

BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MEETING: No. 8 – 2021-2022

DATE & LOCATION: Jan 19th, 2021 7:00 pm held virtually on Zoom

PURPOSE: To carry out the business of BCUC Church

Board **CHAIR:** Jordan Berard

PRESENT:

Rev. Lorrie Lowes	Susan Young
Jordan Berard	Rev. Kim Vidal
Ellen Boynton	David Stafford
Sue Morrison	Will Wightman
Mark McDonald	Norm Pound
Bill McGee	

REGRETS: Desna Sulway

GUESTS: Sue Morrison, Ross Mutton, Mark McDonald

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, Feb. 16th, 2022

1. **Opening Remarks** Chair
2. **Devotions** David
3. **Accepting of Corresponding Members** Chair

Norm moved to accept Sue Morrison, Ross Mutton and Mark McDonald as corresponding members for the meeting. David Seconded. Approved.

4. **Approval of Agenda** Chair

Bill moved to accept the Agenda as circulated. David seconded. Approved.

5. **Approval of Minutes** Chair

5.1. Ellen moved to approve the minutes from the December 15th, 2021 meeting as circulated. Lorrie seconded. Approved.

6. **Standing Reports**

- 6.1. **Ministers' Report (Pages 4-7)** Rev. Kim/ Rev. Lorrie
Kim and Lorrie shared highlights from the attached Minister's Report.

- 6.2. **Finance Report. (Pages 8-19)** Bill

- 6.2.1. **Review of 2022 Activity Plans and Projected Budget** Chair / Bill / Ross
A draft of the proposed budget for 2022 was discussed. A deficit budget is projected. Changes will be made in response to December givings.

- 6.2.2. **TD Safety Deposit Box** Bill / Ross
David moved to add Ross Mutton as a signatory to the TD Safety Deposit Box. Seconded by Susan. Approved.

6.2.3. Honouring Bill Johnson

Kim / Chair

Bill's many years of service as Chair of Finance and Board Treasurer will be acknowledged and celebrated during the January 30th service. A gift will be purchased and delivered by Ellen as a token of the congregation's thanks.

6.3. M&P (Pages 20-21)

David

David presented the attached M&P Report.

David moved that Kim's Annual Leave request – February 22nd to February 28th – be approved. Norm Seconded. Approved.

6.3.1. Sabbaticals

David reminded the Board that sabbaticals are coming up in 2023 and financial arrangements will need to be incorporated into the 2023 budget.

6.3.2. Summer Student

The Summer Student program was discussed. It was agreed that M&P would apply to hire and manage a Summer Student again this year. COVID restrictions in Spring/Summer may influence whether someone is actually hired or not.

7. New Business

7.1. Monthly Report from Worship Commission. (Page 22)

Sue / Chair

The Church building remains closed for worship and events. Re-opening will be discussed by the Worship Commission at the February meeting.

7.2. Motion to Renew Worship Commission Mandate

David moved to renew the mandate into February. Norm Seconded. Approved.

7.3. Vaccination mandate feedback

Chair

Feedback on the lack of a vaccine mandate at BCUC was shared. A lively discussion was had, and it was stated that a conversation would be had during the AGM. Better communication of policies was recognized as a need. It was emphasized that proof of vaccination is required for all events (social, rental, etc.) at the church by the province. The province has not yet mandated vaccinations for worship services.

7.4. Nominations

Ellen

Ellen has been in touch with the committees about nominations.

8. **Other Business**

8.1. **Devotions:** for Wednesday, Feb 16th, 2022

Chair

Jordan volunteered to do devotions for February.

9. **Next Meetings:**

Chair

9.1. **Regular Board Meeting** – Wednesday, Feb 16th, 2022.

10. **Closing Prayer**

Rev. Kim/Rev. Lorrie

MINISTERS' REPORT

BCUC Board Meeting – January 19, 2022

Kim's Report:

Here are the highlights of my ministry from Dec 16 to Jan 19, 2022:

Worship:

During this period, no onsite worship service was held in the church building due to the rising cases of the Omicron variant and will continue this way until further notice. Online worship service continues to be offered via YouTube, link of which is posted on our website, and Facebook. In addition to recording my input for the weekly online service, I also prepare the weekly Powerpoint slides. The service is also available via telephone and in text format.

We are glad to welcome back Abe to his duties as music director and tech person for our online service. Thanks to all those who have helped us in our weekly online service in the month of December and going forward.

- **Dec 19** – Fourth Sunday in Advent. Rev. Lorrie led the service and I shared a children's story.
- **Dec 24** – Christmas Eve Service & Agape Meal
- **Dec 26** – First Sunday after Christmas / Joint Service hosted by Glen Cairn United Church.
- **Jan 2** – Second Sunday Christmas / Epiphany Sunday. Rev. Lorrie led the service. I was on holidays.
- **Jan 9** – The Baptism of Jesus Sunday / Luke's Version
- **Jan 16** – Second Sunday after Epiphany / The Wedding in Cana

Christian Education:

- Leads the weekly Lectionary Group discussion every Tuesday at 10:30 am via Zoom.
- Attended the Worship/CE meeting on Wednesday, Jan 5, 2021. Finalized the Annual Activity Planning for 2022.

Pastoral & Spiritual Care:

- Offers pastoral and spiritual care to members and adherents through emails and phone calls. Follow up calls were offered to those who were recovering from treatment and for those who were ill and the grieving.

- Participates in a weekly simultaneous virtual Prayer Circle every Wednesday at 8 pm from home.
- Sends the weekly worship service and announcements to the activity coordinators of retirement homes (Stillwater Creek, Lynwood Lodge & Valley Stream Manor) to print copies for our members and adherents residing in those retirement homes mentioned.
- Reports to Ronalie Abbey of people who need greeting cards (thinking of you, sympathy, get well soon, birthday, etc.) on behalf of BCUC.
- Continues to update the spreadsheet of members that we have been in touch with through phone calls, emails or cards.

Backstory Preaching Mentorship Program:

- Regular weekly attendance in “lectio” (Monday) and “oratio” (Wednesday) sessions.
- Attended a Christmas Sermon Prep Workshop on Dec 13-17.
- Met with the Preaching Team for a Weekly Session with Rev. Dr. Lisa Cressman on Jan. 12.
- Joined a Spiritual Reflection session with Rev. Mike Marsh on Dec. 22.
- Attended a 1:1 Session with my mentor, Rev. Samantha Smith on Jan. 17.

Wider Church:

- Attended a UCC Filipino Network Zoom Meeting on Jan 14.

May the year 2022 be fruitful and faith-filled for all of us!

**Blessings,
Rev. Kim**

Diaconal Minister’s Report to the Board – January 19, 2022

It is so hard to believe that we have celebrated two consecutive Christmases with all the restrictions necessary because of the pandemic!

Working in Ministry On-line and In Person

I continue to share in the planning, writing and recording of the weekly worship service, including the Children’s Story. December added the additional service of Healing and Hope (Blue Christmas) and the Christmas Eve service to our planning. Even more than the weekly services, it was very sad to miss being together for these two meaningful events. (I have to share with you that Neil kept up his responsibility

on Christmas Eve and dimmed the lights in our living room during the singing of Silent Night on Christmas Eve.) I led worship on December 19 and again on January 2.

Pastoral Care

I have been keeping in touch with people from the congregation by phone, email and Zoom and I have taken part in our Wednesday night Prayer Circle.

I have resumed hosting the Sunday Morning Fellowship time “after the service” at 11am each week. We will gauge the interest through the month of January to decide whether or not to continue.

Christian Education

We continue to offer resources to children, youth, and families through activities offered online. I continue to host and co-facilitate the weekly Lectionary Study on Zoom, taking on the responsibility for planning and facilitating when I am leading worship.

Other Committee Work

I host the monthly board meetings and other committee meetings as required through Zoom.

I attended the meeting of the Worship/CE Committee on January 5. Other committees that I engage with (SOSA, Interfaith, Pastoral & Spiritual Care) are just beginning to resume meetings after a Christmas Break.

Outreach

Our Zambia Project continues with over \$12,500 raised, exceeding our original target for the construction of the Church/Community building! We will continue to fundraise over this amount to allow for the fluctuations in a very volatile Zambian Kwacha. Any money over and above the amount needed for this building project will go toward supporting Camp Chipembi. This summer day camp is an ongoing project and will require our support each year as part of our partnership with Emmanuel UC and Chipembi. In the future, we also hope to be able to help fund some of the other projects on the priority list compiled by the Chipembi Community leaders. This building was the costliest on the list but others are equally important – a maternity wing at the Medical Centre, and improvements to the schools.

Other

I continue to serve on the Board of Directors for OWECC and, when available, to co-facilitate a weekly Bible Study with people from the neighbourhoods we support. Our treasurer, Neil Hunter, has resigned after many years of serving OWECC, effective next year. We are now searching for someone to take on this responsibility.

I continue to take part in a bi-weekly Midrash Study group with several diaconal ministers from this area.

DOTAC (Diakonia of the Americas and the Caribbean) hold a prayer gathering on the first of each month, which I attend when possible.

I continue to be in contact with the local DUCC (Diaconate of the United Church of Canada) through regular meetings.

I have been asked to serve as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Pakenham Pastoral Charge. With the difficult decision to close the church building for Sunday worship through the month of January, the folks from this pastoral charge will be “joining us” in our virtual service.

And, as always, let me express my gratitude for all you do to support us in our ministry – and wish you all the blessings of this season!

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Lorrie Lowes
Diaconal Minister

'Bells Corners United Church - OPERATING FUND

'Balance Sheet As at 30/11/2021

'ASSET

'Current Assets

'Operating Fund	-8,178.71	
'Total Operating Bank Account		-8,178.71
'Loblaws Program Bank Account		8,772.12
'Certificate Inventory	28,400.00	
'Total Endowment Trust Fund		135,716.03
'D.A. Moodie Scholarship Fund		6,259.45
'Loan To Loblaws Program		19,010.00
'Receivable from Directed Funds		286.77
'Accounts Receivable General		-112.06
'Prepaid Expenses		3,336.70
'Total Current Assets		308,998.17
'Fixed Assets		
'Property Building & Equip.	500,494.69	
'Property Buildings & Equip Addition	10,513.00	
'Total Certificates Inventory		28,400.00
'Bequest		87,051.44
'BMO InvestorLine - Cash		1,584.94
'Donated Securities		26,871.49
'Endowment Trust Fund Bank	24,973.28	
'Endowment Trust Mutual Fund	110,742.75	

'Capital Fund

'Total Members' Equity

'TOTAL EQUITY

'LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

'Generated On: 12/01/2022

'Bells Corners United Church - OPERATING FUND
'Comparative Income Statement
Months of November 2021/2020

	'Actual 01/11/2021 to 30/11/2021		'Actual 01/11/2020 to 30/11/2020
'REVENUE			
'General Operating Fund			
'Weekly Givings	13,320.00		16,945.00
'Monthly PAR Givings	13,391.66		13,052.65
'Loose	85.00		30.00
'Donations	715.00		0.00
	<hr/>		<hr/>
'Total Givings		27,511.66	30,027.65
'Rental Agreements	1,600.00		1,600.00
'Group Room Rentals	2,275.00		400.00
'Other Room Rentals	750.00		45.00
'Funeral Fees	60.00		0.00
	<hr/>		<hr/>
		1,267.57	208.00
		<u>800.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
		<u>34,264.23</u>	<u>32,280.65</u>
'Property Rentals		4,685.00	2,045.00
'Christmas Fair	188.57		27.00
'Loblaws Certificate Program	1,000.00		0.00
'Other Fundraising	79.00		181.00
'Total Events			
'Special Stewardship Program			
'Total General Operating Fund			
'Non Budgeted Revenue			
'Donated Securities Gain or (- Loss)		0.00	-303.29

	<u>34,789.23</u>	
		<u>31,977.36</u>
'Unearned Revenue	525.00	0.00
'Total Non Budgeted Revenue	525.00	-303.29
'TOTAL REVENUE		
'EXPENSE		
'Ministry And Personnel		
'Total Ministry & Personnel	22,712.63	19,068.10
'Service And Outreach		
'Mission And Service	<u>3,316.67</u>	3,250.00
'Total Service And Outreach	<u>3,316.67</u>	<u>3,250.00</u>
'Property Management - Operating Exp		
'General Maintenance - Interior	0.00	186.24
'General Maintenance - Exterior	0.00	43.10
'General Maintenance - Property Use	20.00	0.00
'Subtotal - General Maintenance	<u>20.00</u>	229.34
'Furnace Maintenance	155.93	164.76
'Natural Gas	936.45	678.31
'Electricity	375.57	403.23
'Snow Removal and Shovelling	690.84	1,184.69
'Custodial Services	60.00	182.00
'Sub-Total - Janitorial Services	<u>60.00</u>	182.00
'Telephone	149.70	149.70
'Internet & Web Hosting	40.50	36.00
'Photocopier (Contract)	159.00	159.00

'Sub-total - Telecommunications	<u>349.20</u>	<u>344.70</u>
'Total Property Mgt. Operating Expens	<u>2,587.99</u>	<u>3,187.03</u>
	<u>1,432.07</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	<u>1,432.07</u>	<u>0.00</u>
'Planned Maintenance & Repair Projec		
'Ladies' Washroom Counter	1,432.07	0.00
'Sub-total Planned Main.&Repair		
'Total Planned Maint.&Repair Project		
'Financial Management		<u>0.00</u>
'Interest Payments/Serv Chg	211.08	209.30 <u>0.00</u>
'Bookkeeping	<u>602.00</u>	<u>742.00</u>
'Total Financial Management	<u>813.08</u>	<u>951.30</u>
'Communications		
'Comm Stationary & Supplies	65.04 103.30	0.00 0.00
'Communications Miscellaneo	<u>180.00</u>	0.00
' Calendars etc	<u>348.34</u>	0.00
'Total Communication Expens		<u>0.00</u>
'Worship		
'Worship Materials	<u>110.00</u>	
'Total Worship	<u>110.00</u>	
'Miscellaneous		
'Presbytery	1,245.67	1,245.67
'Trustees - Insurance	1,273.14	1,056.60
'Stinson Bequest Expenses	0.00	5,933.73
'HST - PST portion 8%	343.86	728.84
'HST - GST portion 5%	216.56	455.54
'Total Miscellaneous	<u>34,400.01</u>	<u>35,876.81</u>
	<u>389.22</u>	<u>-3,899.45</u>
	3,079.23	9,420.38
'TOTAL EXPENSE		
'NET INCOME		
'Generated On: 12/01/2022		

'Bells Corners United Church - OPERATING FUND
'Comparative Income Statement January
1 - November 30, 2021

	'Actual 01/01/2021 to 30/11/2021		'Actual 01/01/2020 to 30/11/2020
	<hr/>		<hr/>
'REVENUE			
'General Operating Fund			
'Weekly Givings	126,796.00		149,566.55
'Monthly PAR Givings	145,581.58		144,332.83
'Initial	90.00		216.00
'Loose	312.70		314.62
'Donations	8,588.25		3,897.70
'Donations (Shares)	8,010.72		16,126.35
'Sunday School Collections	0.00		2.20
	<hr/>		<hr/>
'Total Givings		289,379.25	314,456.25
'Rental Agreements	14,400.00		9,600.00
'Group Room Rentals	9,582.50		9,670.00
'Other Room Rentals	1,925.00		3,865.00
'Wedding Fees	250.00		0.00
'Funeral Fees	120.00		120.00
'Parking Fees	300.00		540.00
	<hr/>		<hr/>
'Property Rentals		26,577.50	23,795.00
'GST Rebate/Interest/Inv. Income	12.47		17.34
'Misc income	0.00		4,482.64
'Bulletin Sponsorship	0.00		380.00
	<hr/>		<hr/>
'Total Other Income		12.47	4,879.98
'Christmas Fair	6,530.34		5,007.65
'Loblaws Certificate Program	2,750.15		2,281.80
'Other Fundraising	618.11		1,292.38

'Total Events	9,898.60	8,581.83
'Special Stewardship Program	1,300.00	675.00
'Total General Operating Fund	327,167.82	352,388.06
	327,447.83	
'Non Budgeted Revenue		352,514.85
'Donated Securities Gain or (- Loss)	-244.99	126.79
'Unearned Revenue	525.00	0.00
'Total Non Budgeted Revenue	280.01	126.79
 'TOTAL REVENUE		

'Total DM	56,334.37	49,011.49
'Education - Ministers	2,000.00	103.70
'Secretaries Pension Benefe	1,133.19	1,115.64
'Secretaries Insurance Bene	944.85	878.52
'Payroll Service Charge	356.29	335.28

'Organist Salary	38,291.88	37,466.88
'Secretaries	34,256.50	35,183.54
'EI Expense	3,437.70	3,341.71
'CPP Expense	5,090.32	4,962.76
'Supply And Appreciation	0.00	750.00
'M & P Miscellaneous	38.00	309.68
'Organist Pension	3,446.30	3,372.05
'Organist Insurance Ben.	3,241.70	2,655.40
'Total Ministry & Personnel	<u>239,091.09</u>	219,708.41
'Service And Outreach		
'Mission And Service	36,483.33	35,750.00
'Membership Multifaith Housing	100.00	100.00
'Ottawa Westend Chaplaincy	6,700.00	6,000.00
'Total Service And Outreach	<u>43,283.33</u>	41,850.00
'Property Management - Operating Exp		
'General Maintenance - Infrastructur		
'General Maintenance - Interior		
'General Maintenance - Exterior	519.89	412.95
'General Maintenance - Property Use	524.22	1,407.62
	930.82	449.90
	158.62	0.00
'EXPENSE		
'Ministry And Personnel		
'Minister B Salary	76,338.13	44,922.43
'Minister B - Housing Allowance	0.00	22,461.17
'Minister B - Telephone	733.37	666.69
'Minister B - Auto Allowance	0.00	58.38
'Minister B - Pension	6,870.38	6,722.54
'Minister B - Health, Ins.	6,578.11	5,390.55
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

'Total -Minister B		90,519.99		80,221.76
'DM Salary	47,272.97		28,934.21	
'DM Telephone	733.37		616.69	
'DM Pension Expense	4,254.52		3,749.16	
'DM Health, Ins.	4,073.51		2,988.28	
'DM Housing Allowance	0.00		12,723.15	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
'Subtotal - General Maintenance		2,133.55		2,270.47
'Furnace Maintenance		1,785.94		1,694.03
'Natural Gas		4,334.11		5,274.38
'Electricity		6,587.65		4,644.80
'Water and Sewer		1,292.51		1,118.10
'Snow Removal and Shovelling		5,210.59		5,903.16
'Contract Janitorial Services	2,650.00		6,879.00	
'Custodial Services	797.99		400.00	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
'Sub-Total - Janitorial Services		3,447.99		7,279.00
'Telephone	1,650.36		1,932.65	
'Internet & Web Hosting	418.50		688.11	
'Photocopier (Contract)	1,749.00		1,749.00	
'Photocopier Use	257.18		825.46	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
		1,054.00		1,490.50
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
'Sub-total - Telecommunications		4,075.04		5,195.22
'Fire Equip. Testing and Maintenance	665.00		1,166.50	
'Security Monitoring and Maintenance	389.00		324.00	
'Sub-total Fire Alarm/Security				
'Total Property Mgt.Operating Expens				
'Planned Maintenance & Repair Projec				

	<u>1,671.97</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	<u>1,671.97</u>	<u>0.00</u>
'Ladies' Washroom Counter	1,671.97	0.00
'Sub-total Planned Main.&Repair		
'Total Planned Maint.&Repair Project		
'Unplanned Maint.&Repair Projects		
'Furnace - CE Wing	<u>8,750.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
'Total Unplanned Maint.& Repair	<u>8,750.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
'Financial Management		
'Interest Payments/Serv Chg	2,224.90	2,285.61
'Envelopes	403.00	443.00
'Bookkeeping	6,162.00	6,942.50
'Financial Man Miscellaneou	<u>302.62</u>	200.00
'Total Financial Management	<u>9,092.52</u>	9,871.11
'Communications		
'Postage	276.00	387.00
'Comm Stationary & Supplies	174.16	328.18
'Pamphlets	0.00	1,045.01
'Sound System	15.12 270.00	0.00
'Communications Miscellaneo	<u>180.00</u>	72.15
' Calendars etc	<u>915.28</u>	201.75
'Total Communication Expens		2,034.09
'Christian Education	167.76	
'Christ Education Material		62.58
'Worship		
'Tuning	280.00	690.00
'Music	0.00	1,346.20
'Worship Materials	810.79	221.77

'Total Worship	<u>1,090.79</u>		2,257.97
'Miscellaneous			
'Stewardship	0.00		32.97
'Congregation Relationship	0.00		130.93
'Board Operations	329.17		0.00
'Presbytery	13,702.33		13,702.33
'Pastoral Care	328.72	11,839.14	0.00
'Trustees - Insurance	30,022.17		9,559.80
'Stinson Bequest Expenses	200.00		27,323.53
'Moodie Scholarship Winners	0.00	3,919.38	200.00
'Miscellaneous	2,789.24		8.21
'HST - PST portion 8%			5,144.64
'HST - GST portion 5%			3,520.01
'Total Christian Education	167.76	62.58	<u> </u>
			<u> </u>
			<u> </u>
'Total Miscellaneous	<u>63,130.15</u>		<u>59,622.42</u>
'TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>397,114.27</u>		<u>370,276.24</u>
'NET INCOME	<u>-69,666.44</u>		<u>-17,761.39</u>

'Generated On: 12/01/2022

M&P Report to the Board January 19, 2022

M&P last met January 11, 2022

2022 Budget

Minor adjustments in hourly wages raises the 2022 Budget to \$288,107 from \$287,195. We have learned that Ruth Timms does not work enough hours to be covered by the UCC Worker Safety Insurance program (WSIB). Discussions have been held and she is fine with her status.

Abe TeGrotenhuis has resumed his duties as Music Director, working with the team to produce weekly virtual Worship Services and organizing the biweekly Choir Zoom meetings.

Request for Leave

Rev. Kim has requested a week of Annual Leave from February 22 to 28 returning to work on March 1. Rev. Lorrie has the worship responsibility for that week.

Motion (Stafford, ???) that the Rev. Kim Vidal be granted vacation leave from February 22 to February 28, 2022, returning to work on March 1 with Rev. Lorrie assuming worship responsibility for that week.

Staff Meeting

M&P organized a meeting of the Staff today (January 19) to discuss the Annual Summer Student program, which consists of hiring a person of ages 15 to 30 years to work fulltime (35 to 37.5 hours per week) to fulfill the general tasks described in the grant application

Four staff members met with the Chair and Dan Lanoue (M&P Member) to consider how to manage a Summer Student during the latest COVID restrictions. Suggestions of the type of work involved included staffing the telephones during the summer recess, preparing Sunday School and Youth material to keep children involved during the summer and trying an all-congregation media outreach to keep in touch and perhaps help seniors adapt to newer technology.

The biggest challenge seems to be the unknown regarding the COVID and variants situation and whether the building will be opened to allow staff to interact with congregants and the public. The second challenge is a question of direct supervision and direction of work projects. Leaving a fifteen-year-old to work alone all day, all week is quite different to leaving a twenty year or older person.

The Staff conclusions lean towards:

1. applying for the grant: if restrictions make supervision issues too difficult, no one will be hired;

2. Include in the requirement a strong knowledge of Information Technology to support the virtual aspects of Christian Education and working with video and PowerPoint programs
3. Ensure good project descriptions with clear goals and completion criteria.

General projects could include organizing weekly CE education material for the summer period for both Sunday School and Youth aged children; covering office phones, compiling and organizing various photographs, including scanning, if necessary, weekly yard work in preparation for Friday garbage pickup (others to be added ...)

Respectfully submitted,

David Stafford
Chair

Report of the Worship Commission to the BCUC Church Board January 2022

Following early and rapid spread of the Omicron variant of Covid-19 in Ottawa and Ontario generally, on December 18 the BCUC Church Board decided to suspend on-site worship services, including the planned Christmas Eve service. Since then, the Worship/CE Committee met on January 5 and concluded that BCUC should continue the suspension of on-site worship services until at least the end of January.

This decision was made in light of the facts that new Covid cases were at that time continuing to grow rapidly and that the provincial government was expected shortly to take further measures to curb the spread of Covid. While the tightening of restrictions in the province does not require us to continue the suspension of services on-site, the Worship Commission is of the view that since a large portion of those who had been regularly attending on-site services is constituted of people who fall in the provincially-designated “vulnerable” population with respect to Covid (by virtue of age and in some cases also of health conditions), BCUC should not resume on-site services until the Omicron wave has clearly passed its peak and the province begins again to lift Covid-related restrictions on social gatherings.

The Worship Commission next meets on February 2 and at that time will assess the situation with respect to the advisability of restarting on-site services.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Morrison