

**Minutes of the Second General Meeting
Pacific Mountain Regional Council
The United Church of Canada
WHOVA and Zoom
October 16 - 18, 2020**

First Session, 1:00 P.M. Friday October 16, 2020

**Opening Worship
& Celebration of
Ministry**

The Pacific Mountain Regional Council gathered in person at Highlands United Church and online in an opening worship and Celebration of Ministry worship service, which included the ordination and commissioning of four (4) ministers. The Rt. Rev. Richard Bott, Moderator, preached on Exodus 3.1-6.

Second Session, 3:00 P.M. Friday October 16, 2020

Authority

Pursuant to the authority of the first General Meeting of the Pacific Mountain Regional Council of The United Church of Canada (2019), the second General Meeting of the Pacific Mountain Regional Council convened on the online platform Zoom™ and was declared open to conduct the business properly before it by President Blair Odney. A quorum was present. Zoom™ is an online platform which allow members to communicate with one another at the same time.

**Indigenous
Relations
Acknowledgement**

Members of the Council were invited to acknowledge the relationship with the Indigenous Peoples where they were located.

Introductions

President Blair Odney welcomed those present to the Regional Council Gathering. He introduced the Business Committee and members of the Regional Council Executive, especially Treena Duncan, Executive Minister, Bob Fillier, Chair of Business, and Allan Buckingham, Technology Coordinator. Treena Duncan offered thanks for the staff in Pacific Mountain Regional Council.

Allan Buckingham led an experiment through the voting procedure using the online platform.

Bob Fillier led a short explanation of the business coming forward; proposals, business information, meeting flow, etc. He then presented an opening omnibus motion and enabling motions for the delegation of work of the Council.

Opening Motions

M/S/C (B. Fillier/T. Duncan) that:

- 1. The Roll of the 2nd General Meeting of Pacific Mountain Regional Council shall consist of those members of Pacific Mountain Regional Council who register prior to 12:00 p.m., Friday October 16, 2020. Those arriving after that time shall not be included on the Roll.*
- 2. The Bar of the Council shall be the Zoom™ digital meeting room assigned and shared with registered members.*

3. *The Business Committee for this General Meeting shall be Mauricio Araujo, Tressa Brotsky, Allan Buckingham, Treena Duncan (Executive Secretary), Bob Fillier (Chair), Laura Hermakin, Blair Odney (President).*
4. *In order to facilitate the formulation of motions and discussion of matters raised in business, the President may, at their discretion, suspend the ordinary rules of parliamentary debate and engage in a different process. All final decisions of the council shall follow the rules of debate and order as summarized in the Appendix of The Manual (2019) or Bourinot's Rules of Order.*
5. *At the discretion of the President, speakers can be limited to two minutes each.*
6. *Subject to such changes as the Business Committee might make and announce, the agenda as printed shall be the working basis for the order of business.*
7. *Proposals directed to the General Meeting must be received by the Business Committee prior to 9:00 p.m. Friday, October 16, 2020. The Business Committee may recommend editing or clarification before the Proposal comes to the floor. Proposals dealing with matters not noted on the agenda shall be dealt with in an order as determined by the Business Committee. Like proposals may be grouped together at the discretion of the Business Committee.*
8. *All unfinished business, including non-General Council proposals, shall be referred to the Regional Council Executive.*
9. *Voting shall be carried out by members using the Whova electronic platform where the online meeting will be hosted. Only eligible voting members logged into the Whova platform will receive a request to input their vote once a vote has been called by the President. In the case of technical issues during voting, the President can choose to accept votes sent in by email from voting members when submitted under the same email used during registration.*
10. *All motions having significant budget implications for the Region (\$2,000 or over) shall be considered "in principle only" and, if adopted, be referred to the Region Executive for consideration within adopted budgetary constraints.*
11. *Corresponding Privileges be granted to Nora Sanders, General Secretary and Jane Harding, General Council Office staff.*
12. *Requests to withdraw from the meeting shall be submitted to, considered, and granted by the Business Committee. Members leaving before 5pm on Saturday, October 17 without the consent of the Business Committee shall not be entitled to have travel expenses paid.*
13. *Payment of member expenses shall be made as specified in the travel claim form. Late claims submitted after October 30, 2020 shall not be paid.*
14. *The minutes of the 1st General Meeting of The Pacific Mountain Regional Council held May 30 – June 2, 2019 in Langley, BC, be received for information.*
15. *The Plenary portions of the Agenda will be recorded within the Zoom™ platform and made available on The Pacific Mountain Regional Council website.*

16. *The Regional Council Executive Minutes are received for information and included as part of the Record of Proceedings. (C.3.1.4)*

Enabling Motion

M/S/C (B. Fillier/G. Brownmiller) that:

1. *The Regional Executive Minister be authorized to edit reports and minutes for the Record of Proceedings of this meeting.*
2. *The Regional Council Executive be authorized to transact all business of the Regional Council until the next General Meeting of the Region Regional, except those matters prohibited by the Constitution and Bylaws of The United Church of Canada.*
3. *All remaining ballots be destroyed – including the digital results.*
4. *All digital records of public chat/comment boxes within Zoom™ and Whova™ will be appended to the record of proceedings.*
5. *The meeting adjourn following the benediction on the evening of Saturday, October 17, 2020.*

President's Address

President Blair Odney addressed the Council reflecting on our connection even when we are not together, and used Kenneth Burke's metaphor of the unending conversation whereby the banquet table is continually being joined and exited by people who engage in the conversation. He shared that when the Executive meets, it reflects on the question "what kind of church do we want to be, need to be, for whom, at what cost?" That is the question that the Council engages in this unending conversation which continues this weekend.

Blair believes that we are the church that is needed in the world at this time, that we are connected to a gospel tradition that stands as Jesus stands; meeting the outcast and the stranger right where they are, inviting them into their next best selves. He encouraged each of us to proclaim an incredible gospel, together, that frees people to mend the world.

Retirees

The following retirees were recognized throughout the gathering via video: Rev. Hilde Seal (OM:97), Rev. Jim Hatherly (OM:82), Rev. Phillip Spencer (OM:91), Karen May Wood (DLM:10), Rev. Kathy Hogman (OM:84), Rev. Armand Houle (OM:95), Rev. Foster Freed (OM:90), Rev. Chris Levan (OM:77), Rev. Debbie Bentham (OM:10), Sandi Parker (DLM:10).

The retirees were invited to respond to one of the questions: a) "Thinking about your years of service in ministry, what are the most important things you have learned about leadership?" and b) "What wisdom might you offer to those still continuing in ministry about what it takes to Lead Beyond the Wilderness?"

General Council Update

The President introduced Nora Sanders, General Secretary, General Council, addressed the Council. Nora brought greetings from the staff of the General Council and spoke about the time we find ourselves in, and what it means for people to engage with our church in the midst of it. She highlighted the importance of connection both in person and when we are unable to gather.

Nora acknowledged that of the five (5) Moderators she has served with, two (2) of them have been from BC, and that the new directions that God is calling the church will be well served by Michael Blair.

Business

Executive Accountability

President Blair Odney shared some highlights of the work of the Regional Council Executive which has met eleven (11) times since the General Meeting in Langley (2019). He began by thanking Past-President Jay Olson and Executive Minister Treena Duncan. He reported that there were three (3) meetings prior to the pandemic in which there was a focus on governance and governance education, understanding a new level of functioning, engaging emerging questions of purpose and priorities, and the beginning conversation about a common “big question” for the Regional Council to unite discernment (“living in the context of multiple political, social, and regional polarities, how do we live our our call to be the Church?”)

Some emerging concerns were raised about the relationship between the Regional Council and development projects through the 3-Point Housing Society. This has led the Regional Council Executive to focus on the Ends concerning the use of property and how property can be a resource for ministry in the Region.

Work continues on an annual ministry plan with measurable and achievable goals, even amidst the pandemic in which specific decisions were required, including the development of a Loan program for communities of faith.

Announcements & Adjournment

Following some brief announcements, the Council adjourned for dinner.

Third Session, 6:30 p.m. Friday, October 16, 2020

Gathering

The Council gathered online prior to the opening of the session.

Affirming Conversation

Bob Fillier and Laura Hermakin are co-chairing the Affirming Working Group of the Region and Bob introduced Pam Rocker (she/her) who has been contracted to help lead the process of the Regional Council thinking about becoming and being an Affirming Regional Council. Pam explained that this is a meaningful and inclusive process involving many different players to make it so.

Pam led us through a program addressing some key terms and definitions so that folks are speaking the same language; particularly, she shared about the umbrella term ‘queer’ as having been reclaimed by some members of the queer community, and the importance of continuing to add new letters and symbols to the moniker LGBTQ2SIA+ in order to create inclusion for everyone. It is important to feel represented and visibility leads to acceptance, and acceptance leads to an end goal. Our language should evolve to meet reality and try to be as expansive as possible.

Two key questions that are often asked are: does the Regional Council becoming Affirming mean that all communities of faith will be forced to become Affirming, and will all communities of faith in the Regional Council be considered Affirming if they haven’t gone through the process. The answer to both questions is no, each community of faith needs to make the decision for themselves, and if they so desire, they will need to go through the process.

Pam spent a bit of time talking about what it means to be “Affirming.” It is a process to engage a commitment to being inclusive. Regularly, communities of faith will consider themselves ‘welcoming’ but Pam reflected that that means there is someone on the inside welcoming those on the outside, and if there is a choice to welcome, there is also a choice to not welcome. Affirming means that “when you tell me who you are, I say ‘yes’ and affirm who you are. The process is intentional steps of exploration, discernment, and theological education to become actively inclusive.

Pam shared about National Affirming/P.I.E. day and defined P.I.E. as “Public. Intentional. Explicit.” These are important characteristics of a community of faith who has done the process to determine who they are becoming. Sometimes the process helps a community think about what other things are taken for granted that we just believe, and it helps discover how to be expansive about inclusion - it’s not just about queer folks, gender identity or sexuality, but asks the question what is our future. We are all in the process of becoming.

Three (3) members of the Affirm Task Group shared personal testimony about why they are called to the work of helping the Regional Council become Affirming: Tammy Lindahl, Laura Hermakin and Bob Fillier. Other members of the task group are Pam Rocker, Hyuk Cho and Sandy Hwang. The task group’s goal is to have done enough work through the next number of months that we can approach the decision of becoming Affirming at the General Meeting in 2021, but they recognize that we may not be quite ready yet. They will work with LeaderShift to engage the conversation and offer a place for deeper discernment, conversation, and wrestling. They are looking forward to fostering an Affirm Ministry Network to support existing Affirming Ministries and to support those who might be considering the process. The process will include many conversations with the Executive and Staff.

The Council was sent into breakout rooms to discuss the question: “What are ways in which society “rewards” you for fitting into sexual or gender identity norms, or conversely, doesn’t reward you and makes it difficult to express yourself? (e.g., how you express your gender, your career, your religious background, the way you dress, your romantic relationships.)

Following the breakout time, Pam offered some final closing words including these from Andrea Gibson: “There is so much kindness in consistently asking “Who are you now?” There is so much love in allowing people to be continually new to us. To love someone isn’t so much to know them, as it is to know their never-ending becoming.”

Worship

Laura Hermakin led evening prayer along with Amy and Casey Van Wensem who are leading music through the rest of the meeting.

Adjournment

The Council adjourned for the evening.

Fourth Session, 9:00 a.m. Saturday, October 17, 2020

Gathering & Acknowledgment

The Council gathered online prior to the opening of the session and President Blair named that the United Church of Canada from coast to coast to coast is situated on the traditional lands of Indigenous and Métis peoples.

Worship

Tif McNaughton led morning worship which included song, scripture, a reading from Richard Wagamese “Embers” and reflections on the theme of relationship which were explored by Kimiko Karpoff and Kris Jensen. In worship the Council honoured the lives of those who have died since the last Regional Council gathering: Rev. David Kernohan Dickey, Rev. Cameron Reid, Rev. David Lovewell, Rev. Tineke Rijzinga, Rev. Sharon Moore-Cooke, Rev. Yoke Kihara, Rev. William Robert Adamson, Rev. James Erb, Rev. Blake Thomson Field, and Kenneth Thomas Haggerty. A prayer of thanksgiving for those who are retiring was offered.

Nominations

With the resignation of the Rev. Richard Chung from the Regional Council Executive, the Executive Minister requested the Nominations Committee to seek someone to fill the position. After seeking Expressions of Interest from within the Region, the Nominations Committee seeks to appoint the Rev. Ibi Chuan to fill that role.

M/S/C (G. Brownmiller/J. Highfield) that the Rev. Ibi Chuan be appointed to the Pacific Mountain Regional Council Executive for a term to be determined as part of the Executive’s succession planning.

**General Council
Deployed Staff -
Office of Vocation**

The President introduced deployed General Council staff Rev. Brenda Fawkes, the Office of Vocation Minister serving Mountain Candidacy Board, Pacific Mountain Regional Council and Chinook Winds Regional Council. Brenda explained the work of the Office of Vocation and expressed appreciation to the members of the Mountain Candidacy Board. She also spoke about ChurchHub and the goal to get folks comfortable with it.

Brenda introduced both those candidates who were received into ministry during the Celebration of Ministry held in June: Joseph Kyser, Rebecca Giselbrecht, Stevan Mirkovich, and Robin Murray, and those who were received into ministry during the opening Celebration of Ministry: Ryan Tristin Chapman, Murray Pruden, Lydia Ruenzel, and Kim McNaughton.

**Theme: Leading
Beyond the
Wilderness**

Treena Duncan, Regional Executive Minister, introduced Ron Heifetz, Founding Director of the Centre for Public Leadership at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University and co-founder of Cambridge Leadership Associates. Ron introduced himself, sharing that thanks to technology he was able to join us from Hawai’i where he has been stuck through the pandemic. He began his career as a Medical Doctor hoping to follow in his father’s footsteps as a Neurosurgeon. While studying, he worked two different jobs that led him onto a different path: one was working at a prison in New York City, and the other was working in a clinic at Rockerfeller Center offering physical examinations to Corporate CEOs and Senior Executives.

At the prison, Ron became aware of patterns of social illness that were glaringly obvious in the late 1960s and early 1970s. This helped him become involved in activism: most of those he was helping were poor, black or latinx and experiencing injustice at a rate much higher than others. This made him want to become a doctor at a systemic level; healing communities and organizations of various sorts.

This led him away from medicine altogether, though he trained in psychiatry because it offered him more tools to think about people and social systems (like family and groups) and to scale back to larger social systems.

When he worked at the clinic at Rockerfeller Center he began to take time to actually ask these executives about their lives and stressors. He heard from them about the challenges

of leadership and stresses that people in positions of authority are under and how they (mis)manage their stress.

Ron shared the example of a man who declared that he had difficulty hearing: not at work, and not in his car, but when he arrived home after a long day, his wife would tell him. Ron helped him understand that it was not a medical issue, but something else: the man had spent the entire day listening to people's stories and problems, and when his wife wanted to share about her day, he was tired out; work was costing him the intimacy of his marriage.

Conversations like this led Ron to thinking about leadership and the challenges of leadership. There were few places to be trained in leadership at that time (1982/1983) except at the Military Academy at West Point where they believed that leaders are not born, they are made, and it's up to the Military to take the talent and develop leadership skills in those people.

When he created the leadership program at Harvard, there were a variety of people who were coming into the program, and rather than making up case studies, he would draw on their own experiences. Helping them to focus on failures in order to desensitize them (because we fail everyday and have to learn to take corrective action in order to improvise on the next trial and possibility), he would challenge them into the practice of leadership. He was invited around the world to teach, train and explore this practice. As he entered into the (non) field of leadership studies, he began to understand that, like most academic disciplines, common words would need to be defined to a more precise, clear, and singular meaning and to use them in precise and analytical ways. For example, when people who were involved in Leadership used language like leadership, management, power, authority, influence, they were being used differently by different people; there wasn't a shared understanding. Ron's work was to deconstruct and define them more carefully.

Out of that deconstruction and defining, there are some common assumptions that many of us carry that are not useful, and misleading: leadership is a set of personal characteristics, and leadership is defined by positional power.

It is not useful to identify key traits of a leader as if they were static as many of those characteristics are desirable in a variety of types of people. Simply having the tools does not make one a leader. And leadership is not the same of being the boss, as we often see high levels of authority not providing leadership (i.e., a lack of leadership from our leaders).

Leadership is clearly not the same as authority, though they're usually equated as such. We're often talking about authority rather than leadership; and whether or not one leads from the position of authority or not is a different matter.

Leadership is work that is to be done; any trade, craft, or professional life of work is defined by the work: the kinds of problems being solved, not because of the tools or characteristics, but because of the type of work.

There are two types of work: technical and adaptive. Technical challenges are things that we have the know how, the expertise, the historical traditions and advances in the past to come up with organizational design and technology and training programs. But problems that

require real capacity due to a changing environment and evolving values cause us to develop new capacity: to learn new things, sift through what to bring forward and what to leave behind. Adaptive challenges are like the beautiful design of evolution; a system that learns on its own and continues to evolve.

How do we take the very best and rearrange a part of it and innovate so we can take the best of its kind into the future to meet the challenges of the environment. Ron tied this theory of adaptive challenge into our biblical story of the Zealots resistance to the Romans following Jesus' death. They started a war, they fought valiantly but finally in retreating to Masada, they admitted defeat and died by suicide. Heroic? Sure, but they ended up dead. We only know their story because it was written by a Jewish historian working for the Romans.

At the same time there was an adaptive leader who went to the Roman Governor and asked to start a school. In that school he brought together rabbis and asked them extremely painful questions: we have to redefine what it means to carry on this faith, what is essential, what is expendable, and what innovation will allow our people to thrive even when they're spread out. It is a painful question because it's wonderful to talk about what is precious to preserve, but it's painful to determine what to discard or throw out. Over the next century, Rabbis joined the unending conversation and ended up with four (4) significant innovations:

1. what would count as sanctuary - turn the physical structure into a social structure (the family)
2. what was the text - set a canon of texts to determine what would bring the best of humanity together; it was not assumed to be perfect, but the very best to solve the problem of giving their people something to hold onto no matter where they were
3. how would they pray - had primarily been organized around sacrifice and petition, and now evolved into more meditative, experiential and personal
4. what was the priesthood - the authority of the priest became irrelevant and the rabbis helped the text come alive in people's lives

These pressures forced the Jewish community into adaptive work that generated a set of innovations; what is necessary, what is expendable, and what really matters.

The Council was opened to questions, to which Ron responded.

Adjournment

The Council adjourned for lunch.

Fifth Session, 1:15 p.m. Saturday, October 17, 2020

Gathering

The Council gathered online prior to the opening of the session.

General Council Deployed Staff - Stewardship & Gifts

The President introduced deployed General Council staff Jane Harding who serves the Western Regions of the United Church of Canada as Stewardship & Gifts Officer. Jane spoke about the changes in the Philanthropy office at the General Council, including David Armour leaving the role as Executive Minister and Sarah Charters as acting Executive Minister.

Jane shared that her role is coaching and mentoring with communities of faith to assist them to understand the underpinnings of Stewardship. We know that congregations that give generously to Mission & Service have more money overall, and also more energy, volunteers, spiritual life, etc. They get it. This is how we float all the boats, so to speak. We live and support people at home and in the wider world.

Jane is working on some stewardship education opportunities, including one in partnership with LeaderShift called "Stewardship Buzz." She highlighted the website with great resources from the philanthropy unit and the "Called to be the Church: The Journey" stewardship program. By helping communities of faith to learn the value of stewardship and generosity, we will continue to live into our becoming. If at least three (3) members (hopefully including the ministry personnel) of a community of faith participates in one of the offerings of Stewardship Buzz, there will be a customized stewardship analysis provided to the community

Business

Remit #1 The 43rd General Council (2018) authorized one remit regarding language found in Article 10 of the Basis of Union. The question was 'does the Regional Council agree that:

- (a) the Order of Ministry be open to persons of all gender identities; and
- (b) the Basis of Union be amended to reflect this change as follows:

10.0 The Order of Ministry shall be open to persons of all gender identities.'

M/S/C (B. Fillier/L. Hermakin) that the Region agree with Remit #1.

This response will be forwarded to the General Council.

Proposal 20-01 *M/S/C (K. Simmonds / B. Fillier) that*

1. *The Pacific Mountain Regional Council calls upon Canada to appoint a special envoy to monitor and report on the human rights of children in Occupied Palestine through an E-Petition to the Canadian House of Commons; and*
2. *The Pacific Mountain Regional Council forward it to the Regional Council Executive for prioritization.*

Regional Priorities Blair Odney along with members of the Pacific Mountain Regional Council Katherine Brittain and Peter Jones led a conversation on priorities for the Regional Council and the Regional Council Executive. This conversation began at the first general meeting of the Regional Council (2019) and continues.

The Council was broken into small groups to consider the following questions:

What is the current sense of purpose in your community of faith?

What is God calling your community of faith to become?

How can the Region help you fulfill that purpose?

It was requested that the feedback from the small groups be sent to Mauricio Araujo at the Regional Council Office and the Regional Council Executive will use this information in their continued discernment.

Point of Personal Privilege

Jennifer Cummings spoke on a Point of Person Privilege. Jennifer offered gratitude for the support that the Regional Council has offered to First Third Ministry, particularly the support of Treena Duncan, Executive Minister. Jennifer requested that the Regional Council Executive assess the wording in the Ends Statements of the Regional Council in relation to children, youth, and young adults (First Third Ministry). The President acknowledged that this request had been heard.

Theme: Leading Beyond the Wilderness

Ron Heifetz resumed our theme exploration. In a stable environment, change is unnecessary - one keeps doing what one does, and life would be wonderful. From our times as hunters and gatherers we lived simply and didn't need leadership; we simply learned from elders how to organize the small community, where to go in the rainy season, where to go in the dry season, how to protect yourselves from enemies and animals, and how to keep order. When we began to store food, things changed.

The lesson we learn from nature is that highly transformative change is highly conservative; if we try to graft something that won't take root, or mate two animals that cannot create offspring, the DNA that is lost is significant.

The phrase "people resist change" is not true: people love change when they're sure it's a good thing. They don't care about your style when you're given them good news! People are willing to suffer loss if they can see the (good) reason why.

There are three (3) categories of loss:

1. direct material loss: wealth, food, status, significance, control, power - which no one likes to give up
2. competence - and adaptive change throws us into the frontier of incompetence
3. loyalty: the risk of being accused of betraying, or the risk of being seen by others to have betrayed

When practicing leadership, you're the one that is challenging because the ones you're challenging have a lot to lose. They deserve compassion because you're asking the most of them. Leadership requires respect for the pangs of change.

The difference between technical and adaptive challenges come in terms of predictability; the adaptive path is uncertain whereas the technical path is more certain. In adaptive work you cannot predict which means that you need to prepare those with whom you're working to understand.

It's also rare that your challenges come separately: they mostly come bundled. Part of the challenge is requiring people to develop capacity, or determining when to call in an expert that can solve it in clear decisive ways. If your people don't understand that the challenges are adaptive, they'll expect you to fix them technically. One of the ways that people deal with adaptive challenges is to avoid them.

There are a variety of ways to avoid: distraction and lying are common forms of distraction. As we improvise in leadership, one of the unpredictable elements in the work is that you're never certain what type of avoidance people will engage in, so it is important to be gracious and generous as engaging them.

Ron spoke about a crisis life-cycle model: preparation, emergency and adaptive phases. In the pandemic the emergency phase is lasting much longer than anticipated, so the world is out of equilibrium. There are ways to manage the disequilibrium: action, presence, and heart. Have faith in people's resilience, and listen deeply: listen for losses, listen for different types of shame, and do less talking.

Everyone needs sanctuary and we all need anchors: confidantes, daily regular practices, and time away from the stresses of life.

There was a chance to ask some further questions, and Ron ended his theme time with the Council by offering the priestly blessing of our common faith: "May God bless you and keep you, may She shine her face upon you, may He turn his face upon you in these perilous times, grant you heart, grant you grace, grant you peace. Amen."

LeaderShift

Allison Rennie shared some of the programs being offered by LeaderShift which will integrate work on Adaptive Leadership. There will be a four-week workshop with Susan Beaumont called "How to lead when you don't know where you're going"; there will be an opportunity to be part of a circle of practice on adaptive leadership; and a chance to meet in November with Matt Miofsky to make the biblical connection to change, movement and adaptation "Leaning into the future without fear."

Gratitude

The President offered gratitude on behalf of the Regional Council to those who helped this General Meeting happen: special thanks to Ron Heifetz and Pam Rocker for their facilitation of theme and conversations about becoming Affirming; the Moderator and General Secretary for being present with us, the Regional Council Executive and in particular Bob Fillier, Jenny Carter, Laura Hermakin, Katherine Brittain and Peter Jones who took on particular roles for this gathering; those who led worship and those who offered background support, and Regional Council Staff; in particular Tressa Brotsky, Mauricio Araujo, and Brenda Wolff, and Allan Buckingham who is contracted to offer technical support. Lastly, the President offered thanks to Executive Minister, Treena Duncan who, along with everyone else, had a great learning curve to bringing this Gathering together.

In response, Treena thanked Blair as President for his gracious presence.

Worship & Adjournment

Brenda Fawkes and Steven Mirkovich led the Council in worship celebrating the Sacrament of Communion, and the President, Blair Odney, adjourned the meeting with a commission and benediction.

Optional Worship

The Regional Council provided a worship service for communities of faith to stream for Sunday morning. Nora Sanders, General Secretary, preached on Exodus 33.12-23.



Pacific Mountain Regional Council

Rev. Blair Odney, President

Ms. Treena Duncan, Executive Minister
