



MINUTES OF
LEADERSHIP CIRCLE
 Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery

OF BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE
 The United Church of Canada

June 21, 2012
 FIRST UNITED CHURCH
 KELOWNA, BRITISH COLUMBIA

PRESENT	Norma Fraser, Dawne Taylor, Lily Watson, Reta Robertson, Steve Hershey (Chair of Management Team), Ivy Thomas (Conference Minister), Graham Brownmiller (Secretary), Karen Medland (Chair)
REGRETS	Jim Hannah, Jake Highfield, Elaine Diggle, Ian Fraser
AUTHORITY & CALL TO ORDER	Pursuant to the authority of the 2012 Spring Meeting of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery (KOP), the Leadership Circle of KOP was Called to Order at 9:00 am at First United Church, Kelowna, BC and was declared open to conduct the business properly before it, Chair Karen Medland presiding. A quorum was present.
WORSHIP & CHECK-IN	Karen Medland led the gathered community in worship, which included a check-in.
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	MS (G. Brownmiller / R. Robertson) that the minutes of the April 17, 2012 meeting of the Leadership Circle be adopted as circulated. Carried.
EXECUTIVE RECAP	A recap of the Executive meeting held on June 20, 2012 was offered.
BUSINESS ARISING	<p>Ministry Development Team – This group is continuing and has offered an invitation to a number of congregations. One congregation who was interested has now declined, however was appreciative for the Presbytery thinking about this type of work. Another congregation has expressed interest and Karen Medland is awaiting an official response. Congregations who were invited to the conversation have expressed their thanks for the possibilities suggested and the openness of Presbytery to explore their own possibilities.</p> <p>With some other work of the Executive nearing completion, the focus on this Ministry Development Team might be able to take more of our Agenda time.</p> <p>Governance Structure – Karen Medland, Dawne Taylor and Ian Fraser will need to continue to meet and offer some more reflection on the structure of this governance model. Management Team will need to look at the policy structure in their work and share that with Leadership Circle. The Executive will have a deeper conversation regarding this as well.</p>
FALL PRESBYTERY MEETING THEME	<p>Karen Medland approached The Very Rev. Peter Short and The Very Rev. David Giuiliano to be our Theme Speakers at the Fall Presbytery meeting and both have declined those offers after discussion with their respective contexts.</p> <p>This led us to a conversation regarding the need for a theme speaker at our Presbytery meetings.</p> <p>The theme “in the midst of decline are the seeds of Resurrection” still fits for our context, however the process by which we engage that theme might be done differently.</p> <p>Stories change culture. We need to tell our stories, to plant the seeds of hope of resurrection. That is what Presbytery meetings should be, the planting of seeds that people can take home with them and help the story of resurrection be told.</p> <p>Story telling would be a great way to engage these seeds of resurrection and a reminder that telling the story changes our culture and gives us hope for the Resurrection.</p>

STORY TELLING

Perhaps have two or three (2 or 3) people prepared to tell their stories, asking the question of “How has your context changed?” or “What story would you like to tell?”

After the story telling, we need to ask questions: “After hearing this story, what has shifted for you?” “What would you share with your congregation?”

Rather than focusing on the stories of the past, how do we continue to tell the story of the Resurrection?

The possibility exists for us to engage in the theme via the Creation Spirituality of the viaes (positiva, negativa, transformativa and creativa) based in Aquinas and Matthew Fox.

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

- Interwoven into the stories told, a theological reflector with biblical story (stories).

positiva – tell the story of your church’s glory

negativa – tell the story of your church’s troubles, anxieties, fears

transformativa – tell the story of your church’s transformation (what seeds do you see?)

creativa – how do you plant seeds, what is the hope?

- Exodus, Exile and Resurrection

MEETING PLANNING

We named the following:

Biblical Story: Job 38.4 “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.”

Theological Reflector: Jeff Seaton, Juanita Austin, Laura Turnbull, Bari Castle

Midrash / Story-teller: Osoyoos, Lumby, North Thompson, Armstrong

St. Paul’s Kelowna, St. Mary’s Anglican-United Sorrento, Celistra, Oliver, Trinity Vernon

We will use the Circle Process: Scripture reading, Story-telling, Circle and Harvest back to the larger circle. Theological reflection will come out of the harvest.

PSALM 23

Ivy Thomas presented some information from a gathering of Conference Ministers she was at last week. The idea is for Congregations and Presbyteries to interpret Psalm 23 and culminate with a presentation at BC Conference in 2014.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Steve Hershey brought forth some of the issues from the meeting of the Management Team meeting June 20, 2012.

Scope of Management Team – There was some question raised about the Management Team concurring with a proposal which was forwarded to BC Conference and whether or not it should have been an Executive decision. This is a conversation which will continue.

St. John’s Clinton – The title deed for this congregation has been transferred to BC Conference Property Development Council and listed with Colliers. BC Conference has approached the Presbytery with a conversation regarding how monies from sales might be used to benefit both Presbytery and Conference. This will need to be an Executive conversation.

Surplus Funds – A recommendation will be presented to Presbytery through the Treasurer’s report at the Fall Presbytery Meeting that “at the end of each year maintain thirty-thousand dollars (\$30,000) in Surplus; top up the Contingency Fund to ten-thousand dollars (\$10,000), and return the balance of surplus to the Pastoral Charges through their assessments.”

Camp Grafton – Conference Executive, Kamloops United Church, Camp Grafton and Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery will need to meet to have further conversation regarding the proposal presented at BC Conference General Meeting. Gifts & Callings will find members to sit on this conversation.

Members-at-Large – The Presbytery has the right to appoint annually up to ten (10) Members-at-Large. It will be recommended to the floor of Presbytery that Gifts & Callings be authorized to appoint Members-at-Large and present those names

Grant Policies & Procedures – The Administration Coordinator has created a procedure regarding Grant applications and that will be distributed to the Presbytery, and will be presented on the floor of Presbytery for information.

Presbytery Meetings – The question of why our Spring meeting is held in February was raised. The hosts for the Spring of 2013 will be approached to see if they have availability for April 21, 2013 and the question will be tested on the floor of Presbytery in the fall.

Communication – The Congregational Website program is underway with two congregations having taken advantage of it and a training session will be offered for others who might be interested in a future option.

Pastoral Relations / Oversight / Education & Students – How does the work of Pastoral Relations, Pastoral Oversight and Education & Students fit into the vision and mission of the Presbytery. We also wondered about the continuing accountability: i.e., are their roles finished with covenanting and who has the responsibility for the continuing health of relationship. Further, how is this accountability reported at Presbytery and how much information about future items should be shared.

- NEXT MEETING** The Leadership Circle of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery will next meet September 12, 2012 location and time to be determined.
- ADJOURNMENT** Having reached the order of the day, we adjourned.
- BLESSING** Chair, Karen Medland, offered a blessing to the day.

Karen Medland, Chair

Graham Brownmiller, Secretary