

Antler River Watershed Regional Council

Friday, May 12 – Saturday, May 13, 2023

Spring 2023 Meeting Workbook

Fear Not! Be Bold & Courageous!



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Workbook Introduction

THEME *Fear Not! Be Bold and Courageous!*

PURPOSE **Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith**

PRIORITIES

Assessment	Mission & Support
Pastoral Relations	Social Justice and Outreach; Living out our Affirm Mandate
Communities of Faith Support including Indigenous Communities of Faith	Camps and Youth
Communications	Living into Right Relations

Format & Process for Proposals

The format for proposals involves three distinct stages in the decision-making process:

1. Listening/learning;
2. Discussion;
3. Decision.

In our proceedings, the steps will be:

1. The Presenter will outline:
 - a. What is the issue? And
 - b. The suggested way in which the regional council might respond to the issue.
2. The President will inquire if there are questions for clarification. Please note this is for clarification only.
3. The President will then ask if there are changes or additions being suggested for the proposal. The regional council will seek to come closer to agreement on how to respond to the issue.
4. Once there is significant agreement, the President will invite the Presenter to move the motion at which point the regional council enters the formal debate process.



Holy Manners

For our time together, we commit to being brave by ...

B eing accountable for the impact of both our words and our silence

R eflecting on and naming our own biases

A ctively listening

V ocalizing questions that arise from our learning

E ncountering new ideas with curiosity and wonder

*A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer.
It sings because it has a song.*

Maya Angelou



Participation in a Virtual Meeting

The regional council meeting has a simultaneous in-person and on-line meeting. We are learning how to ensure that participants can engage fully however they are joining. Thank you for your patience as we do this.

If joining by Zoom, please review the following. How Zoom presents depends upon the device being used. Every participant is expected to know:

- 1) How to **mute** and **unmute** themselves;
- 2) How to turn their **video on** and **off**;
- 3) How to **rename themselves**;
- 4) How to **raise their hand**.

If you are not familiar with these options, there are zoom information tips on our website at: [Zoom resources](#).

Please ensure you have updated to the latest version of Zoom. Otherwise, some meeting options might not work for you.

Voting and other matters will be explained in the meeting as needed.

Waiting Room

When you first log into the meeting, you will be placed in a waiting room. As soon as the meeting is ready to start, you will be automatically admitted.

Participants

When you are admitted to the meeting, please go immediately to the **Participants list**. You will see your name listed BUT sometimes you are identified by the type of device you are using. The President will be recognizing people on the basis of the name that is shown. So, please change your name to read **First Name/Surname** by hovering over the mic and camera icons, click on **More**, then **Rename**.

*For example, Executive Minister, Cheryl-Ann's iPhone might read: C-A's iPhone. Cheryl-Ann would need to go to the **Participant list** and **change her name** to: Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa (she/her). All participants are encouraged to **add their pronouns** after their name.*

Those who are at the meeting as a guest (not a voting participant) please add an x in front of your name. THIS IS IMPORTANT IF YOU ARE A NON-VOTING GUEST.

For example, if Cheryl-Ann was a guest, she would write her name as:
x-Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa. This helps us with vote counting.

Mute

All participants will be automatically muted when they enter the meeting. Please ensure your microphone remains off. This reduces background noise and feedback and improves the quality of sound for everyone.

You will need to click on the **Mute** button to turn on your microphone if you are recognized by the President to speak in debate and when you move into breakout rooms.

Video

Please have your video on as you join the meeting! It is lovely to see everyone as the meeting begins. Once the meeting begins, please turn off your video. That way, you have some privacy if you move around and it helps with the stability of the Zoom call especially in places with unstable internet.

Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down

There may be times when the President wishes to informally poll the regional council concerning a proposed change. The President may ask for a thumbs up or thumbs down. These two icons are found under reactions.

Being recognized to speak

To be recognized to speak in the discussion time, first **please raise your hand** by clicking on the button labeled **Raise Hand**. Your digital hand will then be raised. The hand will be lowered by the meeting hosts after you have spoken.

Remember when the President calls you by name to:

1. **Unmute** your microphone
2. Turn on **video**
3. **State your name**; and
4. Your **community of faith** – be sure to add the location as we have a few Trinity United Churches, Emmanuel United Churches, St. John's United Churches ...

Voting

This will be explained in the meeting. If you are a guest, please remember you do not vote.

Chat Box

Please reserve the chat box for the following:

1. Questions of **clarification**;
2. **Procedural concerns** and questions;
3. **Matters of privilege** (for example someone uses a term that is insulting to another who then wishes to bring that to the President's attention re the conduct of the council).

Many of us have experience of meetings where the chat box served as the discussion space, which in fact turns it into commentary. Discussion happens among participants when the President recognizes the speaker. The Chat Box is a side conversation that is distracting and disruptive.

If you see a friend among the participants with whom you wish to chat, please feel free to **send a private message** to them. Go to Participants, enter their name or scroll to their name & click on it and then you can send them a private note!

Breakout Rooms

Participants will be invited to move into a breakout room at various times during the meeting.

To join the breakout room, participants must accept the **join invitation**. Once you enter the breakout room, unmute your microphone and turn on your video.

Section One: Check-In

President Jane Van Patter's Message to ARWRC

Welcome to the ARWRC Spring Meeting 2023! Writing this message is bittersweet. By the time we arrive at the end of the Celebration of Ministries Service, and trust me, it will take some time--time well spent as we celebrate **three ministry candidates**, Andrew Gilliland, Jennifer Prince and Nancy Vandenberghe--we anticipate we will also celebrate the installation of the new ARWRC President, Cheryl Bolton. When that time comes, I become the ARWRC Past-President, aka "the Pandemic President."

Before I become *passé*, **my thanks and gratitude to you**, the members and friends of the ARWRC - the regional council representatives, communities of faith, colleagues, members of the commissions, the Executive, the Spring and Fall meetings Planning Teams, the Networks, the GC 44 Commissioners and the Regional staff for your support, encouragement, patience and grace every step of the way.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have served as President since the fall of 2020. It has been an awesome team-ministry experience!

Typically, the Spring Meeting focuses on Education and Inspiration. Though not limited to these three presentations, expect to learn and be inspired by a presentation related to the Remit - Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization led by Thérèse Samuel, Minister, Right Relations and Social Justice; Rev. Dr. Jessica Hetherington, Voluntary Associate Minister at Riverside United Church, Ottawa, will give a keynote address on Eco-Theology; and Michigan Conference Minister, United Church of Christ, Rev. Dr. Lillian Daniel, will bring greetings on behalf of her denomination and present a keynote address related the church in such a time such as this. Lillian will also preach the sermon at the Celebration of Ministry Service. That's not all! There's more! Highlights abound at the Spring Meeting!

Having reviewed the list of names appearing on the Spring Meeting registration list, both in-person and online, I am encouraged!

As the church and as members of the global community, the past few years have presented a plethora of challenges.

While still discovering our new way of being in this United Church of Ours, *limiting conditions* imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic were visited upon the world. We in the ARWRC endeavoured to *Keep Calm and Rock On*. That was then and this is now. It is well and good, as the registration list reveals, that we, the ARWRC Community of Faith, look forward to gathering, hybrid style.

Striving to be the church in such a time as this, still telling our story, still living our faith, may the ARWRC Spring Meeting 2023 continue living into:

Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith.

Fear Not! Be Bold & Courageous!

In Faith & Hope,

V. Jane Van Patter

Rev. Jane Van Patter,

President, Antler River Watershed Regional Council



What do sunflowers represent?

Sunflowers are associated with constancy and loyalty, reflecting the flower's tendency to follow the sun across the sky. For this reason, they are also symbols of optimism. **Sunflowers, literally, look to the bright side.**

Sunflowers are the perfect flowers to bring joy to a garden or to put a smile on someone's face. Optimism is a form of gratitude in that it honours the many gifts in life. And so, sunflowers make lovely thank you gifts.

As sunflowers bask in the light, they are symbols of truth and honesty, shedding light on all they see.

Sunflowers are symbols of peace. After the break up of the Soviet Union and Ukraine's commitment to total nuclear disarmament, sunflowers were planted where there had been nuclear silos. But why sunflowers? Because they absorb radioactive isotopes from the environment. They help to remove radioactive toxins!

**Do not be overcome by evil,
but overcome evil with good.**

Romans 12:21

Sunflowers turn to face the sun and remind people of those who seek deeper spiritual understanding and even enlightenment. Often growing in fields full of other sunflowers, they also represent communities of faith.

As at May 2023

In Memoriam

Rev. Doreen Doyle Canavan

Rev. Mary Elizabeth (Beth) Chapman

Rev. James (Jim) Evans

Glenda MacMillan



From October 2022 to May 2023

Community of Faith Life Cycle Changes

Disbandment

With thanks for their legacy and faithful service

Ravenswood United Church, Lambton Shores

Fourth Line United Church, Blenheim

St. Paul's United Church, Sarnia

Amalgamation and Name Changes

With prayers for their continuing journey

Victoria Avenue and St. Paul's United Churches amalgamated to form

St. Paul's – Victoria Avenue United Church, Chatham

Rural United Pastoral Charge

Working towards Amalgamation

With prayers for their continuing journey

Parkhill United Church and Thedford United Church





Jubilands

We celebrate the anniversaries of Ordination, Admission, Commissioning & Recognition

<p><i>10 Years</i></p> <p>Sandra Bendall, OM Melodie Lovering, DLM Christopher Mazhandu, OM Laurie O’Leary, OM Pamela Wilcox, DLM</p> <p><i>15 Years</i></p> <p>Wanda Burse, OM Carl Emke, OM Donna Kerrigan, OM Diane Macpherson, OM Jill Rogers, OM Paul Vollick, DLM</p> <p><i>20 Years</i></p> <p>Deanna Gibson, OM Steven Longmoore, OM C. Mark Perry, OM</p> <p><i>25 Years</i></p> <p>Gregory Brawn, OM Brenda MacMain, DLM Bonnie Pilkey, OM Janelle Towle, DM</p> <p><i>30 Years</i></p> <p>Jeralyn Towne, OM</p> <p><i>35 Years</i></p> <p>Sheila Macgregor, OM Colin Swan, OM Catherine Tovell, OM</p> 	<p><i>40 Years</i></p> <p>Constance Capes-Leslie, DM Judith Fayter, OM Donald Keenlside, OM John van Omme, OM</p> <p><i>45 Years</i></p> <p>Craig Drummond, OM</p>  <p><i>Celebrate our Jubilands</i></p> <p><i>50 Years</i></p> <p>Lorenzo Ramirez, OM</p> <p><i>52 Years</i></p> <p>Wilbert Dawson, OM Joseph Driskill, OM</p> <p><i>53 Years</i></p> <p>Kenneth Jackson, OM David McKane, OM John Palmer, OM</p> <p><i>56 Years</i></p> <p>Maurice Francis, OM</p> <p><i>57 Years</i></p> <p>John Brown, OM</p> <p><i>58 Years</i></p> <p>William Stephenson, OM</p>	<p><i>Celebrate our Jubilands</i></p> <p><i>61 Years</i></p> <p>Glen Wright, OM</p> <p><i>63 Years</i></p> <p>Arthur Woitte, OM</p> <p><i>65 Years</i></p> <p>R. Edward Sam, OM</p> <p><i>67 Years</i></p> <p>Norman Jones, OM D. Blain Thierry, OM</p> <p><i>71 Years</i></p> <p>Lewis Snow, OM</p> 
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New Regional Council Staff

John Egger

Five Oaks Executive Director, Michael Shewburg, approached the regional councils to ask if we might be interested in a joint position combining the half-time role of the Partner Program Director at Five Oaks with the half-time role of Minister, Social Justice in the regional councils. We crafted a Ministry Sharing Agreement and submitted two position descriptions for our joint search. Human Resources raised concerns; these two do not seem to fit together.

By this time, Michael was on sabbatical and Acting Executive Director, Pegi Ridout, and Executive Minister, Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, met. We agreed that what each of us wanted was a person who could invite others into a deeper experience of faith that would lead them to live differently in the world.

In John Egger, newly appointed to this joint position, we believe we have found someone who can do that!



John was raised in Calgary. He has a Ph.D. in New Testament studies from Emmanuel College at the University of Toronto. His dissertation was on Paul's use of the Hagar/Sarah motif in his letter to the Galatians and how it has been spun in the history of interpretation. This was a kind of case study into how biblical texts have been (i.e., can be) misread in the history of the church and the dangers thereof.

John has served numerous United Church congregations in Calgary and Toronto in a variety of youth, educational and intergenerational ministries, including intercultural experience with Centennial Japanese United Church (now Bayview) in Toronto and Taiwanese United Church of Toronto, as well as ecumenical experience working with the Anglican Church (Christ Church Calgary) and the Presbyterian Church in Canada (Varsity Acres in Calgary). These experiences gave him an appreciation for the possibilities for intercultural and transformative ministry within congregations, especially through engaged intergenerational education.

John has just concluded his home assignment duties following his return to Canada after serving four years as a Mission Co-Worker with the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea.

We look forward to welcoming John among us as together we learn to share a staff person between the regional councils and Five Oaks. John has kindly agreed to start on May 26th so that he can attend the regional council meetings for Western Ontario Waterways, Horseshoe Falls and the tri-Executive meeting to receive the Evaluation Report. He will arrive in time for a meeting of the program committee of Five Oaks along with Five Oaks Annual Meeting! He'll definitely be caught up in a flurry of events for the first few weeks!

We're looking forward to working with John!

Want to know more about John?

Check out his [People in Partnership Profile](#). Or this episode of the [It's Your Call](#) podcast.

Section Two: Information

Keynote Speakers



Rev. Dr. Lillian Daniel is a preacher, teacher, writer who serves as the Michigan Conference Minister of the United Church of Christ. Her book, ***Tired of Apologizing for a Church I Don't Belong To***, is generating international conversation about the changing religious landscape. It continues the theme of her 2013 book ***When 'Spiritual But Not Religious' Is Not Enough*** about the growing number of people who claim "none" as their religious preference.

While she has taught preaching at a number of schools, including Chicago Theological Seminary, University of Chicago, University of Dubuque

Theological Seminary and Yale Divinity School, she can't be held responsible for everyone who falls asleep in church. Lillian Daniel has spoken at the National Cathedral, Duke Chapel, King's College, London and Queen's College, Ontario, but on most Sundays, you can find her preaching at one of the 140 churches in her care in the beautiful state of Michigan.



The Rev. Dr. Jessica Hetherington, Ecotheologian and ordained minister, is a writer, preacher and speaker who inspires people of faith to transform their lives and actions in response to the climate emergency.

She holds a PhD in Theology from Saint Paul University in Ottawa, Canada, and serves in the United Church of Canada. Her newsletter, ***Following in the World***, is found on Substack at

<https://jessicahetherington.substack.com/>. You can

learn more about Rev. Jessica at

<https://jessicahetherington.ca/>.



Update #1: Proposal #5 from October 18-19, 2021 Protecting Incumbent Ministry Personnel

At its October 2021 meeting, the regional council took the following action:

MOTION: Brad Morrison / Kenji Marui

That Antler River Watershed Regional Council

- A) direct its staff to work in partnership with Office of Vocation staff to develop an action plan to
 - i. educate ministry personnel and congregations about section I.2.5.4 of The Manual and related Standards of Practice and Ethical Standards;
 - ii. educate all funeral homes in the ARW Regional Council about section I.2.5.4 of The Manual and the consequences for ministry personnel; and
 - iii. report back to the 2022 Spring ARW Regional Council Meeting on progress; and
- B) request that the Office of Vocation outline progressive discipline for offending ministry personnel and undertake the same if such actions are reported by the regional council.

CARRIED

The Executive is pleased to report that:

- 1) It has connected with funeral homes in the regional council as directed;
- 2) Regional council staff and the Vocational Minister have worked in partnership to address concerns brought to their attention if Section I.2.5.4 of the Manual is not being honoured (Note: discipline of ministry personnel rests with the Office of Vocation alone);
- 3) There has been a recent update to Standards of Practice and Ethical Standards which has been communicated to all ministry personnel.

Financial statements of

**Antler River Watershed
Regional Council of
The United Church of Canada**

December 31, 2021

Independent auditor's report

To the Executives of Antler River Watershed Regional Council of The United Church of Canada

Our opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Antler River Watershed Regional Council of The United Church of Canada (the Regional Council) as at December 31, 2021 and 2020, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

What we have audited

The Regional Council's financial statements comprise:

- the statements of financial position as at December 31, 2021 and 2020;
- the statements of operations for the years then ended;
- the statements of changes in fund balances for the years then ended;
- the statements of cash flows for the years then ended; and
- the notes to the financial statements, which include significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We are independent of the Regional Council in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal

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control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Regional Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Regional Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Regional Council's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Regional Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Regional Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Regional Council to cease to continue as a going concern.

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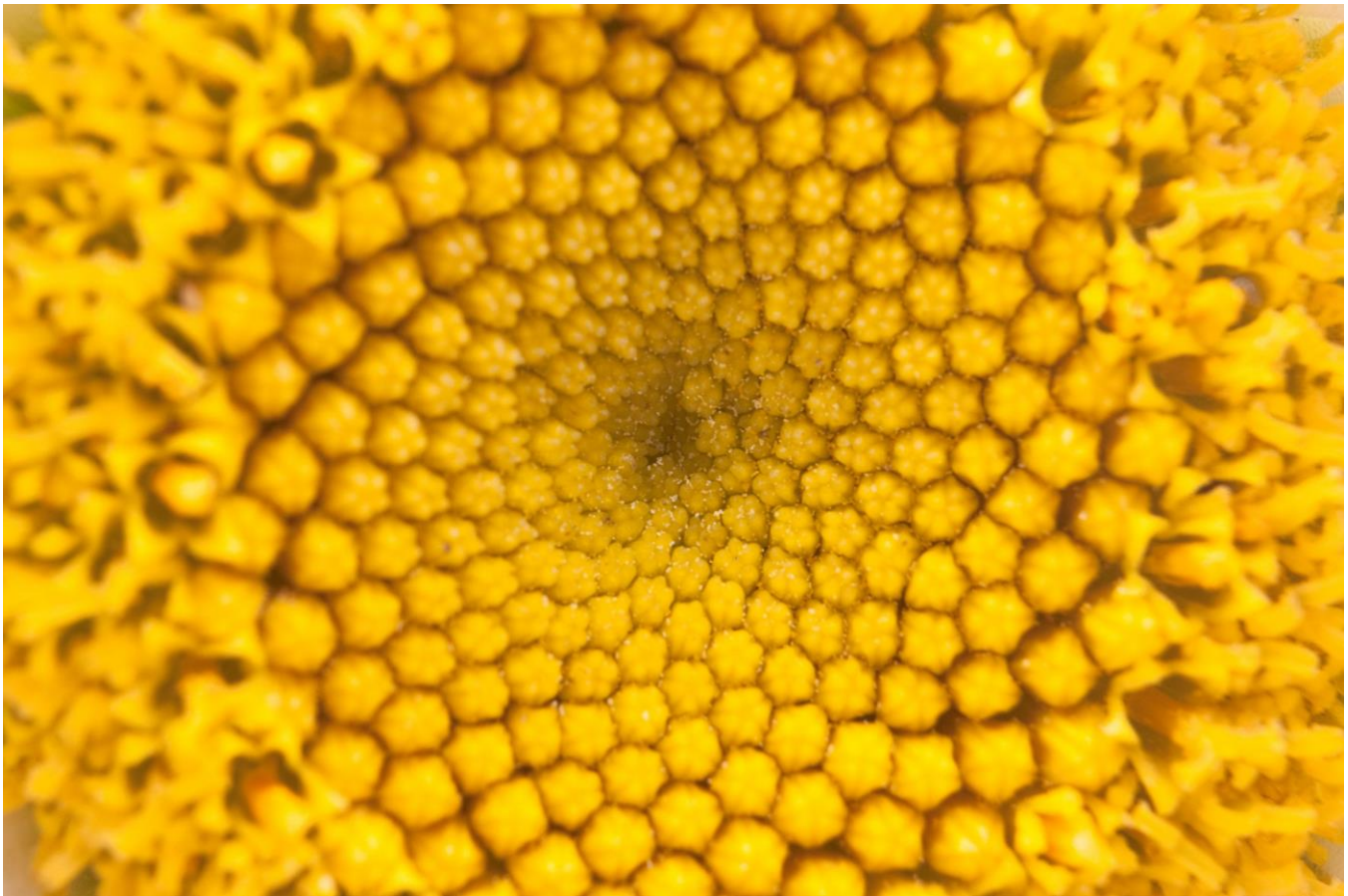
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

Oakville, Ontario
December 9, 2022



Antler River Watershed Regional Council
The United Church of Canada
December 31, 2021

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FINANCIAL DATA

For Information Only

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council
The United Church of Canada**

Statement of financial position

as at

(amounts in Canadian dollars)

	December 31, 2021			December 31, 2020		
	Operating Funds	Restricted Funds	Property Funds	Operating Funds	Restricted Funds	Property Funds
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Assets						
Current						
Cash and deposits	1,125,914	-	-	1,125,914	-	-
Accounts receivable (note 4)	178	-	-	178	-	-
Prepays (note 5)	2,079	-	-	2,079	-	-
	<u>1,128,171</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,128,171</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Due from/to other funds	(996,770)	208,886	787,884	-	-	-
Investments (note 6)	759,102	-	-	759,102	-	-
	<u>890,503</u>	<u>208,886</u>	<u>787,884</u>	<u>1,887,273</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>174,768</u>
						<u>1,664,727</u>
Liabilities and fund balances						
Current						
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 7)	70,951	-	401,280	472,231	-	324,104
Internally restricted - Schedule 1	-	86,581	-	86,581	-	236,625
Externally restricted - Schedules 1	-	122,305	-	122,305	-	187,882
Unrestricted	819,552	-	386,604	1,206,156	-	916,116
	<u>890,503</u>	<u>208,886</u>	<u>787,884</u>	<u>1,887,273</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,664,727</u>

Commitments, guarantees and contringencies (note 11)

Approved on behalf of the Regional Council Executive

Regional Executive Minister

President

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

FINANCIAL DATA

For Information Only

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council
The United Church of Canada**

Statement of operations
for the 12 months ended
(amounts in Canadian dollars)

	December 31, 2021		December 31, 2020	
	Operating Funds	Restricted Funds	Property Funds	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenues				
General Council assessment grants (note 9)	401,375	-	-	397,286
Mission and support grants (note 9)	240,000	-	-	289,000
Ontario archive grants (note 9)	19,476	-	-	18,973
Net proceeds from disbanding congregations (note 9)	-	-	562,568	168,975
Donations, recoveries, grant and other revenue (note 9)	250	14,015	-	28,311
	661,101	14,015	562,568	1,237,684
Expenses				
Salaries, benefits and continuing education	320,256	20,000	-	280,107
Grants (note 9)	166,055	4,000	352,655	262,937
Travel & meetings	11,514	62	-	6,777
Office administration	10,963	2,386	-	7,302
Archive storage fees (note 9)	38,952	-	-	37,945
General Council Office fees (note 9)	42,093	-	-	40,265
Professional fees	28,263	-	-	24,182
Resources	12,049	6,251	-	22,984
Property and insurance	8,680	5,459	-	23,718
Bank charges	103	-	-	625
	638,928	38,158	352,655	706,842
Net revenues (expenses), before items below (note 6)	22,173	(24,143)	209,913	195,703
Adjustment to fair market value of investments	65,914	-	-	(1,436)
Investment income	27,628	-	-	6,471
Investment expenses	(9,911)	-	-	(490)
Investment net income and gains (note 6)	83,631	-	-	4,545
Net revenues (expenses)	105,804	(24,143)	209,913	291,574

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

FINANCIAL DATA

For Information Only

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council
The United Church of Canada**

Statement of changes in fund balances
for the 12 months ended
(amounts in Canadian dollars)

	December 31,			
	2021		2020	
	Operating Funds	Restricted Funds	Property Funds	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Fund balances, beginning of year	739,425	424,507	176,691	1,340,623
Net transfers (to) from former presbyteries and conferences (note 10)	-	(217,155)	-	(217,155)
Net revenues (expenses)	105,804	(24,143)	209,913	291,574
Interfund transfers (note 10)	(25,677)	25,677	-	-
Fund balances, end of year	819,552	208,886	386,604	1,415,042
				1,340,623

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

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For Information Only

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council
The United Church of Canada**

Statement of cash flows
for the 12 months ended
(amounts in Canadian dollars)

	December 31, 2021			December 31, 2020
	Operating Funds \$	Restricted Funds \$	Property Funds \$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net revenues (expenses)	105,804	(24,143)	209,913	200,248
Adjustments for:				
Adjustments from investment net income and gains (note 6)	(83,631)	-	-	(4,545)
	22,173	(24,143)	209,913	195,703
Changes in level of:				
Accounts receivable	-	-	-	23,700
Prepaid expenses	-	-	-	(2,079)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,062	-	147,065	(159,705)
Interfund adjustments	141,357	215,621	(356,978)	-
Total cash provided by (used in) operating activities	164,592	191,478	-	57,619
Investing activities				
Cash (contributed to) withdrawal from investments	(500,703)	-	-	-
	(500,703)	-	-	-
Financing activities				
Transfer of funds from former presbyteries and conferences	-	(217,155)	-	-
Transfer of investments from presbyteries and conferences	(25,677)	25,677	-	-
Total cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(25,677)	(191,478)	-	-
Total cash and cash intransit provided	(361,788)	-	-	57,619
Cash and deposits, beginning of year	1,487,702	-	-	1,430,083
Interfund adjustments	-	-	-	-
Cash and deposits, end of year	1,125,914	-	-	1,487,702

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

FINANCIAL DATA

For Information Only

Schedule 1

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council
The United Church of Canada**
Schedule of Restricted Fund Balances
as at December 31, 2021
(amounts in Canadian dollars)

	2021 Opening Balance \$	Contributions (withdrawals) \$	Revenue \$	Expenses \$	Transfers within Restricted Funds \$	Transfer from (to) Operating Fund \$	2021 Closing Balance \$	2020 Closing Balance \$
Internally Restricted (note 10)								
Legal Fund	217,155	(217,155)	-	-	-	-	-	217,155
Engaging Stewardship Fund (formerly M & S Projects Generation Fund)	11,485	-	-	-	-	-	11,485	11,485
Investment in Leadership Fund (formerly Congregational Learning Grants Fund)	7,985	-	28	(4,000)	-	30,000	38,013	7,985
Ministry with Youth and Young Adults Vision Fund	-	-	-	-	34,067	-	30,067	-
	-	-	-	-	7,016	-	7,016	-
	236,625	(217,155)	28	(4,000)	41,083	30,000	86,581	236,625
Externally Restricted (note 10)								
The Kent Equipment Fund	4,323	-	-	-	-	(4,323)	-	4,323
Kent Youth Ministry Fund	9,161	-	-	-	(9,161)	-	-	9,161
Kent Lay Ministry Fund	276	-	-	-	(276)	-	-	276
Kent Seed Fund	7,016	-	-	-	(7,016)	-	-	7,016
Rural Ministry Leadership Fund	6,100	-	-	-	276	-	6,376	6,100
Fairfield Museum Fund	(4,098)	-	13,987	(33,907)	-	-	(24,018)	(4,098)
The Oxford Legacy Fund	57,587	-	-	(251)	-	-	57,336	57,587
Middlesex Resource Centre Fund	48,670	-	-	-	-	-	48,670	48,670
The Elgin Presbytery Student Fund	11,468	-	-	-	-	-	11,468	11,468
Westminster Weekend Fund	22	-	-	-	-	-	22	22
Institute for Specialized Ministry (formerly Westminster Institute Fund)	22,451	-	-	-	-	-	22,451	22,451
Malahide Youth Fund	24,906	-	-	-	(24,906)	-	-	24,906
	187,882	-	13,987	(34,158)	(41,083)	(4,323)	122,305	187,882
Total	424,507	(217,155)	14,015	(38,158)	-	25,677	208,886	424,507

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Antler River Watershed Regional Council

The United Church of Canada

Notes to the financial statements

December 31, 2021

(amounts in Canadian dollars)

1. The Antler River Watershed Regional Council, The United Church of Canada

The purpose of Antler River Watershed Regional Council, The United Church of Canada (the Regional Council) is to be responsible for providing leadership and resources to the pastoral charges within its assigned geographical boundary in order that the life and work of Jesus Christ may be known in The United Church of Canada (The Church) and in the world.

The Regional Council is the regional headquarters, in western region of southern Ontario, for The United Church of Canada. The Regional Council was established as a result of the restructuring of The Church on January 1, 2019. The Regional Council is an unincorporated entity and, as a Canadian registered charity, is exempt from income tax.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

Fund Accounting and Basis of Accounting

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations ("ASNPO") established by the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada ("CPA Canada") using the restricted fund method of reporting restricted donations. The funds are described as follows:

Operating Fund

The Operating Fund accounts for the Regional Council's program delivery and administrative activities. This fund reports unrestricted resources and operating grants.

Property Fund

The Property Fund reports the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses related to the Regional Council's capital assets and funds arising on the sale of properties from disbanding congregations.

Internally Restricted Funds

Internally restricted funds (see Schedule 1) account for transfers, approved at meetings by the executive, to various reserve accounts and the individual transactions charged to these reserves in support of selected ministries. These funds are included in the statement of financial position under the caption "Restricted Funds".

Externally Restricted Funds

Externally restricted funds (see Schedule 1) account for funds received from outside the organization, which must be disbursed for the purposes designated by the funder. These funds are included in the statement of financial position under the caption "Restricted Funds".

FINANCIAL DATA

PAGE 12 OF 16

For Information Only**Notes to the financial statements****December 31, 2021**

(amounts in Canadian dollars)

2. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)*Revenue Recognition*

Revenue consists primarily of grants from The General Council Office of The United Church of Canada (The GCO), donations from disbanding congregations as they dispose of their property and distribute their current net assets and grants from church affiliated entities. Grants received from the General Council Office of the United Church of Canada and church affiliated entities are recognized in the fiscal year in which they are received or receivable. Net proceeds from disbanding congregations are recognized as revenue when received or receivable based on the date the Regional Council passes the motion to disband the congregation. Investment income is recognized as earned. Annual meeting and workshop registrations are recorded as revenue in the period in which the annual meeting and workshops occur.

Cash and Deposits

Cash and deposits include cash held for liquidity purposes in bank accounts and term deposits or similar instruments that can be redeemed at any time for face value plus interest accrued to the redemption date.

Financial Instruments

The Regional Council initially measures its financial statement assets and financial liabilities at fair value, adjusted for transaction costs.

Except for investments, the Regional Council subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost. Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and accounts receivables. Financial liabilities measured at amortized costs include accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Investments are subsequently measured at fair value. The purchase and sale of investments are accounted for using settlement date accounting. Investment management fees are expensed as incurred.

Capital Assets and Amortization

Capital assets are stated at acquisition cost. Amortization is provided on a straight-line basis over: 3 years for information technology equipment; 10 years for building improvements, furniture and fixtures; and 25 years for buildings.

Flow through gifts

Flow through gifts are gifts from funders, intent on supporting specific church related ministries within the Regional Council's geographic boundary, are recorded as revenue in the fiscal period in which they are received. On acceptance of these gifts, the liability to disburse the funds received is recorded in accounts payable and accrued liabilities on the statement of financial position.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profits organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect: the reported amounts of assets and liabilities; disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements; and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The Regional Council makes estimates in determining the estimated useful lives of its capital assets and significant accrued liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Notes to the financial statements

December 31, 2021

(amounts in Canadian dollars)

3. Financial instruments risk disclosures

Credit Risk

The Regional Council is exposed to credit risk resulting from the possibility that counter parties default on their financial obligations, or if there is a concentration of financial obligations which have similar economic characteristics that could be affected by changes in economic conditions, such that the Regional Council could incur a financial loss. The Regional Council's maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying values of its cash and deposits, accounts receivable and investments. The Regional Council investments, cash and deposits are on deposit with a Canadian Chartered bank and therefore it is management's opinion that the Regional Council is not subject to significant credit risk with cash and deposits. The Regional Council's accounts receivable includes amounts due from former presbyteries as a result of the church restructuring. The credit risk is not significant.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Regional Council cannot meet its commitments when they become due. Liquidity risk also includes the risk of the Regional Council not being able to liquidate assets in a timely manner. The Regional Council's management manages this risk by reviewing expected cash flow requirements through its budgeting process, anticipating investing and financing activities and holding assets that can be readily converted into cash.

Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk is comprised of currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. Management manages this risk with a diversified investment portfolio.

Currency Risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates. The Regional Council does not have investments denominated in foreign currency and, as such there is no currency risk.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the fair value of financial instruments and future cash flows associated with the instruments will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. The Regional Council does not hold significant financial instruments or have future cash flows subject to interest rate risk. As such, the Regional Council does not have material interest rate exposure.

Other Price Risk

Other price risk refers to the risk that the fair value of the financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from currency risk or interest rate risk), whether those changes are specific to the individual instrument or its issuer or factors affecting all similar instruments trading in the same market. The Regional Council is exposed to market risk through its investment in mutual funds. Management manages this risk by selecting mutual funds that are diversified as to industry and geography.

FINANCIAL DATA

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For Information Only**Notes to the financial statements****December 31, 2021**

(amounts in Canadian dollars)

4. Accounts receivable

The accounts receivable totaling \$178 (2020 - \$178) consists of accrued investment income.

5. Prepaids

Prepaids totaling \$2,079 (2020 - \$2,079) consists of a deposit for a study on camp ministries.

6. Investments

As at year-end, the Regional Council has investments totaling \$759,102 (2020 - \$174,768) consisting of mutual fund units in a diversified portfolio totaling \$756,602 (2020 - \$172,268) and a social investment totaling \$2,500 (2020 - \$2,500). The mutual fund investments are managed by Frontier Capital Funds Inc. with no foreign currency exposure. The investment net income and gains total \$83,631 (2020 - \$4,545) and is separately disclosed in the statement of operations and included in investments in the statement of financial position.

7. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities totaling \$472,231 (2020 - \$324,104) of which \$473,896 (2020 - \$314,007) are payables to related parties comprising: grants payable to the General Council Office of the United Church of Canada and the United Church of Canada Foundation of \$401,279 (2020 - \$256,224); fees payable to the General Council Office totaling \$5,044 (2020 - \$nil); and shared costs and other payables to other regional councils totaling \$68,773 (2020 - \$57,783).

8. Capital assets

At year-end, Antler River Watershed has no capital assets. As part of the church restructuring effective January 1, 2019, The Regional Council agreed to fund 33.33% of the annual operating costs of the former Hamilton Conference property, in which its offices are located, and building improvements. As such, the Regional Council expenses its share of the annual property costs (2021 - \$9,423 ;2020 - \$14,965) in the statement of operations.

9. Related parties – grant revenue, net proceeds from disbanding congregations, donations, recoveries, grant and other revenue, and expenses*Grant revenue*

The Regional Council received: \$641,375 (2020 - \$686,286) of grant revenue from The General Council Office of the United Church of Canada; \$19,476 (2020 - \$18,973) from the Ontario Regional Council Archive Fund for 50% of the annual archive fees; and \$13,987 (2020 - \$14,360) from the United Church of Canada Foundation for the Fairfield Museum Fund.

- a. 12.5% to the Mission & Service Endowment Fund managed by the United Church of Canada Foundation;

FINANCIAL DATA

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For Information Only**Notes to the financial statements****December 31, 2021**

(amounts in Canadian dollars)

9. Related parties (continued)*Net proceeds from disbanding congregations*

Net proceeds from disbanding congregations totaling \$562,568 (2020 - \$ 168,975) are from disbanding congregations which are subject to The Regional Council's policy requiring such proceeds to be distributed as follows:

- a. 33.0% to local ministries as determined by the disbanding congregation;
- b. 15.0% to the Indigenous Ministries of The United Church of Canada;
- c. 12.5% to the current year contribution to the Mission & Service Fund of The Church;
- d. 2.0% to the Ontario Regional Council Archives Fund; and
- e. 25.0% to The Regional Council.

Expenses

Grant and fees were paid to related parties as follows from:

- 1) Restricted Funds (see Schedule 1)
 - a) \$33,907 (2020 - \$21,457) of funding to the Fairfield Museum a church, related entity
- 2) Property Funds
 - a) \$352,655 (2020 - \$97,713) of grants from the Property Fund were issued to The General Council Office and the Foundation of the United Church of Canada as a result of the above noted donations policy.
- 3) Operating Funds
 - a) \$42,093 (2020 - \$40,265) of fees from The General Council Office for back office and information technology services;
 - b) \$38,952 (2020 - \$37,945) of fees from the Ontario Regional Council Archive Fund for archive services; and
 - c) \$47,500 (2020 - \$41,000) mission support grants to church related entities.

10. Restricted Fund changes

In 2021 the regional council reviewed the terms of the funds and made the following changes:

- 1) Internally restricted funds
 - a. Transferred its legal fund (\$217,155) to The General Council Office of the United Church of Canada. On resolution of the outstanding human rights issue, any unspent funds will be returned to the Regional Council.

FINANCIAL DATA

PAGE 16 OF 16

For Information Only**Notes to the financial statements****December 31, 2021**

(amounts in Canadian dollars)

10. Restricted Fund changes (continued)

1) Internally restricted funds

b. Created or renamed funds:

- i. Investment in Leadership Fund, formerly the London Conference Congregational Learning Grants Fund, and the \$30,000 transfer from the Operating Funds.
- ii. Engaging Stewardship Fund
- iii. Ministry with Youth and Young Adults Fund from a merger of the Malahide Youth Fund and the Kent Youth Ministry Fund
- iv. Vision Fund from a merger with the Kent Seed Fund

2) Externally restricted funds

- c. Decreased \$4,323 with a transfer of the balance of The Kent Equipment Fund to the Operating Funds
- d. Created or renamed funds:
 - i. The Rural Ministry Leadership Fund with a merger with the Kent Lay Ministry Fund

11. Commitments, guarantees and contingencies

The Regional Council does not have any outstanding guarantees or commitments and has no contingencies to report at December 31, 2021 and at December 31, 2020.

12. Impact of COVID-19 pandemic

The outbreak of new virulent strains of coronavirus continues to require governments worldwide to enforce some emergency measures to combat the spread of this new virus. These measures have caused material disruption to businesses globally resulting in an economic slowdown. The duration and impact of this new strain of the coronavirus outbreak is unknown at this time. As a result, of the uncertainty, the Regional Council may be negatively impacted by the timing and/or amount of future revenue receipts, the market value of its investments and recovery of loans. It is not possible to reliably estimate the length and severity of these developments and the impact on the financial results and condition of the Regional Council in future periods.

13. Subsequent events

In 2022, Russian forces entered the Ukraine and armed conflict commenced. Economic sanctions have been placed on Russia and certain of its citizens. Price volatility increased substantially since December 31, 2021. As at December 31, 2021, the Regional Council did not hold any significant investments directly impacted by the conflict. It is uncertain how long the conflict, economic sanctions and market instability will continue and whether they will escalate further.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

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For Information Only

	2021 Actual	2022 Budget	as at Sept . 30	2023 Budget
Revenue				
Assessment	334,375	325,000	273,337	325,000
Mission and Service	240,000	240,000	214,147	240,000
Salary Support	67,000	67,000	50,250	67,000
Other Grants	19,476	19,352	17,184	20,000
Donation & Other Revenue	250		6,576	-
Property Fund				18,010
Investment Income				-
Transfers	17,682	92,637	17,228	87,954
Total Income	678,783	743,989	578,722	757,964
Expenses				
<u>Regional Operations</u>				
Staff	86,297	85,420	67,406	102,037
Travel	267	5,000	616	6,500
Staff Support	(25,880)	2,000	622	2,000
Exec Meetings	3,436	22,500	892	17,500
Exec Events		5,000	-	5,000
Archives	38,952	37,946	28,460	40,000
Corporations	6,000	7,500	4,500	6,000
Legal		10,000	1,714	10,000
Learning Fund		30,000	500	30,000
Professional Fees	20,000	21,000	-	20,000
Other	-	-	1,092	-
	129,072	226,366	105,802	239,037
<u>Communities of Faith</u>				
Staff	69,711	44,056	41,610	54,408
Travel		3,000	110	3,000
Covenant Commission	77	5,000	-	5,000
CC Events		10,000	-	10,000
	69,788	62,056	41,720	72,408
<u>Pastoral Relations</u>				
Staff	60,993	48,580	42,371	46,519
Travel		3,000	8	3,000
Human Resources Commission		5,000	-	5,000
HRC Events	113	10,000	408	10,000
Emergency Fund		1,000	-	1,000
	61,106	67,580	42,787	65,519
<u>Connecting</u>				
Staff	30,354	31,459	27,394	37,868
Travel		2,000	-	2,000
RC Meetings	15,683	60,000	14,240	30,000
*Mission Support Grants				8,100

FINANCIAL UPDATE

PAGE 2 OF 2

For Information Only

	46,037	93,459	41,634	77,968
<u>Communication</u>				
Staff	21,451	20,202	19,965	26,007
Travel		1,000	-	1,500
*Mission Support Grants	8,000	10,900	8,175	4,050
	29,451	32,102	28,140	31,557
<u>Social Justice and Outreach</u>				
Staff	36,741	40,092	28,944	38,983
Travel		2,502	-	3,500
Mission & Disc. Comm. (50%)	1,225	2,500	1,400	2,500
M&D C Events (50%)	2,067	5,000	-	5,000
*Mission Support Grants	84,500	49,650	36,425	52,800
	124,533	99,744	66,769	102,783
<u>Faith Formation</u>				
Staff	40,285	41,226	31,032	46,984
Travel		2,502	-	2,500
Mission & Disc. Comm. (50%)		2,496	-	2,500
M&D C Events (50%)		5,000	75	5,000
*Mission Support Grants	67,500	99,200	99,200	81,000
	107,785	150,424	130,307	137,984
<u>Chaplaincy</u>				
*Mission Support Grants	-	-	8,000	4,050
<u>Right Relations</u>				
Staff	11,835	14,685	12,630	17,045
Travel		1,000	-	1,000
Other	-		402	500
	11,835	15,685	13,032	18,545
<u>Emerging Ministry</u>				
	10,089	-	10,773	-
<u>Office Operations</u>				
GCO Acctg & IT	36,093	36,050	26,724	40,000
Office Operations	8,975	27,084	11,827	15,000
	45,068	63,134	38,551	55,000
<u>Building Expenses</u>				
	9,917	11,788	7,414	12,000
			-	
Total Expenses	644,681	822,338	534,929	816,851
Surplus / (Deficit)	34,102	(78,349)	43,793	(58,887)

STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION



Looking for stewardship resources that will create a generous, grateful community?

Your Community of Faith Stewardship Support team has everything you need.

From courses and coaching to worship services and a full giving program outline,

we'll walk your stewardship journey with you by providing encouragement, the best wisdom on giving trends and fresh ideas to incorporate stewardship into the life of your community of faith.

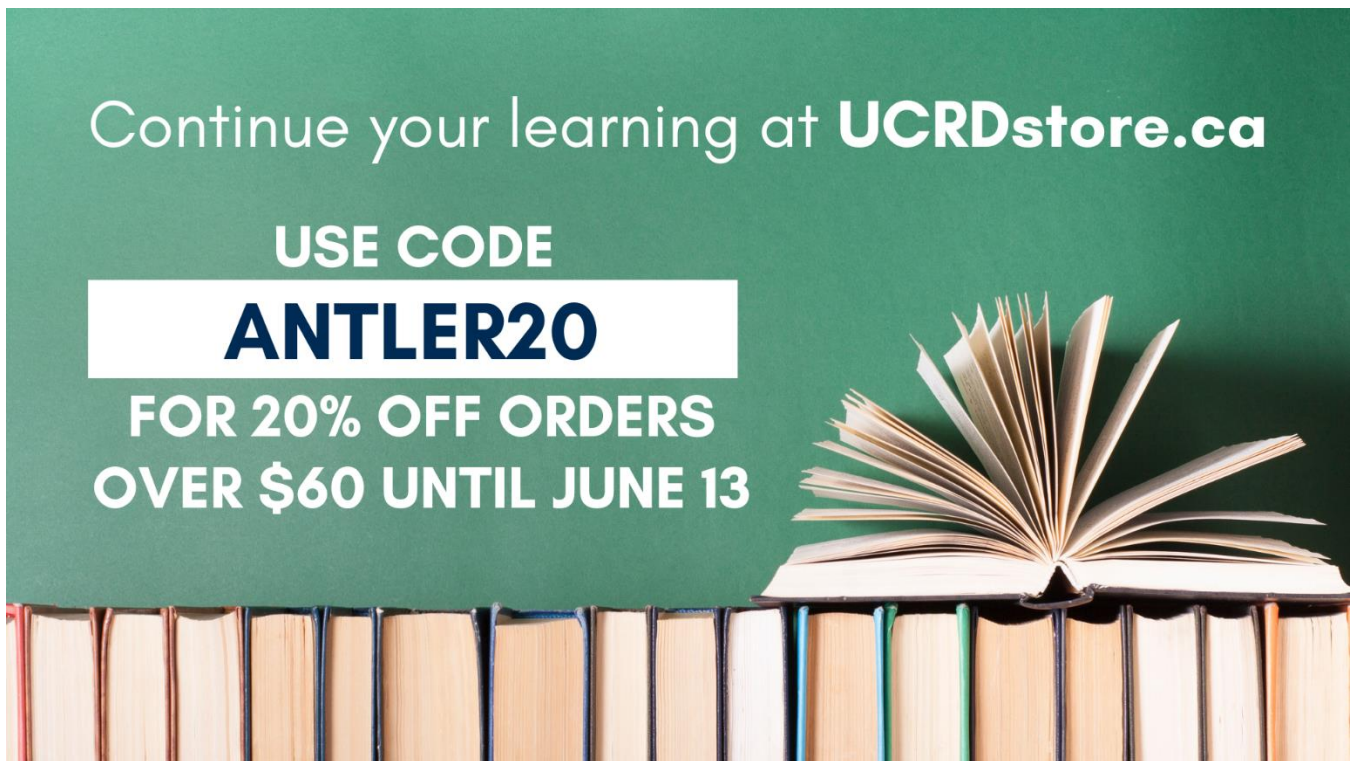
Use the QR Code below to access our digital stewardship filing cabinet.



Find out more and connect with your regional Community of Faith Stewardship Support staff here:
<https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/get-involved/called-to-be-the-church>.



UCRD (NOTE: Discount being offered!)



Section Three: Meeting Materials

Agenda for the Spring 2023 Hybrid Meeting

Friday May 12	10:30 AM – 8:30 PM	HYBRID MEETING: IN-PERSON & ONLINE
11:00 AM	Welcome & Constitute Meeting, Introductions BRAVE/Affirm Statement Proposal #1: Opening & Procedural Motion Lighting of Christ Candle, Call to Worship, Land Acknowledgement Worship How ARWRC Got Its Name Introduction of folks new to the Regional Council	
Noon to 1:15 PM	Grace and Lunch	
1:15 PM	Welcome back Moderator's Message Proposal #2: Recruiting the Regional Council Executive and Commissions <i>Community Building Session 1: Fear Not! Be Brave and Courageous!</i> Proposal #3: President-Elect President-Elect to Address the Court Introduction of Keynote Speaker Rev. Dr. Lillian Daniel Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Lillian Daniel on ' <i>Congregational Ministry</i> ' Break UCC Foundation: Sarah Charters Stewardship Offerings: Brenna Baker Introduction of Candidates: Jennifer Prince and Nancy Vandenberghe Candidates Address the Court	
5:30 to 7:00 PM	Grace and Supper	
7:00 PM	Remit Education: Thérèse Samuel	
8:00 PM	Vespers	
8:30 to 9:30 PM	Optional Social Time: Best Western Stoneridge restaurant	
Saturday May 13	8:45 AM – 3:15 PM	HYBRID MEETING: IN-PERSON & ONLINE
8:45 AM	Gathering Music and Coffee	
9:00 AM	Welcome Lighting of Christ Candle, Land Acknowledgement, Call to Worship	

Agenda for the Spring 2023 Hybrid Meeting *continued*

Saturday May 13	8:45 AM – 3:15 PM	CONTINUED
	Worship	
	Introduction of Keynote Speaker Rev. Dr. Jessica Hetherington	
	Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Jessica Hetherington on “ <i>Eco-Theology</i> ”	
	Break	
	Rev. Dr. Jessica Hetherington on “ <i>Eco-Theology</i> ” (breakout rooms/table groups discussion)	
	In Memoriam	
	Community of Faith Life Cycle Changes	
	Anniversaries & Jubilands	
	Introduction of Candidate: Andrew Gilliland	
	Candidates Address the Court	
Noon to 1:15 PM	Grace and Lunch	
1:15 PM	Gathering music	
1:30 PM	Welcome back	
	Queer Conversations video	
	Covenanting with Licenced Lay Worship Leader	
	Proposal #4: Executive/Commissions Slate	
	Covenanting with newly elected Executive/Commission members	
	<i>Community Building Session 2: Homework</i>	
	Proposal #5: Right Relations Save the Barn Campaign	
	Unfinished or New Business	
	President’s Reflection	
	Courtesies	
	Proposal #6: Closing Motion	
	Closing Blessing	
	Extinguish candle	
	Adjourn	
Saturday May 13	4:30 PM	CELEBRATION OF MINISTRIES SERVICE
4:30 PM	First United Church, 7 Curtis Street, St. Thomas	

Proposal #1 – Opening & Procedural Motions

Title: Opening and Procedural Motions

Origin: Executive Minister

What is the issue?

The regional council must establish the procedures by which it will conduct business.

Why is this issue important?

This clarifies and confirms the way in which decision-making will happen.

How might the regional council respond to the issue?

The regional council might adopt the following as a consent docket:

1. Adopt the agenda as circulated and authorize the Agenda and Business Committee to make any changes as necessary;
2. Approve the minutes of the meeting of 2022-10-28-29;
3. Receive the following minutes of the following meetings of the
 - i. Executive
 - 2023-03-08
 - 2023-02-27
 - 2023-02-08
 - 2023-01-11
 - 2022-11-26
 - 2022-10-12
 - ii. Congregational Support Commission
 - 2023-04-05
 - 2023-03-29
 - 2023-03-01
 - 2023-02-01
 - 2023-01-04
 - Covenant Commission
 - 2022-12-21
 - 2022-12-07
 - 2022-11-02
 - 2022-10-12
 - 2022-09-07
 - 2022-08-17
 - 2022-07-06
 - iii. Discipleship and Justice Commission
 - 2023-01-10
 - Mission and Discipleship Commission
 - 2022-11-09



2022-10-18

2022-09-07

iv. Human Resources Discipleship Commission

2023-03-14

2023-02-14

2023-01-10

2022-12-13

2022-11-08

2022-10-11

2022-09-13

2022-08-09

for information.

Note: Minutes are posted on the website www.arwrcucc.ca "About" page

4. Confirm the appointment of Judith Fayter to the Congregational Support Commission;
5. Appoint Brad Morrison as Parliamentarian;
6. Appoint Kerry Stover as Chair, Agenda and Business Committee;
7. Name George Bozanich to serve as Equity Support Team Member;
8. Name President Jane Van Patter, Chair Agenda and Business Committee Kerry Stover, Executive Minister Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, and Executive Assistant Sue Duliban, as the Agenda and Business Committee;
9. Name regional council staff members as scrutineers;
10. Set the bounds of the meeting as the Zoom call and the Best Western Stoneridge Inn & Conference Centre, 6675 Burtwistle Lane, London, Ontario N6L 1H5 and the sanctuary of First United Church, St. Thomas;
11. Make the designated representative from any United Church ministry, other than a congregation, which has been invited to become a community of faith by entering into a covenant with the regional council, a member of the regional council for this meeting (Section C.1.2 c);
12. Make all guests corresponding members;
13. Set the deadline for new business to be submitted to the Agenda and Business Committee as 4:00 p.m., Friday, May 12, 2023.
14. Receive all written reports in the workbook.
15. Adopt the following method for dealing with proposals for action by the regional council
Step One:
The Presenter will outline
 - A) What is the issue? And
 - B) The suggested way in which the regional council might respond to the issue.Step Two:
The President will inquire if there are questions for clarification. Please note this is for clarification only.

Step Three:

The President will then ask if there are changes or additions being suggested for the proposal. Using warm and cool signals, the regional council will seek to come closer to agreement on how to respond to the issue.

Step Four:

Once there is significant agreement, the President will invite the Presenter to move the motion at which point the regional council enters the formal debate process.



Proposal #2 – Slate for Election

Title: Recruiting the Regional Council Executive and Commissions

Origin: Executive

What is the issue?

When the regional council was formed, the Transition Commission established four decision-making bodies and actively recruited members for each looking to balance lay/ordered status and gender while considering diverse identities.

A self-nomination process was designed (Expression of Interest) as the way in which people would present themselves for decision-making roles. To give people as long as possible to consider completing an Expression of Interest, the deadline has been set for during the regional council meeting. The result is that there is no time for a review of the membership of the Executive or Commission as a whole relative to geography, balance or diversity. Both recruitment and election are rushed.

The Governance Handbook assigns nominations to the Executive; however, the Executive has had other priorities and has discovered this is not a subject it can manage well as a whole. The regional council has not developed a cycle for recruitment and orientation.

Why is this important?

Concerns are:

- 1) Some Commissions are at risk of falling below the required number of members to be able to conduct business;
- 2) The members of a small Commission each carry a heavier load than would be necessary if the membership was more robust;
- 3) The need for members means there is, in effect, no screening process;
- 4) Diversity of membership is more of a happy accident than the intentional outcome;
- 5) Without a regular cycle, Commissions are onboarding new members throughout the year and, therefore, less able to build the necessary knowledge base to address concerns beyond the immediate workload;
- 6) Without full membership, the focus remains on the recruitment of more leaders. Little energy is available for the development of existing leaders.

The regional council can best fulfill its decision-making responsibilities if it has a full slate of diverse members in decision-making roles.

What might the regional council do?

The regional council might agree to:

Authorize the Executive to name a recruitment team who will be responsible for bringing a diverse slate of members for election to the regional council Executive and Commissions at the Spring Meeting of Regional Council starting in May 2023.

Proposal #3 – President-Elect

Title: Election of President-Elect

Origin: Executive

What is the issue?

When Antler River Watershed Regional Council met at Ridgetown College in June, 2022, there were two nominees for President-Elect: Rev. Abiel Khalema and Rev. Cheryl Bolton. The regional council responded warmly to both and counted itself blessed to have two gifted leaders offer to serve.

Abiel was elected. For personal reasons, Abiel stepped down from his duties earlier this spring. We hold him, his wife, Caroline, and their family in prayer.

President Jane Van Patter had the experience of stepping into presidential duties with no prior experience of the Executive or of the role. That was a steep learning curve and a situation that could have been repeated at the May 2023 meeting.

To try to provide an orientation time for the new President-Elect, President Jane reached out to Cheryl to determine if she was willing to let her name stand again. Cheryl graciously said, “yes.” The Executive endorsed this idea and Cheryl became a corresponding member.

Why is this issue important?

The President’s role is critical to the regional council’s ability to gather for worship and business. Our governance model intends for that person to have the benefit of the President’s leadership and mentorship for one year prior to assuming the role. To try to provide some measure of this, the Executive invited Cheryl to attend and agreed to bring her name to the regional council.

President Jane stepped into this role early to accommodate the relocation of Past-President, Joyce Payne. This resulted in a longer term for President Jane (2 years plus 7-8 months). President Jane is looking forward (and understandably so) to the end of her time in this role.

The regional council needs to elect a President-Elect to be installed at this meeting. The advice currently offered is that, even when there is only one nominee, the regional council should still confirm that person’s election.

What might the regional council do?

Antler River Watershed Regional Council might:

Elect Rev. Cheryl Bolton as its President-Elect to be installed as President at the Celebration of Ministry at this meeting and to serve until the spring 2025 meeting of the regional council.



Rev. Cheryl Bolton, MDiv, is a full-time Ordained Minister currently serving St. Andrew's United Church in St. Thomas. Cheryl, her husband, Dave, and family are the owner and operators of Seldom Rest Family Farms.

She has a diverse background in rural and urban ministries, working with both small rural congregations and urban outreach organizations, such as the Christian Resource Centre in Regent Park, Toronto and the East London United Church Outreach.

Cheryl has a Master of Divinity from Emmanuel College and a Business Diploma from University of

Guelph Ridgetown Campus. Cheryl's background gives her the ability to look at the changing landscape of the Church with compassion and creativity.



Proposal #4 – Executive and Commissions Slate

Title: ARWRC Executive and Commissions Slate

Origin: Recruitment Team

What is the issue?

The regional council can best fulfill its decision-making responsibilities if it has a full slate of diverse members in decision-making roles.

What might the regional council do?

The regional council might agree to:

Approve the slate prepared by the Recruitment Team as presented:

Congregational Support Commission

Jim Stirling (*lay personnel*)

Herb DeJong (*lay personnel*)

Discipleship and Justice Commission

Jim Hatt (*ministry personnel*)

Lillian Patey (*ministry personnel*)

Doug Peck (*ministry personnel*)



Proposal #5 – Save the Barn Campaign

Title: *Save the Barn Campaign*

Origin: Right Relations Network

What is the issue?

In the fall of 2021, the Chippewa of the Thames First Nation (Deshkan Ziiibiing) formally launched a “*Save the Barn*” campaign seeking to restore and preserve the historic barn which is the last remaining building of the Mt. Elgin Industrial Indian Residential School. The barn contains names, graffiti, etchings, and pictures drawn by children who laboured there. The campaign also hopes to transform the building into a museum and cultural learning centre.

Why is this issue important?

Mt. Elgin residential school was one of two residential schools run by The United Church of Canada in Ontario, and the only one located within the bounds of Antler River Watershed Regional Council.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Call to Action 61:

We call upon church parties to the Settlement Agreement, in collaboration with Survivors and representatives of Aboriginal organizations, to establish permanent funding to Aboriginal people for:

- i. Community-controlled healing and reconciliation projects.*
- ii. Community-controlled culture- and language- revitalization projects.*
- iii. Community-controlled education and relationship- building projects.*
- iv. Regional dialogues for Indigenous spiritual leaders and youth to discuss Indigenous spirituality, self- determination, and reconciliation.*

Currently, permanent funding is beyond the scope of this proposal. However, the Save the Barn campaign address elements of community-controlled projects and opportunity for dialogue as listed in points i to iv.

The 43rd General Council report, “Caretakers of Our Indigenous Circle: Calls to the Church” named the importance of self-determination for the healing-focussed reclamation of indigenous identity.

Accordingly, we seek to support and supplement the work of this campaign in a manner that embodies partnership and right relations, at the initiative and invitation of the Deshkan Ziiibiing community.

What might the regional council do?

Receive a notice of motion that:

Pending the outcome of a feasibility study, Antler River Watershed Regional Council supports the “Save the Barn” campaign initiated by Chippewa of the Thames First Nation and guided by their direction.

Possible actions may include:

1. Encouraging Antler River Watershed Regional Council, through its Executive and its communities of faith and other church groups, to offer financial support;
2. Creating and circulating land acknowledgements and other liturgical elements for use in worship services; and,
3. Inviting interested persons to join the Antler River Watershed Regional Council’s Right Relations network.

Proposal #6 – Closing Motions

Title: Closing Motions

Origin: Executive Minister

What is the issue?

The work of the regional council continues between regional council meetings.

Why is this issue important?

The regional council must be clear how the work will continue.

What might the regional council do?

The regional council might

1. Entrust any unfinished business from its May 12-13, 2023 meeting to the Executive;
2. Authorize the Executive to fill any vacancies on the understanding that appointments will be confirmed at the next regional council meeting;
3. Direct the Executive to plan to convene a meeting of the regional council in the fall of 2023; and
4. Entrust the Executive and Commissions with the responsibilities and authority of Antler River Watershed Regional Council in accordance with *The Manual* of The United Church of Canada and the Governance Handbook of the Antler River Watershed Regional Council;
5. Close the May 12-13, 2023 meeting of the Antler River Watershed Regional Council at the close of the Celebration of Ministries Service on Saturday, May 13, 2023.



