

Territory of the People of the Anglican Church of Canada

Each congregation has a lay representative to the Territory of the People. In 2020, The Rev. Keith Peterson represented the Church of St Paul; Leslie Ross, Trinity Shared Ministry.

Both attended the Electoral Assembly that was held January 25, 2020 at St. Paul's Cathedral in Kamloops to elect a Bishop for the Territory of the People as a result of the retirement of Bishop Barbara Andrews. After opening worship, the representatives divided so that lay sat on one side of the church and clergy on the other. Each group voted separately. For a candidate to be elected, fifty percent of the lay and fifty percent of the clergy needed to vote for the candidate. There were six candidates. After four ballots, the Venerable Lincoln McKeon, Archdeacon of Nimpkish and incumbent of St. Peter's, Campbell River was elected to be the next Bishop of the Territory of the People. He took on the roll of Bishop on May 1st.

With the restraints of COVID-19 and the need for Bishop Lincoln McKeon to move to Kamloops, his Consecration and Installation was not held until September 19th. To meet the Province's gathering requirements, the Territory limited the number of people who could attend in person. The service was live-streamed as well. Leslie Ross and the Rev. Bruce Chalmers attended from our Parish. Photographs of the service can be found at this link: <https://grayintheforest.smugmug.com/Territory-People/Consecration-of-the-Rt-Rev-Lincoln-McKoen/>.

At some point this fall, there was a change in the number of deaneries from two to three. Previously, our Parish had been part of the South Rivers Deanery. We are now part of the Kamloops Deanery. It also includes the parishes in Monte Creek, Logan Lake, and Kamloops. The Rev. Ken Gray has been appointed Regional Dean until his retirement in May 2021. The Kamloops Deanery met by zoom on December 2nd with the Rev. Keith Peterson and the Rev. Bruce Chalmers attending.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Ross

BC Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Both congregations have designated lay representatives to the BC Synod. Glenn Andrews is the representative for the Church of St Paul; Leslie Ross, for Trinity Shared Ministry.

Once our world was disrupted by COVID-19, the BC Synod has held regular zoom meetings for its rostered pastors and for lay members. The Rev. Chalmers has attended some of the meetings for the rostered pastors. Both Glenn Andrews and Leslie Ross have attended some of the lay meetings. Excellent notes and information from the meetings have been distributed.

Recognizing that congregations could face financial difficulties with the need to close their buildings, the BC Synod Council decided to provide each congregation and shared ministry congregation a \$10,000 grant from a legacy fund.

Our Parish is part of the Southern Interior Region. It normally has an annual gathering in September. This year, it met via zoom in the morning of Saturday, September 26th. The Rev. Bruce Chalmers and Leslie Ross attended. The Rev. Curtis Aguirre presented a Bible study on the Babylonian Exile and the Current Pandemic. Much of the meeting was discussion to share what was working well, challenges, and ideas of what could be tried. With experiencing meeting via zoom, there was a desire to meet more than once per year. There was also a consideration of twinning with another congregation in the Region.

The Region put together two joint on-line pre-recorded worship services: one for Pentecost; the other for Reformation Sunday. Dean Jane Gingrich coordinated the production. Leslie Ross participated in both services.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Ross

Pacific Mountain Region of United Church of Canada 2020 Representatives Report

Our pastoral charge has three representatives to the Pacific Mountain Region of the United Church of Canada. Rev. Bruce Chalmers is a member by virtue of his position. Leslie Ross is the elected representative of Trinity Shared Ministry and Leslie Stirling is the elected representative of the Church of St Paul.

Beginning in March Town Hall meetings were held frequently on Zoom to keep the congregations up-to-date on the pandemic and the effect it was having on church life. As the year progressed less time was needed for Covid updates and the meetings expanded to include guest speakers and group discussions.

We had the pleasure of attending the 2020 General meeting of the Pacific Mountain Region of the United Church of Canada on Friday, October 16th, and Saturday, October 17th. The meeting was held online via ZOOM and an online platform called *Whova*. A total of 453 people registered and at any given time there were more than 300 people at the meeting.

Friday began with Opening worship and Celebration of Ministry. In the evening we listened/watched an Affirm Conversation with Pam Rocker. The Affirming Ministries Program is a network of primarily United Church ministries that strive to be fully inclusive of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Before becoming formally Affirming, the PM Region will study and reflect on gender identities and expressions and sexual orientations; make a statement of welcome; make changes to key policies; and commit themselves to work for justice and inclusion within their community of faith, the wider church, and their community. It is expected that the Region will vote on becoming Affirming at the next General Meeting in 2021.

The guest speaker on Saturday was Ron Heifetz, one of the world's foremost authorities on the practise and teaching of leadership. He spoke for two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. You would think that would be boring but even Leslie's husband, Bob sitting at his computer found the subject interesting and the time passed quickly.

Other business that we dealt with was approving a Level 1 Remit - Amendment to the Basis of Union's Article 10.0 on Ministry Personnel supporting a proposal submitted by Rev. Keith Simmonds of Duncan United.

The General Meeting was an interesting experience but I did miss the social aspects of the usual General Meetings.

Respectfully submitted by
Leslie Stirling