# 2022

## Report Book



of The United Church of Canada

4/29/2022

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## Living Mission of The East Central Ontario Regional Council

#### Vision

Strengthened by God's grace and refreshed by the Spirit, we follow the way of Jesus in healing our world.

#### Mission

Grounded in the teachings of Jesus to love our neighbours as ourselves, we nurture and engage our Communities of Faith, including all ministry personnel, members and adherents, staff and lay leadership, joining our hearts and voices in sacred covenant. In gratitude for our abundant blessings and in the service of this call, we pledge to be faithful stewards of our resources and aspire to be agents of God's love, compassion and justice on earth as it is in heaven.

Recognizing our churches' participation in historic injustices, we reach out with particular love and care, as Jesus did, to those who have been ignored, excluded, condemned, silenced or erased. We seek to uphold high standards of equity and Affirming, and to encourage these same standards in our Communities of Faith.

Valuing diversity and differences as gifts,

we support the full participation of all people in the life and work of our church and in wider society. We publicly, intentionally and explicitly celebrate and seek justice for people of every age, gender, racialized experience, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental and physical health and ability, economic circumstance or any other diversity.

We promise to walk with, and learn from, Indigenous ministries and Communities of Faith within our church, and to reach out to all Indigenous Peoples. We support and encourage all Communities of Faith to walk this path with us. As we are called by God to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others and to seek justice, so we are called to respect the deep spirituality of traditional Indigenous teachings of Mother Earth and All My Relations in the Earth community.

Further acknowledging that cultural prejudices have prevented us from seeing all people as equally worthy of God's love and compassion, we invite Communities of Faith to join our vision of becoming an intercultural church, participating in ecumenical, intercultural and interfaith ministries, partnerships and initiatives in their local communities and in wider society. As Jesus gathered children in his arms and spoke of their leadership and spiritual gifts, we commit ourselves and our Communities of Faith to nurturing and supporting children, youth and young adults, learning from them and celebrating their presence and participation in everything we do. Hearing God's call for open hearts and unity in the body of Christ, we commit to uniting the Communities of Faith and individuals in our Region, inviting all to participate in this Vision and Mission. Recognizing that meaningful communication is essential to unity, we will respect all voices, share information and listen for the Spirit's prompting, that all may be embraced in this work of Love.

Diverse, yet One in Christ,

we seek to serve and support our Communities of Faith as they faithfully serve a broken and hurting world. Nurtured by our heritage and strengthened by God's grace, we witness to the healing power of Christ's love, compassion and justice on earth as it is in heaven.

## Vision of The Assembly of Elders by Which We Evaluate Progress Based On:

#### **Guiding Principles**

We are accountable to all people of the East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC) in living out our vision and mission in ways that can be measured over time. We will know we are doing so when we can say "yes" to these statements, which are presented by theme rather than by priority or importance:

- All Communities of Faith participate in ECORC meetings and initiatives.
- Clergy, lay leaders and communities of faith express satisfaction with the support, development opportunities and communication they receive.
- We hold events every year related to outreach and social justice within our region.
- Reports from equity monitors and meeting notes give evidence of a growing awareness of equity standards.
- The number of church buildings in our region that are accessible is increasing.
- The number of Communities of Faith designated as Affirming continues to increase.
- There is evidence that inclusive language is becoming the norm in the life and work of our church throughout our Region, especially inclusive language and images of God in worship.
- We observe increasing use of land acknowledgments and more participation in learning opportunities related to Respectful Relations and Indigenous Justice.
- An increasing number of Communities of Faith, along with ECORC and the Assembly of Elders, are developing plans to increase their environmental stewardship.
- We can document specific actions we have taken to become intercultural.
- Children, youth and young adults are represented on all decision-making bodies.

- There are events planned for and by children, youth and young adults every year. A significant number of these events provide children, youth and young adults with leadership opportunities.
- Those involved in any way with ECORC demonstrate awareness of our Vision and Mission statements, and express a feeling of connection to and commitment to the work of ECORC.
- People in all roles and capacities within ECORC are aware of Council decisions and policies, and know where to find the information they need.
- ECORC events take place in a variety of geographic locations within our Region throughout the year.

## Responsive Reading adapted from the East Central Ontario Regional Council Statement of Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles

One: Strengthened by God's grace and refreshed by the Spirit,

#### All: we follow the way of Jesus in healing our world.

One: Grounded in the teachings of Jesus to love our neighbours as ourselves,

- All: we nurture and engage our Communities of Faith, joining our hearts and voices in sacred covenant.
- One: In gratitude for our abundant blessings,
- All: we pledge to be faithful stewards of our resources
- One: Called to be agents of God's love, compassion and justice,
- All: we aspire to be faithful servants on earth as it is in heaven.
- One: Recognizing our churches' participation in historic injustices, we reach out with particular love and care, as Jesus did,
- All: we reach out in love to those who have been ignored, excluded, condemned, silenced or erased.
- One: We seek to uphold high standards of equity and Affirming ministry,
- All: as individuals and in our Communities of Faith.
- One: Valuing diversity and differences as gifts, we support the full participation of all people in the life and work of our church and in wider society.
- All: We publicly, intentionally and explicitly celebrate and seek justice for people of every age, gender, racialized experience, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental and physical health and ability, economic circumstance or any other diversity.
- One: We promise to walk with, and learn from, Indigenous ministries and Communities of Faith within our church,
- All: and to reach out to all Indigenous Peoples and to encourage others to walk this path with us.
- One: As we are called by God to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others and to seek justice,
- All: so we are called to respect the deep spirituality of traditional Indigenous teachings of Mother Earth and All My Relations in the Earth community.

- One: Further acknowledging that cultural prejudices have prevented us from seeing all people as equally worthy of God's love and compassion,
- All: we strive in our communities of faith to become an intercultural church, participating in ecumenical, intercultural and interfaith ministries, partnerships and initiatives in our local communities and in wider society.
- One: As Jesus gathered children in his arms and spoke of their leadership and spiritual gifts,
- All: we commit ourselves and our Communities of Faith to nurturing and supporting children, youth and young adults, learning from them and celebrating their presence and participation in everything we do.
- One: Hearing God's call for open hearts and unity in the body of Christ, and recognizing that meaningful communication is essential to unity,
- All: we will respect all voices, share information and listen for the Spirit's prompting, that all may be embraced in this work of Love.
- One: Diverse, yet One in Christ, we seek to serve and support our Communities of Faith as they faithfully serve a broken and hurting world.
- All: Nurtured by our heritage and strengthened by God's grace, we witness to the healing power of Christ's love, compassion and justice on earth as it is in heaven.
  - From the ECORC Statement of Vision, prepared by Nancy Payne & Patricia Teskey and passed at the ECORC AGM, September 2020

## East Central Ontario Regional Council Staff

#### **Rev. Rosemary Lambie**

*Executive Minister* Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6147 Email: 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 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

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

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: <a href="mailto:rsmerkley@united-church.ca">rsmerkley@united-church.ca</a>

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

#### **Karen Wilson**

*Communications and Administrative Support (half-time)* Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6146

Email: <u>kwilson@united-church.ca</u>

Karen'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

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.

#### Tim Hackborn

Minister for the Indigenous of Vocation Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 2223 Email: <u>thackborn@united-church.ca</u>

*Tim's focus is the Indigenous Spiritual Formation and the oversight and discipline of ministry personnel for the Indigenous Church within all of the Regional Councils.* 

#### Martha Pedoniquotte

*Community Capacity Development Coordinator for Ontario and Quebec* Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension TBD

Email: mpedoniquotte@united-church.ca

Martha is 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* Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6107

Email: rjanes@united-church.ca

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

## Session 1 Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> 2022

| 6:15 PM        | Zoom Opens                  |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 6:30 PM        | Acknowledging the Territory |
|                | Teaching Moment             |
| 6:40 PM        | Welcoming,                  |
|                | -Words of Constitution      |
| 6:45 PM        | Opening worship             |
|                | Recognitions                |
|                | -Memorials                  |
|                | -Retirees                   |
|                | Recognitions                |
|                | disbanded congregation      |
|                | closed churches             |
|                | Worship Conclusion          |
| 7:20 PM        | consent document            |
|                | behavioural covenant        |
|                | Introductions               |
| 7:30 PM        | Break out Rooms             |
| 7:45 PM        | Let us sing presentation    |
| 7:55 PM        | Bio Break                   |
| 8:05 - 8:10 PM | Accountability Reports      |
| 8:10-8:30 PM   | Break out Room              |
| 8:30 -8:55 PM  | Accountability Q&A          |
| 8:55 PM        | concluding Session 1        |
|                | Break out Room              |
| 8:55 PM        | concluding Session 1        |

## Session 2 – Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup> 2022

| 8:45 AM       | Zoom Opens                        |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 9:00 AM       | Call to Order                     |
| 9:10 AM       | Treasurers Statement              |
| 9:25 AM       | Priority Setting                  |
| 9:30 AM       | Break out rooms                   |
| 10:10 AM      | Emerging Issues in Plenary        |
|               | i.e.: Help for Ukraine            |
| 10:30 AM      | Bio-break                         |
| 10:40 AM      | Anti Racism Policy                |
| 11:00 AM      | GC Update                         |
| 11:10 AM      | Nominations                       |
| 11:20 AM      | Break Out                         |
| 11:40 - 11:50 | Covenanting with leadership Teams |
| 11:50 -12:00  | Concluding Motions                |

## 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)

#### 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. <u>Regional Council Roll:</u>

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. <u>Other Delegates</u>:

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. <u>Corresponding Members</u>:

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. <u>Minimum Number of Members at Meetings</u>:

That the minimum number of members for any session of this Regional Council is present (C.4.3, The Manual 2019).

#### 5. <u>Agenda</u>:

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. <u>Procedures for Reports</u>:

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. <u>Meeting of the Assembly of Elders</u>:

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. <u>Inclusive Language</u>:

It is recommended that every attempt be made to use inclusive language in all worship, reports, petitions and discussions in this Court.

- 9. <u>Business Leadership Team</u>: That the *Business Leadership Team* be members from the Facilitation Team
- 10. <u>Scrutineers/Stewards</u>: That the *Scrutineers/Stewards* be members of the tech team.

#### 11. <u>Financial Policy to address requests for unbudgeted expenses:</u>

Policy Regarding Financial Appeals at Annual Meetings

| POLICY NAME: Policy regarding Financial Appeals<br>at the Annual Meeting of the Regional Council         | Date Approved: February25, 2019 |  |
|--|---------------------------------|--|
|  | Review date:                    |  |
| 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.

| Years | First Name        | Last Name     | Ministry Type     |
|-------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 5     | Richard           | Hamilton      | Ordained Minister |
| 5     | Michael           | Putnam        | Ordained Minister |
| 5     | Edward            | Wells         | Ordained Minister |
| 15    | Deborah           | Foster        | Ordained Minister |
| 15    | Lynda             | Hodgins       | Ordained Minister |
| 15    | Thomas            | Holmes        | Ordained Minister |
| 15    | Margaret (Meggin) | King          | Ordained Minister |
| 15    | Nancy             | Lester        | Ordained Minister |
| 20    | Patricia          | Armstrong     | Ordained Minister |
| 20    | Alan              | Boyd          | Ordained Minister |
| 20    | Rodney            | Smith-Merkley | Ordained Minister |
| 20    | John              | Taylor        | Ordained Minister |
| 20    | Lynn              | Watson        | Ordained Minister |
| 20    | Nancy             | Wilson        | Ordained Minister |
| 25    | Kristiane         | Black         | Ordained Minister |
| 25    | A. Mark           | Fearnall      | Ordained Minister |
| 25    | Elizabeth         | Foster        | Ordained Minister |
| 25    | Richard           | Hobbs         | Ordained Minister |
| 25    | Jean              | Wilson        | Ordained Minister |
| 30    | Haruo             | Aihara        | Ordained Minister |
| 30    | Katherine         | Edmison       | Ordained Minister |
| 35    | Nancy             | Clarke        | Ordained Minister |
| 35    | Leslie            | Dawson        | Ordained Minister |
| 35    | Katherine         | Gregory       | Ordained Minister |
| 35    | Donald            | McLean        | Ordained Minister |
| 35    | S.                | Meredith      | Ordained Minister |
| 35    | John              | Miller        | Ordained Minister |
| 35    | H. David          | Moore         | Ordained Minister |
| 35    | Paul              | Reed          | Ordained Minister |
| 35    | Christopher       | White         | Ordained Minister |
| 35    | R. John           | Williams      | Ordained Minister |
| 35    | Verna             | Windrem       | Diaconal Minister |
| 40    | D. Neil           | Elford        | Ordained Minister |
| 40    | James             | Feairs        | Ordained Minister |
| 40    | Jacqueline        | Harper        | Ordained Minister |
| 40    | P. Katherine      | Irwin         | Ordained Minister |
| 40    | Kenneth           | Lewis         | Ordained Minister |
| 40    | James             | Potter        | Ordained Minister |

## Milestones/Anniversaries

| 40 | Richard    | Prince     | Ordained Minister |
|----|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 40 | Mary       | Smith      | Ordained Minister |
| 40 | Maryanne   | Thomson    | Ordained Minister |
| 40 | Robert     | Weight     | Ordained Minister |
| 45 | Paul       | Currie     | Ordained Minister |
| 45 | Robert     | Matheson   | Ordained Minister |
| 45 | William    | Peacock    | Ordained Minister |
| 45 | Daniel     | Yourkevich | Ordained Minister |
| 50 | Paul       | Grassie    | Ordained Minister |
| 50 | Allen      | Hobbs      | Ordained Minister |
| 50 | Michael    | Locke      | Ordained Minister |
| 50 | F. Brian   | Yealland   | Ordained Minister |
| 55 | Richard    | Boehme     | Ordained Minister |
| 55 | Harry      | Manning    | Ordained Minister |
| 55 | John       | May        | Ordained Minister |
| 55 | Gary       | Stokes     | Ordained Minister |
| 60 | John       | Sloan      | Ordained Minister |
| 60 | L. Douglas | Snell      | Ordained Minister |
| 65 | Donovan    | Brown      | Ordained Minister |
| 70 | J. Maurice | McLeod     | Ordained Minister |

## General Council Representative

#### Sarah Charters

President & Director of Philanthropy The United Church of Canada Foundation



Sarah began her work in the charitable sector as a fundraiser and has worked for various health charities. Since 2007, she has worked at the Foundation and enjoys the interaction with individuals and congregations passionate about the work of the church. Sarah is a member and chorister at Kingston Road United Church.

#### Retirees

#### Cathy Underhill, Diaconal Minister



Reflecting on my ministry... a beautiful mission!

Hello from Peterborough, Ontario.

A fond part of my life has been the friendships made with the church community and beyond...this has opened relationships, doors, stretched my mind and insights, and I have gained a better understanding of God through the lives of others. Preaching the Gospels has been an experience of faith and self-learning. I value the UCC Lectionary suggestions and webbased tools. One of the greatest parts of my ministry has been the people with whom I celebrated and lamented. Serving in a rural area offered times of friendly visits, pastoral

care, church celebrations and of course the understanding of the vital benefit of a good pair of rain boots. Congregational ministry has offered times of deep listening stretching my perceptions, while being supportive of the congregations "Habitat Build" and "Cemetery Refurbishing" projects gave hope to myself and others. Observing the congregants boundless support for one another, myself and community at large gave expression to the meaning of "...love your God with all your heart, and with all your soul,

and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." (Luke 10:27). God has truly been at the helm of my congregational ministry.

In retirement I look forward to continued community involvement, time spent with family and to God's nudging guiding me to unknown paths.Rev. Katherine Edmison

#### Rev. Norman Long



Give thanks with a grateful heart Give thanks to the Holy One Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son... ...And now let the weak say, "I am strong." Let the poor say, "I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us Lyrics by Don Moen shared by Magdalene Shodavaram https://youtu.be/047xtru0ZR0

I am filled with gratitude for my years, in full time accountable ministry. There is no perfect time to retire, however now is the right time for me and my family. Would I wish for yet another 5 years? Only if I could have another 5 years back in my mid 50's.

As I enter retirement (Is that really a thing?) know and trust that I thankful for all my years serving the risen Christ and His church. I have so many that need to be thanked and only room to name but a few; Rev. Dr. John Young for his patience and his care over all my years; Rev. Kathleen

Walton who has taught me great lessons in serving God in pastoral ministry. Through her faith I have tried to serve to the best of my abilities and trust that God always provides all that is needed for me all I serve; Rev. Dr. Bill Steadman who ministered so well to me and my family in our early years.

And so many more lay people, colleagues and dear friends who have inspired me in pastoral ministries and our works in the wider church. I treasure all your gifts, your leadership, and most importantly, your friendship.

Finally, I take this opportunity to thank my amazing wife and my loving family, for their faith in me and for all their loving care.

Easter blessings and thank you all!

Because of all of you I enter retirement trusting that.

"I am strong", "I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us"

#### Rev. Paul Reed



I will concede to being a pensioner but reject the notion of being a retiree.

I am a second-generation PK (a preacher's kid preacher's kid) and a MK2 (missionary's kid kid) and no doubt influenced by parents and grandparents who continued active volunteer ministry roles late into life. I continue to hear calls to active (unpaid) ministry and will answer the call and direction of the Church as I am able. As a child Church was the place of friends, entertainment, and meals and every second year General Council inspired family vacations. Arriving on my settlement charge in Manitoba and Northwest Ontario I discovered that thoughtful people had made it possible for me to be assigned to a General Council Mission in Canada Program Unit, ensuring that twice a year I would travel back to the Toronto area and near to family and friends. The Church constantly gave me so much that it felt then, and feel now, it only right that I give of my time and energy.

Life has changed from the weekly routine experienced during paid accountability ministry. My ministry began as student supply on the three-point Port Lambton Pastoral Charge alongside the St. Clair River. I thought I caught a break being settled on the two-point pastoral charge of Red Lake Ontario (located at the end of the most northerly paved road in Ontario) but then I learned that the minister at Red Lake was also responsible for Ear Falls PC and the Vermillion PC. I accepted calls to Edson, Alberta, Beaverton Ontario and finished pastoral ministry at Cambridge Street United in Lindsay. From each there are stories of wonderful people and memorable occasions, all worthy of being told but that would require a book, not a bio. It was and is an incredible honor to be invited to share in personal sacred moments, to be trusted in times of great vulnerability, and to be able to contribute to making the world a better place one day, one person at a time.

I live on 400 acres of woodland and farm nestled in the land between. We call the place Rainbow Woods, come in the fall and you might presume that it takes its name from the splash of colour in the forest canopy. For us. There is a deeper understanding in which the rainbow is a symbol of new beginnings, of hope, of peace, of equality.

Hospitality and stewardship are key ministry functions now and is often as simple as opening the cabin door to strangers requesting a place of retreat or lighting the fire for a group gathering. My weekdays have taken on new names, and in no order, they include farmday, forestryday, chamberofcommerceday, bloodservicesday, churchday, garbageday, and Sunday. The liturgical Calendar is paralleled with the like of lambing season, syrup season, tree planting season. Satisfaction is being able each night to be able to answer with the affirmative the question, 'Have you made the world much better for the life you lived today?'

And I go forward with dreams of what might yet be.

#### Rev. Susan Genge



I was baptized, confirmed and raised within The United Church of Canada. My sense of call into professional ministry in the church came when I was in the final year of my university undergraduate program. I give thanks to the many people who nurtured me on my faith journey- my parents, grandparents and other relatives, my ministers, Sunday School teachers, youth group leaders, other leaders within the church, and my husband Glenn. Their positive Christian example prepared me for the day when I would respond to God's call, enter theological college, and become commissioned as a Diaconal Minister (1980), and begin serving as an Ordained Minister (2002) in The UCC.

Upon graduation from Toronto's Emmanuel College with an M.R.E. in 1980, and an M.Div. in 2004, I served in professional ministry at Kingsview United Church, Oshawa, St. Andrew's United Church, Oshawa, Northminster United Church, Oshawa, and Brooklin United Church, Brooklin. I also served for eight

months as a Supply Chaplain at Oshawa General Hospital, now Lakeridge Health, Oshawa.

I have felt very blessed by God's presence, Christ's strength and the Spirit's guidance throughout my ministry, and feel so thankful for that. I am grateful to those among whom I served, for everything I learned from them. I appreciate the support, encouragement and love expressed by so many people. It was good to partner with congregants in many areas of church life, and exciting to see people growing in their faith.

My forty-two years in church ministry, some of it full time, some of it part time, and some of it as a minister retained on the roll, as Glenn and I were raising our three children-Katie, Amy and Andrew, flew by! In retirement, I look forward to spending more time with, and supporting Glenn, our children and grandchildren, and other family members and friends. I also look forward to continued service in ministry, whenever and wherever God needs me and leads me.

To the members of the former Lakeridge Presbytery, the former Bay of Quinte Conference, and Region 11 friends and colleagues, thank you for your friendship and support over the years. It's been wonderful to partner with you in the wider work of The United Church of Canada.

In Christ's love, Rev. Sue Genge

#### Memorials

Rev. Dr. Robert Clark May 28, 1932 – July 4, 2021



It is with sadness that we announce that Bob died peacefully on Sunday, July 4, 2021at KGH, in his 90th year. He will be dearly missed by his loving wife, Julie, and stepchildren Kerry and Billy, Penny and Dave, Wendy and Darren, Josey and Sheldon, Cindy and Mike, and his son Peter and Kim and grandchildren Emma and Christopher. He will also be missed by his step grandchildren Kristine and Dayton, Lindsay, Jess, Nate and Nancy, Abbey, Ellen, Ian, Olivia, Zoe, Simon, Clare, Alex, Sam and Molly. Grace and Georgia will also miss their Great Bob. If you would like to make a donation in Bob's memory, please consider the Jessie Camp Fund c/o Inverary United Church, P.O. Box 69, 4681 Latimer Road, Inverary, Ontario кон 1X0 or Almost Home (www.almosthome.on.ca) or a charity of your choice would be greatly appreciated.

Rev. Dr. Robert Clark began his internship as a student Minster at Royal York Road Pastoral Charge in July of 1964. After Ordination, his ministry included serving with Erindale Pastoral Charge, Storrington Pastoral Charge, Renfrew Presbytery and Toronto

Conference. During his retirement, Rev. Clark continued to serve within Kingston Presbytery and Four Winds Presbytery.

#### Rev. Frederick Warren Love

September 8 1935 – May 5, 2021



Peacefully, at Regency Long Term Care Home, Port Hope on May 5<sup>th</sup>, in his 86<sup>th</sup> year. Beloved husband of the late Helen S. Love. Loving father of Leslie (John O'Connor) Love and Carl Warren (Pamela) Love. Cherished grandfather of Kaia and Theo Love. Beloved brother of Bill Love and the late Ruth Garden. Fred will be sadly missed by his relatives, friends, neighbors, church and military community. He will also be missed by the many choirs he sang with, and all those who were able to share with him, his love of music and singing. If you would like to make a donation on Fred's behalf, please consider Trinity United Church, Cobourg or a charity of your choice.

Throughout his Ministry, Rev. Love served North Trenton Pastoral Charge, Chilliwack Pastoral Charge, Valcartier

Village: St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge, Musgrave Harbour Pastoral Charge, Brighton: Trinity-St. Andrew's

Pastoral Charge, Picton Pastoral Charge, Cobourg: Trinity Pastoral Charge, Temiskaming Presbytery and Hills and Shores Presbytery. Rev. Love also served as a Canadian Forces Military Chaplain while a member of Cobourg Presbytery.

Rev. George Wilkinson – September 7, 2021



Wilkinson, George Robert Peacefully, on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at the Trillium Health Centre, Mississauga. George, in his 90<sup>th</sup> year, beloved husband of Pat for 61 years. Loving father of Wendy (Ronald) Taylor and Steve (Nancy Parker) Wilkinson. Loved grandpa of Shane Taylor. Dear brother of Ruth Gourley (Barry). George was predeceased by his brother Winston. George will forever be remembered for his love of family, sailing, farm tractors, ministry and psychology, a discipline in which he achieved a Ph.D. at the University of Waterloo after attending universities in Guelph, Ottawa and Lansing, Michigan. He was an ordained minister, but as a psychologist, he eventually entered private practice after serving as director of counseling at Seneca College in the 1970s and '80s. Throughout, he cultivated his love of sailing, belonging to the club in

Brighton, ON, where he was a regular on the racing circuit.

Rev. Wilkinson served within Waterloo Presbytery and had membership within Erie Presbytery, Toronto Don Valley Presbytery, Cobourg Presbytery, South West Presbytery and Hills and Shores Presbytery.

#### Rev. John Kenneth Noble

June 13, 1927 – December 31, 2021



John Kenneth Noble passed away peacefully at Kingston General Hospital on Friday, December 31, 2021 in his 95th year. Ken as he was known to family and friends was born June 13, 1927 to John A. Noble and Evelyn Bechtel in Kitchener, Ontario. His early education took place in Toronto and after high school he worked as a structural steel draftsman for 5 years. He attended Queen's University and was awarded a BA (Honours) in 1955, MA in Philosophy in 1956 and through Emmanuel College he received a Bachelor of Divinity in 1959, Masters of Theology in 1968 and a Doctor of Ministry in 1987.

Ken was predeceased by his beloved wife of 71 years Joan earlier in 2021. Together they were the proud parents of John, Thomas (deceased) and Ruth and the loving grandparents of Tom Noble-Sword, Tara Farrell (Chris) and Krystal Cline, and great-grandparents of Lauren and Nathan Farrell.

Ken was ordained by The United Church of Canada in 1959 and served at Rexdale United in Toronto, Trinity United in Schumacher, St Paul's United in Brampton and Westminster United in Weston.

An early interest in teaching grew to an urgent call. Ken taught at Seneca College, Toronto for twenty-five years. His Dean called him a truly dedicated teacher, who prepared his courses with care and was a constant champion for the humanities in college education.

Ken loved to read and write on faith and spirituality, often leading study groups and enjoying time with family and friends.

## 2021-22 Summary of Actions by Assembly of Elders, General Meetings

#### June 4-5, 2021 (General Meeting)

**2021-06-4-5\_85 CONSENT MOTIONS** (Rosemary Lambie/Phil Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council move the following:

- That the enabling motions as circulated in the Report Book (June 4-5, 2021) be adopted (Appendix A);
- 2. That the agenda as circulated be adopted;
- 3. That the minutes of the East Central Ontario Regional Council Annual General Meeting of September 25-26, 2020 be accepted as circulated (**Appendix B**);
- 4. That the East Central Ontario Regional Council receive the reports as circulated in the (2021) Report Book and also include the memorial for Rev. Ken Murray (Auguste 27, 2019), addition of staff member info: Martha, Pedoniquotte, Community Capacity Development Coordinator (CCDC) for Ontario/Quebec
- 5. That the alternate Speaker for this meeting be Steve Coles;
- 6. That the Equity Team for this meeting consist of Rev. Sharon Ballantyne, Rev. Phil Wilson, Deb Brown, and Sharon Hull;
- 7. That the Scrutineers for this meeting be Rev. Phil Wilson, Karen Wilson, Sharon Hull and Joel Miller;
- 8. That the Discernmentarian/Parliamentarians for this meeting be Rev. Jean Wilson (905) 376-0202;
- 9. That the Chaplain for this meeting be Rev. Isaac Mundy (613) 392-6001 ext. 22
- 10. That this meeting includes the behavioral covenant Holy Manners *The 2021 Manual, Appendix, 2*:

#### "We will

- keep God at the center of everything we do;
- each speak for ourselves;
- speak for a purpose;
- separate people from problems;
- allow for full and equitable participation;
- attend to others carefully without interruption;
- welcome the conflict of ideas;
- take a future orientation;
- demonstrate appreciation;
- honor the decisions of the body;
- commit to holding one another to account when we do not keep our holy manners;
- keep the discussion at the table;

- be mindful of our body language;
- check in about good use of time;
- allow the quiet people to speak, with an invitation to speak; and
- sincerely say what we really feel."

The Very Reverend Marion Pardy introduced Holy Manners as a resource for the 38<sup>th</sup> General Council 2003. Holy Manners has been used as resource for the conduct of meetings by subsequent General Councils and their executives. It has been adapted here for use as a resource by all councils and church bodies.

#### CARRIED

**2021-06-4-5\_86 MOTION** (Elizabeth MacDonald/Phil Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council commits to becoming a fully Affirming Regional Council and adopting the updated purpose for the Affirming Forum:

We are called to prayerfully discern and respect the wide range of diversities of peoples within our Regional Council, including, but not limited to, sexual orientation, gender identity, life experience, differing abilities, ethnicity, racialized experience, generational differences, age, geographic location and economic circumstances.

The East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC) Affirming Forum is accountable to the Assembly of Elders and helps ECORC increase awareness and understanding of, create safe space for, deepen commitment to, and work toward full participation of all people in all aspects of the life, worship and work of the Regional Council and wider community. The ECORC Affirming Forum will also support the work of ECORC living into being a public (including through the use of the Affirm United/S'affirmer Ensemble (AU/SE) logo in all communications), intentional and explicit fully Affirming Regional Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-4-5\_87 MOTION** (Elizabeth MacDonald/Phil Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the 2021-22 Affirming Forum Action Plan:

- Continue to consult and work with ECORC Staff, Assembly of Elders, Teams, and Forums to deepen
  and broaden understanding in all the ECORC leadership groups by holding, at minimum, an annual
  learning event. New members will be offered a separate educational session on Affirming
  principles and practices. The broader objective is to increase understanding of what it means to
  be an Affirming Ministry across East Central Ontario Regional Council;
- Facilitate, encourage and support a Network of Affirming Ministries within and across East Central Ontario Regional Council;
- Using an intersectionality lens with the commitment of working with other groups, including but not limited to those focusing on anti-racism, Indigenous justice and equity; assess interest and need; and provide appropriate opportunities for education on diversity and inclusion across the Regional Council;
- Define and implement Measurable Goals using the Guiding Principles that follow the ECORC Mission Statement;

• Annually prepare budget; renew AU/SE membership; review, evaluate and update this Action Plan.

#### CARRIED

**2021-06-4-5\_88 MOTION** (Paul Reed/Kathleen Whyte) That ECORC adopt as the Mission Objective priorities for the balance of 2021 and through 2022;

- Diversity and Inclusion: supporting the full participation of all people with attention to intersectionality (Anti-racism, Affirming, Interfaith, Intercultural, Respectful Relationships with Indigenous Peoples)
- Climate and environment: Living with Respect in Creation
- Economic Justice and Community Development
- Investing in new Church Development and Innovative Ministries

And that these priorities guide the work of the Leadership Teams and Forums. CARRIED

**2021-06-4-5\_89 MOTION** (A. Alexander/Meggin King) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the Policy regarding Anti-Racism. (**Appendix C**). **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-4-5\_90 MOTION** (Wanda Stride/Svinda Heinrichs) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the appointments of the following people:

Assembly of Elders – 3-year terms ending 2024

- Ted Meyers
- Rev. Paul Reed
- Margaret Curtis
- Bill Sheaves

Formation, Nurture and Justice – 2- or 3-year terms

- Rev. Wendy Bulloch
- Rev. Isaac Mundy
- Helmut Enns

Equity Team - 3 year terms ending 2024

- Stacey Tremblay
- Rev. Paul Reed
- Rev. Nancy Wilson

#### Affirm Forum

- Joyce Payne
- Wilde Ferris
- Rev. Michelle Down

Mission Through Property – 2- or 3-year terms

- Bruce Hutchinson
- Brian James
- Ian Deslauriers

• Ted Meyers

Nominations Team – 2 or 3 years

• Rev. Mary-Jane Hobden

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Cheryl Mound

#### CARRIED

**2021-06-4-5\_91 MOTION** (Wanda Stride/Helmut Enns) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council increase the membership of the Covenant Support Team from 12 members to 14, and approve the following 4 nominees to join the team (for terms of 2 or 3 years):

- Stephen Coles
- Lisa Monsma
- Freda Burns
- Rev. Cheryl McMurray

**2021-06-4-5\_92 MOTION** (Svinda Heinrichs/Helmut Enns) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council nominate the following persons serve as Commissioners to the 44<sup>th</sup> General Council:

Lay 44<sup>th</sup> General Council Commissioners

- 1. C. Stephen Coles
- 2. Penelope Culverson
- 3. Ted Meyers
- 4. Joyce Payne
- 5. Kathleen Whyte

Ordered 44<sup>th</sup> General Council Commissioners

- 6. Rev. Aruna Alexander
- 7. Rev. Meggin King
- 8. Rev. Don McLean
- 9. Rev. Ryan McNally
- 10. Rev. Paul Reed
- 11. Rev. Wanda Stride
- 12. Rev. Marilyn Zehr

And further, that the Nominations Team reopen Expressions of Interest to fill the remaining vacancies and secure alternates and report its recommendations to the Regional Council for approval. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-4-5\_93 MOTION** (B. James/T. Meyers) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council receive the mid 2021 financial update and financial statements up to April 30<sup>th</sup> 2021. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-4-5\_94 MOTION** (Rosemary Lambie/Phil Wilson) that following the rise of this 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** 

**2021-06-4-5\_95 MOTION** (Rosemary Lambie/Phil Wilson) that the meeting be adjourned at 11:53 a.m. (June 5<sup>th</sup> 2021), and that the Speaker declares this general meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council duly concluded. **CARRIED** 

#### June 18, 2021

**2021-06-18-096 MOTION** (T. Meyers/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Paul Reed as Speaker until following the 2022 Regional Council Meeting. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-097 CONSENSUS MOTION** That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Sharon Hull as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-098 MOTION** (S. Coles/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-099 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of May 21, 2021 as circulated. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-100 MOTION** (S. Coles/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received the completed form on Church Hub approves the reappointment of Rev Marilyn Zehr to the Maynooth-Madawaska Pastoral Charge part-time Ministry 20 hours per week 07/01/ 2021 (July 1 2021) to 06/30/2022 (June 30 2022). **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-101 MOTION** (S. Coles/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received the completed form on Church Hub approves the reappointment of Denise Boyd, DLM, to the Little Britain Pastoral Charge part-time Ministry 24 hours per week 08/01/2021 (Aug. 1 2021) to 07/31/2022 (July 31, 2022). **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-102 MOTION** (S. Coles/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, pending receipt of the completed form on Church Hub approves the reappointment of Rev. Joanna MacQuarrie retired supply to the Trinity Peterborough Pastoral Charge full-time Ministry 40 hours per week 07/01/ 2021 (July 1 2021) to 06/30/2022 (June 30 2022). **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-103 MOTION** (S. Coles/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received the completed form on Church Hub approves the reappointment of Rev. Anja Guignion retired supply to the Port Hope Pastoral Charge part-time Ministry 20 hours per week 07/01/ 2021 (July 1 2021) to 09/30/2022 (Sept. 30 2022). **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-104 MOTION** (S. Coles/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having receipt of the completed form on Church Hub approves the reappointment of Rev Carol Gillard retired supply to the Ebenezer-Maple Grove Pastoral Charge full-time Ministry 40 hours per week 07/01/ 2021 (July 1 2021) to 06/30/2022 (June 30 2022).

It is recommended that Rev. Carol Gillard and Rev. Larry Doyle make plans for the congregation's missional identity during this appointment. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-105 MOTION** (S. Coles/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, with thanksgiving for the work of a career in ministry, approves the retirement of Rev David Moore from Simcoe Street United Church Oshawa October 31, 2021. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-106 MOTION** (S. Coles/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, with thanksgiving for the work of a career in ministry, approves the retirement of Rev Judith Evenden From Crossroads United church (Kingston) November 1, 2021. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-107 MOTION** (T. Meyers/I Robb) that whereas, having found Chalmers United Church, Kingston to be in an unsatisfactory state, the East Central Ontario Regional Council's Assembly of Elders has directed that certain outcomes be realized in support of discerning whether sufficient vitality and viability exists within the congregation to sustain its continued existence, including the appointment of an Administrator, therefore the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders agrees with the direction of the draft Memorandum of Understanding for the Administration position and concurs with the recommendation that NarrowGate Leadership, via its principal, (Rev.) G. David King, is retained for a period of one year (with the possibility of extension for a further year) to animate the role of Administer by functioning as a Commission, per the polity and praxis of The United Church of Canada. The cost to be borne by the community of faith. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-108 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the request of Tabernacle United Church of the Seymour Pastoral Charge to demolish the Tabernacle United Church building. The costs of doing so will be offset by a donation from the Empire Cheese Co-operative (\$25,000). **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-109 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the request of Trinity United Church – Bowmanville to have access to their Manse Fund for the ongoing operation of their church. Work with Brian Reid, liaison from the Covenant Support team is ongoing as they determine their future direction however these funds will be necessary to keep them going to the end of January 2022. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-110 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the request of Hampton United Church to negotiate their current loan with Lakeridge Presbytery Extension Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-111 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the request of Kingsview United Church- Oshawa to increase the previous approved (2021-05-21\_076 MOTION) amount of \$300,000 to \$370,000 being for the replacement of asphalt in parking lot, curbing, sidewalks, removal of waste and replacing of engineering fill. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-112 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves in principal with the engagement of Dunbarton Fairport United Church and the United Property Resource Corporation (UPRC) in the feasibility of developing low-density residential housing on their site. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-113 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) approves the St Mark's United Church - Whitby Property and Facilities projects estimated at \$102,000. This approval is required before St Mark's can apply for funding assistance from Lakeridge Extension Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-114 MOTION** (K. Whyte/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recommends that Communities of Faith extend and additional vacation period to Ministry Personnel throughout this year. **CARRIED** 

**2021-06-18-115 MOTION** (B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 12:20 PM. **CARRIED** 

#### September 24, 2021

**2021-09-24-116 CONSENSUS MOTION** That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Rev. Phil Wilson as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-117 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Curtis) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-118 MOTION** (B. James/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of June 18, 2021 as circulated. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-119 MOTION** (M. Curtis/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of Email Poll ending July 26, 2021 as circulated.

2021-07-26-001 MOTION (B. James /M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders having received the appropriate documents on Church Hub and with the assurance of the Office of Vocations minster that the interview board is aware, approves the appointment of Kaitlyn Ostrander, Ministry Candidate to a one-year Supervised Ministry appointment on the Arden Pastoral Charge full time 40 Hrs per week form 8/1/2021 to 7/31/2022. CARRIED

2021-07-26-002 MOTION (B. James /M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders having received the appropriate documents on Church Hub and with the assurance of the Office of Vocations minster that the interview board is aware, approves the appointment of Kevin Fitzpatrick, Ministry Candidate to a two-year Supervised Ministry appointment on the Grace Pastoral Charge, part time 14 Hrs per week form 7/1/2021 to 7/31/2023. CARRIED

2021-07-26-003 MOTION (B. James /M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders having received the appropriate documents on Church Hub and with the assurance of the Office of Vocations minster that the interview board is aware, approves the appointment of Kevin Fitzpatrick, Ministry Candidate to a two-year Supervised Ministry appointment on the Janetville Pastoral Charge, part time 16 Hrs per week form 7/1/2021 to 7/31/2023. CARRIED

2021-07-26-004 MOTION (B. James /M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders having received the appropriate documents on Church approves the appointment of Rev. Allan Boyd, retired supply appointment on the Mark Street Pastoral Charge, part time 20 hrs per week form 7/1/2021 to 6/30/2022. CARRIED

#### CARRIED

**2021-09-24-120 MOTION** (L. Watson/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders mandate Karen Wilson, to put out a call for logo suggestions. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-121 MOTION** (R. Lambie/M. Curtis) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recommend the Licence to Administer the Sacraments Policy to the Regional Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-122 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Church Hub, approves the appointment of Rev. Alan Reeve, United supply minister to the Greenwood Pastoral Charge Peterborough half-time 20 hours a week 8/1/2021 to 7/31/2022. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-123 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Church Hub, approves the appointment of Rev. Linda Hodgson, retired supply minister to the Harmony Pastoral Charge, half-time 20 hours a week 11/1 2021 to 5/30/2022. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-124 MOTION** (T. Meyers/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Church Hub, approves the appointment of Rev. Deborah Elliott, retired supply minister to the St. Mark's Whitby pastoral charge, full-time 40 hours a week 9/16/2021 to 6/15/2022. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-125 MOTION (**T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the application from St. James & St. Paul's United Church, Madawaska of \$5000.00 for modernization grant to replace the roof and refers to the General Council Office **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-126 MOTION (**T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Trinity United Church, Peterborough to disband June 30, 2022, having worked with the Mission Through Property and Finance Team to resolve all outstanding property requirements and further resolves that Trinity United Church Trustees shall not disburse the net proceeds of sale until the Regional Council has approved their Plan of Disposition. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-127 MOTION (**T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Deseronto United Church to amalgamate with Grace United Church, Napanee, effective January 1, 2022. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-128 MOTION (**T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Cataraqui United Church to disband effective December 31, 2021 having worked with the Mission Through Property and Finance Team to resolve all outstanding property requirements and further resolves that Cataraqui United Church Trustees shall not disburse the net proceeds of sale until the Regional Council has approved their Plan of Disposition. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-129 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Cataraqui United Church to name Rev. Phil Wilson and Brian Shannon as a Trustee from the Regional Council. **CARRIED** (*P. Wilson abstains*)

**2021-09-24-130 MOTION (**T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Empey Hill United Church to amalgamate with Selby United Church effective October 17, 2021. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-131 MOTION (**T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of the Trustees of Empey Hill United Church to sell a certain real property, the legal description of which is Plan 29R-10994, in part of lot 1, Concession 4, geographic Township of Richmond, now Town of Greater Napanee and County of Lennox and Addington and the

municipal address of which is 1340 Deseronto Road with the listing agent Century 21 Lanthorn and broker Bill McCutcheon for a recommended asking price of \$229,000 at a 4.0% commission rate.

Further concur that the disbursement the net proceeds of sale shall be as follows: 10% Indigenous 10% Mission & Service 10% Napanee Hospital 70% to the Selby church for building improvements.

#### CARRIED

**2021-09-24-132 MOTION (**T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves a request to increase our approval for the project of the Kingsview United Church Parking lot upgrades (paving) to \$385,569.16 (Increased from \$370,000.). **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-133 MOTION (**B. James/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Letter of Intent between Trinity Pastoral Charge Uxbridge and UPRC for the development of Church properties at Trinity in Uxbridge. **CARRIED (***Ted Meyers abstains***)**.

**2021-09-24-134 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with a 2022 Mission Support Grant of \$8,000 for Grand River Spiritual & Educational Resources, subject to the approval of the Regional Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-135 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with a 2022 Mission Support Grant of \$1,000 for Places for People, Haliburton County Inc, subject to the approval of the Regional Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-136 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with a 2022 Mission Support Grant of \$5,000 for Abbey Retreat Centre, subject to the approval of the Regional Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-137 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with a 2022 Mission Support Grant of \$5,000 for Quinte Health Care Corporation Spiritual Health Services, subject to the approval of the Regional Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-138 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with a 2022 Mission Support Grant of \$20,000 for Bedford House Community Ministry c/o Greenwood United Church Peterborough, subject to the approval of the Regional Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-139 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with a 2022 Mission Support Grant of \$6,000 for Five Oaks Christian Workers Centre, subject to the approval of the Regional Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-140 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with a 2022 Mission Support Grant of \$30,000 Quinte Deaf Fellowship Belleville, subject to the approval of the Regional Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-141 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with a 2022 Mission Support Grant of \$35,000 to Camp Quin-Mo-Lac be approved, subject to the approval of the Regional Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-142 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with a 2022 Mission Support Grant of \$6,500 to Old Hay Bay Church, subject to the approval of the Regional Council. **CARRIED** (*P. Wilson abstains*)

**2021-09-24-143 MOTION** (P. Wilson/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accepts gift from the Affirming Forum with thanks. **CARRIED** 

**2021-09-24-144 CONSENSUS MOTION** that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 12:46 PM. **CARRIED** 

#### October 1, 2021

**2021-10-01-145 CONSENSUS MOTION** That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Rev. Lynn Watson as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **CARRIED** 

**2021-10-01-146 MOTION** (D. McLean/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recommends to the ECORC the proposed ECORC COF Assistance Fund to be used for:

- 50% for capital improvements, emergency repairs and/or upgrades to COF physical buildings or properties
- 50% for Community of Faith ministry activities such as outreach projects, stewardship projects, youth initiatives, networking initiatives and Community clusters etc.
- Assistance to be provided in the form of grants/loans from the investment income from the fund. At the direction of the ECORC the principal may also be used to fund special initiatives or projects.
- Applications must come from COF will be received by the Mission through Property Team three times per year (Feb 15<sup>th</sup>, May 15<sup>th</sup>, Sept 15<sup>th</sup>)
- The Maximum per application will be \$5,000.

#### CARRIED

**2021-10-01-147 MOTION** (D. MacLean/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recommend that the Treasurer Regional Council be directed to invest \$700,000 in a Restricted Investment Fund with Toronto United Church Council to support the ECORC COF Assistance Fund, and that the following funds be brought into the new ECORC COF Assistance fund:

- Property Fund (\$361,946)
- Shinning Waters Legacy Fund (\$159,909)
- The Library Networking and Clustering Fund (\$17,788)
- Stewardship Initiative Fund (\$9,192)
- Eldorado Church Accessibility Fund (\$32,556)
- Library and Resource Ministry Fund (\$35,449)
- IBE (\$2,192)

#### CARRIED
**2021-10-01-148 MOTION** (D. MacLean/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs that the Treasurer be directed to maintain the UCF (United Church Foundation) fund with investment to include:

- The Bursary Fund (\$82,246)
- The Endowment Fund (\$157,740) which feeds the Bursary Fund
- The various Queens Alumni Funds (\$60,871)
- Excess Operating Funds (\$418,464)

### CARRIED

**2021-10-01-149 MOTION** (D. MacLean/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives for information the financial statements and budget documents and recommend to the Regional Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-10-01-150 MOTION** (D. MacLean/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Leased agreement between St Mark's United Church (Whitby) and Durham Montessori School and Daycare starting August 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 and ending July 31<sup>st</sup> 2026. **CARRIED** 

**2021-10-01-151 MOTION** (M. Fortin /L. Watson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders allocate an additional \$10, 859 to cover all of the requests made to Doing Mission Priority Grants in the amount of \$33,859, from the 2021 budget.

**2021-10-01-152 MOTION** (L Watson /M. Curtis) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recommend to the Regional Council to create a part-time staff position to provide support to Communities in Faith needing crisis care. **CARRIED** 

**2021-10-01-153 CONSENSUS MOTION** that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 2:28 PM. **CARRIED** 

## October 15-16, 2021 (General Meeting)

**2021-10-15-16\_154 CONSENT MOTIONS** (Rosemary Lambie/Phil Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council move the following:

- 11. That the agenda as circulated be adopted;
- 12. That the minutes of the East Central Ontario Regional Council Annual General Meeting of June 4-5, 2021 be accepted as circulated (**Appendix A**);
- 13. That the alternate Speaker for this meeting be Steve Coles;
- 14. That the Equity Monitor Support Team for this meeting consist of Deb Brown, Rev. Max Ward and Rev. Phil Wilson; the Equity Observers consist of the Equity Team;
- 15. That the Scrutineers for this meeting be Rev. Phil Wilson, Karen Wilson, Sharon Hull and Joel Miller;
- 16. That the Discernmentarian/Parliamentarians for this meeting be Steve Coles;
- 17. That the Chaplain for this meeting be Rev. Caroline Giesbrecht and Rev. Bob LePage Friday evening; Rev. Elizabeth Macdonald and Ian Robb Saturday morning.
- 18. That this meeting includes the behavioral covenant Holy Manners *The 2021 Manual, Appendix, 2*:

"We will

- keep God at the center of everything we do;
- each speak for ourselves;
- speak for a purpose;
- separate people from problems;
- allow for full and equitable participation;
- attend to others carefully without interruption;
- welcome the conflict of ideas;
- take a future orientation;
- demonstrate appreciation;
- honor the decisions of the body;
- commit to holding one another to account when we do not keep our holy manners;
- keep the discussion at the table;
- be mindful of our body language;
- check in about good use of time;
- allow the quiet people to speak, with an invitation to speak; and
- sincerely say what we really feel."

The Very Reverend Marion Pardy introduced Holy Manners as a resource for the 38<sup>th</sup> General Council 2003. Holy Manners has been used as resource for the conduct of meetings by subsequent General Councils and their executives. It has been adapted here for use as a resource by all councils and church bodies.

**2021-10-15-16\_155 MOTION** (Rosemary Lambie/Phil Wilson) That East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the License to Administer the Sacraments Policy as amended:

• Change section 4 a) "...year six (6) months..." CARRIED

**2021-10-15-16\_156 MOTION** (Caroline Giesbrecht/ Mary-Jane Hobden) That East Central Ontario Regional Council, upon recommendation of the Nominating Team, name *Kaitlyn Ostrander* and *Andrew MacPherson* as Commissioners to the 44<sup>th</sup> General Council. **CARRIED** 

\*Therefore, and based on June 4-5, 2021 election of Commissioner, GC 44 Commissioners are:

Lay 44<sup>th</sup> General Council Commissioners

- 13. C. Stephen Coles
- 14. Penelope Culverson
- 15. Andrew MacPherson
- 16. Ted Meyers
- 17. Kaitlyn Ostrander
- 18. Joyce Payne
- 19. Kathleen Whyte

Ordered 44<sup>th</sup> General Council Commissioners

- 20. Rev. Dr. Aruna Alexander
- 21. Rev. Meggin King
- 22. Rev. Don McLean
- 23. Rev. Ryan McNally
- 24. Rev. Paul Reed
- 25. Rev. Wanda Stride
- 26. Rev. Marilyn Zehr

**2021-10-15-16\_MOTION 157** (Wanda Stride/Mary-Jane Hobden) That the nominations team of the East Central Ontario Regional Council, reserves a space on the slate of commissioners to the 44<sup>th</sup> General Council for the Youth Intern as named by the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team. **CARRIED** 

**2021-10-15-16\_MOTION 158** (Wanda Stride/Mary-Jane Hobden) That East Central Ontario Regional Council, upon recommendation of the Nominating Team, name in order **Tom Smart** and **Rev. Kristiane** 

**Black** as Alternates Commissioners to the 44<sup>th</sup> General Council and that vacancies among the Commissioners be filled with respect to maintaining diversity and balance. **CARRIED** 

**2021-10-15-16\_159 MOTION** (Phil Wilson/Mary-Jane Hobden) That East Central Ontario Regional Council nominate Rev. Wanda Stride as Leading Elder. **CARRIED** 

**2021-10-15-16\_160 MOTION** (Stephen Coles/Phil Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council forward to the General Council the *Cooperative Communities of Faith and Alternative Pastoral Relationships Proposal*. **CARRIED** 

**2021-10-15-16\_ 161 MOTION** (Ryan McNally/Stephen Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council forward to the General Council the *Clergy Consultative Committee Proposal* as amended:

• Add under section 4 "E. For GCE to formulate a response by December 21<sup>st</sup> 2023."

#### CARRIED

**2021-10-15-16\_162 MOTION** (Ted Meyers/Brian James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council, approve that creation of an ECORC Community of Faith (CoF) Assistance Fund to be used for:

- 50% for capital improvements, emergency repairs and/or upgrades to CoF physical buildings or properties
- 50% for Community of Faith ministry activities such as outreach projects, stewardship projects, youth initiatives, networking initiatives and Community clusters etc.
- Assistance to be provided in the form of grants/loans from the investment income from the fund. At the direction of the ECORC the principal may also be used to fund special initiatives or projects.
- Applications must come from CoF will be received by the Mission through Property Team three times per year (Feb 15<sup>th</sup>, May 15<sup>th</sup>, Sept 15<sup>th</sup>)
- The Maximum per application will be \$5,000.

## CARRIED

**2021-10-15-16\_163 MOTION** (Ted Meyers/Brian James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council, approve that the Treasurer of the Regional Council be directed to invest \$700,000 in a Restricted Investment Fund with Toronto United Church Council to support the ECORC COF Assistance Fund, and that the following funds be brought into the new ECORC COF Assistance fund:

- Property Fund (\$361,946)
- Shinning Waters Legacy Fund (\$159,909)
- The Library Networking and Clustering Fund (\$17,788)
- Stewardship Initiative Fund (\$9,192)
- Eldorado Church Accessibility Fund (\$32,556)
- Library and Resource Ministry Fund (\$35,449)

#### CARRIED

**2021-10-15-16\_164 MOTION** (Brian James/Ted Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council receives for information the financial statements of 2019 and 2020. **CARRIED** 

**2021-10-15-16\_165 MOTION** (Brian James/Ted Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approves the 2022 budget as presented. **CARRIED** 

**2021-10-15-16\_166 MOTION** (Marg Goodwin/Cristopher White) That That the East Central Ontario Regional Council authorize the Student Bursary forum to award bursaries retroactively to eligible students since the formation of EOORC. **CARRIED** 

**2021-10-15-16\_167 CONSENSUS MOTION** That the East Central Ontario Regional Council extend its meeting by 30 minutes. **CARRIED** 

**2021-10-15-16\_168 MOTION** (Kathleen Whyte/Cheryl McMurray) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the presented list of Licensed Lay Worship Leaders for 2022:

List of LLWL for 2022

Karen Bates Robert Bennett Gwen Bevan Adele Boy Helen Bowman John Bowman Evelyn Chambers Debbie Cowling Carol Cunday Marilyn Fortin Darlene Hallett Chris Ingersoll Paul Kneebone Lynn Liddell Dianne McCracken Ruth Olley Carol O'neil Nancy Payne Darlene Peddle Susan Pleasance Susan Sheremeta Debbie Sherwin Mark Sturman Phyllis Tamlin Richard Weigand Kathleen Whyte Angela Wiseman Louise Wood

#### CARRIED

**2021-10-15-16\_169 MOTION** (Rosemary Lambie/Phil Wilson) that following the rise of this 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 Spring General Meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> 2022. **CARRIED** 

**2021-10-15-16\_170 MOTION** (Rosemary Lambie/Phil Wilson) that the meeting be adjourned at 12:21 PM, and that the Speaker declares this general meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council duly concluded. **CARRIED** 

## November 26, 2021

**2021-11-26\_171 CONSENSUS MOTION** That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Phil Wilson as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_172 MOTION** (L. Watson/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated; including the Order of the Day at 10 AM for EDGE. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_173 MOTION** (P. Wilson/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the Minutes of September 24, 2021 and October 1, 2021 as circulated. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_174 MOTION** (T. Meyers/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of email vote completed October 18, 2021.

**2021-10-18\_001 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) 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 PLAN 29R-10994, in part of Lot 1, Concession 4, geographic Township of Richmond, now Town of Greater Napanee and County of Lennox and Addington and the municipal address of which is 1340 Deseronto Road, Town of Greater Napanee, Ontario K7R 3L1

Pursuant to an agreement between the Boards of Trustees of the Empey Hill United Church of the Town of Greater Napanee, Ontario, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, as seller, completion date to be 19th of November 2021, to Katie Lynn Osborne, for \$250,000.00

Further concur that the disbursement the net proceeds of sale shall be as follows: 10% Indigenous 10% Mission & Service 10% Napanee Hospital 70% to the Selby church for building improvements.

#### CARRIED

**2021-11-26-175 CONSENSUS MOTION** That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders welcomes Carla Leon as a guest presenter from EDGE. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_176 MOTION** (P. Wilson/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the amendments to the Policy such that prior to granting such license,

- 1. Review and assess the applicant for
  - a. theoretical and theological training acquired through the completion of an accredited course of study on the sacraments. Dependent on the training path verification may be required by the Office of Vocation, the training institution/professor/instructor/mentor.
  - b. practical experience and reflection undertaken with the supervision and guidance of an education or pastoral charge supervisor, or other designated mentor appointed by the Regional Council. Opportunities to gain such experience may include occasions of pastoral visitation in preparation for Baptism, participation in sacramental worship preparation and shared leadership in the administering of sacraments. A verbal or written report of the Supervisor is required.
- 2. Shall decide based on the experience and learning of the applicant and not on the duration of time. It is noted that the learning goals are candidate specific, learning is contextual, and the opportunities differ among Communities of Faith. In the formation of a new pastoral relationship and dependent on context, adequate practical experience and reflection opportunities may not be available the first six months of a new ministry. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-26\_177 MOTION** (K. Whyte/M. Curtis) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the request of Janetville Mt Horeb Pastoral Charge, on the recommendation of the Educational Supervisor Sharon Ballantyne, to grant to candidate Kevin Fitzpatrick a license for the administration of Sacraments, limited to the Communities of Faith comprising his Supervised Ministry Education site and for the duration of his appointment. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_178 MOTION** (P. Wilson/D. McLean) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the request of Arden Pastoral Charge, on the recommendation of Pastoral Charge Supervisor Phil Wilson to grant to candidate Kaitlyn Ostrander a license for the administration of Sacraments, limited to the Communities of Faith comprising her Supervised Ministry Education site and for the duration of her appointment. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_179 MOTION** (I. Robb/B. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Churchhub, approves the appointment of Douglas Ferris, student supply minister to the Eldad-Hampton pastoral charge half-time 20 hours a week from November 15, 2021 to June 30, 2022. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_180 MOTION** (I. Robb/B. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the retirement of Rev. Norm long from the Tweed, Whyte Lake, Bethesda Pastoral Charges (shared ministry) January 1, 2022. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_181 MOTION** (I. Robb/B. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders commends the work of Brian Reid as a liaison with Trinity Bowmanville in their processes to date, and appoints Brian to the continued work of accompaniment as Trinity works towards disbanding. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_182 MOTION** (I. Robb/M. Curtis) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoints Bill Sheaves to accompany the Ebenezer Maple Grove pastoral charge in its current transitional process. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_183 MOTION** (I. Robb/B. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoints Steve Coles to the work of the transition team in the upcoming intentional interim ministry at Simcoe Street, Oshawa. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_184 MOTION** (I. Robb/B. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Church Hub, approves the appointment of Rev. Robert Root, retired supply to the Harmony pastoral charge, part-time 20 hours a week from November 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_185 MOTION** (I. Robb/B. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Church Hub, approves the appointment of Rev. Lyle Horn retired supply to Emmanuel United Church, Peterborough part-time 20 hours/ week from October 4, 2021 to June 30, 2022, or sooner if an Intentional Interim Minister is found. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_186 MOTION** (I. Robb/B. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Churchhub, approves the appointment of Rev. Sharon Ballantyne for Interim Ministry at Grace United Church, Peterborough full time effective July 1, 2021 ending December 31 2021. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_187 MOTION** (I. Robb/B. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the retirement of Rev. Paul Reed from active ministry effective November 1, 2021. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_188 MOTION** (I. Robb/B. Sheaves) That whereas East Central Ontario Regional Council has been receiving concerns regarding the Young's Point United Church since November 2020, from the Ministry and Personnel committee of the Lakefield Young's point pastoral charge, the minister, and also individual members regarding inappropriate treatment of the minister;

whereas the Young's Point United Church Board of Stewards have repeatedly contravened <u>The UCC</u> <u>Manual</u> B.7.7.4 b requiring specific attendance of the minister at meetings;

whereas treatment of the resident minister, the Pastoral Relations minister for East Central Ontario Regional Council and members of the Session has fallen below acceptable standards of the United Church of Canada as set out in the Workplace Discrimination, Harassment, and Violence Prevention and Response Policy (united-church.ca);

whereas the Board of Stewards endeavored to change the governance model of the congregation without having either a congregational meeting, nor the permission of the Regional Council;

whereas the Regional Council engaged *Credence & Co* to conduct a congregational assessment of the Young's Point congregation including widespread interviews with the congregation and a number of recommendations were made in a written Report which was subsequently approved by the Lakefield Young's point pastoral charge executive and apparently then rejected at Young's point, reflecting an unwillingness to participate in the next steps of dialogue and workshop and to undertake necessary change to function in accordance with the United Church polity;

whereas in September 2021 the Regional Council received a formal request from the Lakefield congregation to immediately change the boundaries of the Lakefield Young's Point Pastoral Charge, separating Lakefield from Young's point;

whereas the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders has received the determination of the Covenant Support Team, citing <u>UCC Manual 2021 section B2.1.9.b</u> that, having failed to meet the requirements to remain in good standing as a body of The United Church of Canada, the Covenant Support Team recommends that Young's Point United Church be closed permanently;

And whereas the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recognizes that Young's Point United Church is entitled to respond to the proposed action,

Therefore, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders is giving notice to Young's Point United Church that it will be considering a motion to disband.

Should members of the congregation choose to give a response, contact the Executive Minister by Tuesday, December 7, 2021. The Assembly of Elders will review the responses on December 10, 2021 before making its decision. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_189 MOTION** (I. Robb/B. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders acknowledges the change is pastoral relations of Rev. Stevan Spicer from Wellington United Church effective October 1, 2021 with an agreed upon 90-days salary continuance. Stevan will be retained on the Roll without Call or Appointment pending further notice. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_190 MOTION** (I. Robb/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders affirms the recommendation of the Covenant Support Team acclaiming Bill Sheaves as the chair of the Covenant Support Team beginning January 1, 2022. **CARRIED** (*Bill Sheaves abstains*)

**2021-11-26-191 MOTION** (M. Fortin/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Bridge Street United Church in Belleville to dismiss with thanks the Commission established by Kente Presbytery in 2018 whose work has been completed. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_192 MOTION** (M. Fortin/C. Whyte) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders affirms receipt of the request for a separation of the Ebenezer-Maple Grove Pastoral Charge to allow Ebenezer to become a one-point charge.

Given that the current minister has an appointment to June 30, 2022 and that no ministry plan was presented with the request, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders mandates the Liaison Bill Sheaves who can work with the pastoral charge to prepare plans for the expectations of future ministry and use of the buildings. These will need approval by the Assembly of Elders before further action can be confirmed. **CARRIED** (*Bill Sheaves abstains*)

**2021-11-26\_193 MOTION** (P. Wilson/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoints Rev. Nancy Lester to pastoral care at Cold Springs Pastoral Charge. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_194 MOTION** (M. Fortin/L. Watson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders affirms receipt of the request of Melrose United Church for a representative of the Regional Council to attend a meeting on December 12, 2021, and help walk through closing motions for the life of their ministry. Representative will be Ed Bentley, failing which, will be Phil Wilson. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_195 MOTION** (T. Meyers **/**B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Faith United Church roof repairs project at a cost of \$120,000. Repairs come with a 30 Year warranty. Costs will be covered from the COF reserves (\$400,000). **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_196 MOTION** (T. Meyers **/**B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of Cataraqui United Church to list the real property, the legal description of which is PT LT 15 CON 3 Kingston; PT LT A W OF LOUGHBOROUGH RD PL 60; BLK D N OF LT 10 W OF LOUGHBOROUGH RD PL 60; PT LT 10 W OF LOUGHBOROUGH RD PL 60 AS IN FR 128302, and the municipal address of which is 965 Sydenham Road, Kingston, Ontario. Property will be listed with Mat Clancy of Re/Max Rise at an asking price of \$299,000 and a 4% commission rate with a flexible closing date.

Distribution of proceeds from sale according to ECORC policy Regarding Proceeds from the sale of Property:

- a) 10% be remitted to the United Church of Canada for the on-going support of Indigenous Ministry. This decision is about living into Reconciliation through our Indigenous ministry.
- b) 10% to the Toronto United Church Council's Sustainable Energy Loan Fund.
- c) 20% be remitted to the Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council to support the Mission Strategy of the Regional Council.
- d) 20% be remitted to the United Church of Canada Mission and Support for on-going support of the ministry of the wider church.

e) 40% be directed for purposes within The United Church of Canada, as recommend by the Community of Faith, and which is approved by the Regional Council before the disbanding of the Community of Faith. (To be determined and the Regional Council – Mission Through Property & Finance will be advised). **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_197 MOTION** (T. Meyers **/**B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the report from the Church Extension Council of Peterborough Presbytery and concur with their intent of their recommendations:

- 1. That the Extension Council of the former Peterborough Presbytery transfer its capital assets remaining to the Toronto United Church Council without geographic restrictions.
- 2. That the Extension Council of the former Peterborough Presbytery transfer all capital assets remaining, after legal and other fees, and after settlement of the outstanding loan, to the Toronto United Church Council, pursuant to the negotiation of a Gift Agreement.
- 3. That the Extension Council of the former Peterborough Presbytery approve the Application for Surrender of Charter and Termination of Corporate Existence (Form 9 of the Corporations Act), following the confirmation that: the corporation has no debts, obligations, or liabilities; that all required notices and returns have been filed; and that the corporation has complied with the requirements of the Corporations Act and the conditions contained in the corporation bylaws.
- 4. That that the Directors develop criteria for the allocation of funds and make a recommendation to Council at its Annual General Meeting; the suggested criteria for priority investment are:
  - Capital improvements
  - Sustainability improvements (greening projects)
  - Innovative Ministry
  - Indigenous Outreach
  - Technology improvements
- 5. That the Four current Directors stand for another term in order to complete the transfer of funds and surrender of charter; namely Lyle Horn, Herman Stremler, Dawn Cox, and Mary Gordon be confirmed as Directors for the 2021-22 term, or until the surrender of the Council's charter. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-26\_198 MOTION** (T. Meyers **/**B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the revised Policy Regarding Proceeds from Sale of Property. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_199 MOTION** (T. Meyers **/**B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the recommendation from the Mission Through Property and Finance Leadership Team that properties being considered surplus to need and therefore for sale by a Community of Faith must first be reviewed by the Mission Through Property and Finance Leadership Team to assess whether said property might be a candidate for development by the UPRC. (United Property Resource Corporation). **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_200 MOTION** (T. Meyers /B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Millbrook-Cavan United Church to support the community financially with the stipulation that all donations must only go to charities with CRA status. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_201 MOTION** (M. Fortin/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the 2021 Doing Mission Together grant to Grace United Church, Peterborough, Project H.O.P.E for \$5,000.00. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_202 MOTION** (M. Fortin/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the 2021 Doing Mission Together grant to Emmanuel UC Mission & Outreach Committee, Peterborough, Food Boxes, a healthy and dignified entry point into Nourish programming for \$5,000.00. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_203 MOTION** (M. Fortin/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the 2021 Doing Mission Together grant to St. Marks United Church, Cannifton, Evaluating the potential of Rural Connect in ECORC for \$5,000.00. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_204 MOTION** (M. Fortin/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the 2021 Doing Mission Together grant to St. Paul's United Church, Warkworth, The Community Abundance Project for \$4,999.00. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_205 MOTION** (M. Fortin/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the 2021 Doing Mission Together grant to Claremont United Church, Journeys to Justice for \$3,000.00. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_206 MOTION** (M. Fortin/ I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the 2021 Doing Mission Together grant to Faith United Church, Courtice, Youth Group- mini pantry Food and basic needs Outreach for \$300.00. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_207 MOTION** (M. Fortin/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the 2022 Doing Mission Together grant to Grace United Church, Napanee, Good Neighbours Feast for \$3,600.00. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_208 MOTION** (M. Fortin/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the 2022 Doing Mission Together grant to Greenwood United Church, Bedford House Community Ministry, kick start the Catalyst Fund for \$5,000.00. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_209 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Cataraqui United Church, Kingston to name the current Trustees, Rev. Phil Wilson (Chair), Brian Shannon and Eleanor Saunders, as accountable to the Regional Council, effective January 1, 2022 in order to complete the sale of the property and ensure disbursements of the final net assets. **CARRIED** (*P. Wilson abstains*)

**2021-11-26\_210 MOTION** (K/Whyte/I. Robb) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders require the full vaccination of Licenced Lay Worship Leaders (LLWL) of East Central Ontario Regional Council, if going to participate in an in-person worship. **CARRIED** 

**2021-11-26\_211 CONSENSUS MOTION** that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 12:40 PM. **CARRIED** 

## December 10, 2021

**2021-12-10-212 CONSENSUS MOTION** That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Phil Wilson as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **CARRIED** 

**2021-12-10-213 MOTION** (B. James/L. Watson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated regarding the future of Young's Point United Church and the Lakefield-Young's Point Pastoral Charge. **CARRIED** 

**2021-12-10-214 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders welcomes Rev. Dan Hayward, Pastoral Relations Minister for Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council. **CARRIED** 

**2021-12-10-215 MOTION** (D. McLean/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received a formal request from the Lakefield congregation to change the boundaries of the Lakefield Young's Point Pastoral Charge, separating Lakefield from Young's Point, concur with the request to disband the Lakefield Young's Point Pastoral Charge, creating two separate pastoral charges; Lakefield United Pastoral Charge and Young's Point United Pastoral Charge effective January 1, 2022. **CARRIED** 

**2021-12-10-216 MOTION** (P. Wilson/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders authorizes Rev. Dan Hayward to provide governance support to the Lakefield United Church congregation effective January 1, 2022, and report to the Assembly of Elders at regular intervals. A report submitted in Sept 2022, shall outline the on-going viability of the community of faith, and confirmation of understanding of, and compliance with, United Church polity. The Assembly of Elders to make decision on the viability and future of the Lakefield Pastoral Charge as determined by the assessment of the mission strategy, governance model, financial capacity, capacity for call or appointment of ministry leadership. **CARRIED** 

**2021-12-10-217 MOTION** (I. Robb/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders authorizes Rev. Dan Hayward to provide governance support to the Young's Point United Church congregation effective January 1, 2022, and report to the Assembly of Elders at regular intervals. A report to be submitted in Sept 2022, shall outline the on-going viability of the community of faith, and confirmation of understanding of, and compliance with, United Church polity. The Assembly of Elders to make decision on the viability and future of the Young's Point Pastoral Charge as determined by the assessment of the mission strategy, governance model, financial capacity, capacity for call or appointment of ministry leadership. **CARRIED** 

**2021-12-10-218 MOTION** (L. Watson/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Church Hub, approves the appointment of Rev. Bryan Ransom to Lakefield United Church, Lakefield part time (15 hr/week) effective January 1, 2022 for worship leadership and emergency pastoral care to cover the medical leave of the Rev. Kerrie Perry. **CARRIED** 

**2021-12-10-219 MOTION** (P. Wilson/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Covenant Support Team will consult with Rev. Dan Hayward and Rev. Bryan Ransom to determine whether a Pastoral Charge Supervisor is required to work at Lakefield United Church to ensure quorum for governance and meetings effective January 1, 2022 until the return of the Rev. Kerrie Perry. **CARRIED** 

**2021-12-10-220 MOTION** (B. James/D. McLean) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Covenant Support Team will appoint a local Pastoral Charge Supervisor to work with Rev. Dan Hayward at Young's Point United Church to ensure quorum for governance and meetings effective January 1, 2022 during the transition to confirm viability. **CARRIED** 

**2021-12-10\_221 CONSENSUS MOTION** that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 10:45 AM. **CARRIED** 

## January 28, 2022

**2022-01-28-223 CONSENSUS MOTION** That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Phil Wilson as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **CARRIED** 

**2022-01-28-224 MOTION** (B. James/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **CARRIED** 

**2022-01-28-225 MOTION** (M. Curtis/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of November 26, 2021 and December 10, 2021 as circulated. **CARRIED** 

**2022-01-28-226 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of email vote completed December 24, 2021:

2021-12-24-001 MOTION: (T. Myers /L. Watson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Churchhub, approves the appointment of Rev. Karen Smart to the Simcoe Street United Church 10 hours a week to offer pastoral care as discerned by the pastoral care team of Simcoe Street from January 1, 2022 until 30 June, 2022 or sooner if an intentional interim minister can be appointed. CARRIED

2021-12-24-002 MOTION: (T. Meyers /B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of St. Mark's United Church, Cannifton , having passed inspections of the church building conducted by Hastings-Prince Edward Public Health, City of Belleville Fire Inspection, the Ontario Ministry of Education, and Tri-Board Transportation, to enter into a rental agreement with New Old School House Daycare Inc. for six months January 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022 with a rental of \$1100 per month. Rental agreement can be extended if desirable. CARRIED

#### CARRIED

**2022-01-28-227 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, approves the appointment of Rev. Cheryl McMurray as pastoral charge supervisor with Heritage United, Colborne, effective immediately. **CARRIED** 

**2022-01-28-228 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, approves the appointment of Rev. Nancy Wilson as pastoral charge supervisor with Grace United, Peterborough, effective immediately. **CARRIED** 

**2022-01-28-229 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Church Hub, approves the appointment of Rev. Drew Strickland, retired supply to Crossroads United Church, Kingston part-time 20 hours/week from February 1<sup>st</sup> to end of April 30<sup>th</sup>; or until a call is made prior to April 30<sup>th</sup>. **CARRIED** 

**2022-01-28-230 MOTION** (P. Wilson/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Steve Coles and Bill Sheaves to initiate assignments of Liaisons and Pastoral Charge Supervisors, and report back to Assembly of Elders through the Covenant Support Team Report. **CARRIED** (Bill Sheaves abstains).

**2022-01-28-231 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Trinity United Church Bowmanville to disband the pastoral charge as a recognized community of faith effective June 30, 2022. Brian Reid will continue the work of accompaniment. **CARRIED** 

**2022-01-28-232 MOTION** (T. Meyers/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the request from Emmanuel United Church Peterborough to grant a waiver to the United Church bylaw (which indicates that the Treasurer of a COF must be a member of the COF) allowing Brian James to resume being the Treasurer of Emmanuel United Church even though he is not a member of the COF. Brian was the Treasurer of Emmanuel United Church but is currently a member of Wesley United Church, Buckhorn. **CARRIED** (B. James abstains)

**2022-01-28-233 MOTION** (T. Meyers /B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the 2019 ECORC Audited Financial Statements signed by *PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP*. **CARRIED** 

**2022-01-28-234 MOTION** (P. Wilson /I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve funding to be made available to help cover part of the pastoral relations work by contract, to come out of Regional Council budget. **CARRIED** 

**2022-01-28-235 CONSENSUS MOTION** that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 11:50 AM. **CARRIED** 

## February 25, 2022

**2022-02-25-236 CONSENSUS MOTION** That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Rev. Phil Wilson as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-237 MOTION** (B. James/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the amended agenda as distributed. **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-238 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Curtis) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of January 28, 2022 as distributed. **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-239 MOTION** (T. Meyers/M. Curtis) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of email vote completed February 15, 2022.

2022-02-15-001 MOTION (P. Wilson/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, approves the newly revised Constitution for Grace United Church, Peterborough version 2022 for approval at the Annual Congregational Meeting. CARRIED.

#### CARRIED

**2022-02-25-240 MOTION** (P. Wilson/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the clarification to the Community of Faith Supervisors Practice and Policy with the addition of the following, to be inserted as an additional paragraph in the appointment section:

"When the Regional Council assigns an appointee to provide supervision and guidance to a specific task of a pastoral charge, either active or disbanded, the Regional Council may designate the position with a differing title and responsibility. Regardless of title and responsibility, the supervisory role is compensated by this policy." **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-241 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Church Hub, approves the appointment of Rev. Nancy Knox, retired supply to Trinity Pastoral Charge, Bowmanville part-time 20 hours/week from April 1, 2022 to June 15, 2022. **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-242 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Church Hub, approves the re-appointment of Rev. Karen Croxall to Trinity Pastoral Charge, Uxbridge part-time 20 hours/week effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, pending posting on Church Hub. **CARRIED** (Ted Meyers abstains)

**2022-02-25-243 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/W. Stride) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, approves the appointment of Rev. Svinda Heinrichs as pastoral charge supervisor with Bancroft Carlow Pastoral Charge effective immediately, during the restorative care of Rev. Lynn Watson. **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-244 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/K. Whyte) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, approves the appointment of Rev. Paul Reed as pastoral charge supervisor with Janetville Mt Horeb Pastoral Charge effective immediately for the period it serves as a current Supervised Ministry Education site. **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-245 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, approves the appointment of Rev. Bruce Fraser as pastoral charge supervisor with Marmora Pastoral Charge effective immediately. **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-246 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Helen Bickle to retire from her ministry with Quinte Deaf Fellowship effective retire June 30, 2022 and to ensure that the record of her employment and appointment forms are factually recorded in Church Hub. **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-247 MOTION** (P. Wilson/B. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, approves the appointment of Rev. Ed Bentley, retired supply to Wellington Pastoral Charge, 20 hours/week, beginning March 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022, pending the appropriate activation on Church Hub. **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-248 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the newly revised Constitution for Port Hope United Church, version 2022 for approval at the Annual Congregational Meeting. **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-249 MOTION** (K. Whyte/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Rev. Phil Wilson as representative, to attend Adolphustown / Conway Pastoral Charge's annual meeting. **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-250 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept and approve the Letter of Agreement (LOA) between Trinity United Church Bowmanville and UPRC United Property Resource Corporation to proceed with the Development on the Trinity United Church site. **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-251 MOTION** (I. Robb/M. Curtis) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, support the work of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Leadership Team on behalf of the Anti-racism Interfaith Intercultural Forum and ask them to prepare a revision to the anti-racism policy regarding training workshop to be presented at the spring General Meeting. **CARRIED** 

**2022-02-25-252 CONSENSUS MOTION** that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 12:12 PM. **CARRIED** 

## April 1, 2022

**2022-04-01-253 CONSENSUS MOTION** That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Phil Wilson as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-254 MOTION** (M. Fortin/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the amended agenda as distributed. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-255 MOTION** (B. James/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of February 25, 2022 as distributed. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-256 MOTION** (M. Fortin/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of email vote completed March 5, 2022.

2022-03-05-001 MOTION (I. Robb/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received the confirmation of eligibility through Churchhub, approves the Call of Rev. Andrew Macpherson to Grace United Church, Peterborough full time beginning July 1st 2022 with the commitment that Rev. Macpherson will reimburse the Bobcaygeon Pastoral Charge a portion of his moving expenses as compensation for leaving before the three-year expectation. CARRIED

## CARRIED

**2022-04-01-257 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/ T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of email vote completed March 15, 2022.

2022-03-15-001 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders gives consent:

(1) to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is PT LT 15 CON 3 KINGSTON; PT LT A W OF LOUGHBOROUGH RD PL 60; BLK D N OF LT 10 W OF LOUGHBOROUGH RD PL 60; PT LT 10 W OF LOUGHBOROUGH RD PL 60 AS IN FR128302 and the municipal address of which is 965 Sydenham Road, Kingston, Ontario, pursuant to an agreement between the Board of Trustees of Cataraqui Congregation a disbanded congregation of The United Church of Canada, as seller and St. Gregory of Nyssa Orthodox Mission, as buyer, dated the 2'nd day of February 2022, and subject to Regional Council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Property listing was made with Re/Max Rise Executives, and broker Mat Clancy recommended an asking price of \$299,000. at a 4% commission rate.

The actual listing was published at \$299,900. and the agreed sale price was \$305,000.00 revised to \$290,000.00 (after an inspection identified structural concerns an abatement was brought forward) made by St. Gregory of Nyssa Mission, with a deposit of \$75,000. The balance is due on the closing date of June 15, 2022.

(2) The following describes the planned distribution of proceeds from the sale of Pursuant to the "Policy regarding Proceeds from the Sale of Property" (2021) Proceeds from Sale 290.000.000 Less 4% Real Estate 11,600.00 Less Land Survey Cost N/A Less Legal Fees TBD Balance 278.400.00 **Recommended Distribution:** 10% United Church of Canada for Indigenous Ministry 10% Toronto United Church Council's Sustainable Energy Loan Fund 30% East Central Ontario Regional Council – Mission Strategy 30% United Church of Canada – Mission & Support 20% equally disbursed to "Impact Hope" and "Project North" Note: "Impact Hope" (formerly known as "Missionary Ventures Canada") and "Project North have been outreach programs that the Cataraqui United Church members have historically supported. Support has been directed towards Impact Hope projects involving projects in the communities of Maphungwane and Phonjwane, and in Nebaj, Guatemala. It would be the recommendation of the Board of Trustees to seek approval for the disbursement of funds to equally support Impact Hope and Project North.

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

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

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

#### CARRIED

**2022-04-01-258 MOTION** (P. Wilson/W. Stride) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the suggested logo distributed, to be used in its variety of ways. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-259 MOTION** (M. Fortin/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the revised version of the *Policy Regarding Anti-Racism* for inclusion in the Governance Handbook, and recommend to the Regional Council spring meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup>. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-360 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Church Hub, approves the Call of Rev. Edward Wells to Mark Street Pastoral Charge (Peterborough), full time effective September 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-261 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Church Hub, approves the appointment of Rev. Alan Boyd, retired, to Mark Street Pastoral Charge (Peterborough) as Christian Education Minister, 10 hours/week July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-262 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Rev. Kristiane Black and Trinity United Church, Cobourg for her sabbatical from May 29-Aug 29, 2022. Coverage arrangements have been made. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-263 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Rev. Dr. Larry Doyle and Faith United Church for a sabbatical August 15, 2022 to November 13, 2022. Coverage arrangements have been made. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-264 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Rev. Calvin Stone to retire from ministry effective June 30, 2022. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-265 MOTION** (W. Stride/B. James) That the Assembly of Elders concurs with the recommendation of the Covenant Support Team that Ebenezer-Maple Grove join together in a shared ministry and that a shared ministry plan is to by submitted by May 30<sup>th</sup>. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-266 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receive the request of Maple Lake United Church located on Lot 31, Con 5 in Algonquin Highlands, Haliburton County to disband as of February 28, 2022. Recognizing the history of amalgamation on the Pastoral Charge, the process is to deal with the community of faith in the manner of a financial amalgamation. All matters after that date be administered by the Trustees with the support of the East Central Ontario Regional Council. A closing service will be planned for July 17, 2022 at 2 pm. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-267 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with request of Maple Lake United Church to name Trustees Deloris Bailey, Beverly Upton and Rev. Max Ward as accountable to the East Central Ontario Regional Council for completing the administrative tasks. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-268 MOTION** (M. Fortin/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders refers the completion of this work to the Mission Through Property and Finance Team working with the three Trustees named. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-269 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with request of the two churches, currently known as the Roslin Thomasburg Pastoral Charge, Trinity United Church Roslin and Thomasburg United Church to amalgamate and be known as the Roslin Thomasburg United Church effective January 1, 2022. The request is further to close Roslin church with a deconsecrating service on April 24, 2022 and all will attend Thomasburg church. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-270 MOTION** (T. Meyers/W. Stride) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with request of the Back Door Mission for the Relief of Poverty to amend the By-laws re Composition of the Board of Directors to (1) expand the current Board of Directors from 7 to 9 members and (2) that the provision that the majority of Directors be affiliates with Simcoe Street United Church be replaced with a provision that a minority of 3 directors be affiliates with Simcoe Street United Church. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-271 MOTION** (P. Wilson/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders having received a complaint correspondence written to the Moderator, and redirected to the Regional Council, acknowledges the responsibility of an investigation into the operating relationship between Simcoe Street United Church and the Back Door Mission for the Relief of Poverty which operates in the church. A meeting will be arranged with the governing body of the church before responding to the local merchants who have laid the complaint. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-272 MOTION** (W. Stride/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders acknowledges receiving a variety of complaints addressed to staff, to the Speaker and to the Covenant Support team. The common theme of the complaints include that certain communities of faith are not wanting to accept the assigned Pastoral Charge Supervisor, may be refusing to pay assessments, and generally are not following the guidance of the Regional Council and The United Church Manual. These communities of faith are being heavily influenced by a retired minister. Therefore, the Assembly of Elders directs Rosemary to write a letter to Rev. David Watson requesting him to refrain from involvement with Coe Hill-St Ola-The Ridge Pastoral Charge and Bancroft-Carlow Pastoral Charge, effective immediately, and further that the pastoral charges and Pastoral Charge Supervisor be advised on this decision. **CARRIED** (P. Wilson abstains)

**2022-04-01-273 MOTION** (B. James/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders request a review be done of Bancroft-Carlow Pastoral Charge and Coe Hill-St Ola-The Ridge Pastoral Charge. **CARRIED** (K. Whyte abstains)

**2022-04-01-274 MOTION** (T. Meyer/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders gives consent to St. Mark's United Church, Whitby:

- (1) to the offer of sale of certain real property, the legal description of which is PIN 26494-0095, description PT Lot 35 Con 1 Town of Whitby, the municipal address which is 1605 Dundas Street West, pursuant to an agreement between the Board of Trustees of St. Mark's United Church, Whitby, a congregation of the United Church of Canada as Owner, and the Regional Municipality of Durham in the capacity of Municipal Road Authority, dated (dd/mm/2022 TBD) and subject to the Regional Council approval, the salient terms of which are as follows:
- (2)

- a 6.75 m severance along the entire 30.5m road frontage as surveyed by the Region of Durham

- a proposed closing dated April 30, 2022
- the Region of Durham to pay legal fees and other costs associated with the sale
- a cash purchase price of \$61,600 to be paid on closing
- (3) to the following disposition of the proceeds of the sale:
  - the payment of any accumulated debts associated with the property

- 30% of the net proceeds to be submitted to The United Church of Canada in accordance with ECORC policy dated November 26 2021
- The remainder to be utilized by the St. Mark's United Church pastoral charge in accordance with the above ECORC Policy. **CARRIED**

**2022-04-01-275 MOTION** (T. Meyer/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders extend Rev. Marg Goodwin term as Supervising Minster to Melrose, effective February 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-276 MOTION** (W. Stride/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders acknowledge receipt of an invitation from Trinity United Church, Peterborough (received March 31, 2022), indicating a Congregational Meeting to vote on the Agreement to Purchase and Sale with the Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network to take place on Sunday April 3, 2022. A response will be sent expressing the concerns of the Regional Council, and the lack of compliance with Policy. It will further highlight that United Church properties are encouraged to be retained by The United Church of Canada. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-277 MOTION** (P. Wilson/E. MacLean) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders reviews and compensate Rev. Svinda Heinrich invoice to Bancroft-Carlow. Pastoral Charge. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-278 MOTION** (D. Mclean/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receive the following reports as outlined in the March 10, 2022 minutes of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team: Doing Mission Together Priority Grants, Cluster and Networks, Affirm Forum, First Third Ministry and Youth and Young Adult Ministry. **CARRIED** 

**2022-04-01-279 MOTION** (I. Robb) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 12:148 PM. **CARRIED** 

# Reports

## Assembly of Elders

The Assembly of Elders receives the reports and recommended actions of the leadership Teams of the Regional Council. The Assembly of Elders reviews the work as it relates to the direction of the Regional Council and is in keeping with the policies and procedures. If all is in order the Assembly concurs and approves the recommended actions. The Assembly of Elders may be likened to a representative body of the whole Regional Council between gatherings.

Much of the work is routine, The Assembly of Elders gives approval to the recommendations of the Covenant Support Team, which include changes in Pastoral Relationships and the appointments of Liaisons and Pastoral Charge Supervisors. Mission Grants brought forward from the Formation, Justice and Nurture Team are affirmed, likewise from the Mission and Property Team we are appraised of maintenance and building projects as well as plans for disbursement of surplus properties following building closures.

When the work of the Teams overlaps, when a Team needs direction from the Regional Council, or when the Team wants to push the Regional Council in a new direction The Assembly of Elders plays a larger role. In these circumstances, and if it can, the Assembly of Elders decides for the Regional Council, and if it can't or shouldn't the work is brought to the full gathering of the Regional Council.

On behalf of the full Regional Council the Assembly of Elders has:

- With the Covenant Support Team, the Assembly of Elders has placed importance on finding relationships between and among congregation to enable long-term viability. The decline in many communities is concerning and the combination of congregations that are vacant or getting by with part-time appointments to create the potential to call full-time ministry is desirable. Congregations are being encouraged to self-determine but with care to not undermine the viability and opportunities of another.
- With the Mission through Property Team, the assembly of Elders has affirmed that buildings no longer required by a congregation, either from amalgamation or disbanding, should when at all practical remain assets of the United Church of Canada. Although repurposed, a building that remains a United Church ministry and presence continues to honor the commitment and sacrifice of the past.
- With the Formation Justice and Nurture Team and its many Forums the mission focus of the Regional Council is furthered. A practice of Anti Racism Training for all in leadership roles within the Regional Council and congregations has been proposed for action and this is being recommended to the Spring Meeting of the Regional Council.
- From our talented Communications and Administrative Assistant, Karen Wilson, with input from members of the Regional Council, has approved a new East Central Ontario Regional Council logo to be introduced for this Spring Meeting.

Following the adoption of the License to Administer the Sacraments Policy last fall the Assembly of Elders granted license to administer the sacraments on the Supervised Ministry Education sites (SME) of two Candidates for Ministry. In the implementation of this policy the Assembly of Elders has placed emphasis on the completion of learning outcomes rather than length of time. In practice we look to see that there has been opportunities for practical experience to supplement the theoretical knowledge that is a part of the education process for ministry.

The work of the Assembly of Elders is informed by the Equity Team and supported by the Nominations Team. The concern of the Nominations Team is echoed. Without volunteers for leadership roles the mandate of diversity and fair representation is not met, opportunities are missed, work is undone, and the willing are recycled into positions.

The Assembly of Elders asks that Rev. David Timpson, Pastoral relations Minister, remain in prayer and thought. His restorative care leave has been extended. The absence of himself and the leadership he provides is very much missed. Appreciation is extended to those who have accepted additional tasks at this time.

Nancy Sutherland, Marilyn Fortin and Phil Wilson have completed a three-year term on the Assembly of Elders at the rise of this Spring meeting. Their gift of leadership and wisdom is applauded. On behalf of the Assembly of Elders,

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Paul Reed, Speaker

## **Executive Minister**

As the world has struggled to adapt to a new normal, so have we in East Central Ontario. We have learned to pivot around challenging situations, be creative with new forms of technology, and made funding available to help communities of faith continue as best each one was able to operate, given all the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Assembly of Elders has met monthly on zoom (except for the summer) under the leadership of Rev. Paul Reed as Speaker and passed motions between meetings, if there was an urgency. There have been more communities of faith determining their future, evaluating how to be faithful to the gospel by repurposing their church buildings to provide financial resources for a shrinking but faithful congregation. Other churches are in discussion with the United Property Resource Corporation about how best to use space and provide income. In compliance with the <u>Policy regarding Proceeds from the Sale of Property</u>, there have been donations given to support other local ministries and the wider community of The United Church, for which we are deeply grateful.

Working with three very different Regional Councils is a constant juggle, with varieties of passion and energy as each is developing its own way of operating. Each has its own teams and staff working on pastoral relations who support active and retired Ministry Personnel, Licenced Lay Worship Leaders and communities of faith in transition. There are also teams focussed on various forms of social justice issues, our relationship with our Indigenous neighbours and first-third ministry. We have also been reviewing the various sources of funding that came from former presbyteries and Conferences, recognizing that we are blessed with financial resources to be able to support ministry with a variety of grants.

A pattern for two Regional Council gatherings a year is working well, with education and information sessions in between, with an open invitation to all who are interested. At formal meeting, communities of faith send elected representatives to vote on the business decisions which affect us all, such as the election of the General Council 44 commissions, Assembly of Elders and team nominations, licensing new Licenced Lay Worship Leaders each fall and approval of budgets. Recognition of retirees, retired churches

and those called home are also celebrated, even when there are no new ministries. The hope is for more focussed educational events between gatherings.

Communication continues to be a challenge and we are aware of the number of communities of faith without ministry personnel, and therefore the need to ensure that each one has elected a Regional Council lay representative who will receive the information. Karen updates the website regularly, has a large mailing list for the newsletter, and monitors the Facebook group, but all of this relying on technology for people to engage at the other end. We still rely on all those receiving to pass along messages to others so that hopefully everyone has access, in some way, to the information. Thank you all for being a part of the 'sharing information' ministry.

I am deeply grateful to the dedicated work of our staff team who are also learning through the pandemic: David, Joel, Karen, Rodney and Sharon, as well as the Assembly of Elders and many volunteers who serve on the Teams, Forums and Networks. Each one contributes many hours to enrich our ministry together.

Rev. David Timpson has been on restorative care attending to his health since Christmas, and we continue to hold him in our prayers, and share the load to honour his ministry responsibilities.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Rosemary Lambie, Executive Minister

## Mid 2022 Financial Update

The ECORC finances are overseen by the Mission Through Property and Finance Team who prepare the budget based on input from the various teams. The 2022 budget was approved by the Assembly of Elders and presented to the Regional Council members at the fall meeting. The funding for the Regional Council comes from the General Council Office which determines the funding available for the year. The 2022 funding remained the same as the 2021 funding for Administration at \$350,000 plus some cross regions support funds which cover part of the Executive Minister expenses. The funding for Mission activities remained at the reduced 2021 level of \$240,000. We budgeted for an Administrative budget deficit of \$55,159 and a Mission deficit of \$38,845

The year-to-date income is slightly ahead of budget due to an additional support funding from the General Council. The actual income for assessment revenue shows ahead of budget due to the additional funding. The Mission support grants given are below budget as the funds are transferred after grants have been issued and other activities charged.

Staff expenses are below budget primarily due to minimal travel and associated costs this year, also a special care minister has been budgeted but not hired. Regional Networks, Retires Forum, Regional Council AGM and Pastoral Relations are below budget again due to minimal travel and the extensive use of Zoom virtual meetings. Administrative services are below budget due to some areas not being charged in the first quarter.

The mission support grants are slightly higher than budget due to when the funds are paid out. Doing Mission Together grants for 2022 have yet to be paid. The three-year commitment grants have been changed to single year grants and need to be applied for each year due to the uncertainty in the amount of mission grants we will receive.

Overall, we are showing an Administrative surplus of \$51,447 to the end of March and a Mission deficit of \$800. As invoices for various administrative services come in the surplus will be reduced and the Mission deficit will increase towards the budgeted amount.

The funds from church property sales are increasing and the Mission Through Property and Finance Team is investigating ways the funds can be made available to communities of faith through low or no interest loans and grants.

#### **Regional Council Assets at the end of March**

Bank Account\$1,059,086.United Church Foundation\$807,592.

## Communications and Administration Assistant

The Communication and Administration Assistant's focus is to expand community engagement and connections, particularly (but not exclusively) through use of the ECORC website, social media platforms and internal & external publications. This position also responds to general inquiries to the ECORC.

This past year has been a busy one and I continue to learn and to grow in my position. I feel I still have a lot to learn and therefore, I will continue to grow. Here are some of my accomplishments this past year:

- Last year, I made the decision to move our ECORC newsletter from biweekly to weekly and it continues to be a successful decision and well received;
- More videos have been uploaded to our ECORC YouTube channel <u>East Central Ontario Regional</u> <u>Council - YouTube</u> – and our subscribers list has increased;
- Working with various Teams, Forums and Networks, the ECORC website <u>Home East Central</u> <u>Ontario Regional Council of the United Church of Canada (ecorcuccan.ca)</u> - is updated as needed to reflect what is happening within the groups;
- I continue to meet monthly with my Communications colleagues from RC 12 and 13 to brainstorm and share ideas;
- It has been a long process, but I have now completed a 2022/23 Regional Directory. The Directory will not be made public, but will be available via email request. Thank you to all who helped me by sending in the requested information. Going forth, the Directory will be updated as needed and I will advise of any changes in our ECORC newsletter;
- I continue being a part of the Tech Team for our Regional Meetings as well as setting up the registration forms and event pages. I have met so many of you on Zoom and I do look forward to meeting you in person one day;
- Last year I reached out to you as a Regional Council and I asked what you felt represented our Region. You had some wonderful ideas which I then took and began working on a new and permanent logo for ECORC. After presenting it to the Assembly of Elders for review, I am excited to say that we now have a permanent ECORC logo! Thank you for your input and ideas!

In the coming year, I look forward to the continuous learning of this position and keeping you up to date on all the happenings around our Region. I am excited about my continuous work with Teams, Forums and Networks. And I look forward to meeting more of you – whether it be by phone, zoom or email – and hopefully we will meet in person one day. Thank you all again for your continuous support; from emails to phone calls and even Zoom meetings. It is all truly appreciated. Respectfully submitted,

Karen Wilson Communications and Administration Assistant

## Nominations Team

The ECORC Nominations Team is pleased to offer this motion to the Regional Council to consider at the April 29/30 2022 meeting.

#### Moved by incoming chair Rev. Mary-Jane Hobden, seconded by Rev. Svinda Heinrichs

"We recommend a) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council appoint the following people into leadership positions on ECORC teams for three-year terms, from the rise of the spring 2022 meeting until the rise of the spring 2025 meeting:

| Pat Long                      | to the Assembly of Elders                  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Rev. Lesley Hamilton          | to the Assembly of Elders                  |
| Rev. Edward (Ned) Wells       | to the Assembly of Elders                  |
| William Sheaves               | to the Covenant Support Team               |
| Donna Bignell                 | to the Covenant Support Team               |
| Rev. Katy Gregory             | to the Covenant Support Team               |
| Rev. Anne Meredith            | to the Covenant Support Team               |
| Rev. Nancy Clarke             | to the Equity Team                         |
| Rev. Phil Wilson              | to the Equity Team                         |
| Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Cunningham | to the Equity Team                         |
| Peggy Fillier                 | to the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team |
| Carol Peterson                | to the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team |
| Rev. Dr. Aruna Alexander      | to the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team |
| Rev. Mary-Margaret Boone      | to the Mission through Property Team       |
| Paul Binkley                  | to the Mission through Property Team       |
| Steve Coles                   | to the Nominations Team                    |

and b) the East Central Ontario Regional Council appoint the following person for a term of one year, from the rise of the spring 2022 meeting to the rise of the spring 2023 meeting:

Kaitlyn Ostrander

to the Assembly of Elders (youth)

#### How did we arrive here?

The Nominations Team began discerning the current year's needs in mid-January by reaching out to team chairs, confirming whose term finishes this year, and whether individuals wish to extend their term by one year (for all teams but the Assembly of Elders). For those whose term is up, if they wish, and if the chair agrees it is in the best interest of the team, individuals could be invited to reapply to serve that team.

Once we have an idea of the need, we examine the make up of each team from an equity view: is there a diversity of voices represented? From different geographical regions, different offices within the church (ordered, lay etc), a diversity of backgrounds and gifts.

On March 1 2022 the nominations process opened (with a lead up announcement "voice in the wilderness" video – check it out!) At several points while nominations were open, the chair checked in with the team to identify who was still needed. Team members continued to "tap" and encourage a diversity of people to consider letting their name stand.

When nominations closed on March 25 there were 16 expressions of interest for 18 positions. The team spent a week reading, praying and considering who would best fit within the context of the teams they wanted to serve. Some teams, such as Mission Through Property, had more applicants than spaces. Other teams, such as Assembly of Elders and Nominations, did not have enough interest to fill the open positions. In an all-morning Zoom meeting, members of Nominations made phone call after phone call, asking some who expressed interest if they would consider serving in a different way, and asking others if they would consider expressing interest to help fill gaps. When all the calls were made and positions filled, we prayed over each person, giving thanks for their willingness to serve.

As a result we also have the following recommendations for the Assembly of Elders as that body discerns who will act as liaison for the various teams.

#### We recommend that:

Rev. Lesley Hamilton be appointed as liaison to the Covenant Support Team, Rev. Edward (Ned) Wells be appointed to the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team, Kaitlyn Ostrander be appointed to the Equity Team.

The Nominations Team consists of: Helmut Enns (term ends with the rise of the spring ECORC meeting) Rev. Caroline Giesbrecht Rev. Svinda Heinrichs Rev. Mary Jane Hobden, in coming chair Rev. Dr. William Smith Rev. Wanda Stride, past chair (serving one more year) and from the Assembly of Elders, Margaret Curtis

We feel blessed by the people who have offered to serve Christ through our regional council in these ways. We never know who will express interest, and ultimately, we pray that each of you reading this will consider how you could serve the regional council in the future, and trust that your gifts are important and a blessing to us all!

On a personal note, I had intended to step aside as my term on nominations ends this spring, but have offered to stay on one more year as past chair so the team is not short-handed. It has been a pleasure to serve as chair, truly an honour. It is a marvel to see the spirit at work even over one morning as we realize what an abundance of faith and commitment there is in this region.

Submitted by Rev. Wanda Stride on behalf of the ECORC Nominations Team

## Covenant Support Team

-Overseeing: Retirees Forum, Licensed Lay Worship Forum Liaisons Forum

Hello everyone and God Bless. I am Bill Sheaves and I am the chair of the Covenant Support Team. I replaced the Rev. David King who was our chair from the inception of our Team until January past. Rev. David Timpson is our Staff associate.

We have primary oversight of the pastoral relations processes as well as assisting in various time of conflict and difficulty in pastoral charges. We meet monthly except for the summer.

One of our main responsibilities is the consideration of every call and appointment in the Region. We review and recommend approval to the Assembly of Elders, who take our recommendations as further evidence of a suitable call for a particular Pastoral charge. In addition, we oversee the work of three forums: Licensed Lay Worship Leader forum (LLWL's), Retirees Forum and the Liaison Forum.

We interact with the LLWL's on both a formal level and informal level. We vote and recommend for appointment the candidates to be licensed. We also bring them together for mutual support and education events.

The Retirees Forum is primarily a body of collegiality and support for retired ministers who hold a vast knowledge and experience over decades together over the past year. It is the body that takes on the region's responsibility to care for and support a retired minister and retirees from other United Church work. With ZOOM ministers have been connecting to deepen the relationships across the region.

#### Retirees Forum

-This is the report of the Retirees Forum by Caroline Giesbrecht:

The Retirees Forum is the **leadership team for the Retirees Network** (composed of all the retired United Church ministry personnel in the East Central Ontario Regional Council). We are part of the ECORC Covenant Support Team. There are about 160 of us. Our purpose is to provide opportunities for retired ministers to connect with each other for purposes of mutual support, discussion about theology, church issues, or any other topic of interest.

We have had **monthly Zoom gatherings** (open to all retirees) on topics including United Church Pensions, the new Regional structure, joys and challenges of our ministry experience, and sharing personal burdens. Our next session will be about "what we've learned in our experience that might be helpful to those in active ministry now". The number of participants has varied and usually we break into small groups for discussion.

Elizabeth Macdonald, under the heading **"We Are Not Done Yet"** has put together a number of interviews with selected retirees and other persons who have shared their stories and experience with her. These interviews are available to everyone on the ECORC website.

We have also stared a **chat group on Facebook** through which retirees can address topics which are of joy or concern to them. And we have a **list of retired ministers who are available for pulpit supply etc.** I'm happy to provide that list to anyone who asks.

Our ministry retirees have a wealth of experience and knowledge (maybe even wisdom!) to share, so if anyone has ideas of how we might be helpful to the church and its communities, **please let us know**. We can be contacted directly or through Karen Wilson and the ECORC website. The leadership team for the Retirees Forum consists of Ian Robb, Elizabeth Macdonald, Wayne Hilliker, Judy MacGillivray, Ed Bentley, Robert Lepage, and myself (Caroline Giesbrecht, as secretary). Thank you.

#### Liaison Forum

The Liaison Forum, chaired by Steve Coles, provides support and education to the Liaison persons who provide front line support to the pastoral charge during ministry change. The process outlined in Churchhub.ca is the basis for this ongoing work.

Although we continue to meet on ZOOM during this pandemic we have been unable to meet with Communities of Faith that are having conflict. We are trying but there only so many things that can happen through ZOOM. We hope that the CST can continue to have a deeper interaction, encompassing our Region's commitment to being and affirming and anti-racist Church.

This year have found us with more demands. Rev. David Timpson has gone off on restorative care and the CST has taken up a good amount of David's responsibilities. With the help of God, we are keeping up with those demands.

All Calls and appointments are now recorded on Churchhub. The Pastoral charge approves a call or appointment (usually at a congregational meeting) but during the pandemic that can happen through the governing body. This decision is then written up on the appropriate form for calls or appointments on Churchhhub.

Once accepted this form is transmitted to the Minister, who has been selected on the form and based on their request through Churchhub, to be made available for search. The Minister then must agree and approve their Call.

When the two approvals have been received, this Call or request is then placed for evaluation before the CST and finally the Assembly of Elders where it is approved. The final approval is up to the Region.

Churchhub will publish via email the approved form of all those who have agreed to the Form. Once this confirmation is received, covenanting services can planned with the Liaison who has worked with the pastoral charge.

We are committed to the well being of the Region. It is our hope and prayer that Rev. David Timpson be restored to health soon and be ready to help us follow that commitment.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Sheaves

#### Additional Reporting – Liaison Forum

At the writing of this report members of the Liaison Forum are engaged with 31 communities of faith that are in transition across our Region. Your Liaison Forum is made up of Lay and Clergy from across the East Central Ontario Region.

A Liaison is appointed when the governing body of the community of faith makes a request for a Liaison to work with them to update their living faith profile so that it includes the duties of a minister. When this is approved by the Region it is then uploaded to ChurchHub and the search process begins.

To be a Liaison the person must take part in a training session where you develop an understanding of your role and how it is described in the following documents:

- Pastoral Relations: Regional Council Liaisons.
- Pastoral Relations: Policy for a Community of Faith; and
- Pastoral Relations: Guidelines for Search and Selection.

Further, this training models and reminds us about this first priority of our Region.

With these documents the Liaison spends time with a committee chosen by the community of faith so that these people fully understand their role.

During this reporting period the work of the Liaison Forum has led to at least five (5) communities of faith making a call. However, in three (3) cases the success in one community of faith has led to new work for the Liaison Forum.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who act as Liaisons on behalf of the Region. The role has become very important as we recover from the Pandemic, and we continue to understand the complexities of the new way doing business. Two (2) Liaisons have retired from their role, so I thank Sharon and Calvin for the time and energy they gave in their role as a Liaison.

Submitted by Stephen Coles (he/him), Chair, Liaison Forum

## 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.)

Needless to say, this past year has been a year of unprecedented challenges. COVID and its restrictions have changed the way we met as a committee, and changed the face of the work we did, in a number of ways. Through it all, our Team members have been passionate in their commitment to live out the mandate set out in our ECORC website.

Does this sound familiar? It should. It's the exact same introduction I had in last year's report. 'The more things change,' as they say. So once again we have worked within the challenges of masks and distancing and zoom after zoom after zoom. Despite the challenges, we persevered, and have done some good work.

With thanks to the Team leaders and secretaries who have provided the bulk of the information for this summary:

#### Affirm

This past year saw the joining of the Region's Affirm Team to our Formation, Nurture, and Justice Forum. With an emphasis on the intersectionality that is possible between our groups, this looks to be a truly energizing and positive move. We are pleased to have the Affirm group under our umbrella, sharing its good work. This included, in January, hosting a two-hour Zoom gathering whose purpose was to investigate building a network of contacts for the Affirming Communities of Faith within our East Central Ontario Region.

## Additional Reporting – Affirming Forum

Mission Statement: We seek to uphold high standards of equity and Affirming and to encourage these same standards in our Communities of Faith.

Valuing diversity and differences as gifts, we support the full participation of all people in the life and work of our church and in wider society. We publicly, intentionally and explicitly celebrate and seek justice for people of every age, gender, racialized experience, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental and physical health and ability, economic circumstance or any other diversity.

The Affirming Forum (AF) members met eleven times virtually, June 2021 - April 2022. We are grateful to Sharon Hull, ECORC Staff, for excellent technical support. We said goodbye, with thanks to Doug Ferris, Bruce Hutchinson, Patricia Teskey and Assembly of Elders representative, Don McLean; and welcomed Michelle Down and Wilde Ferris. Elizabeth Macdonald continues to Co-Chair this group.

The 150 members in attendance, at the June ECORC AGM, voted to become fully Affirming. A celebration was held September 29, 2021 with guest speaker Jordan Sullivan. Included in the celebrations was a VIBE (Venturing in Biblical Experiences) presentation on the meaning of the colours of the rainbow along with pre-recorded songs by David Kai and a mother and son duo, Kerri and Alex Jebson. Wanda Stride contributed an original piece of music, "Take Time to Listen".

August 27<sup>th</sup>, a contingent of AF members met with Jackie Harper and Marilyn Rodger to discuss plans for an Affirming Celebratory tablecloth runner. This project is ongoing.

AF celebrated the ECORC UCW becoming fully Affirming at a celebration on October 27, 2021.

The Networking Webinar held January 29, 2022, was well attended.

The AF, originally a branch of the Equity Team, discussed future plans and determined the Faith, Formation Nurture and Justice Team (FFNJ) might align more with Affirming goals. With the blessing of the Assembly of Elders, Affirming was welcomed to the FFNJ table March 10, 2022.

Affirming has identified and continues to work on the following four Action Plans:

- To work with Teams and Forums on needs and objectives
- Networking to provide support to Affirming Communities of Faith
- Intersectionality focusing on Indigenous Justice and Anti-racism.
- Measurable Goals: setting and measuring effectiveness of actions, using the Guiding Principles that follow the ECORC Statement.

The Affirming Forum has agreed to continue to meet virtually.

Future plans include:

- accepting an invitation from Affirm United to host a "Kitchen Sink" event later in the fall of 2022.
- hosting a Book Study
- annually prepare a budget
- renew AU/SE membership
- review, evaluate and update the Action Plan
- unveiling a celebratory tablecloth and banner

This Annual Report is provided on behalf of AF Members:

Maggie Allin, Judy Amsbury, Mary-Margaret Boone, Kimberly Collins, Michelle Down, Wilde Ferris, Elizabeth Macdonald, Joyce Payne, Sharon Woodrow.and ECORC Staff - Sharon Hull.

Note New Email: <u>affirmingecorc@gmail.com</u>

#### Care of Creation

Within our Region we are still looking to see if there are any volunteers who would be willing to take on the task of facilitating this group. Our Staff Support person, Sharon Hull, continues at this time to keep us updated about any upcoming events.

#### Fair Trade

Marilyn Rodger has continued steadily with her work of promoting fair trade products within our region. These include, but are not limited to, olive oil and zatar from Palestine, chocolate, coffee, and bananas. She highlights the plight of small, regional producers in areas around the world, and names the financial discrepancy between the small producers and co-ops, and the Big Business companies which exploit the land and their workers. Marilyn also creates her own products. which people can purchase, knowing that all proceeds go to different causes. A recent example is her "Red Dress Pin," with all proceeds going to "Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls."

#### First Thirds Ministry Forum

First Thirds Ministry embraces the ministries for children, youth, and young adults. This past year the First Thirds Team has relied on technology to keep in touch with and maintain a contact list for their group, its leaders, and the group it serves. Fundraising is ongoing for Camp Quin Mo Lac, as well as planning for the 2022 season. The Team has two youth interns for General Council 44 at this time, and there will be several online components for their participation.

## Additional Reporting – The First Third's Ministry Forum

#### (formerly called children, youth and young adult ministry)

This forum is in the beginning stages and we are still looking for members to join. It is a group of both youth, young adults and leaders who will meet together a couple times a year to dream and plan ECORC events.

It has continued to be a challenging time to connect with children, youth and young adults online, since they have spent so much time online for school. We are looking forward to when we can safely gather together in person- perhaps in smaller groups and staying in geographical areas to reduce travel. We have connected on zoom with the first Third ministry leaders in our Regional Council, to share ideas of what has worked well online and to share challenges. If you know any leaders who are not already on our mailing list, please ask them to sign up using the form on the ECORC website- so we can get connected.

The online ECORC weekly advent program went well and we enjoyed exploring The Go Project curriculum. The four Sundays in Advent and the four directions of the medicine wheel give us opportunity to reflect on the changes and blessings in our lives. We explored the themes of hope, peace, joy, and love in connection to the themes of Indigenous teachings of the four directions. This curriculum was written by a guest writer, Metis educator Marilyn Robitaille. We had both children and adults register which provided a great intergeneration experience.

We have also continued to connect with the other RC's in Ontario for webinars/zoom gatherings (which are each held in two timeslots – day and evening) for First Third ministry leaders, this has been a great way to share ideas, have some worship together and connect with others who are doing the same ministry.

We have 3 General Council 44 youth forum/youth interns and we are excited to have Ellia from Lindsay, Olivia from Bowmanville and Stephon from Oshawa represent our Regional Council.

More information can be found in the ECORC weekly newsletter and the ECORC website. If you have any questions or want to get connected- please contact me – Sharon Hull <u>shull@united-church.ca</u>

### Camp Quin Mo Lac

No campers for the 2021 season. A virtual counsellor in training program was created and offered to 2 years worth of youth. It was very well done and it is a great foundation for the leadership of camp. Some fall 2021 rentals have been able to go ahead with much planning for covid protocols. Projects and improvements are being done while there isn't as many people at camp. Upgrades for 2022 season- to follow covid protocols and make cleaning easier and faster- new mattresses, touchless faucets and fountains for filling water bottles, electrostatic spray to sanitize surfaces. The AGM was held online on March 26, 2022. Camp registration is open for 2022 with 6 camp sessions instead of 7 to allow for more staff training. Fundraising is ongoing and they would appreciate any support that is available after 2 years of no camp. Information about the camp open house will be added to the ECORC newsletter.

#### VIBE

Which was previously an in person – roaming vacation bible camp in the Kawartha Highland cluster, did a large pivot this past summer to an online program. Camp this year was a combination of online zoom, camp in a bag and prepared content on you tube- to watch on your own time. We were blessed with the young adults who were hired to run the program (they previously participated in our youth forum). The camp format was changed to 2 sessions- of 2 weeks each. It was so great to spend time online with children from our RC. The Go Project curriculum was purchased and the theme was the promise of the rainbow which explored the 8 colours of the pride flag. Some of you may have seen the presentation at the service to celebrate the RC becoming an Affirming Regional Council. The program was went well. With the feedback we have received since then the planning team is still discerning what would be best for 2022. Look for updates in the ECORC weekly newsletter.

## Cathedral of the Trees- Algonquin Park Network

We are excited that we have been given the approval by Algonquin Park to provide Ministry this summer. A Cathedral of the Trees Algonquin Park is a 'new shoot' of a longstanding ministry of the former Bay of Quinte Conference, which saw ministry personnel providing an outdoor worship service at Algonquin Park on Sundays in the months of July and August. Following church restructuring in 2019, some of the folks who had served this ministry formed a network to ensure that the chance to commune, celebrate, and give thanks for the Holy within Creation was not lost. Online meetings led to grant applications, which then enabled us to: book a campsite for the summer, commission eye-catching advertising, and purchase a "new to us, and really not very used at all" trailer. A great season was enjoyed in 2019 but then put on pause for 2020 and 2021 due to Covid safety concerns.

Please help spread the word that we are back for 2022 and join in on a Sunday morning if you are near Algonquin Park.

Cathedral of the Trees in Algonquin Park, is a Forest Church where we share our experiences of Holy Wonder in Creation. Our ancestors say that to know nature is to know something of God. *It is an interdenominational worship service in the Outdoor Theatre Hwy 60 (km 35.4) Sundays from July 17 to August 28 – 10 am. All are welcome.* 

### Guaranteed Living Income Network

Despite the ongoing limitations of Covid, the Guaranteed Living Income Network has accomplished many projects this past year. During these past months, the Network created a PowerPoint which put the issues of GLI in the context of Lent, and offered two online webinars to acquaint those interested in the deeper aspects of this work. One focus of the ongoing work is to raise awareness of GLI as a provincial election issue – see further in this report book for additional reporting.

#### Additional Reporting – Guaranteed Livable Income (GLI) Network

Cathy Duggan, Isaac Mundy, Allan Smith-Reeve Co-coordinators

#### "We need to get our people off their butts to support this thing!"

Such was The Very Rev. Lois Wilson's prophetic call to United Church folks to join the movement for a Guaranteed Livable Income in Canada.

By way of a response, our network has:

- Sponsored online events with nationally recognized advocates including the Very Rev. Wilson, Health Economist and author Evelyn Forget and members of the Basic Income Canada Networks Youth Network.
- Held an online book study of Dr. Forget's *Basic Income for Canadians: From Pandemic Emergency* to *Financial Security for All,*
- Sponsored online showings of a documentary film, *The Manitoba Story: A Basic Income Film* by Truth be Told Films.
- Hosted one of many nationwide candle light vigils for GLI ahead of Liberal Party's spring policy convention
- Launched the GLI Club podcast available through podbean. Com. Two episodes are currently available, with more on the way.
- Connected regularly with the National GLI network for the United Church of Canada, and Basic Income Canada

Although GLI was certainly in the news in 2020 with its adoption at the Liberal policy convention, a private member's bill sponsored by Liberal MP Julie Dzerowicz and a motion from NDP MP Leah Gazan to convert the CERB into a Guaranteed Livable Income Program, it was disappointing that GLI, rising poverty and income inequality in general were little discussed during the recent federal election. However, to defer once again to The Very Rev. Wilson again This is a long-term fight. SPRING 2022

With a spring provincial election looming the GLI Network of ECORC offered tools to help congregations understand a little more about the benefits of a Guaranteed Livable Income for Canadians.

- A series of six "minute for mission" type slides with accompanying text were produced and distributed throughout our region and via the UCC's National GLI network. These were designed to be used in the context of Sunday morning worship. The slides used a verse from scripture which connects to the benefits of GLI for health outcomes, reducing stigma around poverty and low income, as a buffer against jobs threatened by technology and AI, as a way to address some of the harmful effects of systemic racism, and as a way to invest in the potential of our neighbours.
- A one-page document giving a brief explanation of what GLI is and how it is envisioned in the Canadian context was also made available with the slides.
- A new episode of the podcast "GLI CLUB: Faithfully Raising the Floor with Guaranteed Livable Income" (available for free via <u>www.podbean.com</u>) was produced. This episode features interviews with two individuals in Trenton Ontario who have direct experience of living with poverty.
- The Network was asked to host a breakout session on GLI as part of the United Church's upcoming online Social Justice Roundtable on May 1. Our breakout session will focus on educated our congregations about GLI and raising the issue with candidate's ad the voting public running for seats in the Ontario legislature on the campaign trail. We look forward to doing what we can to keep the promise of GLI in the public consciousness.
- We continue to connect with the UCC National GLI network at their meetings, keeping up to date and exchange ideas and actions with United Church folks across the country who are faithfully "spending themselves" on behalf of GLI.

"and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday." Isaiah 58:10-12

#### Inter-Faith, Inter-Cultural, Anti-Racsim Forum

The IFICAR Forum has had an extremely busy year, working on its Regional Anti-Racism Policy, and now, beginning to think about the implementation of the Policy's statements. The Forum hosted a very successful online seminar targeting unconscious bias and hidden racism in our communities, and created a four-week series of information posts for Black History Month. The group is now planning a Pentecost Anti-Racism event to be held in Peterborough on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Indigenous Justice and Respectful Relationship Forum

A highlight of this past year's work was a 15 hour online workshop on Land Acknowledgement, lead by Jack Hogarth, over six weeks. 144 households participated in this course. There is also planning taking place for a spring feast in the Napanee area, bringing together local settlers and Indigenous people.

#### Additional Reporting – Indigenous Justice and Respectful Relationship Forum (IJRR)

Our forum has grown since our last report, providing better geographic and age representation. Kaitlyn Ostrander, minister at Arden Pastoral Charge and Rev. Ned Wells, who is moving to Peterborough, have enriched the forum.

We continue to explore ways to make information accessible. To date, you can find information at these two addresses:

1. <u>https://ecorcuccan.ca/resources/indigenous-ministries/</u>

Here you will find past newsletters, and much more.

 <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wqhEPVZ2bys&list=PLYOZZpcZfoZ4iWb1rHI3ecQ81YGB4Ql</u> <u>vR</u>

Currently there are 6 videos available. These are learning sessions held in ECORC, three led by Shelley Knott-Fife, D.J. Fife, and Anne Taylor.

We will soon be providing access to the lending library, formerly located in the Bay of Quinte Conference Office, now being administered through Bridgenorth United Church. We will share title and information via the newsletter, and provide a variety of ways to get these resources.

Over the past short while, we have lost two friends who provided so much support and guidance to the work of right relations. On February 26th, 2021, Elder Murray Whetung died. Murray was a guiding light for us locally, and for the United Church of Canada. On November 30, 2021 a wonderful celebration of Murray Whetung's life was held on what would have been his 100th birthday.

On February 12, 2022, Dixie Shilling passed away at her home in Curve Lake. Dixie was instrumental in developing and managing the Curve Lake Day Care Centre for many years. In 2006 she received an Anishinaabe Lifetime Achievement Award for her work with the day care and its importance in the community. Like her father Murray, Dixie walked patiently beside us, trying to keep us on the road to reconciliation. In memory of Dixie, Shelley Knott-Fife met with the director of Fleming College Director to set up a bursary, or award for an Indigenous student in the ECE program. Curve Lake Church is taking leadership right now and will initiate the fund. Then it will be available for others, like you and me, to donate.

144 households participated in a 15-hour course, The Land We Reside On, offered by Jack Hoggarth. The course was hosted on zoom by the Truth and Reconciliation Community in Bobcaygeon (<u>www.trcbobcaygeon.org</u>) with technical support from Sharon Hull. This course was then offered a second time, hosted by the Bobcaygeon library. Jack is a humble and sincere teacher who is a very good storyteller. The last session involves creating your own land acknowledgement. This course is excellent as both an introduction and a deepening of understanding around the story of Indigenous Peoples on Turtle Island.

Looking forward, we note that in the Napanee area, Elaine Kellogg has plans for a feast in the area, bringing together local settlers and Indigenous people. The planning committee has been very cautious to plan an in-person event, but now they are aiming for a June date. If there is extra space after a deadline has passed for local potential participants to register, Elaine will send out an invitation.

As the pandemic continues to mutate, we are exploring alternative ways of sharing information and providing educational events. The dream of an in-person event involving food is still very much alive, but we are reluctant to set a date.

Sharing of print resources is another goal, as mentioned earlier. Curling up with an informative book, watching a video, or tackling a topic in a book study are still options very much available to us. Please watch the ECORC newsletter, and the IJRR newsletter for events. You can sign up for the IJRR updates at <a href="https://ecorcuccan.ca/resources/indigenous-ministries/">https://ecorcuccan.ca/resources/indigenous-ministries/</a>.

There is so much work to do on this long, long road of reconciliation. Indigenous led circles are often for community healing. We as settlers have a lot of work to do. The fact that there is a Truth and Reconciliation Day is due to the work and persistent pressure largely from the settler population. But let's not forget that we do need to do things in tandem, Indigenous people and Settlers. As we come out of a long period of isolation, we need to explore new ways of connecting, new ways of learning, of respecting, of listening, of travelling side by side.

#### Long Term Care Crisis Network

As with "Care of Creation," our Staff resource person, Sharon Hull, is keeping us apprised of any current information, and we are hoping to encourage a volunteer to take on the facilitation of this group.

## Palestine Network

The Palestine Network hosted a "Taste of Palestine" webinar this past year, with 60 people registered from across Canada, Europe, and Indonesia. The audience was a good, mixed group, and the post-webinar comments were very positive.

## Rural Connect Network

Our Staff resource person, Sharon Hull, has been working with the Rev. Ryan McNally to create a series of videos exploring some of the means by which we can share ministry in our Rural areas, using leading-edge technology. These are available for watching on our Regional website.

In addition to the different groups within our Team, we coordinate the 'Doing Mission Together' grants. Information about available grants is kept updated on our Regional website.

We also take part in the Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils, which is has representatives from all of our Ontario regions.

Respectfully submitted, Rev Meggin Hare, chair, Formation, Nurture, and Justice team.

## Mission Through Property Team

The Mission through Property Team 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 Mission through Property 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.

The workbook of the United Church of Canada East Central Ontario Regional Council Annual General Meeting April 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> outlines the details and motions related to the work the Mission through Property team has had with COF's. These past few months have been very busy times for our Team, 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 property team have worked with many COF's providing support as they wrestle with various options available to them. As COF's plan for reopening, still not knowing when it will be fully possible, Churches will continue to have significant financial stresses on them and this along with declining numbers and aging buildings are causing some COF's to consider other options like amalgamations, shared ministries, permanent closings, and possibly new ways to carry out their missions.

Under the guidelines of the United Church of Canada that directs us to retain property assets and that we must first look at development projects with the help of the United Property Resource Corporation (UPRC) before considering church properties for sale. We are currently working with 6 COF's who are engaged with (UPRC) to explore alternatives that they provide rather than just selling off assets to unknown developers and living from the investment income from these sales to continue and prolong their traditional way of doing Church.

The Mission Through Property team has established an ECORC COF Assistance Fund to be held by Toronto United Church Council (TUCC) for the purpose of providing, from the investment proceeds, grants and various types of loans to COF's. This fund will be used

- 50% for capital improvements, emergency repairs and/or upgrades to COF physical buildings or properties
- 50% for Community of Faith ministry activities such as outreach projects, stewardship projects, youth initiatives, networking initiatives and Community clusters etc.
- Assistance to be provided in the form of grants/loans from the investment income from the fund. At the direction of the ECORC the principal may also be used to fund special initiatives or projects.
- Applications must come from the COF and will be received by the Mission through Property Team three times per year (Feb 15th, May 15th, Sept 15th)
- The Maximum per application will be \$5,000. With all the financial stresses of these COVID times many COF's have had great difficulties and man

With all the financial stresses of these COVID times many COF's have had great difficulties and many are looking at their futures forcing them to consider amalgamations and/or disbandment's. It is our hope that this new fund may provide some support for emergency bricks and mortar issues and as well provide a way to assist with COF new ministry activities.

As we start to reopen many of our places for worship, I hope that our COF's will start to see better times ahead. Just remember that the ECOR Mission Through Property Team is there to assist you in what ever way we can.

Yours respectfully, Ted Meyers, Chair ECOR Mission Through Property

## Equity Team Report

The Equity Team had continued to meet via Zoom, meeting in March, June, September, and November of 2021 and January and March of 2022. The Equity Team identified team members who acted as Equity Support or Equity Monitors for the regional information sessions held in advance of the spring & fall meetings of the Regional Council. (Nationally, there has been a renaming of the role of "Equity Monitor" to "Equity Support" and our goal will be to use this term moving forward.)

At our November meeting, we said farewell to our outgoing Chair, Rev. Sharon Ballantyne, who accepted a Call in Nova Scotia. The Equity Team presented Sharon with a Prayer Quilt and offered a blessing of the quilt during the meeting. With the vacancy of the Chair, the Equity Team has determined to rotate the Chair for the immediate future.

The Equity Team has secured an online platform (Kapwing) to edit videos produced by the region with the purpose of subtitling (captioning) all our videos. This is an ongoing work in progress as it is our hope to provide access to this platform for teams/forums to subtitle their own videos for a more accurate 'transcript' of the videos. This is a better solution than relying on the voice recognition software, which can have errors in the subtitling. Our hope is to offer a training webinar on how to use the platform to assist teams and forums with taking on this task. This is in keeping with our regional policy that our videos are to be subtitled/captioned.

The Equity Team has continued to offer feedback to the Facilitation Team and the Assembly of Elders, on any equity issues from our spring and fall regional meetings. We appreciate the emails and phone calls equity support received during these meetings. It is worth noting that our role is not only during these regional meetings but to continue to offer support to the Assembly of Elders, teams and forums, and the Executive Minister on all matters concerning equity, privilege, and accessibility. You can find our equity regional policies here: <a href="https://ecorcuccan.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Equity-Policy.pdf">https://ecorcuccan.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Equity-Policy.pdf</a>

The Equity Team continued to post equity related videos to our regional YouTube Channel, you can find the channel here: <u>click here for Equity play list</u>. Also, the team has committed to a review of our terms of reference and equity policies and update if necessary for 2022.

Respectively submitted on behalf of the Equity Team, Rev. Phil Wilson Assembly of Elders representative.

# Additional Reporting

## United Church Women (UCW)

It has been another interesting year that has required us to continue adapting. The UCW groups have done that in many ways and should be very proud of all they have been able to accomplish, too much to list here. Each group has decided what they are able to do and what they are comfortable with but a main focus of all the groups was to stay connected with each other- some on zoom, on the phone, mail or cautiously in person following protocols. Outreach has been adapted for covid and many outreach projects are ongoing. Fundraising is also ongoing. Book studies have also continued with learning how to use zoom and breakout rooms.

It was great to gather together for a 1-day outdoor event at Quin Mo Lac in August 2021 but many are really looking forward to the weekend together this year in September.

The Bay of Quinte ECOR UCW voted to be an Affirming Ministry and an Affirming Ministry Celebration was held on zoom on Oct 27<sup>th</sup>.

Some are looking forward to travelling to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in person in July. Marilyn Rodger is continuing with the sales of masks with UCW crests being made by with the funds going towards the UCW 60th Anniversary project "Change for Women of Zambia" until July 2022.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry Report

The Prayer Shawl ministry of East Central Ontario Regional Council provides shawls for new and retiring ministers, new staff and pastoral care. In the initial year 24 shawls were prepared for the ECORC inaugural meeting; since then, another 21 shawls have been given. During the pandemic, new ministers received shawls at ordination; shawls for retiring ministers were mailed.

Women from all areas of the region create the shawls. Some are specially made by someone from the recipient's home area, but often we make them with just the general purpose in mind, knitting or crocheting our prayers into the stitches. Regional and Area UCW Annual Meetings, when held in person between January and March, have provided one convenient means of gathering the shawls.

As the ECORC prayer shawl coordinator, I have enjoyed connecting with others who are continuing or forming prayer shawl ministries in Communities of Faith across ECORC and who share ideas or informational materials to support these ministries.

Those who create the shawls are honoured to donate the yarn, our time and distribution costs that may arise without in-person gatherings. Each Shawl is given with a blessing card from East Central Ontario Regional Council.

May the one who receives this shawl be wrapped in God's love, in good times and in challenging times, and may the recipient be granted strength, hope, joy and peace.

We feel blessed to be able to serve ECORC in celebration of milestone occasions and hope that those who receive the shawls will feel blessed by God's presence in their life journey.

Submitted by: Cheryl Mound, coordinator, ECORC Prayer Shawl Ministry

## Old Hay Bay Church Report

The church received countless hours of volunteer support through the Board of Trustees, Custodians and local people. Many hours are spent behind the scenes and contribute to the welcoming presence the church and grounds offer to visitors. Many Trustees also volunteered as Custodians during the summer.

The Board of Trustees met via zoom/phone on Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, and in person on September 22, 2021 at the church.

A sub committee was formed to create a risk assessment and the opening protocols, adhering to all Health and Safety standards that are currently in place, and updated as needed. The church was open in July and August on Friday, Saturday, and Sundays only, including the holiday Mondays of July 5<sup>th</sup> and August 2<sup>nd</sup>. At the July meeting, the opening was extended until the end of September.

The ownership of both website domains in now under the care of the Board. Please check out our active webpage <u>www.oldhaybaychurch.ca</u> and follow us on Facebook.

We established a successful partnership with The Loyalist Trading Co., across the road from Conway UC, to sell our books.

Our July Sunset service was virtual <u>https://youtu.be/mtNsJvHQSP8</u> and our annual Pilgrimage Service on Sunday, August 22, was held "camp meeting" with all participants seated outside. The Church was open for viewing and sales. The event was well received and many commented how glad they were to be there.

The church had continuous visitors including: a wedding: bicycle, motorcycle and car tours; visitors looking for information on Methodism: and a photographer who shared his drone pictures with us. The church and grounds were also used by Ministers and Musicians as the back ground for services and videos.

The memorial garden for Kathy Staples was completed with a butterfly bath and a guardian angel amongst the flowers. Kathy volunteered as custodian, trustee and treasurer for many years.

The World Rowing Tour 2022, visited in September, as their first major event in preparation for next year. See pictures of the visit at <u>https://worldrowingtour2022.ca</u> and we are in their newsletter.

Parks Canada refurbished the National Historic Sites plaque.

The Board selected J.W. Interiors of Napanee for the construction and installation of display/storage cupboards for the back of the church. The design compliments the existing one in the middle. The new cupboard to be installed in May. New energy efficient lights were installed in the cottage.

Thank you for your continued support of Old Hay Bay Church. The picture of the church in the ECOR newsletter is a reminder of its beauty and serenity.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted on behalf of the Board of Trustee. Elaine Farley BA UE, Chair of the Board of Trustees, <u>elaine.farley@sympatico.ca</u>, 613.924.7030

# Colleges

## Atlantic School of Theology

#### Annual Report to United Church of Canada Regions

Atlantic School of Theology continued to offer a full slate of courses and programs in the last year, adjusting constantly to COVID-19 protocols and norms, just as the churches have done. All courses were

delivered online or in a hybrid format. We enjoyed a strong number of new applications, and our total enrollment hovers around the 180-person mark.

Three faculty members were called and appointed to tenure track positions: Rev. Dr. Susan MacAlpine-Gillis, Rev. Dr. Andy O'Neill, and Dr. Evangeline Kozitza Dean. We are delighted by the rich knowledge, experience, and skill that these scholars bring to our teaching team. 2021 brought a change in senior leadership, as Rev. Canon Neale Bennet retired as President. Dr. Tim O'Neill has been called as our Interim President, and we have commenced the search for a new long-term president to serve from mid-2023 onward.

2021 saw the launch of our newest program, the Diploma in Missional Leadership. The first cohort is comprised of United Church persons serving in active ministry. The next cohort will launch in 2023. Our Continuing Education programs ranged from "Progressive Approaches to the Bible" to "Decolonizing Theology," and were all delivered online. AST's Camino Nova Scotia pilgrimage program took place in beautiful Cape Breton Island this year.

Deep gratitude goes out to our United Church of Canada partners, from the General Council to the Regions to the local churches and ministers where our students are serving and are supervised. We continue to seek to be responsive to the emerging needs of the church as we serve God's world together.

In Christ, Rev. Dr. Rob Fennell Academic Dean

## Emmanuel College

Dear Friends:

On behalf of Emmanuel College, I want to bring greetings to your region as you meet this spring. It is my hope and prayer that your meeting goes well and that you experience God's presence and blessing in this important work of the church. As Interim Principal, I write to share news of various aspects of life at Emmanuel College.

**The search process for Emmanuel's new Principal is in its final stages.** My term will close at the end of June and the College's new Principal will begin July 1, 2022.

**2021-22** has been our second full academic year offered through pandemic-related remote delivery. After a brief taste of in-person gatherings and community life at the beautiful Victoria University campus in fall 2021, we had high hopes of returning to in-person learning this past January. Regrettably, due to the rise of the Omicron variant we were forced to remain online for the winter term and will have our summer course offerings online as well. Emmanuel staff and faculty have adapted well and continued to offer excellent pedagogical, community & spiritual life & student service experiences throughout the pandemic in this online format. We are exploring ways to incorporate the best of the online experience as we move forward into predominately in-person experiences in fall 2022.

Emmanuel College's accreditation with the Association of Theological Schools has been renewed for another 10 years. Emmanuel received a very positive report from the ATS, commending us on the hard

work of interreligious theological education in a triply-embedded school. Emmanuel College is blessed and challenged by the three significant relationships we share with Victoria University, Toronto School of Theology, and University of Toronto.

These relationships made the re-accreditation process particularly arduous, but under the fine leadership of Nevin Reda, it was successful and we were well prepared for the ATS Team visit in September. They were very impressed with our self-study and complimented those responsible for it. In doing this work at Emmanuel College, we have become aware of areas where we need to make changes. We think these changes will strengthen the College and enhance its work as an educational institution preparing individuals for various forms of ministry and service.

**Emmanuel College continues to provide significant financial support to students.** Through the John W. Billes Fund, Emmanuel continues to provide 100% of tuition coverage to all domestic students who are registered full-time in the M.Div. programme and who are engaged in The United Church of Canada's candidacy pathway process. All incoming domestic full-time students are eligible for our **Entering Theological Education grant, which offers 50% tuition coverage to their first year courses**. The application deadline is April 30, 2022. For more information about studying at Emmanuel College and about the financial support available for all Emmanuel programmes, whether one is studying full-time or part-time, please contact Andrew Aitchison (<u>emmanuel.admissions@utoronto.ca</u>)

**Emmanuel is offering an increasing number of Continuing Education events online.** These events are offered through the Centre for Religion and its Contexts. This past academic year featured The "Things They Didn't Teach Me in Seminary" Seminar Series, which was developed to bridge the gap between academy and church. M.Div. students could take this series for credit, while engaging with continuing education participants who were ministers in the field. The Centre will host its second Annual symposium entitled "Re-thinking Preaching," in April. It will also host the third annual "Christian Left Conference" with a focus on Creation, Land and Indigeneity in August. A list of upcoming offerings are found on the Emmanuel College web site at <u>https://www.emmanuel.utoronto.ca/the-centre-for-religion-and-its-contexts/continuing-education-events-and-courses/</u> For further information about these events and about applying, please contact Shawn Kazubowski-Houston: <u>ec.events@utoronto.ca</u>.

#### Please follow us on social media:

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|------------|----------------------------------|
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| Youtube:   | <pre>@EmmanuelCollege1</pre>     |

If you have questions or are seeking further information about Emmanuel College, please be in touch with us or explore Emmanuel: <u>http://bit.ly/exploremmanuel</u>.

Yours sincerely, Rev. Dr. John H. Young, Interim Principal

#### **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.