

Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery

“Practicing Resurrection ~ Choosing Hope”

February 23-25, 2018 ~ Westbank United Church, West Kelowna, BC

A Summary of Information Shared and Decisions Made

With weather and road conditions affecting travel plans, we did not have quorum Friday night so changes were made to the published order of business.

Jane Harding, Regional Financial Development Officer Serving British Columbia, provided stewardship information. Be sure to use the resources on the Stewardship Toolkit website (<http://www.stewardshiptoolkit.ca/>).

On Saturday morning, we had quorum. Jenny Carter, Chair, officially called the meeting to order.

Theme Time ~ Practicing Resurrection

We didn't know what to do . . . and then . . .

Story #1: Rosemary Weighill from Westbank United Church in West Kelowna described their discovery of extensiveness of homelessness in their community to the development and expansion of their Community Lunch programme.

Story #2: Sue Goodwin from St. Paul's United Church in Kelowna described their journey from the devastation of learning that their development project could not be done to discerning what it means to be church and engaging in healing and reconciliation.

Story #3: LeAnn Blackert of Mount Paul United Church in Kamloops shared how the selling of and becoming renters in their building led the congregation to a time when they were no longer sure of their identity and mission. As a result of a situation when she was the on-call hospital chaplain, they are now exploring how to put in place a programme to support out-of-town families who do not have the means to be with a family member who requires an extended hospital stay.

BC Conference Chair, Cari Copeman-Haynes, led one of the options during the reflection time, offered a reflection of what she experienced during our Presbytery meeting, and spoke during worship Sunday morning.

Rob Crosby-Shearer, the Conference Minister with Embracing the Spirit, provided information about that programme.

The Saturday morning reflection time provided five different opportunities for reflection: contemplative prayer, using art, guided conversation, walking meditation, and spirit filled discussion.

Remit 6: One Order of Ministry

Does the presbytery agree that there should be one new order of ministry encompassing the present categories of recognized designated lay ministers, diaconal ministers, and ordained ministers, with ordination to the ministry of word, sacrament, education, service and pastoral care as the single rite of entry, and with provision for the continued identity of the diakonia within the ordained ministry?

The result of the vote was yes – 22 and no – 41.

An e-mail from Belinda Burke, Assistant to Doris Kizinna, Youth & Young Adult Ministries of BC Conference, dated February 7, 2018, had been received regarding Youth at Conference with a request that Presbytery select two youth to attend Youth at Conference who are appointed as voting delegates and to contribute \$100 per youth to help offset a portion of the accommodation fees. Youth are ages 13 to 18. To be a voting delegate, youth need to be a member of a congregation in Presbytery and appointed to the roll of Presbytery. If there is youth member in your congregation who may be interested in attending the Youth at Conference programme, let Keri Wehlander (kerikw@shaw.ca) know so that she and Youth Council can select the two youth. She will then provide the Executive with the names so that they may be appointed to the Youth at Presbytery section of the KOP Roll.

Presbytery has decided to change our method of determining quorum to Option 1 in *The Manual*.

Presbytery elected all the lay members of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery to be lay members of BC Conference.

Allison Rennie provided updated policy information on police record checks and retired clergy. She gave an overview of some of the work being undertaken to prepare for the changes as the result of the remits. She introduced the online forum that will be providing information, an opportunity for asking questions, and a space for discussion about the remits and their implementation. It can be accessed from the KOP website (<https://kopunited.ca/>) by clicking on “Remit 6 Q&A” in the menu bar. You will need to create an account for access.

Two decisions were made as a result of the work of the Educational Support Committee.

- The following individuals were relicensed with Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery as Lay Licensed Worship leaders for the February 2018 to February 2019 period: Louise Burton, Fern Gibbard, Victor Ince, Lillian McLeod, Judith Ritcey, Diane Stuart, and Sarah Tupholme.
- That in Kamloops Okanagan Presbytery, the remuneration for lay people and Licensed Lay Worship Leaders conducting worship be no less than two hundred nine dollars (\$209.00) per Sunday, mileage at the current United Church rate of forty-one cents per kilometer (\$0.41/km), and miscellaneous expenses.

Time was spent in working groups to do some initial planning for Fall Presbytery. The groups were Worship and Celebration; Youth and Young Adult Legacy; Honouring our History (images and archives); Invitations; and Retreat and Learning Opportunities for 2019.

General Council Commissioners: Presbytery was to nominate two order of ministry and two lay representatives to be submitted to BC Conference to be included on the ballot for electing General Council Commissioners at the General Meeting of BC Conference.

Donald Schmidt and Kirstin Autio were selected by acclamation. Four lay representatives were nominated: Sheri Fowler, Janet McDonald, Leslie Ross, and Maia Walker. Voting took place after each had an opportunity to speak. Janet McDonald and Leslie Ross were selected to be nominated as lay representatives.

Presbytery decided that the terms of those that would conclude at the rise of the 2018 Meeting of BC Conference extend until December 31, 2018. It also empowered the Presbytery Executive to carry out the business of Presbytery until Presbytery meets October 19-21, 2018 at First United Church in Salmon Arm.

We worshipped with the Westbank United Church Congregation Sunday morning. Jenny Carter thanked them on our behalf for the wonderful hospitality we experienced throughout the weekend.