdrew from the Candidacy process and pursued a career in management with William Mercer Ltd. – parenting her daughters while living out her ministry as a very active member and lay leader at First United Church in Ottawa.

In 2011-12 D'thea renewed her Candidacy and completed her “In Ministry” year at UTC in Montreal. She was Ordained by Montreal & Ottawa Conference in 2012. (Joining four brothers in Ordained Ministry and a sister whose Ministry was with PTSD survivors.) D'thea was called to Richview United Church in Etobicoke, Ontario where she served until joyfully accepting a call to Land O' Lakes Emmanuel United Church in Northbrook, Ontario.

D'thea's gifts for administration were recognized by the wider church as she served as Chair of Four Winds Presbytery, and on the Executive of Bay of Quinte Conference. She and Maureen also gave leadership to Affirm United. She was serving as a member of the East Central Ontario Region Council Executive when she and Maureen died tragically in a car crash on November 10, 2019.

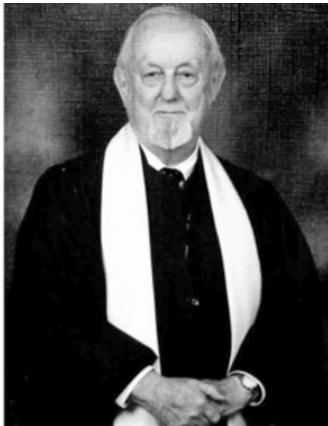
We remember with gratitude Rev. D'thea Webster: devoted Mom, Nana, beloved sister, friend and colleague; poet, pastor, preacher, passionate advocate for social justice. She now dwells safe in God's eternal care and 'in the glorious company of the saints in light', until we meet again.



**Rev. Dr. Roger Mac Freeman** passed away peacefully on August 27, 2020, in his ninety-first year with family by his side. Beloved husband of the late Elinor (Allen) Freeman, loving father of Kate (Wally), Jane, Anne (Jim), and Peter (Dani), and proud grandfather of Matthew, Sadie, and Calla. Born in Battersea, Ontario, to Norman and Gertrude Freeman. Survived by his sister Virginia Freeman and sister-in-law, Dolores Freeman. Graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary and Harvard Divinity School, Minister of the United Church of Canada, and Professor Emeritus of Faculty of Education, Queen's University. Mac lived in many places and developed treasured friendships in each one before settling on the Kepler Road, where he

and Elinor embarked on "fifty years of a one-year project" fixing up the old stone house that continues to be the family home. He was passionately committed to teaching and learning with students for over three decades and well into retirement. Along with the joy, Mac struggled with periodic depression and over the years developed the courage to be candid about it. He loved playing and singing music, fixing old wooden boats, engaging in deep conversation, and - of course - eating pie.

The family would like to extend our deepest thanks to Dr. Cabrera for his dedication to Mac's care and their friendship of many years. We are grateful to the good friends who found ways to stay in touch with Mac in recent times and for the musical ministry of David Melhorn-Boe. We are also thankful for the ongoing care and companionship Mac enjoyed at Royale Place Retirement Residence, and to the staff at Kingston General Hospital, Kidd 9, for their care of Mac in his final days.



**Rev. Robert (Bob) L. Flyndell** August 20, 1932 - April 28, 2020

In Loving Memory –Robert was the son of William R.L Flindall and Ethel May Millins. Robert was the youngest beloved brother to Don Flindall, Doug Flindall, Gwen Kelleher, Ena Kryschuk, Ed Flindall, Ernest Flindall, Roscoe Flindall, Vernon Flindall, Vera Thompson, Lois Miller and Helen Dafoe. Bob was also the much loved brother in law to Grace and Tony Bellinger. Robert was the loving, dedicated husband to Joyce Flindall (nee Firth) celebrating more than 50 years of marriage before her passing in 2014. He was a wonderful father and will be deeply missed by his daughters Katherine Conchie, Jennifer Daniels and honorary third daughter Lissa Bellinger. He was known and much loved as Pa to his five grandchildren Laura, Megan, Emily, Camilla and Sebastian and his great grandchildren Cameron, Gregory, Amelia, and Reggie. Robert was the much loved Uncle Bob to many nieces and nephews of the Flindall and Bellinger family and their children. Robert studied Engineering at Queens University and

afterward had a long and successful career working for many years at Northern Telecom, in Bramalea Ontario. After taking an early retirement he studied and completed his Masters of Divinity at the University of Toronto and became a much loved and respected Minister in the United Church of Canada. He was Minister at a number of United churches in Ontario including; Norval United, Oakwood United, Little Britain United, Grace United Trenton, Albury United and Rednersville United of Prince Edward County, and Foxboro United Church. Bob loved to travel and leaves behind many great memories of trips from coast to coast in Canada and the U.S. as well as some European countries. There were many happy adventures with Joyce, Katherine and Jen, Joyce's parents Stella and Arthur Firth, Joyce's sister Grace and her husband Tony, and a very memorable trip to the East Coast with his nephew Andrew Huddleston. Bob had a particular love for the Maritimes and is still known as "Uncle Bob" to many folks on P.E.I.. Bob has touched the lives of many people in his life and will be missed by old and new friends, his poker buddies, and all of the dear friends he made in his last years living at Quinte Gardens in Belleville. Whether you knew him as Robert, Bob, Dad, Uncle Bob or Pa, he was an extremely bright light full of loving energy, boundless fun, enthusiasm and positivity. His light continues to shine on in all of our hearts.



**Rev Kenneth George Purdon** February 7, 1931 - November 3, 2019 Son of Bertha and Harold. Brother to Marie, John, Helen, late Burn and Lorraine. Husband of Joyce who passed away December 2011. Ken is fondly remembered by children Lane Patterson (Tina), Janice Anderson (Peter), Mary Purdon, Brian Purdon and Trish MacPherson (Tom). Predeceased by son Karl (Sarah). Loving grandpa to Belinda, Sarah, Andrea (Brent), Melanie, Jeff (Michelle), Matthew, Brian, Allison (Andrew), Craig (Freya), Emily, Brandon and Rebecca (Tyler) and great-grandpa to Everleigh, Emma and Alex. Ken had a long and successful career in Ministry in the United Church of Canada. Ken's work with the church has impacted the lives of numerous people from multiple communities across the country. He is fondly remembered by many. Family want to thank all the kind caring staff at The John M. Parrott Centre who made Ken's final months of life and death full of grace and dignity.



**Rev Dr Robert Francis McGrath** Peacefully, surrounded by his loving family, on Thursday, November 7, 2019, at Bluewater Health, Robert Francis McGrath passed away at the age of 81. Beloved husband of the late Bonnie Jo-Anne McGrath (September 17, 2019). Loving father of Kevin (Colette) McGrath and Tammy Haight (Bill Antoine). Cherished grandfather of Travis (Laura), Todd (Stephanie), Kyle, Shelby, Dylan, Minia (Jayden), Dean, and Hailey, and great-grandfather to Hallie, Ryder, and Mixie. Extended grandfather of James, Allison and Ewan. Predeceased by his parents Robert and Daisy McGrath. He will be deeply missed by all those who knew and loved him.



**Rev Paulene Graham** It is with profound sadness we announce the passing of Pauline, our loving and devoted wife, mother, Gran, sister, aunt and friend. Pauline passed away at her home in Cobourg on March 22, in her 85th year, after a long battle with illness.

Loving wife of husband James Leonard Graham. Beloved mother of Chris (Normand Gallant), Carey (Ron Smith), Jane (Manfred Grisebach), Anne Graham (Keith Woodward). Caring Gran to James Smith (Mary), David Grisebach (Rachel Abel), Matthew Grisebach, Maggie Shimada (Trevor Roberts) and Jill Shimada (Amrit Gill). Great grandchildren, Felix Grisebach and Lawton Smith. Sister to Jean Phalp (late Brian) and Sheldon Brubacher (Barb). Predeceased by her parents Ralph and Bella Brubacher, her brothers Claude and Harold Brubacher (late Isabelle) and Gerald Brubacher (Lola), sisters Grace Waters (late Don), Alice McDonald (late Robert and Jack), Frances Clappison (Philip) and Beatrice

Stephenson (Glen).

Pauline was born on June 17, 1934 at her home in Waterloo Township. As a young child she spent many hours working on the family market gardens. As a teenager she graduated from Kitchener Collegiate and began dating Jim Graham on her 17th birthday. In September of that year she moved to Toronto to study all facets of sewing at Central Technical School. While there she lived with Dr. Hilliard Varty and his wife Margaret, and worked as a nanny for their children Elizabeth, Barb, Peter and Paul. This was the start of a cherished and lifelong friendship with the Varty family and the beginning of Pauline and Jim's Twelve Mile Lake cottage adventure. In the years to come they would build a beautiful log cabin at the lake and spend 53 wonderful summers together with family, friends, and long-time friends and neighbours, Don & Shirley Woolridge and their family.

In 1960 Pauline and Jim moved to Victoria Village, North York, where they raised their four daughters. They developed many friendships through membership at Victoria Village United Church where Pauline developed a passionate interest in the ministry. With support and guidance from the Minister, Malcolm Sinclair, she went back to school at the Centre for Christian Studies and became an ordained minister, faithfully serving the church communities of Newtonbrook United and Bloor Street United until her retirement from the Ministry in 1991.

During her lifetime Pauline's compassion and desire to help others led her to open her heart and home to many people. In 1979 when Victoria Village United Church sponsored a Vietnamese Boat Family, Pauline and Jim opened their home again. Although Boa, wife Phuong, and little brothers Ton and Long only lived with them briefly, the Choung family soon became like a second family to the Grahams. Over the years this cherished relationship has expanded to include the Chuong daughters Roslynn Chuong (Dan Ling), Carolyn Chuong (Yan Jno-Baptiste), Karen Ho, Ton's wife, and all their extended family.

Pauline felt a calling to work with Indigenous People throughout her life. She taught cooking and sewing to Indigenous women in downtown Toronto and provided support for Indigenous men during her Ministry. She also developed a close and supportive relationship with the Sutherland family from Moose Factory.

In 1993 Pauline and Jim moved to Port Hope to join Anne, Jeff, Maggie, and Jillian born in September of 1994. While there, they developed many long-lasting friendships. In 2010 they moved to Cobourg where they continued to make many new friends. Pauline enjoyed PROBUS, Lunch Bunch, theatre and swimming.

Pauline was a strong, confident, motivated and talented woman. As a Wife she was a devoted and loving partner, gourmet cook, baker, and trip planner, often saying, "Jim I've got another idea." As a Mother she was loving, patient and devoted. She taught her girls to cook, bake, sew, knit and most importantly to be kind and strong. As a Gran she was devoted, reading and singing, baking cookies, making blankets, cuddling, and spending many summer days on the beach at the cottage. She travelled far and wide to spend time with her family, Kitchener, Shelburne, New Brunswick, Atlanta, Panama City Beach, North Carolina and Australia. In 2012 Pauline and Jim took their five grandchildren and James' wife Mary on a once in a lifetime trip to the Galapagos Islands. Each of her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren had a very special place in her heart and one of her greatest goals was keeping them connected to each other.

Pauline loved the outdoors, especially at the cottage. She spent many hours gardening, bird watching, working on the cottage and swimming to the point and back. On rainy days she would bake, quilt, sew, knit and read.

We are so grateful to have had her in our lives and know that her spirit will live on in the memories and lives of everyone she knew.

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### **2019-21 Summary of Actions by Assembly of Elders**

**2019-05-22-104 MOTION** (B. James/W. Stride) that the minutes of April 24<sup>th</sup> 2019 be approved as circulated. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-105 MOTION** (S. Coles/B. James) that the agenda be accepted. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-106 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of Rural Faith United Church to list the property on the Real estate Market; Parts 1 & 2 Containing Manse \$564,500 and Part 3, newly severed lot with Well \$249,900 known as Lot 53 ½ and part of Lot 47, Registered Plan 23 Geographic Township of Hamilton, County of Northumberland; with the stipulation that the sale cannot be approved until a financial plan for the use of the proceeds has been presented. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-107 MOTION** (S. Spicer/T. Meyers) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request to proceed the disposition of properties of the former Cherry Valley United Church for \$10,000 to a local company with considerable cemetery management experience and a viable business plan for the church building. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-108 MOTION** (E. Macdonald/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the recommendation that Ted Meyers and Mary Margaret Boone to represent the Regional Council as members of the Toronto United Church Council, attending the Annual Meeting on June 13, 2019. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-109 MOTION** (W. Stride/S. Coles) The East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoints Patty Evans, of the National Pool of Conflict Resolutions Facilitators to begin a process of conflict resolution at Emmanuel United Church, Peterborough. **Carried** (*B. James abstains*).

**2019-05-22-110 MOTION** (E. Macdonald/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council mandate the Mission through Property Leadership Team to create a policy and model for cost sharing for reviews between the Regional Council and Communities of Faith. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-111 MOTION** (B. James/T. Meyers) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of the Rev. Aruna Alexander to Bloomfield United Church, Prince Edward County, Ontario for part time, 30 hours per week, ministry June 1 2019 to April 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-112 MOTION** (S. Coles/C. Johnson) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of the Rev. Jackie Harper, Retired Supply, to Cressey Glenora Pastoral charge, Prince Edward County, Ontario, for part time, 16 hours per week, ministry June 6 2019 to Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 2019. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-113 MOTION** (S. Spicer/B. James) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of the Rev. Audrey Whitney, Retired Supply, to Trinity United Church, Madoc, Hastings County, Ontario for part time, 20 hour per week, ministry July 1 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-114 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of the Rev. Kirby Breithaupt, Retired Supply, to Marmora, Hastings County, Ontario for part time, 24 hour per week, ministry July 1 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried**

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**2019-05-22-115 MOTION** (S. Spicer/B. James) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of the Rev. Joan Hacock, Retired Supply, to Warsaw Pastoral Charge Peterborough County for part time, 20 hour per week, ministry July 1 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-116 MOTION** (S. Spicer/W. Stride) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of the Rev. Bill Smith, Retired Supply, to Edith Rankin Memorial United Church Kingston Ontario for part time, 25 hours per week, Ministry Sept 15<sup>th</sup> 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-117 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Baster) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of the Rev. Joseph Ramsay, United Supply, to Edith Rankin Memorial United Church Kingston Ontario for part time, 25 hours per week, Ministry August 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-118 MOTION** (S. Spicer/W. Stride) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the minister's good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of Cathy Underhill DM, to Millbrook & Cavan, Bailieboro & Springville for full time, 40 hour per week, ministry July 1 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020.

**2019-05-22-119 MOTION** (E. Macdonald/ W. Stride) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the terms of reference for the Affirming Forum. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-120 MOTION** (W. Stride/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council receive the Nomination report and the names in this report will be presented at the Inaugural Meeting. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-121 MOTION** (P. Reed/ W. Stride) That the East Central Regional Council Ministry Personnel and lay leadership, gather as a worshipping community for study, community building and to discern the call of God to the church and that such gatherings be physical gatherings and web-based, and further described as:

A spring Regional Council gathering at which the gathered community will receive a current assessment of the health of the Regional Council; receive and consider proposals, worship and reflect on what the Spirit is doing in the faith communities, and determine and direct to the Assembly of Elders desired outcomes and priorities. At this gathering may occur a 'Celebration of Ministry' including ordination, and commissioning.

A fall Regional Council gathering at which the Assembly of Elders will provide to the gathered community a mission strategy in response to the directions of the Regional Council offered at the Spring Gathering and include for consideration and approval, new and revised practice and policy, staff and Regional Team work assignments, and an operational budget and forecast. At this gathering may occur a 'Celebration of Ministry' including ordination, and commissioning.

Throughout the year web-based gatherings and webinars will be provided by the Regional Council Teams and Staff as required for the purpose of further education and action. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-122 MOTION** (S. Coles/T. Meyers) That the East Central Regional Council supports the Arden Pastoral Charge, Technology Support Grant Application and forward it to the National Church. **Carried**

**2019-05-22-123 MOTION** (S. Coles/T. Meyers) that the regional council approves honorariums to be paid to those helping at the inaugural meeting. **Carried**

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**2019-05-31-124 MOTION** (P. Reed/B. James) that the enabling motions printed and circulated in the Report Book be adopted. **Carried**

**2019-05-31-125 MOTION** (S. Coles/ M. Ward) that the following people serve as Scrutineers/Stewards: Rev. Max Ward, Stephen Coles, Thomas Smart, Stephanie Richmond, Daniel MacDonald, Darlene Hallett, Alan Boyd, William Sheaves. **Carried**

**2019-05-31-126 MOTION** (W. Vollmer/ D. King) that the agenda as circulated be adopted. **Carried**

**2019-05-31-127 MOTION** (B. James/R. Wood) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council accept the financial report as presented. **Carried**

**~~2019-05-31-128 MOTION~~**

**2019-05-31-129 MOTION** (W. Stride/D. Marsellus) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the Nominations Report as printed. **Carried**

**2019-05-31-130 MOTION** (P. Wilson/J. Evenden) that this Inaugural Meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council receive the Reports as printed in the (2019) Report Book and in the handouts. **Carried**

**2019-05-31-131 MOTION** (P. Reed/M. J. Hobden)

**Background**

The Manual (The Manual C.4.1):

“The regional council must meet at least annually.

“The annual meeting may be a meeting of the entire regional council or the executive of the regional council, as determined by the regional council.”

That the East Central Regional Council Ministry Personnel and lay leadership, gather as a worshipping community for study, community building and to discern the call of God to the church and that such gatherings be physical gatherings and web-based, and further described as:

A spring Regional Council gathering at which the gathered community will receive a current assessment of the health of the Regional Council; receive and consider proposals, worship and reflect on what the Spirit is doing in the faith communities, and determine and direct to the Assembly of Elders desired outcomes and priorities. At this gathering may occur a ‘Celebration of Ministry’ including ordination, and commissioning..

A fall Regional Council gathering at which the Assembly of Elders will provide to the gathered community a mission strategy in response to the directions of the Regional Council offered at the Spring Gathering and include for consideration and approval, new and revised practice and policy, staff and Regional Team work assignments, and an operational budget and forecast. At this gathering may occur a ‘Celebration of Ministry’ including ordination, and commissioning.

Throughout the year web-based gatherings and webinars will be provided by the Regional Council Teams and Staff as required for the purpose of further education and action. **Carried**

**2019-05-31-132 MOTION** (W. Vollmer/M. Brotherton ) that this Inaugural Meeting of East Central Ontario Regional Council refer the Living Mission Statement as outlined in the Governance Handbook, and all of the comments received from the discussions groups, to the Assembly of Elders, for implementation of an action plan that is in keeping with the objectives of the Living Mission Statement, and return with a recommendations to the fall meeting. **Carried**

**2019-05-31-133 MOTION** (L. Doyle/D. King) this Inaugural Meeting of East Central Ontario Regional Council

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approve provisionally the polices and governance structures offered in the Governance Handbook until the rise of the fall meeting, with the understanding that all feedback from the discussion groups will be considered in the revisions of the Governance Handbook. **Carried**

**2019-05-31-134 AMENDING MOTION** (Svinda/M. Arnell) that the Community of Faith Supervisors Practice and Policy and the Pastoral Relations Liaison Officer Practice and Policy not be provisionally approved in the motion herein above. **Carried**

**2019-05-31-135 MOTION** (E. Macdonald/R. Vollmer) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council commits to the interim plan for Affirming and direct that the inaugural meeting agenda incorporate the required actions. **Carried**

**2019-05-31-136 MOTION** (E. Macdonald/S. Farrow) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council agrees to join Affirm United/S' affirmer Ensemble for an annual fee of \$100. **Carried**

**2019-05-31-137 MOTION** (S. Ambury/D. Webster) that following the rise of the Inaugural Meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council, all powers of the Regional Council be granted to the Assembly of Elders until the next General Meeting. **Carried**

**2019-05-31-138 MOTION** (B. Root/W. Vollmer) that the meeting be adjourned following the Celebration of Ministry on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019, at approximately 12:30 p.m., and that the Speaker declares this 1<sup>st</sup> Inaugural Meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council duly concluded following the Celebration of Ministry. **Carried**

**2019-06-5-139 MOTION** (P. Wilson/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council receive the review engagement of Fenelon Falls United Church prepared by Rev. Pegi Ridout. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-140 MOTION** (S. Coles/P. Reed) Motion to accept the Minutes of May 22, 2019. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-141 MOTION** (T. Meyers/P. Reed) Motion to accept the Minutes of June 5, 2019. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-142 MOTION:** (P. Wilson/S. Marsellus) Motion to accept agenda as amended:

*Additions:*

1. *Update sub-executive;*
2. *Team models, appointments;*
3. *Property and Finance – Fairview (Peterborough, ON) request;*
4. *Equity monitor (naming person) –Jean Wilson will be the Equity Monitor. **Carried***

**2019-06-26-143 MOTION:** (R. McNally/P. Wilson) Motion to elect Paul Reed as the new Speaker of the Assembly of Elders. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-144 MOTION** (J. Wilson/P. Wilson) that having reviewed the Report prepared by Rev. Pegi Rideout on June 5, 2019 and acknowledged the letter received from the Council of the Fenelon Falls Community of Faith, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders:

1. Refer recommendations 1-12 for action to the Covenant Support Team, and recommendations 13-16 for information and or consideration;
2. Meet with Fenelon Fall's congregation in response to their response letter;
3. Appoint interim minister, with transitional ministry experience (recommendation of Covenant Support Team);

4. Appoint transition team; Rev. Walter Murray as Pastoral Charge Supervisor and Rev. Paul Reed and Steve Coles as Liaisons;
5. Dissolve current M&P committee, and appoint Steve Coles and Rev. Walter Murray as the interim M&P Committee;
6. Appoint Steve Coles as Interim Chair of the Board of Fenelon Falls United Church. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-145 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders acknowledges receipt of the correspondence from Rev. Phil Hobbs and the Speaker will respond indicating no further action will be take, referring to the actions of Kente Presbytery. **Carried** (*D. Webster and J. Wilson abstain*)

**2019-06-26-146 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the sale of Zion United Church in Carnarvon, Ontario, [Pt Lt 15 Con 1 Stanhope as in SA246 Except H20582 Except Pt 1 H39227; Pt Rdal STN Lt 15 &16 Con 1 Stanhope (closed by H126069) Pt 1 19R2882] for the sale price of \$275,000, net proceeds to be held in trust until the disposition is settled, and with the provision that the space is not used as a regular weekly worship space for up to two years, to Beverley Spotton. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-147 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request to use \$19,500 from restricted capital reserves for painting Heritage United Church, in Salem, Ontario. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-148 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request to use \$57,912 for the following renovations to Columbus Community Church, Oshawa, Ontario: a New Sign \$30,510; Sidewalk Replacement \$21,464; and Roof Replacement \$5,937. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-149 MOTION** (T. Meyers/J. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the application for an Church Improvement Grant of \$5000 for Burnt River United Church, Burn River, Ontario. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-150 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of Goodwood United Church, Goodwood, Ontario to list the manse property located at 5 Tindall Lane Goodwood, Ontario, LOC 1A0, on the current real-estate market but approval of the sale will be pending receipt of a detailed list of the use of funds of the sale of the manse, following approved current Regional Council guidelines. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-151 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders postpone definitely the above motion to the September 2019 meeting. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-152 MOTION** (T. Meyers/P. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of Fairview United Church, Fairview, Ontario (PTE 1/2 LT 18 Con. 4 Smith PT 145R1469 Selwyn, and the municipal address which is 724 Centre Line, Selwyn Twp. K9J 6X5) to list the church property on the current real-estate market, but approval of the sale will be pending receipt of a detailed list of the use of funds of the sale of the church, following approved current Regional Council guidelines. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-153 MOTION** (J. Wilson/T. Meyers) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves that the trustees proceed with the exterior restoration of Old Hay Bay Church to be awarded to Wemp & Smith Construction Ltd. not to exceed \$110,000 pre-tax. **Carried** (*P. Wilson abstains*)

**2019-06-26-154 MOTION** (J. Wilson/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders acknowledges the General Council decision to suspend the Rev. Tim Milley pending the outcome of legal

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procedures, and for the interim will remove Rev. Tim Milley's from all pastoral responsibilities within the Regional Council. **Carried** (*P. Wilson abstains*)

**2019-06-26-155 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Spicer) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. Anne MacDermaid as Pastoral Charge supervisor for the Cataraqui Community of Faith. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-156 MOTION** (P. Wilson/S. Spicer) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of Rev. Tim Dayfoot, to United Community Ministry for full time, 40 hour per week, Intentional Interim Ministry July 1 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. This appointment May be renewed if the goals require additional work in 2020 however as Intentional Interim ministry it shall not be renewed past June 30<sup>th</sup> 2022. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-157 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Spicer) The East Central Ontario Regional Council appoints Paul Reed as the Regional Council representative to the Transition Team of United Community Ministries. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-158 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Spicer) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves, the Call of Rev. Lionel Ketola, to Goodwood United Church, Durham Region Ontario for half time 20 hours per week ministry commencing July 8<sup>th</sup> 2019. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-159 MOTION** (M Fortin/S. Spicer) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of Rev. Jean Wilson, Retired Supply, to the Castleton Grafton Pastoral Charge Northumberland County Ontario for part time, 24 hour per week, ministry July 1 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried** (*J. Wilson abstains*)

**2019-06-26-160 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Spicer) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of Rev. Peter Walford-Davis, to Tory Hill Pastoral Charge for part time, 10 hour per week, ministry July 1 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-161 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Spicer) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, with the exception of an up to date Boundaries Course, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. Joanna McQuarrie to Trinity United Church, Peterborough, Full time 40 hours per week July 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 to Dec 31 2019, with the following conditions:

- a. That appointee provides proof of registration for the next Boundaries Course
- b. That the appointment be for 6 months,
- c. That the appointment be eligible to be renewed to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020, if Boundaries Course is completed by Dec. 31, 2019. **Carried**

**9-06-26-162 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Spicer) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, with the exception of an up to date Boundaries Course, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the re-appointment of Rev. Kathy Edmison to Wooler United Church, 20 hours per week, July 1st, 2019 to Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 2019, with the following conditions:

- a. That appointee provides proof of registration for the next Boundaries Course
- b. That the appointment be for 6 months,
- c. That the appointment be Eligible to be renewed to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020, if Boundaries Course is completed by Dec. 31, 2019. **Carried**

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**2019-06-26-163 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Spicer) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, with the exception of an up to date Boundaries Course, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the re-appointment of Ian Rob, D.L.M. to Smithfield-Carman United Church, 20 hours per week, commencing July 1<sup>st</sup> 2019, with the following conditions:

- a. That appointee provides proof of registration for the next Boundaries Course
- b. That the appointment be for 6 months,
- c. That the appointment be eligible to be renewed to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020, if Boundaries Course is completed by Dec. 31, 2019. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-164 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Spicer) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. Phil Hobbs to Picton United Church, 20 hours per week, commencing July 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2019, with the following conditions:

- i) That Picton United Church become actively engage with a Liaison in search for a long-term pastoral relationship, and
- ii) That the Covenant Support Team receive a progress report after 6 months
- iii) That Picton United Church and South Bay United Church form a joint Ministry & Personnel Committee. **Carried** (*D. Webster and P. Wilson abstain*)

**2019-06-26-165 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Spicer) Having received the assurance of their training from Pastoral Relations Minister, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoints, Alan Boyd Brian James, Patti James Pastoral Relations Liaisons and adds them to the Liaison Forum. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-166 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Spicer) The Assembly of Elders of the East Central accepts the request for a change of pastoral relations from, Rev. Ned Wells, the Eldad-Hampton Pastoral Charge, effectively dated June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019 (90 day notice – effective September 21<sup>st</sup>). **Carried**

**2019-06-26-167 MOTION** (J. Wilson/P. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recommend to the Mission through Property Leadership Team to develop and propose a criteria for student bursaries and present to the Assembly of Elders. **Carried**

**2019-06-26-168 MOTION** (R. McNally/ P. Wilson) follow up on getting Leadership Teams going: Jean Wilson (Liaison, Covenant Support Team), D’Thea Webster (Nominations), Marilyn Fortin (Faith Formation and Justice) Phil Wilson (Equity), Ted Meyers (Property), Steve Coles (Covenant Support Team). **Carried**

**2019-06-26-169 MOTION** (P. Wilson/T. Meyers) that should the need arise for an urgent decision between meetings, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders nominate the past-Speaker, the current Speaker, the Treasurer (corresponding member) and Ryan McNally be empowered to act as a sub-Executive along with the Executive Minister to address the situation. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-170 MOTION** (S. Coles/T. Meyers) Motion to accept agenda. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-171 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) Motion to accept the Minutes of June 26, 2019. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-172 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the re-appointment of retired supply Rev. Phil Hobbs to Prince Edward South Pastoral Charge, Prince Edward County, Ontario for part time (20 hours/week) ministry from July 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried**

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**2019-08-28-173 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the designated lay minister's good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the re-appointment of Denise Boyd Designated Lay Minister to the Little Britain Pastoral charge, Ontario for part time (24 hours/week) ministry from Aug 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 to July 31<sup>st</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-174 MOTION TO AMEND** (S. Spicer/ S. Coles) to amend to date of June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-175 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the re-appointment of retired supply Rev. Aruna Alexander to Bloomfield United Church, Prince Edward County, Ontario for part time (30 hours/week) ministry from Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 to Oct 31<sup>st</sup> 2019. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-176 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Call of Rev. Cathy (Russell) Duggan to Bloomfield United Church, Prince Edward County, Ontario for part time (30 hours/week) ministry from Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> 2019. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-177 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of retired supply Rev. Moira Anne MacDermaid to Cataraqui United Church, Kingston, Ontario for part time (20 hours/week) ministry from Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 to Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> 2019. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-178 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. Carol Gillard to the Dunbarton Fairport Pastoral Charge, Ontario for full time ministry from Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 to Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-179 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the Candidate for Ministry's good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of student supply Elizabeth Amirault to Edith Rankin Memorial United Church, Kingston, Ontario for part time (10 hours/week) student supply ministry from Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. *For this appointment, Supervision of Elizabeth's work for this position falls under the accountability of the Quebec and East Ontario Candidacy Board and not Edith Rankin UC.* **Carried** (Ryan McNally abstains)

**2019-08-28-180 MOTION** (T. Meyers/J. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the "Manse Funds Policy", with adding to the background information, that the Regional Council will respect existing arrangements made with Presbyteries that are supported by motions, and that permission to use funds (through existing agreements) must be addressed to the Regional Council Assembly of Elders and not to Presbyteries or Conference. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-181 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the sale of the Goodwood United Church Manse property located at 5 Tindall Lane. Lot #. Concession 3 South part lot 16, Postal Code L0C 1A0, subject to the COF following the Manse Fund Policy guidelines. Asking price is \$619,000.

The proceeds from the sale of the Manse will be as follows:

- \$7,000 for repairs for the church, either already done, or proposed.
- \$12,000 owed to Epsom Utica Church
- \$7,000 for repairs to the Manse to prepare for the sale
- \$10,000 for the study and preparations to make the church accessible. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-182 MOTION** (T. Meyers/R. McNally) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the sale of the Princess Street United Church, for the sale price of \$600,000.00, located at 484 Albert Street and the Manse at 620 Princess Street in Kingston, Ontario – Property includes: Lot 651 and 652, Plan A-12; Part lot 3, Plan B-14, as in FR11368 and CK60737; and Lot 650, Plan A-12 except Part 5, 13R-584, City of Kingston, County of Frontenac to Kingston Home Based Housing Inc., and further approve that the asset / 1<sup>st</sup> Mortgage vendor take back, be held by the Regional Council with funds to be distributed to Princess Street United Church Community of Faith on a semi-annual basis based on a Ministry Plan from the Community of Faith and forward to the Regional Council for their approval. **Defeated**

**2019-08-28-183 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders refers the issue back to the Mission and Property Leadership Team for further the work. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-184 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the sale of the Fairview United Church, Fairview, Ontario (PTE 1/2 LT 18 Con. 4 Smith PT 145R1469 Selwyn, and the municipal address which is 724 Centre Line, Selwyn Twp. K9J 6X5) for \$395,000. This sale is conditional upon receipt of a detailed list of the use of funds of the sale of the church, following approved current Regional Council guidelines, and the money will be held in trust by the Regional Council until such is received. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-185 AMENDED MOTION:** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the sale of the Fairview United Church, Fairview, Ontario, being part Lot18 Concession 4, part 1 RP 45R1469 Geographic Township of Smith now in the Township of Selwyn, ON municipally known as 724 Centre Line, Selwyn, ON K9J 6X5. Property Identifier Number 15-16-020-003-39400 for \$395,000.

The East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders grants approval that the Trustees invest the proceeds, net of the selling costs, in secure investments. The income generated by Investments to be used for operations of the community of faith. The principal may be used only on the approval of the Assembly of Elders of the East Central Ontario Regional Council of The United Church of Canada.

Furthermore that the following points be part of the agreement that is signed for the sale:

1. The Real Property referred to in the above resolution is within the bounds of Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council;
2. The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of Fairview United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada;
3. The said community of faith and pastoral charge are subject to the oversight of Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-186 MOTION** (T. Meyers/D. Webster) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the suggestion of adding a budget line for travel expenses to pastoral care in emergent circumstances in the 2020 budget. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-187 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Technology Support Grant request from St. Paul's United Church, Warkworth, Ontario for \$900.00 and will forward this request to the national office. **Carried**

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**2019-08-28-188 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders refer feedback from discussion groups back to Leadership Teams to revise their mandates. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-189 MOTION** (D. Webster/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the subcommittee for the Doing Mission Together grant to Greenwood United Church, Peterborough (Bedford House) for \$4494.00. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-190 MOTION** (J. Wilson/ D. Webster) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders postpone definitely the two motions directly above until there is a budget conversation. **Carried**

**2019-08-28-191 MOTION** (S. Coles/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders support the covenant with Social Justice Network of Ontario Regions (SJNOR) and refer it and the search for representatives to the Regional Council gathering in the fall. **Carried**

**2019-09-09-192 MOTION** (T. Meyers/P. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the sale of the Princess Street United Church, for the sale price of \$600,000.00, located at 484 Albert Street and the Manse at 620 Princess Street in Kingston, Ontario – Property includes: Lot 651 and 652, Plan A-12; Part lot 3, Plan B-14, as in FR11368 and CK60737; and Lot 650, Plan A-12 except Part 5, 13R-584, City of Kingston, County of Frontenac to Kingston Home Based Housing Inc., and that the Property and Finance committee work with PSUC to work out suitable financial arrangements re the investment of the proceeds from sale. **Carried**

**2019-09-09-193 MOTION** (T. Meyers/ D. Webster) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves Princess Street United Church entering into a lease with Kingston Home Based Housing Inc. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-194 MOTION** (M. Fortin/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-195 MOTION** (T. Meyers/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recognize Louise Slobodian as a corresponding member. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-196 MOTION** (J. Wilson/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of August 28<sup>th</sup> 2019 as circulated. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-197MOTION** (T. Meyers/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of September 9<sup>th</sup> 2019 as circulated. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-198 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of September 13, 2019

AMENDED MOTION from August 28, 2019:

(T. Meyers/ S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the sale of the Fairview United Church, Fairview, Ontario, being part Lot18 Concession 4, part 1 RP 45R1469 Geographic Township of Smith now in the Township of Selwyn, ON municipally known as 724 Centre Line, Selwyn, ON K9J 6X5. Property Identifier Number 15-16-020-003-39400 for \$395,000 to John Curtis.

The East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders grants approval that the Trustees invest the proceeds, net of the selling costs, in secure investments. The income generated by Investments to be used for

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operations of the community of faith. The principal may be used only on the approval of the Assembly of Elders of the East Central Ontario Regional Council of The United Church of Canada". **Carried**

**2019-10-04-199 MOTION** (J. Wilson/R. McNally) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council pay the travel expenses of any members being appointed by the Regional Council (Pastoral Charge Supervisor, Pastoral Charge Liaisons, etc.) to do work in a Community of Faith until a policy is in place. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-200 MOTION** (P. Wilson/J. Wilson) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of Rev. Ned Wells to Scugog Island Pastoral charge, Ontario for part time (10 hours/week) ministry from November 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-201 MOTION** (S. Coles/T. Meyers) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Call of Rev. Lionel Ketola to Clairemont Brougham Pastoral charge, Ontario for part time (20 hours/week) ministry from Oct 1, 2019. With the following condition:

The Claremont Brougham Pastoral charge is required to form a Joint Ministry and Personnel Committee with the Goodwood Pastoral Charge. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-202 MOTION** (J. Wilson/ S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders request a Policy regarding 'Joint Ministry and Personnel Committee when sharing ministry personnel' be from the Covenant Support Leadership Team. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-203 MOTION** (P. Wilson/S. Coles) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of retired Supply minister Rev. Brad Ford to Bath Morven Pastoral charge, Ontario for part time (20 hours/week) ministry from Oct 1, 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-204 MOTION** (S. Coles/J. Wilson) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of Diaconal Minister Michele Hofman to St. Stephen's Pastoral charge, Oshawa Ontario for part time (30 hours/week) ministry from September 1, 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-205 MOTION** (M. Fortin/P. Wilson) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing with the exception of a racial Justice course, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Appointment of Retired Supply Rev. Bob Root to Trinity Providence Pastoral charge, Bobcaygeon Ontario for part time (20 hours/week) ministry from April 1, 2019 to Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 2019. With the following condition;

- A) That the appointee complete the Racial Justice course.
- B) That the appointment be Eligible to be renewed to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020, only if the Racial Justice Course is completed by Dec. 31, 2019. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-206 MOTION** (P. Wilson/M. Fortin) Having received the assurance of the training from Pastoral Relations Minister, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoints Rev. Bruce Fraser of Stirling as a Pastoral Relations Liaison and adds him to the Liaison Forum. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-207 MOTION** (T. Meyers/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders extend the appointment of Rev. Nancy Lester to Rural Faith United Church in Northumberland County until eligibility regarding registration on Church Hub is resolved or December 31<sup>st</sup> 2019. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-208 MOTION** (T. Meyers/J. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the revised “Policy Regarding Proceeds from the Sale of Property”. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-209 MOTION** (T. Meyers/P Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders gives “approval in principle” to proceeding with the development of a Memorandum Of Understanding with Faith United Church and refers to the Mission through Property and Finance Team for assessment and further recommendation. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-210 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Church Modernization Support Grant request from Little Britain United Church, Little Britain, Ontario for \$4893.00 and will forward this request to the national office. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-211 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders acknowledges receipt of the structural report indicating the need for immediate restoration to a structural crack in the upper part of the bell tower of Simcoe Street United Church, Oshawa at a cost to not exceed \$220,000 +HST. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-212 MOTION** (J. Wilson/T. Meyers) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders gives “approval in principle” to proceeding with the development of a “Walking the Path of Peace together” initiative. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-213 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of Highland Hills United Church to spend up to \$10,000 on insulation of the back wall of the sanctuary, paid from investments made from the sale of Twelve Mile Lake Church. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-214 MOTION:** (T. Meyers/J. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the 2020 Mission Support grant recommendations of the Mission through Property and Finance Leadership Team from September 23, 2019. **Carried**

	<b>Mission Support Request</b>	<b>\$\$ Requested</b>	<b>\$\$ Recommend</b>
1	<b>Abbey Retreat Centre - Haliburton</b> Moved by Bruce Hutchinson, Seconded by David Mantle, that the Mission Support request from Abbey Retreat Centre, be recommended for approval by the Regional Council. Carried	\$2,000	\$2,000
2	<b>Bedford House M&amp;S - Peterborough</b> Moved by Bruce Hutchinson, Seconded by Brian James, that the Mission Support request from Bedford House M&S, be recommended for approval by the Regional Council. Carried Note: they should be recommended to approach EDGE for their continuing support for the remaining \$10,000.	\$30,000	\$20,000
3	<b>Westminster United Church - Whitby</b> <b>St Vincent's Pallotti's Kitchen</b> Moved by Brian James, Seconded by Bruce Hutchinson, that the Mission Support request from Westminster United Church - Whitby, St Vincent's Pallotti's Kitchen, be recommended for approval by the Regional Council. Carried  <b>\$5,000 to be granted from 2019 Funds.</b>	\$5,000	\$0 To be granted from 2019 funds

4	<b>Grand River Spiritual and Educational Resources - Paris - Five Oaks</b>	\$11,000	\$10,000
5	<b>Faith United Church - Kingston</b> Moved by Bruce Hutchinson, Seconded by Rev. Mary-Margaret Boone, that the Mission Support request from <b>Faith United Church - Kingston</b> , be recommended for approval by the Regional Council. Carried	\$17,500	\$17,500
6	<b>Haliburton County Non-Profit Places for People Corporation - Minden</b> Moved by Bruce Hutchinson, Seconded by Rev. Mary-Margaret Boone, that the Mission Support request from <b>Haliburton County Non-Profit Places for People Corporation -Minden</b> , be recommended for approval by the Regional Council. Carried	\$1,000	\$1,000
7	<b>Minden Food Bank - Minden</b> Moved by Bruce Hutchinson, Seconded by Rev. Mary-Margaret Boone, that the Mission Support request from <b>Minden Food Bank - Minden</b> , be recommended for approval by the Regional Council. Carried	\$1,500	\$1,500
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$68,000</b>	<b>\$52,000</b>

**2019-10-04-215 MOTION:** (T. Meyers/J. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recommend the amended 2020 budget to the General Meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup> 2019. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-216 MOTION:** (S. Coles/P. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders name Jean Wilson, Ryan McNally, Paul Reed and Joel Miller to form a writing-team to revise the Governance Handbook, incorporating the comments received during the Inaugural Meeting. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-217 MOTION** (J. Wilson/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receive the recommendation from the Nominations Leadership Team of Marion Blackburn appointment to the Covenant Support Team. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-218 MOTION** (S. Coles/P. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders direct to the Equity Leadership Team to create and populate an Affirming Forum who can create an Affirming Forum's term of reference. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-219 MOTION** (P. Wilson/J. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders creates a permanent planning team of Regional Council General Meetings. **Carried**

**2019-10-04-220 MOTION** (N. Sutherland/J. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the date of May 22 to May 24 as dates of Annual General Meeting. **Carried**

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**2019-11-01-221 MOTION** (P. Wilson/R. McNally) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as amended. **Carried**

**2019-11-01-222 MOTION** (M. Fortin/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of October 4<sup>th</sup> 2019 as circulated. **Carried**

**2019-11-01-223 MOTION** (S. Coles/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receive the email vote of October 21, 2019. **Carried**

**2019-11-01-224 MOTION** (T. Meyers/P. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent:

to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Lot 53 1/2 and Part of Lot 47, Registered Plan 23 (Geographic Township of Hamilton) Township of Hamilton, County of Northumberland designated as Parts 1 and 2 on Reference Plan 39R-13822 (the real property), and the municipal address of which is 9313 Burwash Road, Hamilton Township ON K0K 1C0, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Rural Faith United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as seller, and Christine Emily McCracken and Michael Paul McCracken, as purchaser dated the 29th day of November 2019, and subject to Regional Council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Sale Price - \$520,000.00

Deposit - \$5000.00

Balance due at completion - \$515,000.00

No Mortgage Back

Conditions:

Buyer obtaining financing within 7 banking days from acceptance

Buyer being satisfied with the well, within 7 banking days from acceptance

Buyer receiving notice of removal of all conditions on an existing agreement of purchase and sale on buyer's property, within 7 banking days from acceptance

Approval of agreement by buyer's lawyer, within 5 banking days from acceptance

Approval of agreement by seller's lawyer, within 5 banking days from acceptance

Approval of agreement by seller's church governing board (ECORC), within 5 banking days from acceptance

Warranties — no warranties issued, buyer acknowledges the property is in "as is" condition Completion Date (closing date) — November 29, 2019

To the following disposition of the proceeds arising from the transaction:

The net proceeds of manse sale funds shall be invested by the Board of Trustees and the income from the investment used to fund ministerial compensation. The use of any manse fund principle shall be in accordance with the Eastern Ontario Regional Council Manse Funds Policy and with the approval of the Mission Through Property and Finance Leadership Team and the Assembly of Elders.

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The Real Property referred to in the above resolution is within the bounds of Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council;

The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of Rural Faith United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada and part of the Rural Faith Pastoral Charge, in trust for Rural Faith United Church as a part of The United Church of Canada;

The said congregation and pastoral charge are subject to the oversight of Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council.  
**Carried**

**2019-11-01-225 MOTION** (P. Wilson/N. Sutherland) Motion to accept the Minutes of October 21, 2019. **Carried**

**2019-11-01-226 MOTION** (P. Wilson/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Capital Grant request from Grace United Church, Deseronto-Napanee Pastoral Charge, Ontario for \$7630.00 and will forward this request to the national office. **Carried**

**2019-11-01-227 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Marsellus) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the plans for Wolfe Island United Church to acquire further lands to be used for cemetery purposes at Point Alexandria Cemetery on Wolfe Island. **Carried**

**2019-11-01-228 MOTION:** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves recommending to the meeting of the Regional Council on November 9<sup>th</sup> the *Revised ECORC Governance Handbook (November 1, 2019)*, including all amendments and the following additional Policies:

- East Central Ontario Regional Council Travel Policy
- Policy Regarding Travel Compensation to be paid by Communities of Faith
- Policy for Election to Serve on the General Council
- Policy Regarding Funding for a Community of Faith Review

**Carried**

**2019-11-01-229 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders forward for action to the Covenant Support Team the request from Glenburnie United Church to change its governance structure from the Session / Stewards/ Official Board Model to the Streamlined Board Model [B 7.2.1 the Manual 2019]. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_230 MOTION** (S. Ambury/M. Goodwin) That the agenda as circulated be adopted. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_231 MOTION** (R. Wood/S. Marcellus) that the following people serve as Scrutineers/Stewards: Max Ward, Bruce Fraser, Mary-Margaret Boone, Patti James, Brad Ford, Bill Sheaves, Floyd Sutherland, Helmut Enns, Deb Brown. And that the following people serve as Parliamentarians: Rev. Steven Davis, Rev. Alan Boyd, and Rev. Judith Evenden. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_232 MOTION** (J. Ducette/D. King) That the minutes of the East Central Ontario Regional Council Inaugural Meeting of May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019 be accepted as corrected. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_233 MOTION** (D. King/B. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the terms of reference for the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (LLWL) Forum, the Retirees Forum, the Formation, Nurture and Justice Leadership Team, the Equity Leadership Team, and the Mission through Property and Finance Team. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_234 MOTION** (P. Wilson/S. Ambury) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the Equity Monitor Policy and the Community of Faith 'Filling Internally' Practice and Policy. **Carried**

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**2019-11-09\_235 MOTION** (J. Evenden/H. Enns) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council accept the recommendation of the Assembly of Elders to commit to enter into a relationship with Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils (SJNOR), request that the Nomination Leadership Team search for representatives, and adjust budget accordingly. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_236 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer)

In regards to the Vision Statement:

1. That ECORC operate with the Vision Statement as written, until such time as it is revised by the regional council.
2. That ECORC refer the Vision Statement as written, and all feedback received, to a task group to further develop the Vision Statement, Statement of Mission, Values and Mission Goals.
3. That the nominations team be asked to populate a Task Group of eight members to undertake the above work.
4. That the Task Group provide a report to the May 2020 meeting of ECORC for adoptions. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_237 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer)

In regards to the Assembly of Elders, that the following text be added to its structure:

“The Leading Elder is elected as part of the triennial election of members of the General Council from the East Central Ontario Regional Council, at the meeting of the regional council held in the year before the year of the face-to-face meeting of the General Council. The Leading Elder will serve a three-year term.”

“The speaker can communicate to the regional council on behalf of the Assembly of Elder”

“When filling a vacancy, the Assembly of Elders will consult with the nominations team”.

And delete the paragraph :

“In the absence of a Speaker ... term (for the time being).” **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_238 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer)

In regards to Nomination Leadership Team, that the following text be added to the terms of reference:

Add the words “and/or election” after the word “appoint”

Add responsibility to nominate persons to serve on the General Council (formerly called Commissioners).

**Carried**

**2019-11-09\_239 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the amended terms of reference for the Covenant Support Leadership Team. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_240 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the amended terms of reference for the Liaison Forum. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_241 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the amended terms of reference for the Affirming Forum. **Carried**

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**2019-11-09\_242 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the amended Policy Regarding Funding Requests at the Regional Meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_243 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the amended Marriage Practice and Voluntary Associate Minister (VAM) Policy. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_244 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the amended Community of Faith Supervisors Practice and Policy, to take effect January 1<sup>st</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_245 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the amended Pastoral Relations Liaison Officer Practice and Policy, to take effect January 1<sup>st</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_246 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the Policy Regarding Proceeds from the Sale of Property. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_247 MOTION** (J. Wilson/J. Evenden) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve in principle the travel policies, and refer to the Assembly of Elders to be written into one concise policy and presented at the May 2020 General Meeting. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_248 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council refer back to the Assembly of Elders the Policy for Electing Commissioners to serve at the General Council, for further work. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_249 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the Property & Finance Community of Faith Conflict Review Funding Policy. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_250 MOTION** (J. Ducette/R. Wood) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the Financial Report and 2020 budget as presented. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_251 MOTION** (C. Stone/G. Culverson)

WHEREAS the United Church Women (UCW) continues to be a major supporter and contributor to the work of the Church with East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC);

WHEREAS they do not have an official voice/representation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Bay of Quinte UCW ECORC be invited to have representation on the East Central Ontario Regional Council as a voting member. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_252 MOTION** (R. Lambie/S. Ambury) that following the rise of the general meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council, all powers of the Regional Council be granted to the Assembly of Elders until the next General Meeting. **Carried**

**2019-11-09\_253 MOTION** (M. J. Hobden/R. Lambie) that the meeting be adjourned at 5:32 p.m., and that the Speaker declares this general meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council duly concluded. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-254 MOTION** (P. Wilson/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-255 MOTION** (M. Fortin/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders elect Paul Reed to serve as Speaker for the Assembly of Elders until the first meeting following the rise of the general meeting in May 2020. **Carried** (*P. Reed. abstains*)

**2019-12-06-256 MOTION** (S. Coles/N. Sutherland) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of November 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 as circulated. **Carried**

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**2019-12-06-257 MOTION** (T. Meyers /P. Wilson) Motion to accept the Minutes of the email vote held November 20, 2019. **Carried**

MOTION (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Capital Loan Application of Wellington United Church for \$80,000 to create a retaining wall protecting the property from Lake Ontario. **Carried** (S. Spicer abstains)

**2019-12-06-258 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Spicer ) Motion to accept the Minutes of email vote held November 27, 2019. **Carried**

MOTION (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Mission Support Application of \$5000 for Quinte Health Care Corporation - Spiritual Health Services.

**2019-12-06-259 MOTION** (S. Spicer/J. Wilson) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. Bob Root, Retired Supply, Ordained Minister to Trinity Providence Pastoral Charge, Bobcaygeon Ontario Part time (20 hour per week) from 01/01/2020 to 06/30/2020.

**2019-12-06-260 MOTION** (S. Spicer/J. Wilson) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Ian F. Robb DLMR , Retired Supply, lay Minister to Smithfield Carmen pastoral charge Ontario, part ministry 13 hours per week from 01/01/2020 to 06/30/2020. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-261 MOTION** (S. Spicer/J. Wilson) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. Nancy Lester, Retired Supply Ordained minister, Rural Faith Pastoral Charge Northumberland County Ontario, Part time (14 hours per Week) ministry from 7/1/2019 (possibly 01/01/2020) to 6/30/2020. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-262 MOTION** (S. Spicer/J. Wilson) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. Anja Guignon, Retired supply Ordained Minister, to Port Hope United church, Port Hope, Ontario, Part Time 20 Hours per Week ministry from 10/13/2019 to 06/30/2020. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-263 MOTION** (S. Spicer/J. Wilson) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the Student ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Kevin Moore Student Supply, to St Mathew's United Church Belleville Ontario, Part time 20 Hours per week student supply ministry from 11/15/2019 to 06/30/2020. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-264 MOTION** (S. Spicer/J. Wilson) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev Richard Parker, Retired supply Ordained Minister, to Columbus United church, Oshawa, Ontario, Part Time 20 Hours per Week ministry from 04/01/2019 to 06/30/2020. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-265 MOTION** (S. Spicer/J. Wilson) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. Kathleen Walton, Retired supply Ordained Minister, to Westbrook United church, Kingston, Ontario, Part Time 20 Hours per Week supply ministry from 08/01/2019 to 31/12/2019. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-266 MOTION** (S. Spicer/J. Wilson) That having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the ministers good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. Dr. Jackie Harper, Retired supply Ordained Minister, to Cressy/Glenora Pastoral Charge, Prince Edward County, Ontario, Part Time 16 Hours per Week ministry from 02/01/2020 to 06/30/2020. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-267 MOTION** (S. Spicer/J. Wilson) Having Received the properly produced form via the hub which includes the confirmation of the ministers good standing the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. Leslie Sedore, retired supply Ordained Minister, to Trinity United church Uxbridge pastoral Charge, Durham Region Ontario, Part Time 20 Hours per Week ministry from 12/01/2019 to 02/01/2020. **Carried** (*T. Meyers abstains*)

**2019-12-06-268 MOTION** (S. Spicer/J. Wilson) Having Received the properly produced form via the hub which includes the confirmation of the ministers good standing the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the call of Rev. Deborah Foster, Ordained Minister, Dunbarton-Fairport Pastoral Charge, Ontario, Full Time Week ministry from 02/17/2020. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-269 MOTION** (S. Spicer/J. Wilson) Having Received the properly produced form via the hub which includes the confirmation of the ministers good standing the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. M. Anne MacDermaid, retired supply Ordained Minister, to Cataraqui Pastoral Charge , Kingston Ontario, Part Time 20 Hours per Week ministry from 01/01/2020 to 06/30/2020. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-270 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the Assembly of Elders of the East Central Ontario Regional Council gives its consent to the listing of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is 105 Church St N Plan CG Hanning Blk M Lot 3 Clarington Municipality and 111 Church St N Plan CG Hanning Blk M Lot 1& 2 Clarington Municipality, both properties in Orono, Ontario L0B 1M0. Said property to be list with Royal LePage Real Estate, agency Liz Rankin with an asking price of \$1,090,000. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-271 MOTION** (R. McNally/ N. Sutherland) that the details surrounding the sale of Orono United Church be referred to the Covenant Support Leadership Team and the Mission Through Property and Finance Leadership Team for further work. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-272 MOTION** (M. Fortin/ T. Meyers) that the Assembly of Elders of the East Central Ontario Regional Council refers this to the Mission through Property and Finance Team to gather more information. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-273 MOTION** (S. Coles/P. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders has received the recommendations of Steve Coles and Rev. Alan Boyd and make the following recommendations:

1. that the Chair of the Board, Dennis Wyatt resume his role and Steve Coles will not continue to accompany this process;
2. that Rev. Walter Murray will continue as Pastoral Charge Supervisor until such time as a new minister is called or appointed;
3. that Rev. Alan Boyd will work with you as Liaison to complete the required process creating a HUB profile and doing a search for said new minister;

4. that the Ministry and Personnel Committee be formed avoiding conflict of interest concerns and that the M&P committee receive training before welcoming a new minister. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-274 MOTION** (R. McNally/P. Wilson) that the Covenant Support Team set up a protocol for helping congregations who fall under a review. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-275 MOTION** (S. Coles/S. Spicer) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders supports sending the response letter to Springbrook. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-276 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders affirms the changes to the Old Hay Bay Church Board of Trustees; accepting the resignation of Mr. Orland French, Chair Person, Rev. David Jones and Mr. John Humphrey, electing Rev. David Jones to Emeritus Status, Ms. Elaine Farley elected as the new Chair Person and Rev. Anne MacDermaid to join the Board. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-277 MOTION** (M. Fortin/S. Hull) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the Doing Mission Together grant to St. Paul's United Church (Ajax), Open Cupboard for \$1,300.00. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-278 MOTION** (M. Fortin/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the Doing Mission Together grant to Kingston Community Chaplaincy for \$3,000.00. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-279 MOTION** (M. Fortin/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the Doing Mission Together grant to Walking Together, Sharing the Information, Advocating for Palestinian Farmers for \$5,000.00. **Carried**

**2019-12-06-280 MOTION** (T. Meyers/P. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders affirms the recommendations of the Nominations Team as outlined in the minutes of November 20, 2019. **Carried**

**2020-01-10-001 MOTION** (P. Wilson/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-01-10-002 MOTION** (S. Coles/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of December 6, 2019 as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-01-10-003 MOTION** (R. McNally/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of December 12, 2019, as per 2019-12-12-254. **Carried**

MOTION (J. Wilson /R. McNally) that having received the properly completed form and confirmation from the Office of Vocations of the minister's good standing, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders sub-executive approves the appointment of Rev. Phil Hobbs, Retired supply Ordained Minister, to Picton United Church, Picton Ontario, Part Time 10 Hours per Week ministry from 01/01/2020 to 06/30/2020.

**2020-01-10-004 MOTION** (T. Meyers/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of December 31, 2019, as per 2019-12-31-255. **Carried**

MOTION (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Lot 53 1/2 and Part of Lot 47, Registered Plan 23 (Geographic Township of Hamilton) Township of Hamilton, County of Northumberland designated as Parts 1 and 2 on Reference Plan 39R-13822 (the real property), and the municipal address of which is 9313 Burwash Road, Hamilton Township ON K0K 1C0, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Rural Faith United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as seller, and Christine Emily

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McCracken and Michael Paul McCracken, as purchaser dated the 02nd day of January 2020, and subject to Regional Council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Sale Price - \$516,000.00

Deposit - \$5000.00

Balance due at completion - \$511,000.00

No Mortgage Back Conditions:

Buyer obtaining financing within 7 banking days from acceptance (fulfilled)

Buyer being satisfied with the well, within 7 banking days from acceptance (waived)

Approval of agreement by buyer's lawyer, within 5 banking days from acceptance

Approval of agreement by seller's lawyer, no later than 8 pm On January 2, 2020

Approval of agreement by seller's church governing board (ECORC), no later than 8 pm On January 2, 2020

Warranties — no warranties issued, buyer acknowledges the property is in "as is" condition and that plumbing repair is required. The price reduction of \$4000 from the original offer is to allowed for the cost of repairs. The church will pay for plumbing work that has been completed up to December 22, 2019.

Completion Date (closing date) — January 8, 2020

To the following disposition of the proceeds arising from the transaction:

The net proceeds of manse sale funds shall be invested by the Board of Trustees and the income from the investment used to fund ministerial compensation. The use of any manse fund principle shall be in accordance with the Eastern Ontario Regional Council Manse Funds Policy and with the approval of the Mission Through Property and Finance Leadership Team and the Assembly of Elders.

The Real Property referred to in the above resolution is within the bounds of Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council;

The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of Rural Faith United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada and part of the Rural Faith Pastoral Charge, in trust for Rural Faith United Church as a part of The United Church of Canada;

The said congregation and pastoral charge are subject to the oversight of Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council.

**2020-01-10-005 MOTION** (S. Coles/P. Reed) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders supports the request of Rev. Terence Corkin to provide workshops and will encourage participation on March 21<sup>st</sup>. **Carried**

**2020-01-10-006 MOTION** (S. Coles/ P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders agree to financially support the liaison work of Allen Boyd at Fenelon Falls, up to \$1000. **Carried**

**2020-01-10-007 MOTION** (S. Coles/S. Spicer) that upon Receipt of the properly produced form via the hub which includes the confirmation of the ministers good standing the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev Carol Gillard, retired supply Ordained Minister, to Ebenezer Maple Grove Pastoral Charge, Courtice Ontario, full time ministry from 01/02/2020 to 06/30/2020. **Carried**

**2020-01-10-008 MOTION** (S. Spicer/M. Fortin) That East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve Rev David King to chair Annual Meetings of Bridge St Church. **Carried**

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**2020-01-10-009 MOTION** (S. Spicer/S. Coles) That East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the process of vacancies on the Governance Board be filled in accordance with the governance policies of Bridge St. Church. **Carried**

**2020-01-10-010 MOTION** (P. Wilson/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Doing Mission Together grant for Chalmers United Church, Kingston for ministry and vision facilitation costs of \$5,000.00. **Carried**

**2020-01-10-011 MOTION** (S. Spicer) That the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. **Carried**

**2020-02-07-012 MOTION** (J. Wilson/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-02-07-013 MOTION** (S. Coles/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of January 7, 2020 as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-02-07-015 MOTION** (S. Coles/S. Spicer) that The East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accepts the request of Rev. Patti Armstrong and the Mark Street United Church Peterborough to end the pastoral relationship between them Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 2020, all the terms of the legal agreement having been executed. **Carried**

**2020-02-07-016 MOTION** (P. Wilson/T. Meyers) that The East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders having received the request of Fairview and Greenwood United Churches to amalgamate which is supported by the unanimous consent of both congregations, as voted in recent congregational meetings, approves the amalgamation of Fairview United Church and Greenwood United church both in Peterborough. The new entity being Greenwood United Church. Effective Feb 7<sup>th</sup> 2020. **Carried**

**2020-02-07-017 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) that The East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoints Kathleen Whyte of Peterborough and Rev Richard Hamilton, Westminster Belleville to be Liaison Officers within the East Central Ontario Regional Council. **Carried**

**2020-02-07-018 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) that having received the properly completed form on Church Hub the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Call of Rev. Andrew MacPherson, Ordained Minister to Trinity Providence Pastoral Charge, Bobcaygeon, Ontario full time from 01/07/2020. **Carried**

**2020-02-07-019 MOTION** (S. Coles/S. Spicer) That having received the properly completed form on Church Hub , the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. James Feairs, Retired supply Ordained Minister, to the Eldad- Hampton pastoral charge, Hampton, Ontario, Part Time 24 Hours per Week supply ministry from 01/03/2020 to 06/30/2020. **Carried**

**2020-02-07-020 MOTION** (T. Meyers/P. Wilson) that upon Receipt of the properly completed form on Church Hub, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev Kathy Edmison, Ordained Minister, to Wooler United Church Pastoral Charge, Northumberland, Ontario, Part Time 20 hours per week ministry from 01/01/2020 to 30/06/2020. **Carried**

**2020-02-07-021 MOTION** (S. Marsellus/P. Wilson) that Upon Receipt of the properly completed form on Church Hub, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev Patti Armstrong, Ordained Minister, to St Mark's Whitby Pastoral Charge, Whitby, Ontario, Full Time ministry from 03/01/2020 to 30/06/2020. **Carried**

**2020-02-07-021 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders table the above motion definitely to the next meeting of the Assembly of Elders. **Carried**

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**2020-02-07-022 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) that upon Receipt of the properly completed form, On Church Hub, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the provisional call of Stephanie Richmond, to Ordained Ministry, to Greenbank Seagrave Pastoral Charge, Ontario, Full Time ministry from date of ordination service (May 24<sup>th</sup> 2020). **Carried**

**2020-02-07-023 MOTION** (S. Coles/N. Sutherland) that having received the request of Brooklin United Church Council re sabbatical plans for Rev. Anne Meredith, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the plan a three-month sabbatical attached to one month of summer vacation. The dates are July 21, 2020 to November 9, 2020. (This is after Vacation Bible Camp and before Advent).

**2020-02-07-024 MOTION** (S. Coles/S. Spicer) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received the report from Rev. Patti Evans, conflict resolution facilitator assigned to Emmanuel United Church, refer said report to the Office of Vocations Remedial Committee for action, and request a response as to what that action will be, so that the Regional Council can support the congregation during said action. **Carried**

**2020-02-07-025 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that having received the request of Highland Hills United Church re begin a project involving the purchase and installation of an elevator type lift to provide accessible access to three levels of the church building. This access would meet the current mobility needs of the congregation as well as the requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005 before the compliance deadline of 2025.

The initial approval is the expenditure of up to \$2000 for the concept design and drawings, money to be drawn from the restricted capital funds from the sale of 12 Mile Lake church building (2009) and/or from the anticipated sale of Zion United church building; (Current 12 Mile Lake Capital Fund stands at \$117,000.). **Carried**

**2020-02-07-026 MOTION** (S. Coles/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders confirm that VIBE be allowed to retain the remaining funds that came from Presbyteries in 2019, to pay for costs in 2020 while waiting for grant money expected at the end of the summer. **Carried**

**2020-02-07-027 MOTION** (S. Coles/T. Meyers) That in order to process the approved grant

MOTION (M. Fortin/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the Doing Mission Together grant to Walking Together, Sharing the Information, Advocating for Palestinian Farmers for \$5,000.00. Carried, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders agrees to written one-time agreement with UNJPPI. **Carried**

**2020-02-07-028 MOTION** (P. Wilson/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders affirms the recommendations of the Nominations Team that Nancy Payne and Patricia Tesky be appointed to the Visioning team. **Carried**

**2020-02-19-029 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is 105 CHURCH STN PLAN CG HANNING BLK M LOT 3 CLARINGTON MUNICIPALITY and the municipal address of 105 Church St N, Orono Ontario. LOB IMO and 111 CHURCH ST N PLAN CG HANNING BLK M LOT 1 & 2 CLARINGTON MUNICIPALITY and the municipal address of 111 Church St N, Orono Ontario. LOB 1M0

Pursuant to an agreement between the Board of Trustees of Orono United Church, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, as seller, and Royal LePage Real Estate as listing agency, dated the 11th of February 2020, and subject to Regional Council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Purchaser: Ummati School

Sale price: \$1,019,999.00

Deposit of \$60,000.00

Balance due of \$959,999.00

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Conditions: a, upon the buyer conducting soil, groundwater, and environmental tests b, the buyer taking measurements c, removing samples where reasonable to do so d, upon buyers' lawyers review and written approval of the terms and conditions herein e, the buyer arranging satisfactory financing f, the buyer completing an inspection of the property by a qualified and professionally insured home inspector, which may include septic inspections if possible, with the obtaining of a report satisfactory to the buyer in their sole and absolute discretion, and at the buyers' expense.

Warranties: seller to provide warranty for existence and removal of underground fuel tank. **Carried**

**2020-03-12-030 MOTION** (P. Wilson/S. Marsellus) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as amended to include the following addition:

- COVID 19
- Governance document

**Carried**

**2020-03-12-031 MOTION** (J. Wilson/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders welcomes Affirm representatives Bruce Hutchison, Judy Amsbury and Sharon Woodrow as corresponding members for this presentation.

**2020-03-12-032 MOTION** (P. Wilson/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of February 7, 2020 as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-03-12-033 MOTION** (M. Fortin/S. Marsellus) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of February 19, 2020 as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-03-12-035 MOTION** (J. Wilson/P. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders ask Rev. Patti Evans, conflict resolution facilitator assigned to Emmanuel United Church, to continue her work within the Community of Faith, funding of the conflict resolution to be paid 50% by the regional Council and 50% by the Community of Faith. **Carried**

**2020-03-12-036 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recommends the \$1900 Church/Manse Modernization and Improvement Grant for Maple Lake United Church, Minden, for upgrades to operate an approved kitchen facility (not currently in compliance on three health matters), and forwards the request to the General Council office). **Carried**

**2020-03-12-037 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recommends the \$5000 Church/Manse Modernization and Improvement Grant for Wesley United Church, part of the Buckhorn Pastoral (NM) Charge, to repair the roof, steeple and church interior and forwards the request to the General Council office. **Carried**

**2020-03-12-038 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of Rural Faith United Church to sell Part Lot 47 Plan 23, Hamilton Part 3 on Reference Plan 39R-13822; Township of Hamilton, County of Northumberland, and the municipal address of which is Vacant Land fronting on the South side of Burwash Road, Hamilton Township, ON K0K 1C0 to Trisha Lichtenburger for \$200,000.

Conditions:

1. Buyer obtaining financing on or before 6 pm on March 27, 2020
2. Buyer being satisfied with respects to all aspects of the subject property and its suitability for her purposes on or by 6 pm on March 27, 2020
3. Approval of agreement by seller's lawyer no later than 6 pm on March 13, 2020
4. Approval of agreement by seller's church governing board (ECORC) no later than 6 pm on March 13, 2020  
Completion date (closing date) April 15, 2020

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In the case of transactions generating proceeds to the following disposition of the proceeds arising from the transaction:

10% to be remitted to the United Church of Canada for the on-going support of Indigenous Ministry,  
90% to be retained by the Community of Faith with an approved ministry plan for the use of the proceeds by the Regional Council that is financially sustainable, with the understanding that up to 5% of the invested capital may be used in any given year to support its operating budget. (ECORC Policy Regarding Proceeds of the Sale of Property November 9, 2019)

**Carried**

**2020-03-12-039 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of New Hope United Church, Port Hope to use \$ 20,000 from its investment funds to pay for capital improvements to the manse (including windows, new vinyl flooring for kitchen, and lower floor hallway to back entrance, kitchen counter and faucet, minor electrical) to allow for rental revenue. **Carried**

**2020-03-12-040 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders allow the Saint James United Church, Peterborough, to proceed with major renovations to the sanctuary, costs up to \$130,000, subject to the Board of Saint James' final approval. **Carried**

**2020-03-12-041 MOTION** (P. Wilson/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the new governance structure of St Paul's United Church, Ajax, and request that at least one of the Community of Faith's representatives to the Regional Council be named to the Governance Structure of that Community of Faith. **Carried**

**2020-03-12-042 MOTION** (J. Wilson/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the revisions to the Operating Policies and Procedures of St Paul's United Church, Bowmanville. **Carried**

**2020-03-12-043 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Marsellus) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the revisions to the Constitution of the Unified Board of St. Marks United Church, Cannifton. **Carried**

**2020-03-12-044 MOTION** (P. Wilson/S. Marsellus) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders delegates the following representatives Jean Wilson, Steve Spicer and David Timpson (along with Supervisor Kirby Braithwaite) to meet with the Spring Brook United Church (matching numbers of representation). **Carried**

**2020-03-12-045 MOTION** (P. Reed/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders elect Svinda Heinrichs, Bill Smith and Caroline Giesbrecht to serve on the Nominations Team. **Carried**

**2020-03-12-046 MOTION** (P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders meeting be adjourned at 3:06 p.m. **Carried**

**2020-03-25-047 MOTION** (P. Wilson/J. Wilson) that given the current health pandemic, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the postponing of the Regional Council General Meeting, scheduled for May 23-24, 2020. The new dates will be Friday, September 25 -Sunday, September 27 to be held at Pickering Village United Church. **Carried.**

**2020-03-25-048 MOTION** (P. Wilson/J. Wilson) that given the current health pandemic, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the continuation of the current Assembly of Elders to provide leadership until the nominations process at the Regional Council General Meeting during the weekend of Friday, September 25 -Sunday, September 27 at Pickering Village United Church. **Carried.**

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**2020-03-25-049 MOTION** (P. Wilson/J. Wilson) that given the current health pandemic and postponing of the General Meeting, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders request that the Nominations Team name an Elder to fill the vacancy left with the sudden passing of Rev. D'Thea Webster until such time at the Regional Council General Meeting that the full slate of names will be presented. **Carried.**

**2020-04-03-050 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-04-03-051 MOTION** (S. Spicer/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of March 12, 2020 as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-04-03-052 MOTION** (M. Fortin/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of March 25, 2020 (2020-03-25-048, 2020-03-25-049, 2020-04-03-050). **Carried**

**2020-04-03-053 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, until September 1<sup>st</sup> 2020, approves the Property and Finance Team to grant use of (reserved) (trust) (manse) funds upon request, sufficient to cover shortfalls to meet monthly ADP payment. **Carried**

**2020-04-03-054 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders takes into consideration the potential 20% reduction to Mission Support Grants when preparing its 2021 budget. **Carried**

**2020-04-03-055 MOTION** (M. Fortin/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders agree with the recommendation of the Formation Nurture and Justice to take on the responsibility of choosing its own representative to attend Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Council meetings. **Carried**

**2020-04-03-056 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders affirm all of the existing Teams until the Annual General Meeting in September 2020. **Carried**

**2020-05-08-057 MOTION** (T. Meyers/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-05-08-058 MOTION** (S. Coles/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of April 3, 2020 as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-05-08-059 MOTION** (T. Meyers/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of email vote closed April 17, 2020. **Carried**

*2020-04-17-MOTION (T. Meyers/ S. Coles)*

- 1. to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Pt Lt 15 Con 1 Stanhope as in SA246 Except H20582 Except Pt 1 H39227; Pt Rdal STN Lt 15&16 Con 1 Stanhope (closed by H126069) Pt 1 19R2882, Algonquin Highlands, and the municipal address of which is 1021 East Road, Algonquin Highlands (Zion United Church) pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Highland Hills United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as seller, and Helen Litt and David Litt, as buyers, dated the 4th day of April, 2020 for the sale price of \$245,000.*
- 2. to the following disposition of the proceeds arising from the transaction: To invest the proceeds, net of the selling costs, in secure investments. Income generated by investments will be used for operations. Any principal will be used for capital works or other substantial projects to the benefit of the congregation only on the approval of the United Church of Canada.*

*The Mission Through Property and Finance Leadership Team will also remind them of the RC Policy that 10% of proceeds is to be sent to the national UCC for Indigenous Ministries. Carried*

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**2020-05-08-060 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) The East Central Ontario Regional Council, Assembly of Elders, in supporting a well understood need in Pastoral Charges Requires the presence of Pastoral Relations Liaison's at all Pastoral Relations interviews. **Carried**

**2020-05-08-061 MOTION** (S. Spicer/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of Covenant Support Team (Pastoral Relations work) for April 6 and May 6, 2020. **Carried**

**2020-05-08-062 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Trinity United Church, Cannington manse renovation project (\$82,000 to \$92,000) by the Nourish Develop Foundation, work done by contractor, Barkey Construction of Cannington. **Carried**

**2020-05-08-063 MOTION** (M. Fortin/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Renewal of Loan for Trinity United Church, Uxbridge with Toronto United Church Council. **Carried** (*Ted Meyers abstains*).

**2020-05-08-064 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of Lakefield United Church to use their Capital Campaign funds to replace their current Sanctuary roof with metal shingles, estimated cost of \$67,000 +HST with a donation back to the church of the HST and a 55 year warrantee. **Carried**

**2020-05-08-065 MOTION** (S. Coles/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders delegate David Timpson as the Regional Council representative (corresponding member) for the Old Hay Bay Church board. **Carried** (*Phil Wilson abstains*)

**2020-05-08-066 MOTION** (P. Wilson/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders authorizes \$1500 be contributed to the Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils for 2020.

**2020-05-08-067 MOTION** (P. Wilson/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receive with appreciation the work of the Equity Team and circulate the information to encourage, support and/or challenge improvements. **Carried**

**2020-05-08-068 MOTION** (N. Sutherland/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 12:10 p.m. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-069 MOTION** (S. Coles/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-070 MOTION** (P. Wilson/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders welcomes Nancy Payne and Patricia Teskey as corresponding members for this presentation of a draft Vision Statement for the Regional Council. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-071 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receive the Draft Statement of Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles and recommend it to the Regional Council with requested editorial changes. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-072 MOTION** (S. Coles/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders welcomes Affirm representatives Judy Amsbury, Sharon Woodrow and Elizabeth Macdonald as corresponding members for this presentation. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-073 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders agrees and recommends to the Regional Council that it approve an extension of Interim Affirming Status for until East Central Ontario Regional Council's 2021 Annual Meeting. **Carried**

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**2020-06-12-074 MOTION** (T. Meyers/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve payment of the \$1000 annual membership fee for our region in Affirm United. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-075 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of May 8, 2020 as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-076 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adopts the following Policy for Communication through it's newsletters and event advertising:

1. Communication is focused on sharing news from
  - a) The Regional Council and Assembly of Elders
  - b) Communities of Faith within the Regional Council
  - c) Other United Church of Canada related bodies
  - d) Other organizations whose work supports the mission statement of the Regional Council.
2. Regional Council resources will not be used in the advertising or promotion of events, goods and/or services that are for private and/or for profit entities. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-077 MOTION** (S. Coles/M. Fortin) that in light of the delay of celebrating ministries due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recognizes the provisional appointment of Michiko Bowan-Kai to be ordained to the Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care with Glen Morris Pastoral Charge Toronto, and approves, effective July 1, 2020 the privileges to have an Ontario marriage licence and administer the Sacraments. The salary package will reflect the change in status, effective July 1, 2020. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-078 MOTION** (S. Coles/M. Fortin) that in light of the delay of celebrating ministries due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recognizes the provisional call of Kimberley Lawrence to be ordained to the Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care with Greenwood Pastoral Charge, and approves, effective July 1, 2020 the privileges to have an Ontario marriage licence and administer the Sacraments. The salary package will reflect the change in status, effective July 1, 2020. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-079 MOTION** (S. Coles/M. Fortin) that in light of the delay of celebrating ministries due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recognizes the provisional call of Cheryl McMurray to be ordained to the Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care with Arden Pastoral Charge and approves, effective July 1, 2020 the privileges to have an Ontario marriage licence and administer the Sacraments. The salary package will reflect the change in status, effective July 1, 2020. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-080 MOTION** (S. Coles/M. Fortin) that in light of the delay of celebrating ministries due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recognizes the provisional call of Stephanie Richmond to be ordained to the Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care with Green Bank Seagrave Pastoral Charge, and approves, effective July 1, 2020 the privileges to have an Ontario marriage licence and administer the Sacraments. The salary package will reflect the change in status, effective July 1, 2020. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-081 MOTION** (S. Coles/M. Fortin) that in light of the delay of celebrating ministries due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recognizes the provisional appointment of Marilyn Zehr to be admitted to the Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care with Maynooth Madawaska Pastoral Charge, and approves, effective July 1, 2020 the privileges to have an Ontario marriage licence and administer the Sacraments. The salary package will reflect the change in status, effective July 1, 2020. **Carried**

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**2020-06-12-082 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of Covenant Support Team (Pastoral Relations work) for April 8 and May 6, 2020. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-083 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, under section J.4 (a) of The Manual, order a review of Chalmers United Church, Kingston:

The Manual J.4 (a) Regional Council Action—Communities of Faith

The regional council is responsible for the oversight of communities of faith. It must take seriously any concerns that come to its attention about the state of a community of faith within the bounds of the regional council.

These concerns may be raised by

- a. the regional council itself, including any member or committee of the regional council. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-084 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accepts the report of the Mission through Property and Finance Team. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-085 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the request of St. Paul's United Church, Ajax to spend \$55,000 to replace a storm sewer system, a loan having been secured from the Lakeridge Presbytery Church Extension Council. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-086 MOTION** (R. Lambie/N. Sutherland) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders

- a. strongly recommend that no churches reopen for public worship before Labour Day weekend;
- b. expects that every Community of Faith prepare guidelines for reopening and submit their plan to the Regional Council ([ecorc@cogeco.ca](mailto:ecorc@cogeco.ca)), two weeks prior to their proposed opening date;
- c. agrees to post and circulate the information and resources pertaining to safely reopening Communities of Faith;
- d. strongly encourage Communities of Faith to be in touch with their local health units;
- e. expects that every Community of Faith create a separate plan with guidelines for reopening buildings to rentals and community activities or community groups; and
- f. continue to provide information, as developments require. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-087 MOTION** (M. Fortin/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accepts the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the Doing Mission Together grant to Being Good Relations for \$3,000.00. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-088 MOTION** (M. Fortin/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the Doing Mission Together grant to Cathedral in the Trees Algonquin for \$4,000.00. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-089 MOTION** (M. Fortin/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the Doing Mission Together grant to Intercultural Church and Community Network for \$2,500.00 (The workshop will be offered at such time as it is allowed, post-Covid.). **Carried**

**2020-06-12-090 MOTION** (M. Fortin/J. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the Doing Mission Together grant to Bedford House/ Story Tellers for \$5,000.00 (We have already granted funds for a different project of Bedford House. Note that this is a new stream of outreach from the original project.). **Carried**

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**2020-06-12-091 MOTION** (M. Fortin/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for support to the Restoration of Identity Legacy Project for \$5000.00. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-092 MOTION** (M Fortin/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders endorse the letter from ISARC about Long Term Care to the Ontario Government to support the commission but with strong recommendations for its mandate and transparency. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-093 MOTION** (R. Lambie/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders authorizes the Formation Nurture and Justice team to allow for more applications to come in to make use of residual funding for this year. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-094 MOTION** (J. Wilson/R. McNally) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders affirms the proposed Regional Council announcement against racism for circulation. **Carried**

**2020-09-11-095 MOTION** (S. Coles/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders extend voting privileges to Brian James for this meeting and future Assembly of Elders meeting. **Carried**

**2020-09-11-096 MOTION** (M. Fortin/R. McNally) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-06-12-097 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of June 12, 2020 as circulated. **Carried**

**2020-09-11\_098 MOTION** (R. McNally/S. Spicer) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approved the Minutes of June 23, 2020 email vote. **Carried**

*2020-06-23\_0XX MOTION (R. McNally/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having identified under section J.4 (a) of The 2019 UCC Manual, the need to order a review of Chalmers United Church, Kingston, appoints Beth Symes, trained lay person as the Reviewer.*

*The mandate is to investigate the state of the Community of Faith, with particular concern for the level of dysfunction and turmoil existing therein, the break down in the shared ministry plan including worship and staff, and further, to explore willingness to do self-reflection for goal setting to create a healthy congregation, and determine what willingness there is to be a partner.*

*The reviewers will gather information about life at Chalmers, make findings based on that information, and make a report back to the Regional Council Assembly of Elders for the meeting on September 11, 2020 with those recommendations based on the findings.*

*The Community of Faith will not be free to select ministry personnel through the Pastoral Relations process until the work, resulting from the review and agreed upon by the Assembly of Elders, is completed. **CARRIED***

**2020-09-11\_099 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approved the Minutes of July 30, 2020 email vote. **Carried**

*2020-07-30- MOTION (M. Fortin/T. Meyers) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received a request from the Catarauqui United Church, does hereby grant permission to change the name of the Cemetery change from "Catarauqui United Church Cemetery" to "Heritage Cemetery at Catarauqui". **CARRIED***

**2020-09-11\_100 MOTION** (P. Wilson/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approved the Minutes of July 30, 2020 email vote. **Carried**

*2020-07-30- MOTION (M. Fortin/P. Wilson) that due to a clear conflict of interest while serving in the role of Liaison, and a refusal to respond or comply with the Pastoral Charge Supervisor or Regional Council directives,*

*thus demonstrating a lack of respect for appropriate boundaries, that the retired Reverend Deborah Elliott be relieved effective immediately of her responsibilities as Liaison to the New Hope Pastoral Charge.*

*Furthermore, the Pastoral Relations Minister is asked to ensure a replacement at the earliest possible time to assist the New Hope team complete its work. **CARRIED***

**2020-09-11\_101 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approved the Minutes of August 4, 2020 email vote. **Carried**

***2020-08-04-MOTION** ( T. Meyers/M.Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Dummer Ward, Concession 1, Part Lot 12, Warsaw Village, Township of Doura-Dummer, Province of Ontario and the municipal address of 923-925 Water Street, Warsaw, Ontario. K0L 3A0 and pursuant to an agreement between the Board of Trustees of Bethel-Warsaw United Church, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, and part of the Warsaw Pastoral Charge as seller, and Todd Mollohan as purchaser, dated the 28th of July 2020, and subject to Regional Council approval, the terms of which are as follows:*

*Purchaser: Todd Mollohan  
Sale price: \$70,000.00  
Deposit of \$1,000.00  
Balance due of \$69,000.00*

*Conditions:*

*Sold as is, no running water, no septic tank, no real estate fees, no zoning costs to be paid by seller, sidewalk on south of church on property of purchaser, parking lot front swimming dock and boat launch that has been used by public, and church in need of repairs to ground floor.*

*To the following disposition of the net proceeds arising from the transaction will be added to the Congregations Real Property (Cash and Investment) and allocated based upon the November 2019 guidelines for disbanding congregation of:*

*10 % to the United Church of Canada Indigenous Ministry,*

*10% to the Toronto United Church Council's Sustainable Energy Loan Fund.*

*20% be remitted to the Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council.*

*20% be remitted to the United Church of Canada Mission and Service.*

*40% be directed for purposes within The United Church of Canada and which is approved by the Regional Council before the disbanding of the Community of Faith. **CARRIED***

**2020-09-11\_102 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approved the Minutes of August 6, 2020 email vote. **Carried**

***2020-08-06- MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is LT 6-7 BLK C PL 162: PT LT 28 BLK C PL 162 in DES 1774, EXCEPT PT 1, 21R17795; DESERONTO, COUNTY OF HASTINGS; Province of Ontario and the municipal address of which is 112-4<sup>th</sup> Street, Deseronto, Ontario K0K 1X0 and pursuant to an agreement between the Board of Trustees of Deseronto United Church, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, and part of the Deseronto-Napanee Pastoral Charge as seller, dated the 21th of July 2020, and subject to Regional Council approval, the terms of which are as follows:*

- a) Purchaser: 1966780 Ontario Inc*
- b) Sale price: \$240,000.00*
- c) Deposit of \$1,000.00*
- d) Balance due of \$239,000.00*
- e) Conditions –none*
- f) Warranties - none*
- g) Scheduled closing October 31, 2020*
- h) Source of funds – purchaser's funds*

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*To the following disposition of the net proceeds arising from the transaction*

- a) *10 % to the United Church of Canada Indigenous Ministry,*
- b) *90 % net the selling cost will be placed in secure investments. Income generated by the investments will be used for on-going operations of the Deseronto United Church Congregation, which intends to continue as a congregation. **CARRIED***

**2020-09-11-103 MOTION** (J. Wilson/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders welcomes Nancy Payne and Patricia Teskey as corresponding members for discussion of a 2<sup>nd</sup> draft Vision Statement for the Regional Council. **Carried**

**2020-09-11-104 MOTION** (J. Wilson/S. Coles) That Liaison Officers shall not be eligible as worship leaders, or for Call, or appointment, on the Pastoral Charges they have been assigned to work in as Liaison officers of East Central Ontario Regional Council. This in eligibility shall continue until the covenanting service or successful completion of Search. **Carried**

**2020-09-11-105 MOTION** (J. Wilson/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives the request for a in change in pastoral relations for Rev. Kirby Constable. **Carried** (*T. Meyers abstains*)

**2020-09-11-106 MOTION** (B. James/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives the draft Financial report and proposed 2021 budget to be presented at the Regional Council Meeting. **Carried**

**2020-09-11-107 MOTION** (T. Meyers/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the request of Trenton United Church, to spend \$150,000 from reserved funds for an elevator project. **Carried**

**2020-09-11\_108 MOTION** (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Part South Half Lot 1, Plan 68, Parts 2, 3 and 4 Plan 13R22035, County of Frontenac, subject to an easement over Part 4 Plan 13R22035 as in FR560183; City of Kingston, and the municipal address of which is 31 Weller Avenue, Kingston, Ontario K7K 2T1, pursuant to an agreement between the Board of Trustees of St. Matthew's United Church a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as St. Matthew's United Church and Justin Andrew Bannon, dated the 3rd day of September, 2020, and subject to Regional Council approval, the terms (*subject to the agreed distribution of the proceeds of sale*) of which are as follows:

Agreement of Purchase and Sale, Agreement to Lease:

\$435,000 with a ten-year lease of \$0.00 per month for the community of faith.

The proceeds from the sale be assigned as follows:

1. Pay to East Central Ontario Region the amount of \$9,620.00 in repayment of a loan from the former Four Winds Presbytery and in accordance with the terms of the loan agreement.
2. The remainder of the net proceeds be divided as follows:
  - 25% to be used to support the ongoing ministry of the congregation
  - 75% to be invested and the interest to be used to support the ongoing ministry of the community of faith. **Carried**

**2020-09-11-109 MOTION** (T. Meyers/R. McNally) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives the Team report identifying that the Retirees Forum will have a budget line of \$150 for the remainder of 2020, and \$1000 for 2021. **Carried**

**2020-09-11-110 MOTION** (J. Wilson/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Travel Policy. **Carried**

**2020-09-11-111 MOTION** (B. James/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the name change which resulted from the amalgamation of Baltimore and Bethesda South United Churches in 2016, to become "Rural Faith United Church." The General Council office will be notified of the change. **Carried**

**2020-09-11-112 MOTION** (M. Fortin/R. McNally) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team to grant remaining funds in 2020 budget (\$26,200) of the "Doing Mission Together Grants" to support initiatives that are related to "COVID-19 Communications and Programming. **Carried**

**2020-09-11-113 MOTION** (P. Wilson/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of the Equity Team to experiment with a dedicated Equity ECORC YouTube channel initiative. **Carried**

**2020-09-11-114 MOTION** (P. Wilson/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders To enable and facilitate the work of "Becoming an Affirming Regional Council", assigned to the Affirm Forum, and until the East Central Ontario Regional Council becomes a permanent Affirming Regional Council recommend that,

- I. The Affirm Forum be accountable directly to the Regional Council and to the Assembly of Elders between full Regional Council meetings; and,
- II. And that a member of the Assembly of Elders be assigned to relate to the Affirm Forum.

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## Reports

### Executive Minister

It has been a very busy year as we have continued to live into our new reality. Additions to the Assembly of Elders have brought new energy and Rev. Paul Reed has fit well into the role of Speaker, replacing Rev. Jean Wilson who continued to share her wisdom in other ways. Monthly dates were established for the year, alternating in person and on zoom in the fall, then zoom to avoid the winter weather, me to recover from a mid-January hip replacement, and then we were regularly zooming in COVID-19 mode. The work, however, never slowed down. If anything, it intensified as we endeavored to support communities of faith deal with closed churches, cancelled meetings and financial challenges.

Joel and I have the privilege to work with three very different Regional Councils, each gathering combinations of former Conferences and presbyteries. The dynamics are different and the energy is very exciting. It has allowed us to have a broader understanding of our denomination. We have great discussions as we drive the highways and country roads to meet in many different churches.

We have also observed that the one of the challenges for East Central Ontario is to allow itself to change, to grow, to be what it has never been before. This is difficult when the majority of the members have experienced working together, and yet there are new faces and ideas to welcome. How can we be intentional about dreaming, risking and welcoming the 'new'?

With the arrival of the pandemic, we no longer know what 'normal' will be, but we do have a better sense of what is possible. Many are mastering the technology, or sharing with neighbours who have the skills, but there are Internet challenges. We are also aware of fear and expectations for the future around the capacity to offer both on-line and Sunday worship. What resources do we have and what are needed?

Communities of Faith want to see their own ministers because ministry is so much more than worship. It is the shared experience of caring that is felt throughout the congregation and community. Worship, while important, is one part of the bigger picture. The medium of the art of ministry is relationship, and together we need to find ways to continue to build those relationships. David, Sharon and Rodney are each resourcing different ways of doing ministry.

Our second challenge is to find better ways of communicating. Louise has developed a website, a bi-weekly newsletter, monitors the Facebook group and sends regular mailings to all ministry personnel and lay people that who been identified by their communities of faith. Are we missing reaching you? How can we be more inclusive? We still hear that people don't know things. Perhaps it just takes time, but it also takes people responding. How can we offer spiritual gifts in a time of change to the world?

I am deeply grateful to the dedicated work of our staff team, David, Joel, Louise, Rodney and Sharon, as well as the Assembly of Elders and many volunteers who serve on the Teams. Each one contributes many hours to enrich our ministry together.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Rosemary Lambie, Executive Minister

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## General Council Executive

Dear Regional Council Friends;

*And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another..... (Hebrews 10:24-25)*

We hear this passage this year, in these times of pandemic isolation, differently than ever before. These days we are not tempted to neglect meeting together, but are *yearning* for the “normal” world when it is safe for all of us to meet together, to worship together, and to serve together once again. And yet we hear these words today with a new understanding of what it means to gather together, with a new understanding of the possibility of experiencing genuine community as we gather and worship through electronic means rather than sitting side by side in our pews.

We are writing to you in the middle of the summer, thinking ahead to your plans to gather for regional council meetings this fall. The usual spring meetings were put off this year with the expectation of meeting in person in the fall, but as the summer progresses, it seems increasingly clear that fall gatherings may be held virtually after all.

Your leadership in these unusual times is so important, and we are grateful to serve God alongside you in the United Church of Canada.

### **COVID-19**

Sometimes in the past few months, it has felt almost impossible to think of anything except the pandemic and how it is affecting all of our lives and the life of our church! This has been a year of unexpectedly rapid and massive change. If you had told any of us as 2020 dawned that in less than three months all the churches would be closed, all the schools would be closed, all the restaurants would be closed, all but “essential” businesses would be closed, vacation trips would all be cancelled, and we would be expected to stay home and not visit with friends or family, we simply would not have believed you. Even in the early part of the year, when these things became realities in China, we felt compassion for the people there, but still could not imagine that we would ever be affected in a similar way.

This is something that none of us have ever experienced before, and it is not something we ever expected to experience. Anxiety and grief are natural and real, but we have also felt deeply inspired by the creativity, innovation and adaptability that our ministers and members have demonstrated. Online worship is vibrant and meaningful, and serving not only our members but also numbers of people who had not been attending church, but have somehow found their way in through our virtual doorways. Bible studies, youth groups, baking nights, book clubs, board meetings, refugee support committees, the National Indigenous Elders Council, and so many more groups and events are all happening through the use of electronic tools. Although clusters and networks were slow to get off the ground after the reorganization of the Church structures, now there are regular ZOOM gatherings of ministry and lay leaders in regional groups, where real conversations take place as they support one another through the changes of these times. The Moderator and General Secretary have both appreciated opportunities to be part of these regional gatherings, perhaps connecting in this way with more of you than it would have been possible to meet in person during the same time period.

The General Council Office closed on March 16, initially for “two weeks” but as of the time of writing it has not reopened. We are beginning to bring some staff back into the office this fall, but, especially with our open space layout and close proximity of neighbouring workspaces, it will be some considerable time before all staff are back. Planning for staff to return to the office will take into account the ability of job functions to be performed from outside the office, the health and family situations of staff members. Those working in the office will find that it feels different in many respects with the appearance of masks, lack of access to the common lunch area, limited use of meeting formats, and so on. Fortunately, we have seen staff rise to the occasion and find creative ways of doing

their jobs and connecting with the wider church from their own homes. As with other churches and organizations, this experience has given us the opportunity to examine travel practices and question the “necessity” of some of our former ways, and to consider the possibility of some staff doing all or some of their work from locations outside of the office on a continuing basis.

No doubt you are also looking for the learnings from this time, the things that you have found possible and that you do not want to lose in “returning to normal”. We do not know yet what the “new normal” will look like, but it seems most likely that it will be different from what we understood as normal in the past. As we explore these unfamiliar paths, we give thanks that we are doing it together as a church, and with the comfort of God’s ever loving presence.

### **Budget cuts**

When so many things “shut down” in mid March because of the pandemic, we were less than two weeks away from the spring meeting of the General Council Executive. This was to have been an in person gathering with a focus on identifying strategic priorities to offer to the church for discussion leading into the 44<sup>th</sup> General Council. There was one significant piece of business of the agenda, the approval of budget principles to guide the 2021 budget of the General Council Office. Given the circumstances in which this meeting was held (electronically), with so many immediate practical concerns in people’s minds, the “big picture strategic” work was deferred, and the focus shifted to the budget decisions that were needed. Although it would have been nice to avoid the difficult budget decisions too, this was not possible with church revenues are going down, as the size of our membership and number of congregations goes down. This has been a reality for some years and is accelerating. If anything was changed by the pandemic, it is the likelihood that even more serious reductions will be needed as a result of the economic fallout that accompanies the pandemic shutdown.

The budget principles that the General Council Executive approved on March 28 require the 2021 budget to be about \$4 million smaller than this year’s budget. These reductions will be roughly divided between grants and staff. Grant recipients have already been notified of the reduced grant levels that will apply in 2021, and this includes reductions in the Mission and Service allocations to Regional Councils. Staff reductions were made this spring and summer, so that severance costs could be borne within this fiscal year.

### **Anti-Racism**

The issues raised by racialized and Indigenous participants at the unplanned, passionate, and painful discussion that ended the General Council 43 meeting in Oshawa, and the ongoing presence of systemic racism within our church, have been a major concern and area of work for this Executive of the General Council.

Early on in its tenure, the GCE set up an Anti-Racism Working Group, and they have been working hard to lift up issues of racial injustice, and to seek practical measures that will make a difference. Their [report](#) to the General Council Executive in March of 2020 lifts up the work done and the directions identified for further work.

The White Privilege Working Group has gone through some transitions in membership this year, and the willingness of Shannon McCarthy (Regional Council Executive Minister for the Prairie to Pine, Living Skies, and Northern Spirit regional councils) to take on the role of chair provides an important basis for partnership in this work between the General Council and Regional Councils. These two Working Groups, along with the Reference Group for Indigenous Peoples and the Reference Group for Racialized Peoples, and the staff that support them, will be meeting in September to discuss coordination and clarification of the work and to develop an outline for the United Church’s Anti-Racism Strategy. We will be in conversation with Regional Councils as the anti-racism strategy is being developed.

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Meanwhile, with advice from racialized staff, and oversight from both Working Groups, revisions have been made to the General Council Harassment policy to clarify its application to racial harassment, and the process that are available to activate it. The revised policy is slated for approval by the sub-executive this summer and will be in place by the time you meet this fall. Information and training will be available to help everyone become familiar with the scope and requirements of the revised policy.

We have been working closely with Anglicans and Lutherans, and with others from the Canadian Council of Churches, to express our shared commitment to the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent, with links to statements in [March](#), [June](#) and [July](#). In June, the General Council Executive released a statement expressing clearly its conviction that [Black Lives Matter](#) to the United Church. The Moderator has also written to the Prime Minister to express strong support for the national recognition of August 1 as [Emancipation Day](#), to mark the abolition of slavery in Canada. If you want a practical step that you can take, we encourage you to write your own letter to the Prime Minister on this topic. Feel free to use the Moderator's letter as a model.

GC43 Commissioners will know that when the General Council was recalled in June to consider whether the next General Council meeting should be delayed, a [proposal](#) outlining a number of steps to combat racism was received. Although this proposal was received too close to the time of the meeting to allow for adequate discussion and preparation by commissioners, its principles received clear support and it was referred to the General Council Executive for further work with the expectation that there will be a report back to the next electronic recall of GC43 on October 24.

Those present in Oshawa, and those following closely the business of the General Council there heard clearly the importance of acknowledging and addressing racism. Even still, one challenge is that many United Church people assume that OTHER people are racists, and that racism is an individual and overt act as opposed to a system. We have denounced racism as a church. But some among us—particularly those of us who are White—may not really understand that although we oppose racism, we are part of racist systems and institutions, whether we realize it or not. The sad murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis has generated wider discussion and a deeper recognition of the systemic racism that is part the world in which we live. Many in the church have been educating themselves about White privilege, deepening their commitment to anti-racism work, affirming that Black Lives Matter, and following through with tangible actions that support our words. Too often, people believe that racism is a particular issue in the United States, or a problem outside the United Church. But racism actually relates to each of us, and is present in our own church. The good news is that understanding the reality of racism provides the basis for doing something about it, for speaking up when we hear inappropriate conversations, for sharing resources that have helped our own learning, and for pushing for social, institutional, and political changes that will bring about true respect, safety, and equality of opportunity for all.

We are in the process of recruiting an Anti-Racism and Equity Officer who will serve in the General Council Office and report directly to the General Secretary. This person will ensure that the various pieces of related work are coordinated, that information about the work is shared, and that learning opportunities are widely available.

Anti-racism work needs the leadership of the General Council Office, but also needs the commitment of United Church people in every Regional Council, and in local communities of faith. If you are doing work in this area, or have suggestions for us, we would be grateful to hear from you.

### **National Indigenous Council**

The National Indigenous Council is now a year into its new structure. Through the first ten months of the life of this new body, they were ably supported by Cheryl Jourdain, former Speaker of the All Native Circle Conference, who had agreed to provide interim leadership through a transitional period. As of July 1, Murray Pruden has been

serving as the Executive Minister for Indigenous Ministries and Justice. The General Council Executive looks forward to working closely with the National Indigenous Council to advance the commitments made when the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Council accepted the Calls to the Church from the Caretakers of the Indigenous Circle.

### **United Property Resource Corporation**

The establishment of the United Property Resource Corporation (UPRC) was approved by the General Council Executive in April of 2019 and got started in the months that followed. It is continuing to scale up quickly to achieve its mandate of becoming a trusted real estate advisor and support to faith communities by leading real estate initiatives on their behalf.

UPRC will work to ensure projects are commercially viable and support the mission of the community of faith and the United Church of Canada. This includes the development of safe, stable, and affordable housing for all Canadians while maximizing the social impact to achieve the highest possible economic, environmental and social benefits. UPRC has formally executed the agreement with Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation (CMHC) and is continuing to advance UCC real initiatives working alongside local faith communities.

The UPRC board is chaired by Don Hunter, who previously served on the General Council Executive as chair of the Permanent Committee on Finance. The first two staff of the corporation are Kris Tavella, who formerly did related work as part of EDGE, and the Chief Executive Officer Tim Blair, who began this spring in the midst of the COVID shutdown. Tim brings 20 years of real estate investment banking and private equity experience, and a strong commitment to the social values of the United Church, to the work.

This corporation has been created as a resource to the church, and either Tim or Kris are happy to hear from congregations and regional councils who have questions about property issues. You can expect to hear more announcements about the United Property Resource Group this fall.

([tblair@united-church.ca](mailto:tblair@united-church.ca) or [Ktavella@united-church.ca](mailto:Ktavella@united-church.ca))

### **Recruitment of new General Secretary**

At last October's recall meeting of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Council, the General Secretary shared the news of her wish to retire in the fall of 2020. A Search Committee was appointed (chaired by the Moderator). and, after a bit of delay because of COVID-19 distractions, they concluded interviews in August, and came to a strong consensus in their recommendation, which was approved by the General Council Executive on August 27.

[Michael Blair](#) will begin his term as General Secretary of the General Council on November 1. Many of you will already know him and we are excited about the excellent experience and faithful vision that he will bring to this new role. Nora Sanders will continue to serve until the end of October.

### **GC 44 Delayed until 2022**

At a special electronic meeting held on June 20, 2020, Commissioners of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Council made this decision to delay the 44<sup>th</sup> General Council from 2021 to 2022. Given the uncertainty caused by the Global pandemic, this decision was made having in mind the health and well being of all participants, including Commissioners, global partners, staff, and guests.

The revised dates for GC44 have been set for July 22–26, 2022. These dates were selected based on the original 2021 dates, availability of the venues, and the UCW 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration which is scheduled to be held in Sydney Nova Scotia, July 11 – 15, 2022.

Deadlines for GC44 are June 14, 2021 for electing Commissioners and October 29, 2021 for submitting proposals.

Richard Bott, Moderator  
Nora Sanders, General Secretary  
On behalf of the General Council Executive

### **Assembly of Elders**

The East Central Regional Council is governed and resourced with committed Teams of volunteers growing in knowledge and experience and supported and guided by our dedicated and capable staff. The structure of the Regional Council enables the independence of the Teams to provide quicker response and guidance to communities of faith and the accountability of the Teams ensures consistency and coordination. We acknowledge and give thanks for the volunteers and staff, past, present, and future, who guide us in this faith journey.

The Assembly of Elders meets monthly, as a microcosm of the full Regional Council to receive the accountability reports and updates from the various Teams. We review the work of the Teams to ensure consistency with the polity, policy and practice of The United Church of Canada and of the Regional Council. We seek to ensure coordination among the Teams. Occasionally we use a 48-hour email voting procedure to give quick guidance and approval when required.

Members of the Assembly of Elders each relate to one of the Teams. They serve as the conduit of communication and ensure the flow of information to and from and between the Teams. On the Team they may participate as an observer or full member but at the Assembly of Elders gathering, they are the spokesperson for the Team's accountability report. Through these individuals the needs of the Team for further guidance and resources are made known to the Assembly of Elders.

When required the Assembly of Elders may answer on behalf of the Regional Council, when possible the Assembly of Elders oversees the preparation of materials for the consideration of the full Regional Council.

To this gathering of the Regional Council the Assembly of Elders brings items large and small.

- ✓ As requested last fall the Assembly of Elders a revised Vision, Mission and Guiding Principle document has been crafted by Nancy Payne and Patricia Tesky. Patricia and Nancy have reviewed past documents, have consulted widely and have created a document that we are pleased to recommend for adoption.
- ✓ A revised Travel Policy is included for your review and consideration. It seeks to ensure that those benefiting from volunteer service show appropriate appreciation and that volunteers are appropriately compensated.
- ✓ You will also find a recommendation from the Assembly of Elders that enable and support the ongoing work of the Affirm Forum as they guide the Regional Council towards becoming a permanent Affirming Regional Council.
- ✓ We need to acknowledge that that this has been a most unusual year and that the adaptation and response to a pandemic crisis has been a challenge that has been met with incredible courage and creativity by the communities of faith, their leadership and by the leadership of the church. It is also accepted that planned agendas have been significantly disrupted. To this extent that Assembly of Elders recommends that the priorities and goal setting for year 2020 be extended into 2021.

We commend to you this workbook as a report of the Regional Council, its achievements, and its hopes.

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## The Assembly of Elders

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On a personal note. And one on which I hope you will agree.

The first configuration of the Assembly of Elders was a commission established by the former Bay of Quinte Conference and the Presbyteries. Among that group were Steve Spicer, Ryan McNally and Jean Wilson. These three have brought deep commitment, broad vision, and tireless service. I have been so pleased to have them as colleagues in this formational work and I extend my deep thanks and appreciation for their support and leadership. Their terms on the Assembly of Elders end at the rise of this meeting but I know their passion and leadership will continue in their respective communities and ongoing roles. Thank you.

I also wish to express thanks to the Nomination Team for their work at recruitment and discernment and look forward to be joined at the table (or on the Zoom screen) in a new mix of the Assembly of Elders.

In your service,

Rev. Paul Reed  
Speaker  
Assembly of Elders

## **Nominations Report**

We greet you in the name of Jesus, the one who calls us into new and sometimes risky endeavours on his behalf. May you all feel the profound certainty of purpose and love as you continue to serve Christ's church.

The nominations team is grateful for all who have prayerfully considered serving East Central Ontario Regional Council in some capacity.

Our ministry is twofold: to ensure the teams (including the Assembly of Elders), and some forums, in our regional council are operating at full capacity, and to ensure that willing volunteers are able to share their gifts and calling appropriately in our regional council.

To that end, we have developed a schedule (for non-COVID times!) for accepting expressions of interest leading up to our annual spring meeting, with possible additional roles being filled leading up to the fall meeting. This year, with no spring meeting happening, our schedule has already shifted.

The nominations team begins canvassing team leaders approximately 8 to 10 weeks before a meeting is to happen. Once we know how many roles need to be filled, we create an expression of interest form (the communications person actually creates the form, but we advise), which is posted for a two to four week period on our web site. The openings are promoted by direct email to each community of faith and by newsletter, social media and our web site. The communications manager collects expressions of interest until the closing date, then distributes the names to the nominations team. Within the next two weeks nominations will meet, hopefully in person, to prayerfully consider each name and seek guidance from the Holy Spirit in matching gifts with need. Successful candidates are then notified, and informed that their names will be added to a slate of names that must be approved at the regional council gathering. If there are any objections to names on the slates, an open vote could happen on the floor of the meeting.

As of writing, the nominations team consists of:

Helmut Enns, Rev. Caroline Giesbrecht, Rev. Svinda Heinrichs, Rev Lynda Price, Tom Smart, Rev. Bill Smith, Rev. Wanda Stride, with Rev. Paul Reed acting as representative from the Assembly of Elders.

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## Nominations List (part 1)

### Preamble

*The Nominations Team completed the following process to appoint new members to vacancies on East Central Ontario Regional Council Teams, including the assembly of elders:*

*Through the ECORC web site, and promoted in the newsletter, web site and Facebook page, nominations accepted expressions of interest from August 6 to August 27, 2020. The entire team met by Zoom and in person on Thursday, September 3 from 1:00 to 4:00, to read the expressions of interest together, discuss candidates, the gifts they bring balanced with the gifts of current members of teams, and pray over their names. After discernment, the team followed up by checking references, then compiling this list for the regional council's consideration.*

### Motion

As a result, we, the Nominations Team move the appointments of the following people:

**Lynn Watson**, (*member of the order of ministry, from St Paul's Bancroft*)  
to the **Assembly of Elders**, for a term ending 2023.

**Don McLean**, (*member of the order of ministry, from Norwood*),  
to the **Assembly of Elders**, for a term ending 2023.

**Kathleen Whyte**, (*lay member of Greenwood United*) to the **Assembly of Elders**,  
for a term ending 2023.

**Ian Robb**, (*retired ministry personnel in Brighton*) to the **Assembly of Elders**,  
for a term ending 2023.

**Sophie Goodfellow**, (*youth representative from Faith United in Courtice*) to the  
**Formation, Nurture and Justice Team** for a term ending 2021.

**Adele Boy** (*lay representative from Sandford Zephyr*), to the  
**Formation, Nurture and Justice Team** for a term ending 2023.

**Kevin Fitzpatrick** (*lay ministry personnel from Janetville Mt Horeb*), to the  
**Equity Team** for a term ending 2023.

**Grace Ferris**, (*youth representative from Greenbank Seagrave*) to the  
**Equity team** for a term ending 2021.

**Maggie Allin**, (*lay representative from Mark Street, Peterborough*) to the  
**Affirm Forum** for a term ending 2023.

**Doug Ferris**, (*lay representative from Greenbank Seagrave*) to the  
**Affirm Forum** for a term ending 2023.

**Kimberly Collins** (*lay representative from Dunbarton-Fairport*) to the  
**Affirm Forum** for a term ending 2023.

Moved by Wanda Stride, seconded by Svinda Heinrichs

Comment: we as Nominations Team raised the issue that we have been given the impossible task of trying to fill the position of youth on the Assembly of Elders when meetings are scheduled at a time that youth can't attend, i.e., during weekdays. From an equity standpoint, this is not equitable – we exclude youth because of the timings of the meetings.

Assembly of Elders needs to figure out what to do about this. Are we as a church committed to having youth representation? If so, then we need to fix this.

## Nominations List (part 2)

### Affirm Forum

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term ending</b>
Elizabeth MacDonald	2022
Mary Margaret Boone	2022
Doug Ferris	2020
Patricia Teskey	2022
Bruce Hutchinson	2022
Sharon Woodrow	2022

### Assembly of Elders

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term ending</b>
Steve Coles	2021
Ted Meyers	2021
Brian James	Corresponding member (Treasurer)
Paul Reed	2021
Phil Wilson	2022
Marilyn Fortin	2022
Nancy Sutherland	2022
Jean Wilson	2020
Steve Spicer	2020
Ryan McNally	2020
Shannon Marsellus (Y)	2020

### Covenant Support Team

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term ending</b>
Craig Donnelly	2022
Larry Doyle	2022
Marion Blackburn	2022
Katy Gregory	2021
Christopher Ingersoll	2021
Bill Sheaves	2021
Donna Bignall	2021
Darlene Hallett	2022
Sue Hogan	2021
Pastoral Liaison representative:	
*David King	
*chair	

**Equity Team**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term ending</b>
*Sharon Ballantyne	2022
Wanda Stride	2022
Penny Culverson	2021
Rachel Vollmer (Y)	2020
Max Ward	2022
Stephanie Richmond	2021
Deb Fortin Brown	2022
* chair	

**Formation, Nurture and Justice**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term ending</b>
Carol Gillard	2022
Elaine Kellogg	2021
Meggin King	2022
*David Moore	2021
Marilyn Rodger	2022
Derek Marsellus	2022
Helmut Enns	2021
Aruna Alexander	2022
2 vacancies, including one Youth	
*David Moore	

**Mission through property**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term ending</b>
Rosemary Lambie	corresponding
Mary Margaret Boone	2021
Brian James	2021
*Ted Meyers	2021
Ron Trewin	2021
Bruce Hutchinson	2022
Arthur Smith	2022
Mary Ann (Robin) Thomson	2022
Kendall Begbie	2022
David Mantle	2022
*chair	

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term ending</b>
Cheryl Mound	2022

**Nominations team**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term ending</b>
*Wanda Stride	2022
Lynda Price	2020
Helmut Enns	2022
Tom Smart	2021
Bill Smith	2023
Svinda Heinrichs	2023
Caroline Giesbrecht	2023
*chair	

**Covenant Support Team**

The Covenant Support Team has continued to grow into its large mandate. The Liaison Forum, the Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL) Forum and the Retirees Forum all report here. As well, as part of the work of the former Pastoral Relations and Pastoral Oversight, the first order of business has regularly been the Regional approval of calls and appointments. Community of Faith Profiles, living faith statements and the like are supported through the Liaison Forum. The LLWL process has, over the summer, has resulted in the 28 currently-licensed Lay Worship Leaders. The Retirees Forum has recently gone through a process of transformation.

The Covenant Support Team has struggled with the ongoing demands of the current Covid 19 pandemic. There are five active Health Units across our region which are each the final authority within their area. Currently there are great differences between the requirements of different Health Units. This meant that documents from outside the local Health Unit may have good ideas, but the local Health Unit for each Community of Faith has the authority that must be followed for levels of and rules for both closure and opening.

Opening plans of all Communities of Faith must be shared with the region at [ECORC@cogeco.ca](mailto:ECORC@cogeco.ca)

The Covenant Support Team regularly meets monthly as does the Liaison Forum.

**The Property and Finance Team (P&F)**

The Property and Finance Team (P&F) of the East Central Ontario Regional Council shall assist the East Central Ontario Regional Council meet its responsibilities as outlined in The Manual C.2. The Property and Finance Team shall exercise specific responsibilities to serve, support and provide oversight of the financial responsibilities of the East Central Ontario Regional Council and of the financial viability and property matters of the Communities of Faith. Details of these responsibilities can be found on the ECORC website as the Property and Finance Policy.

This has been a very busy year brought on in part by the financial stresses of Churches closing because of the COVID Pandemic. As Community of Faiths (COF's) look for every possible way to generate funds to cover expenses whether that be utilizing reserves from historical sales of properties and manse funds, current sale of Property, manses and surplus lands, the Property and Finance team has dealt with a significant increase in workload. Processing the Canadian Emergency Business Account (CEBA) \$40k and the General Council \$10k loan were part of this increase. A dozen COF's took advantage of these loans.

It has been rewarding and satisfying as we work closely with the COF's to help them with their current struggles. As they plan for reopening, not knowing when it will be possible, will continue to put a strain and financial burden on them and in some cases causing a new look at amalgamations, permanent closings and possibly new ways to carry out their missions.

A couple of Churches have sold their properties getting rid of a significant bricks and mortar expense and have made agreements with the new owners to lease back sufficient space to carry on with worship services and office facilities.

Through out this past year we have approved 19 requests for Mission Support Grants, both one and three year commitments, plus Doing Mission Together grants totalling \$154,000. Grants were approved for:

Abbey Retreat Centre - Abbey Retreat Centre	\$2,000
Bedford House/Story Tellers - Greenwood United Church	\$5,000
Being Good Relations-IJRR - Buckhorn PC	\$3,000
BGH-Quinte Health Care -Chaplaincy - Quinte Healthcare Corporation (BGH)	\$5,000
Camp Qui-Mo-Lac (3 year commitment) - Camp Qui-Mo-Lac	\$32,000
Cathedral in the Trees Algonquin - Maynooth Madawaska Pastoral Charge	\$4,000
Chalmers UC, Kgn for ministry and vision facilitation – Chalmers UC	\$5,000
Faith UC - Faith UC	\$17,500
Grand River Spiritual & Ed Resources - Grand River Spiritual & Ed Resources	\$10,000
Greenwood UC-Bedford House - Greenwood United Church	\$20,000
Intercultural Church and Community Network – GRANquinte	\$2,500
Kingston Community Chaplaincy - Kingston Community Chaplaincy	\$3,000
Minden Food Bank - Minden Food Bank	\$1,500
Old Hay Bay Church (3 Year Commitment) - Old Hay Bay Church	\$6,200
Places for People Places for People - Haliburton County	\$1,000
Quinte Deaf Ministries-(3 Year Commitment) - Quinte Deaf Fellowship	\$25,000
Restoration of Identity Legacy Project - Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Ce	\$5,000
St Paul's Ajax-Open Cupboard - St Paul's UC, Ajax	\$1,300
Walking Together, Sharing the Information, Advocating for Palestinian Farmers - United Network for Justice & Peace	\$5,000

As we look to next year we know that the allocation of funds from the General Council will be reduced. This could mean that we will not be able support these grants at the same levels.

The Property and Finance team also work closely with the Treasurer, Brian James, to review and approve the budget for 2021. The budget is illustrated elsewhere in the annual report.

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Let us all pray for a speedy resolution to COVID pandemic so we can get our COF's back to some degree of normalcy.

Respectfully submitted by Ted Meyers, Chair

### **Formation, Nurture, and Justice Team**

*From the ECORC website: "The Faith Formation, Nurture and Justice Team serves the Regional Council in areas of global and local mission partnerships, ministry with all ages, honouring and living into in cultural mission and ministry and living in covenant with Mother Earth and All My Relations. This team supports the work of the ECORC youth executive, supports the work for right relations, as well as clusters and networks. This team also fosters dialogue between various levels of church governance.)*

In our work this past year, the Formation, Nurture, and Justice Team has met regularly, focusing on the following areas of outreach: Truth and Reconciliation, A Place at the Table, Rural Ministry, Children and Youth, Care of Creation, ECORC Youth Executive, Interfaith-Intercultural Relations, Anti-racism Policy, and Working Together to Oppose Violence Against Women and Children. Some of these working groups have done overlapping work. For example, the 'Place at the Table' conversation has become closely affiliated with the 'Anti-racism' group.

We also are aligned with the Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils, and explore and foster Church and Community Partnerships. We make decisions concerning the applications for "Doing Mission Together Funding."

Our Truth and Reconciliation work has supported the 'Restoration of Identity Legacy Project', to be located in Nathan Phillips Square, in Toronto. This is a project to address TRC Call to Action #82. Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre has raised over \$600,000 with churches and interfaith partners, which will be matched by provincial government as well as City support. Our region contributed \$5000 to the project. Visit [www.irsslegacy.com](http://www.irsslegacy.com) and look up our partner "Council Fire" to learn more. We are looking forward to a conversation with Senator Murray Sinclair and author Lee Maracle as the Saturday morning portion of our September regional meeting. This is part of an on-line St. Paul's Bowmanville event which will include a Friday evening concert and 5 Webinars on Wednesdays. Please encourage your communities of faith to participate in this amazing opportunity at a very low cost. All the details and registration is [available on Eventbrite](#). (click away!) Finally, our network is growing! For your name to be added on our email list or to register for the next zoom gathering on Saturday Oct 17th from 10-noon with Shelley Knott Fife, please contact [rsmerkley@united-church.ca](mailto:rsmerkley@united-church.ca).

Our 'Place at the Table' work has so far looked at the web availability for many people in rural areas and economically restricted homes. This has serious implications for work and school in the COVID pandemic, with uncertainty about the future. 'Place at the Table' is also deeply committed to issues of racism, with the recent events in North America and around the world. A number of online workshops and study groups are taking place and/or planned for the near future.

The 'Anti-racism' work has been extremely challenging. We have a focus sub-group which is working specifically on this topic. There are a number of in-person and online activities that we are promoting in order to promote awareness and education. These have been extremely well-received, with a special note of the "Wall of History" presentation which Aruna Alexander has shared with local groups. This work also takes in Intercultural and Interfaith concerns. One project that will be addressed is the need for our Region to embrace an anti-racism policy. We do have a regional statement about racism, but need to formulate an action plan for mindfulness of racism within our work.

Children and Youth projects have been tailored to meet the needs of a COVID society. Rendezvous 2020 and the GO project have been adapted to Zoom with consistently good turnouts. Six regions have gathered to provide online webinars for children, youth and young adult leaders. Topics included online safety, anti-racism, and other ongoing

items of interest. The VIBE program (Venturing In Biblical Experience, a travelling Vacation Bible Program) didn't receive the Government summer grant, so no program was held this year. An online webinar was organized by the VIBE committee for the communities of Faith leaders who normally participate in VIBE; connecting and sharing of information was valuable. There was also no Cathedral of the Trees this year due to no community programs at Algonquin Park. Camp Quin Mo Lac was not able to operate this year and they are holding fundraisers to help cover the lost camp revenue, please contribute if you are able to. There was a good turnout from ECORC for online Rendezvous (a national gathering- held every 3 years for youth, young adults and youth leaders) in August- over 30 attendees. We held a zoom gathering to get to know each other and decorate our Rendezvous T-shirts. One comment is that there were long days on Zoom (10:30 am to 10:30 pm). We also held daily ECORC check-ins using the Rendezvous app. There were excellent speakers, and one of the highlights was the daily morning opening with Cree elders and learning Grandfather teachings. Overall it was a fabulous event! Sharon Hull was a young adult home group leader with daily check-ins and the young adults would like to continue those get-togethers (perhaps monthly). The UCC has a focus on children and youth programming but there is a dearth of Young Adult programming. The Young Adults will organize and Sharon will act as a resource/mentor. The GO Project is writing units of a new United Church curriculum, reflecting United Church theology, which will be available through UCRD. This will be released in tiers; the first one is free. More information will go in the ECORC newsletter. GO is now a part of the Shinning Waters (Region 10) Incorporated ministries.

Our Church and Community Partnerships group has kept us updated on the work of the Back Door Mission in Oshawa- an initiative which helps those in need by concentrating many social services in one easily-accessible "Hub" location. And our "Doing Mission Together" grants process is redistributing unused funds from this past year to offer an extra, one-time-only source of funding for COVID Communications and Programming projects, in addition to the regularly scheduled grants. The deadline for the Special 2020 COVID 19 Communications and Programming (Doing Mission Together) grants is October 15, 2020. The deadline for the Doing Mission Together Grants for the first half of 2021 is November 1, 2020. Both grant applications are on the ECORC website.

This coming year we are looking forward to deepening our commitment to our ongoing projects, and tweaking those that need a finer-tuning to better reflect the needs of our communities. We strive to reach as many people as possible in the most effective ways possible: online webinars, the regional newsletter, and fliers or pamphlets to offer hard-copy information for those not on the Web. We are grateful for all who support our work, and who offer their time and talents toward the ministry and mission we are looking to live out. We encourage anyone who might feel called to this particular form of outreach to speak with anyone from our group. We will be very happy to fill you in on the details of what we strive to do, and how we strive to do it.

In faith,

Meggin King,  
on behalf of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team.

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## Equity Team

We'd love to welcome you to the Equity Team! We welcome all inquiries about being intentional about equity, what it means and how we live into it.

We fail to notice concerns and issues if they are not impacting us or those we care most about. We do not notice the size of font when we can read the text. We do not notice the softness or clarity of sound when we can hear all sounds. We do not notice stronger scents or the ingredients in foods when we do not react to them. We do not pay attention to washrooms when they meet our needs. We do not notice stairs when we are able to use them. We do not notice the complexity of language when we can understand it.

We do not notice lack of inclusive language when we are unaware of the hurt and pain it can cause. We do not notice overwhelming atmosphere when it does not affect us. We do not notice our own privilege when our privilege allows us to meet our needs. The UCCAN intercultural lens invites us to aim for equity, live out our commitments, question biases, challenge assumptions, notice who is missing, and value all voices.(Intercultural Church Task Group, 2012).

Some of our greatest challenges involve looking at our places of power and privilege. Understanding how we live, work, play and have our being means we must be constantly inquiring, confronting, challenging assessing and evaluating. We keep monitoring just how open our doors are. On-going brave conversations invite opportunities for transformation. Equity invites us to explore “We do not see what we do not expect to see” and “we don't know what we don't know.”

Our Equity team has met in six formal full meetings by Zoom September 2019 to July 2020. Here are some highlights of our work:

- equity monitor roles and responsibilities at all meetings within ECORC, at every governance level
- reviewing membership recommendations from Nominations for Affirming Forum fall of 2019 and continual engagement with Affirming Forum which has been responsible for reporting to and through Equity Team, though will not have that formal connection going forward, necessitating our re-articulation of Equity Policy
- reviewing and revising as needed current equity resources(i.e. a pastoral charge's creation of an affirming, equitable Baptism policy)
- information sharing and inquiry to the executive minister and assembly of elders on various matters for action and accountability
- response to COVID-19 needs as we pivoted to virtual life, created resources including guidelines for face to face meeting, virtual meetings, a strategies document for those without internet and a Zoom accessibility resource, which are now on the ECORC website.
- working groups to lift up equity , participating in leadership such as the virtual worship of this fall ECORC meeting
- continue to encourage all communities of faith to complete the data gathering information accessibility profile on the ECORC website. This was initiated last spring and to date many communities of faith have submitted information.
- ABCs Equity Reflection booklet representing 52 weeks of reflections on the topic of equity, structured similar to a Minute for Mission booklet. Everyone is encouraged to use this in worship, small groups or individually, with thanks to the Equity Team for its review and to Equity Team member Deb Fortin Brown for her care in formatting this resource.
- <https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/equity-abc-pt1.pdf>
- <https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/equity-abc-pt2.pdf>
- Going forward, we are excited to:
- launch an ECORC equity YouTube channel.

- 
- engage in opportunities to learn together as an Equity Team to learn from and with each other, to deepen relationships and build capacity and competency in the diversity of equity (supporting new members and developing knowledge and experience together)
  - implement and promote use of resources developed by Equity Team in 2019/20 for awareness, advocacy, education and resource in Regional Council(work with communications staff Louise Slobodian who will add to resources on the regional council website and promote through ECORC newsletter)
  - begin networking directly with the various teams and forums of ECORC to establish needs, priorities and best practices as resource and support (meeting with all chairs.)
  - develop, revise and promote resources to be shared in various formats to support clarity and invite engagement within ECORC about topics of equity (using ECORC Equity YouTube channel and other opportunities.)
  - work with the General Council's Antiracism and Equity Officer

Respectfully submitted by: Rev. Sharon Ballantyne, PhD, Equity Team chair

### **Affirming Forum**

At its Inaugural Meeting (May 31-June2, 2019), the East Central Ontario Regional Council approved the establishment of an Affirming Forum as part of an Interim Affirming Action Plan and also approved joining Affirm United/S'affirmer Ensemble for an annual fee of \$100. Because this vote passed by more than 75%, ECORC was given Interim Affirming Ministry status by Affirm United/S'affirmer Ensemble, with permission to use the Affirm logo etc. for one year. The purpose of the ECORC Affirming Forum is to support ECORC in creating awareness of and space for full inclusion by developing educational opportunities and implementation strategies.

In late 2019, a diverse group of seven individuals – Queer&Straight, Cis Female& Male, Lay&Order of Ministry from Kingston to Pickering to Lindsay – expressed interest and were named by the Assembly of Elders to the Affirming Forum. Sharon Ballantyne, in her role as Chair of ECORC Equity Team, called and chaired the initial meeting of the ECORC Affirming Forum and was present at subsequent AF meetings. Sharon Hull, in her role as ECORC Minister for Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationships and Justice with All Ages, has worked tirelessly with and for the Forum, hosting ZOOM meetings, providing relevant information and keeping the Forum connected with other groups.

The ECORC Affirming Forum made presentations at the Assembly of Elders in March and June, 2020. The first explored the Elders' familiarity with and understanding of implications, responsibilities and opportunities related to becoming an Affirming Region. The second focussed on particular expectations and needs of Teams and Forums as ECORC moves through the process to become Affirming. The Affirming Forum also asked and the Assembly approved payment of ECORC annual membership in Affirm United/S'affirmer Ensemble.

As 2020 unfolded, it became clear that the workloads of both the Equity Team and Affirming Forum were expanding, and it was no longer feasible to have the Affirming Forum lodged within and accountable to the Equity Team. On July 30/20 the Affirming Forum approved a motion calling on the Assembly of Elders to make the Affirming Forum directly accountable to the Aof E and requesting the Assembly to name an Elder other than the Equity Team Elder to be a representative of/liaison with the Affirming Forum.

In March/20 Doug Ferris and Elizabeth Macdonald agreed to co-chair the Affirming Forum as a Queer-Ally team. In July Doug was recalled to his position as a Vice-Principal in Durham prompting him and Elizabeth to resign as Co-Chairs on July 30/20. As this resignation was accepted with much gratitude, some sadness and deep concern about COVID's impact on Education, the Forum approved a motion to continue with a diverse Queer-Ally Co-Chair team. Elizabeth agreed to be a caretaking-Chair until a new Co-Chair Team is named.

Looking ahead to the coming year of 2020-21, the ECORC Affirming Forum will:

- Regroup, welcome new members and name new Co-Chair team;

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- Continue to implement the Vision & Mission Statement and work on the Interim Affirming Action Plan as updated and approved at Sept/20 ECORC Annual Meeting;
  - Meet with various ECORC Teams and Forums to discuss their particular Affirming responsibilities and opportunities and offer ongoing support;
  - Consult with ECORC Staff and provide suitable professional development related to working with and for an Affirming Region;
  - Work with Equity Team to establish new, more effective and sustainable relationship and communications;
  - Advise and work with Assembly of Elders on Affirm United requirements of an Interim Affirming Region to move to permanent Affirming status.

Reviewed and Approved by ECORC Affirming Forum on August 25, 2020 and Respectfully submitted by caretaking-Chair, Elizabeth Macdonald

### **ECORC Financial Update and 2021 Budget**

The ECORC finances are overseen by the Property and Finance team. They prepare the budget which is then approved by the Assembly of Elders. The process is different from the former Conference/Presbytery model in that the General Council states how much money is allocated to the Regional Council and we must work within those limits. There are two sources for funds, one for administrative uses and the other for Mission and Service activities. The Administrative funds are transferred each month while the Mission funds are transferred as they are used. If the Mission funds are not used by the end of the year they are not carried over to the next year.

The Administrative funds available for 2021 will remain the same as 2020, \$350,000 plus some cross region support funds which cover part of the Executive Minister expenses. The Mission funds available have been reduced from \$289,000 in 2020 to \$239,870 for 2021.

The Administrative expenses for 2020 are below budget for this point in the year due in part to COVID-19 and the inability to meet in person which has reduced travel and meeting expenses, especially the annual meeting. In addition, other contingency amounts such as professional services have not been used and they will be placed in a reserve fund for use in future years.

The Mission funds are ahead of budget at this time, again due to the inability to travel and meet together. We transferred 20% of the Communications/Administrative salary to the Mission accounts to reflect the activities of the Communications person in the Mission area.

The 2021 Administration budget is similar to the 2020 budget with a small increase in salary and staff expenses. Travel has not been changed significantly in the hope we will be able to resume in-person meetings at some point in 2021. The Pastoral Relations accounts have been expanded to better track which teams or activities are using the funds.

The 2021 Mission budget has been reduced to reflect the reduction in funds available. This mainly impacts the funds available for grants. The Mission Support Grants and Doing Mission Together will be reduced. The three-year commitment grants are held at the same level for 2021. Note that 2021 will be the third year of the three-year grants and applications for renewal will be required for 2022. We may not be able to commit to another three-year period as the level of grants may again reduce.

The assets for the Regional Council consist of transfers from the Bay of Quinte Conference, a small transfer from Toronto Conference and from some of the former Presbyteries plus administrative transfers from the General Council. Some of the funds have internal restrictions based on their source. There has been a challenge in transferring some of the investments from the Bay of Quinte Conference to the Regional Council. Investments with the Bank of Montreal are still being worked on by the General Council Finance group. Some funds must be

transferred to EOORC based on the number of communities of faith moved to Region 12. This will be done after we determine the value of the Bank of Montreal investments.

**East Central Ontario Regional Council Assets 2020 Aug 31**

Bank Account	\$617,537.
United Church Foundation	\$551,568.
BMO Investments	TBD*

**Total \$1,169,105.43**

**Restricted Funds**

Shining Waters Legacy Fund	\$124,234.
Student Bursary Fund	\$635.
Annual Theology Conference	\$7,417.
Library Networking & Clustering	\$13,887.
Edith Rankin Memorial UC	\$14,500.
Knox Sale Fund	\$174,418.
Bursary Fund	\$26,776.
Learning Grant	\$392.
Library and Resources	\$21,598.
GC42 local arrangements	\$47.
Oshawa Trust Funds	\$72,889.
Staples Bequest	\$19,510.
G. M. McCod Mem Scholarship	<u>\$19,510.</u>

**Total restricted \$552,434**

**Funds to transfer to EOORC \$124,568 plus portion of B of M investments**

**Unallocated Funds Available \$604,215**

\* The value of the BMO Investments are currently unknown and attempts are underway to have the funds transferred to EOORC for the Bay of Quinte account.





### **Our Affirmation of Faith**

We are not alone,  
    We live in God's world.  
We believe in God :  
    who has created and is creating,  
    who has come in Jesus,  
        the Word made flesh,  
        to reconcile and make new  
    who works in us and others  
        by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.  
We are called to be the Church  
    to celebrate God's presence  
to live with respect in Creation  
    to love and serve others,  
    to seek justice and resist evil,  
    to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
        our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
    God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.