

Approved - BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MEETING: No. 9 – 2022-2023

DATE & LOCATION: Nov 16th, 2022 7:00 pm held virtually on Zoom

PURPOSE: To carry out the business of BCUC

Church Board CHAIR: David Stafford (for this meeting)

PRESENT:

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

REGRETS: Rev. Lorrie Lowes, Nicole Beaudry, Raven Miller, Desna Sulway

GUESTS: Ross Mutton

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, Dec 21st, 2022

- 1. Accepting of Corresponding Members** Chair
Jordan made a motion to receive Corresponding members, David seconded. Approved.
- 2. Standing Reports**
 - 2.1. M&P** David
David Stafford moves that the BCUC Board gives due consideration to the M&P Recommendation to move the Rev. Lorrie Lowes to full time ministry during the Sabbatical of the Rev. Kim Vidal. Susan Seconded. Approved.
David Stafford moves that the recommended M&P budget of \$315,488 be received for the year 2023. Seconded by Norm. Approved.
David Stafford moves that the M&P recommendation from the October meeting regarding the Federal Government Summer Student grant not being pursued for 2023 be approved. Seconded by Mark. Approved.
- 3. Opening Remarks** Chair
David thanked the board for taking a preliminary look at the proposed M&P budget for 2023.
- 4. Approval of Agenda** Chair
Jordan made a motion to accept the amended agenda, Ellen Seconded. Approved.
- 5. Devotions** Susan
Susan read us a poem about transitions by Joyce Rupp.
- 6. Approval of Minutes** Chair
 - 6.1. Oct 19th, 2022**

Jordan made a motion to accept the Oct Minutes. Ellen Seconded. Approved.

7. Standing Reports

7.1. Ministers' Report (Pages 7-10)

Rev. Kim/ Rev. Lorrie

Rev. Kim spoke to the covenanting service for Lorrie.

Rev. Kim made a motion to accept Rev. Camille Lipsett, Vicki Martin, Linda Miller and Gretchen O'Brien as full members of BCUC and that their names will be recorded in the Historic Roll. Bill Seconded. Approved.

Rev. Kim made a motion to remove Jack McLean from the Historic Roll due to death. Seconded by Ellen. Approved.

A note will be sent to the attendees of the covenanting service that there was a positive covid case who attended the covenanting service.

7.2. Finance Report (Page 6)

Bill

Bill made a motion to accept the financial report. Jordan seconded. Approved.

7.3. M&P (Pages 4-5)

David

Zoom costs were discussed and should apparently be listed under the communication category.

8. New Business

8.1. Business Continuity Plan

Bill

Bill will continue researching on the business continuity plan and BCUC's response to emergencies.

8.2. Budgeting Cycle Documents

Jordan

Jordan discussed dates for getting budgeting documents circulated and returned.

8.3. FAMSAC

Jordan

FAMSAC needs storage spaces for boxes while the new building is delayed. The lounge will be looked at if there is possible space.

8.4. Benevolent Fund

Ellen

Document was presented, discussion was had, and amendments made.

Jordan made a motion to accept the benevolent fund policy as amended. This triggers a creation of a benevolent directed fund . Mark Seconded. Approved.

8.5. Men's Club

David

The Men's Club held a special pork roast dinner on Tuesday October 2022 and heard two presentations on local and regional building projects. The Venerable Kathryn Otley gave an update on the project of Christ Church Bells Corner to renovate the church's rectory (Manse) that will provide accommodation for the Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre and the FAMSAC Food Cupboard, as well as two sets of low-income accommodations. The group from Queenswood United Church spoke to its project to construct 84 rent-to-income units on it property in Orleans. Both were well received!

As an off shoot, the dinner produced revenue that benefitted the BCUC General Fund by \$200 and the Men's Club by about the same after expenses. The question remains: What will BCUC do with its vast property? Studies have determined that there are some projects that can be undertaken, and some plans have been devised. I wonder if now is the time to open the

question to the congregation and seriously research opportunities and mechanisms to undertake such a project? For discussion

David Stafford

President

EOORC Meeting at BCUC

The Eastern Ontario and Outaouais Regional Council (EOORC) held its first face to face meeting since the Pandemic to discuss operations and plans for the Region. Two Men and A Stove and friends provided a pork roast lunch with Strudel dessert for a modest fee and \$300 was raised for the church. The Council also honored the retirement of the Rev. Rosemary Lambie who has served over 40 years in ministry and most recently as the Secretary of the Montreal & Ottawa Conference, the predecessor of the EOORC. When the united Church decided to re-organize into Regions, she was appointed as Executive Secretary for three Regions, covering much of the same area of the Conference as well as some of the former Presbyteries in areas west of Ottawa. I am expecting an additional honorarium from the Region and a further honorarium to be paid to Abe for his musical services. I also have acquired a synopsis of the meeting from a contact at Glen Cairn if anyone is interested in reading it

David Stafford

8.6. Vitality Metrics

Mark

Mark showed us the completed Survey and asked some pointed questions. A special e-mail address will be created for surveys under the bcuc.org domain name. A test run will be done with the board members to test useability and gain feedback.

8.7. Youth Leader

Rev. Kim

A leader is needed to gain traction with getting youth involved in the church. A job description needs to be created, and four hours a week was mentioned. Funding is possible through the rest of the year via different committees funds, Kim to investigate and more communication via e-mail will happen.

8.8. Vendors Market

Rev. Kim

“Wrap it Up” a fund raiser for Chipembe will be held on 17th of Dec 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

9. Other Business

9.1. **Devotions:** for Wednesday, Dec 21st, 2022

Chair

Will will do devotions.

9.2. **Chair:** for Wednesday, Dec 21st, 2022

Chair

Jordan will Chair.

10. Next Meetings:

Chair

10.1. **Regular Board Meeting** – Wednesday, Dec 21st, 2022.

11. Closing Prayer

Rev. Kim/Rev. Lorrie

M&P Report

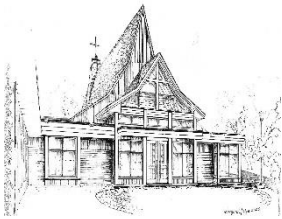
The M&P Committee last met November 19, 2022.

Covenanting Service

Welcome to the Rev. Lorrie Lowes, as one more step of her journey with BCUC has been accomplished: she was first engaged as a studying Congregational Designated Minister, then she graduated and was Commissioned as a Diaconal Minister, and now she has made a Covenant with the Bells Corners Pastoral Charge and the EORR Regional Council. Promises and gifts have been exchanged as signs of the Covenant. Rev. Lorrie is now entering her fourth year as our second Minister and In 2024, she will be eligible to undertake a three-month Sabbatical.

Sabbatical

The M&P Committee has received and agreed to the Sabbatical Proposal of the Rev. Kim Vidal, to be taken between May and September 2023. The Rev. Kim has agreed to the sharing of the letter of Proposal, which follows:



BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH
3955 Old Richmond Rd.
Nepean, ON K2H 5C5
Telephone: 613-820-8103

October 12, 2022

Ministry & Personnel Committee

Attention: David Stafford, Chair

Re: Plans for Sabbatical Leave 2023

Dear David and members of BCUC Ministry and Personnel Committee,

On August 1, 2023, I will be celebrating my 10th year as your full-time minister. Based on a Sabbatical Policy adopted by the United Church of Canada in 2005, I will be eligible for another sabbatical leave for three months intentionally set aside for reflection, recreation and revitalization. In addition to the three-month sabbatical period, I will take those extra weeks of vacation or study leave that were unused from the pastoral year 2022-2023.

The proposed dates of my sabbatical leave and vacation will take place from May 15, 2023 to August 31, 2023. Within this time period, I plan to attend the Annual Festival of Homiletics and other learning events. I will also do personal readings on spiritual practices and theologically progressive books and other resources to enhance reflection and upgrade my knowledge. On Sundays when I'm in Ottawa, I plan to do "church-hopping" to be able to gain different worship experiences and to broaden my view of the universal Church and the meaning of ecumenism. I am also submitting my application to Chautauqua Institute for the Clergy Renewal Week in the summer of 2023. Part of the plan, too, is to travel to different places with my family. After my sabbatical, I plan to organize an Asian Supper to share the highlights of my sabbatical experience. Proceeds of the dinner will go to the operating funds of BCUC.

During my absence, Rev. Lorrie Lowes will be leading worship services, including weddings, celebration of life services and baptisms when needed and to offer pastoral and spiritual care. Your prayers and support are very much appreciated for this sabbatical opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Rev. Kim Vidal

The Rev Lorrie Lowes (move to full time hours)

M&P recommends that the Rev. Lorrie Lowe's hours be expanded from $\frac{3}{4}$ time to full time at an additional cost estimated at \$17,864 in salary and benefits for the period May through to the end of August. In addition, arrangements will be made for one or two weeks of pulpit supply from within the Congregation.

2023 M&P Budget

M&P has reviewed the United Church (UCC) recommended changes to Ministers salaries and benefits for 2023 and the recommended salary scale for the Royal Canadian College of Organists (RCCO). The UCC is recommending increase in the salaries of 3.4%, Continuing Education amount of \$1,543 and travel compensation at 55 cent per kilometer. As is our practice, M&P has included all staff in the UCC recommended increases. Consequently, the estimated 2023 BCUC budget for all M&P expenses is \$315,500, which includes the extra \$17, 500 to move Rev. Lorrie to full time during the Rev. Kim's Sabbatical. However, since we have two ministers available to cover all other expected absences, M&P does not anticipate undue use of the Visiting Minister account.

ZOOM software.

There is a question of where the cost of ZOOM software resides. It is not an M&P expense, yet Rev. Lorrie Lowes seems to have control, which is not really an issue, but clarification is requested by the M&P Committee. Further, I understand it is up for renewal. I certainly believe it should be renewed, so the question is **who is to make the decision and at what cost?**

Motions:

I will bring the following motion to the Board meeting

Motion: David Stafford moves that the BCUC Board gives due consideration to the M&P Recommendation to move the Rev. Lorrie Lowes to full time ministry during the Sabbatical of the Rev. Kim Vidal.

Motion: David Stafford moves that the recommended M&P budget of \$315,488 be adopted for the year 2023.

Motion: David Stafford moves that the M&P recommendation from the October meeting regarding the Federal Government Summer Student grant not being pursued for 2023 be approved.

Respectfully submitted,

David Stafford, Chair

BCUC Quarterly Report Sept 30 2022	Budget	YTD	% Spent
Expenses			
Committees - Service			
Worship - Resources	\$ 450	\$ 956	212%
- Music	\$ 2,750	\$ 485	18%
Christian Education - Resources	\$ 1,925	\$ 105	5%
- Banners			
Service & Outreach - Mission & Service	\$ 40,000	\$ 30,000	75%
- OWECC and Local	\$ 9,000	\$ 6,750	75%
- Refuge NOW	\$ 5,200		
- FAMSAC	\$ 5,100		
- Multi Faith Housing	\$ 3,150	\$ 100	3%
- Educational outreach events	\$ 300		
Membership (CR)	\$ 200		
Pastoral & Spiritual Care	\$ 625	\$ 207	33%
Benevolent Fund (minister discretion)	\$ 500	\$ 200	40%
Stewardship (expen in Communications)	\$ 300		
Subtotal - Service	\$ 69,500	\$ 38,803	56%
Committees - Support			
Ministry & Personnel	\$ 287,195	\$ 209,190	73%
Property Management - Operations	\$ 47,900	\$ 34,046	71%
- Office photocopier - Rental contract	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,431	89%
- Office photocopier - use	\$ 1,000	\$ 573	57%
- Office equipment - Purchase			
- Mtc&Repair (excludes DF funds)	\$ 12,000	\$ 9,973	83%
Communications - office supplies	\$ 3,200	\$ 740	23%
- displays, bulletin bd, signage	\$ 1,400		
Denominational Assessment	\$ 16,246	\$ 12,185	75%
Trustees (Insurance coverage = \$5M)	\$ 16,000	\$ 11,633	73%
Financial Management (including Audit)	\$ 7,500	\$ 2,376	32%
+ Bookkeeping service	\$ 7,500	\$ 5,111	68%
+ Moodie Scholarship (\$200 dividends)	\$ 200		
GST/HST (PST portion 8%)		\$ 3,384	
GST/HST (GST portion 5%)		\$ 2,698	
Board (Operations; COVID-19)	\$ 300	\$ 117	
Volunteer Resources			
Transfers to/from Other Funds			
Miscellaneous & Other Expenses			
Subtotal - Support	\$ 402,041	\$ 293,455	73%
Total = Service+Support	\$ 471,541	\$ 332,258	70%

MINISTERS' REPORT BCUC Board Meeting – NOVEMBER 16, 2022

Kim's Report:

Here are the highlights of my ministry from October 20 to November 16, 2022.

Worship:

We continue to offer onsite worship service with live streaming every Sunday. I lead worship service on 3 of the 4 Sundays in which I prepare the weekly service with text and PowerPoint slides. Rev. Lorrie leads at least one service a month. Music was provided by the BCUC Choir, the CGS/Bell Canto and the BCUC Band with the leadership of Abe & Erin. It was wonderful to see the attendance grow week by week, particularly delighted to see the Sunday School slowly returning.

Stewardship Campaign

- **October 16** – 19th Sunday after Pentecost / Stewardship 1
Bill McGee introduced the different Stewardship materials.
Susan Young engaged the children during the Time for the Young at Heart about prayer.
Barbara Bole was the reader and shared a minute for social action on behalf of SOSA.
- **October 23** – 20th Sunday after Pentecost / Stewardship 2
Baptism of Lawrence Alfred Chuchryk Roloff took place during the service.
- **October 30** – 21st Sunday after Pentecost / Stewardship 3
Four new members were welcomed at the service with a celebration cake during coffee time marking the occasion.
- **November 6** – A moving Remembrance Day service was led by Rev. Lorrie Lowes.
- **November 13** – 23rd Sunday after Pentecost. Sermon preached on Endurance.

Lorrie's Covenanting Service

The covenanting service was held in the afternoon of November 13 at 2:30 pm. It was well-attended with over 80 people including the Ottawa Carleton Choristers, the BCUC Choir and the BCUC Band who provided special music. The Rev. Janet Nield, also a Diaconal Minister was the guest preacher. Lorrie was presented for covenanting by Beth Sweetnam who acted as the EOORC Liaison and David Stafford, Chair of our M&P Committee. Several people presented symbols to Lorrie. I acted the Presider in the service. A reception offered by Neil & Lorrie was had after the service with a congratulatory cake from BCUC.

Christian Education:

- Facilitated the weekly onsite Lectionary Group in the Shalom Room on Tuesdays at 10:30 am. There were 2 new members from the community who attended the last 2 sessions in November.
- Attended the Worship/CE meeting on Wednesday, November 9 at 7 pm by Zoom.
- The Seekers Group study met on November 7 and 14 and covered Parts 1-4 of the book written by the late John Shelby Spong entitled "Biblical Literalism: A Gentile Heresy" based on the Gospel according to Matthew. The study will continue for 3 more Mondays. There were 13 people who signed up for this learning event.

Pastoral & Spiritual Care:

- I continue to offer pastoral and spiritual care to members and adherents through personal visits, phone calls, and emails,
- I continue to participate in a weekly simultaneous virtual Prayer Circle every Wednesday at 8 pm from home. Prayer Chalice on Sundays and the Prayer Box were revived for people to send in their prayer requests.

- I report to Ronalie Abbey of people who need greeting cards (thinking of you, sympathy, get well soon, birthday, etc.) on behalf of BCUC.
- I led a Worship Service at Harmer House on October 27, 2022.
- I officiated a Remembrance Day Service at Stillwater Creek on November 10 with Abe TeGrotenhuis and the Grace Notes. The service was well received.
- I assisted Rev. Don Maclean at the Celebration of Life Service of Jack Maclean on November 11 at 2:00 pm held at BCUC.

Membership:

On October 23, baptism of Lawrence Alfred Chuchryk Roloff took place. His name was added to the Baptismal Records.

Motion (Kim / _____): To accept Rev. Camille Lipsett, Vicky Martin, Linda Miller and Gretchen O'Brien as full members of BCUC and that their names will be recorded in the Historic Roll.

Motion (Kim/ _____): To remove Jack Maclean from the Historic Roll due to death.

Other:

- Attended the BCUC Men's Club Dinner and Presentation on October 18.
- Will participate in the Christmas Bazaar on Nov 19.

**Blessings,
Rev. Kim**

Diaconal Minister's Report to the Board – November 16, 2022

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.

I led worship on November 6 for the Remembrance Sunday service when Rev. Kim was on Study Leave.

I am working my way through the Train the Trainer certification course. My last part of this course is the Practicum – which, of course, comes with some lesson writing and other documentation that needs to be handed in first. My practicum is scheduled for November 24. Almost there! I hope that our relationship with this organization will be most beneficial to BCUC.

The EOORC meeting on November 5 was hosted at BCUC. I gave the Land Acknowledgement and the welcome from our church, and served as Chaplain for the day.

Pastoral Care

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

I have been asked to give a presentation on Compassionate Listening, hosted by the Pastoral and Spiritual Care Team. Originally planned for November 25, this has been postponed to the new year.

Christian Education

Our Sunday School attendance is unpredictable at present. I have been leaving with the children after the Time for the Young at Heart and taking the older kids. This scenario is unsustainable and so we are trying to find another teacher to take on this commitment. I co-facilitate the weekly Lectionary Study with Rev. Kim and prepare the materials for the weeks that I will be leading worship.

I have shifted my days in the office to Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from November 7 to December 5 in order to join the Seekers Book Study.

Other Committee and Community Work

I attended the SOSA meeting on October 27. A decision was made to make the Zambia partnership the focus of our Advent Appeal.

The Interfaith Bridge-Building meeting was held at the mosque on the same day. This year, we have welcomed representatives from both St. Martin de Porres Roman Catholic parish and Christ Church Bells Corners Anglican to the committee. We have made plans for a winter clothing drive and are hoping to have an event to get the youth together from all four congregations.

On October 22, I was invited to a dinner hosted by the Seniors' group at Jami Omar, and on November 5, Neil and I represented BCUC at the Jami Omar Annual Meeting. As usual, the welcome was warm and the food amazing. Jami Omar's plans for the future include housing units – both townhouses and apartments, as well as office/ business suites. Their plans have been received by the city and approval is imminent. It looks like an amazing project! I worked with Al Foubert on organizing the Photo Directory – take 2 or 3! We had wonderful help from the office, Larry and Lola Ryan, Bev Wilcox and others. Photos will be ready for gift giving before Christmas and the Directory early in the new year.

Meetings:

Interfaith Bridge Building – October 27

Worship/CE – November 2

Seekers Book Study – November 7-December 5

Outreach

Zambia Partnership – The building project in Chipembi is nearing completion and I have been informed that, once again, money is needed to continue the project. Plans are being made to hold an official opening in the spring. The committee there is hoping that a delegation from BCUC and Emmanuel UC will be able to attend. The date has not yet been set but one suggestion was to go during March Break. There is also hope that we will send some Young Adult Leaders to Chipembi next August for Camp Chipembi. With the help of Wendy Morrell and Hazel Smith, a vendor Market is being planned for December 17 to help raise the needed funds.

Other

The Midrash Study with a group of Diaconal Ministers from the Ottawa area has resumed. We meet every 2nd Monday morning.

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

DUCC (Diaconate of the United Church of Canada) – no meetings have yet been held following the conference in Tatamagouche.

Thank you for the beautiful Covenanting Service on November 13. It was really wonderful to be able to celebrate together!

**Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Lorrie Lowes**