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ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Year in Review

OTTAWA PASTORAL CARE TRAINING

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WHO WE ARE

The Ottawa Pastoral Care Training Program (OPCTP) is an inter-denominational program affiliated with The Christian Council of the Capital Area.

An Advisory Committee of clergy and lay people representing participating faith communities oversees the planning, administration and evaluation of the Program.

For over four decades, the OPCTP has provided basic and advanced courses, information sessions, coordinators' events, continuing education events, workshops and other special training sessions. We began keeping attendance statistics in 1990. Since that time, over 5,000 people in Ottawa and the surrounding area have taken the 10-week Basic Course in Pastoral Care.

The Basic Course runs every spring and fall, Continuing Education events are twice yearly, Co-ordinators' Events and Advanced Courses are once every year or two and other in-town and out-of-town workshops, events and information sessions are provided upon request.

Our Mission Statement

To Encourage, Enable and Educate all who have a calling to a Ministry of Care nurtured by the love of God, to share their gifts of compassion, understanding, and presence as they journey with those whom they serve.

Our History

The Ottawa Pastoral Care Training Program (OPCTP) had its origin in 1975 when All Saints Anglican Church Westboro engaged Reverend Doctor John Swift, Chaplain at Queensway Carleton Hospital, to train a team of clergy and lay members for hospital and parish visiting.

A lay pastoral care team training program was established within the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa in 1977 and was made available to other denominations in 1978. In 1990, we began providing training to nearby communities outside of Ottawa.

The Christian Council of the Capital Area has recognized the program as an interdenominational entity under its general sponsorship since 1979.

The OPCTP celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2019.

THE ADVISORY BOARD

A Word from the Chair

The year 2022 was marked by a number of changes in the administration of the Ottawa Pastoral Care Training Program. It was not long ago that long-time leader Verna Nuttall retired and Administrator Terri Skuce took over the overall task of heading up the operation of the OPCTP. In 2022, confronting increased family responsibilities, Terri submitted her resignation as Administrator, although she remains with the program as a board member and Facilitator.

Verna and Terri built well during their years of service with the program, and that has allowed the board to adapt to these personnel changes without significant disruption in the training that has been offered for over 40 years. The board has transitioned from a governing board to a working board, filling a number of administrative roles. Daughn Dixon Moisan is helping with record-keeping as Board Secretary, Chris Adam has taken on more financial work as Treasurer, and Bob Orr has acted as co-ordinator for Facilitators as well as managing the program's Continuing Education courses. Sandra Smith puts together the Advanced courses and Jim Pot keeps the board running efficiently by chairing meetings and monitoring our procedures. It's quite a team!

Last year also saw the departure of several board members. Long-time member Kathy Petrie was forced to cut back on her workload due to chronic illness. Sheila Wilson, who served as Registrar to assist with the extra workload of organizing internet-based training during the pandemic, has stepped down. Chung Yan (JoAnne) Lam, our representative from the Christian Council of the Capital Area, undertook increased responsibility with that group and had to leave us.

Terri's resignation led to a search for a new Administrator and we were extremely pleased to welcome Josephine Hall to that role. Josephine has many years of experience in managing training programs and currently works as Administrator at Christ Church Cathedral.

Of course, the board continues to be grateful for our hard-working course Facilitators. They are the heart of the program. They strive to present the material in meaningful ways, take an interest in each student, and model the behaviour and attitude that they would like to see in those who complete the program.

In 2023 we will continue to offer courses in-person and on-line. As well, we are seeking to strengthen our support for pastoral care teams, in light of an apparent shortage of clergy and the decline of smaller churches outside of urban areas.

Robert MacKenzie, MDiv, PhD

Advisory Board Members - 2022

An Advisory Board comprised of individuals representing participating faith communities oversees the planning, administration and evaluation of the Program. At present, the Advisory Board is made up of Anglican, Lutheran, Pentecostal (PAOC), Presbyterian, Roman Catholic and United denominations.

Bob MacKenzie (Chair)	Presbyterian
The Rev. Jim Pot (Vice Chair)	Presbyterian
Josephine Hall	Anglican
Terri Skuce	Presbyterian
Chris Adam	Roman Catholic
The Rev. Fritz Clarke	Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada
Daughn Dixon Moisan	Baptist
Laurie Jenkins	Baptist
The Rev. Canon Hilary Murray	Anglican
Bob Orr	Anglican
Sandra Smith	United

In 2022, the Advisory Board had four meetings.

We continued working on incorporation and restructuring. We looked at officers and members, reviewed job descriptions, discussed marketing, communication, scheduling of events, finances, etc. We added additional roles to our Advisory Board, made some changes to our website and discussed plans for the future.

We continue to focus on our main purpose of delivering effective training to volunteers that will enable them to join pastoral/spiritual care teams and be a comforting presence with those who are in need of care.

In the summer of 2022, Terri Skuce retired from her position as Administrator. She remains active as a member of the board and as a facilitator of the program. Josephine Hall was hired July 1 2022 as the new Administrator taking over the roles and responsibilities previously held by Terri.

Pastoral Care Course Facilitators - 2022

Lisa Boulay, Unitarian
Ann Carmichael, Roman Catholic
Rebekah Hackbusch, Lutheran
Josephine Hall, Anglican
Muriel Laughton, Presbyterian
The Rev. Canon Hilary Murray, Anglican
Bob Orr, Anglican
Terri Skuce, Presbyterian

This year, our facilitator team welcomed Josephine Hall as our newest facilitator.

The facilitators met twice in 2022 - June 30 and November 28. Both meetings were regular post-course meetings where feedback from course participants is reviewed. Based on the participant feedback, decisions are made about what changes/improvements we might want to make to our Basic Course.

This year programs were offered over a combination of in-person and online (Zoom) options. There have been a number of advantages to each. The online option has made it possible for participants to take part who might have been too far away to avail themselves of the in-person classes. The combination allowed for some participants to join the alternate class where doing so made it possible to make up missed sessions. Although many community programs have returned to in-person environments, it was agreed that the OPCTP would continue to offer both options for the immediate future. At this time the Basic course is offered in-person in the afternoon and on Zoom in the evening. The Continuing Education programs were offered over Zoom again making them accessible to more participants from a wide range of geographic locations.

Participant and facilitator feedback from both the in-person and online 2022 courses was very positive.

INTERNAL OPERATIONS

Professional Development

From time-to-time course and workshop facilitators and members of the Advisory Board have the opportunity to attend events, such as workshops or seminars, put on by outside groups. Facilitators and members are encouraged to attend those events which will enhance their knowledge and provide support to the organizers in the community.

In 2022, the OPCTP Advisory Board members and facilitators did not attend any events related to professional development.

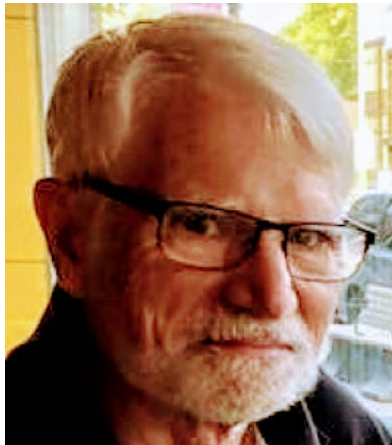
New Equipment Purchases

No new equipment purchases were made in 2022.

In Memoriam

PATTON, John Charles

December 6, 1943 - April 3, 2022



It is with heavy hearts we announce the passing of John Patton on April 3rd in his 79th year. Beloved husband of Darlene Patton for 54 years. Cherished father of Michael and Kaireen (Bryan Reid). Devoted brother to Mary Patton (Michel Lapointe). Proud Papa to Aaron and Daminh. Son of the late Jack and Laura Patton.

John was a lifelong educator, most notably at Nepean, Fisher Park, Laurentian and Glebe High Schools and led the pastoral care team at Woodroffe United Church for over 30 years. He was also a long-time member of the OPCTP. John joined the Ottawa Pastoral Care Training Program in 1992 as a Course and Workshop Facilitator. Fifteen years later, he became an Advisory Board member and took on the responsibilities of Facilitator Representative and Continuing Education Coordinator until 2021.

COURSES, WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

Basic Course

The Basic Course normally consists of 9 two and a half hour sessions. The in-person class was offered one afternoon each week in a wheelchair accessible church centrally located in Ottawa. The corresponding Zoom (online) course was offered one evening each week for the 9 weeks. Both courses were offered once in the spring and again in the fall. The remains cost is \$125.00 per person with a late fee of \$140.00.

This course may also be conducted in communities in eastern Ontario on invitation by local faith communities. Out-of-town courses can be modified if requested to suit the priorities of the requester. Since being available on Zoom, we have had participants attending from other areas in the world and we will look at continuing online offerings in the future.

The training includes:

- Introduction to Pastoral Care
- Active Listening
- Spiritual Needs and Pastoral Identity
- Grief Through Losses
- Ministry with Dying
- The Transitioning Years (Aging)
- Visiting in Hospitals, Institutions, Homes
- Care for the Caregiver and Pastoral Care Teams
- Celebrating our Community and our Call

Spring 2022 - March 21 to May 16, 1pm to 3pm and 7pm to 9pm, via Zoom

Evening Class I

Facilitators: Terri Skuce
and Miriam Laughton

Registered = 24, completed 21

Evening Class II

Facilitators: Hilary Murray
and Bob Orr

Registered = 20, completed 20

Denominations/Faiths/Institutions Represented

Alliance	2		
Anglican	6		
Baptist	1	Presbyterian	3
Brethren	2	Roman Catholic	7
Free Methodist	1	Unitarian	6
Senior Living	5	United	8
Pentecostal	1	Unknown	2

Fall 2022 - Sept. 19 to Nov. 21, 1pm to 3pm and 7pm to 9pm, via Zoom

Afternoon Class

Facilitators: Terri Skuce
Muriel Laughton
with Josephine Hall interning

Registered = 24, completed 22

Evening Class

Facilitators: Hilary Murray
and Bob Orr

Registered = 32, completed 32

Denominations/Faiths/Institutions Represented

Anglican	11		
Baptist	4	Roman Catholic	6
Free Methodist	2	Quaker	1
Lutheran	2	United	12
Pentecostal	6	Unknown	4
Presbyterian	8		

Modified Courses

When we have a request (usually from out-of-town or from a different faith group) to choose only certain subjects from the Basic Course, we will offer a modified course. If there are enough participants, two facilitators deliver the training. If the number of participants is low, one facilitator may deliver the training. This is decided on a case-by-case basis, looking at the needs and financial ability of the requesting community as well as the availability of facilitators.

There were no modified Courses in 2022.

Out-of-Town Courses

When we have a request for an out-of-town course, we work with the organizer(s) to provide a format that works best for them.

In the fall of 2022 we offered a full Basic Training Program by Zoom to a group in Nova Scotia. Lisa Boulay and Ann Carmichael facilitated this group.

Special Training

There was one request for special training in 2022. It was delivered by Hilary Murray on Zoom.

P.D. Clarke

Requested by: Anna-Maria Blum

Dates: October 24th, 1:30pm to 2:45pm

Location: Delivered via Zoom

Facilitator: Hilary Murray

Attendance: Registered = 11

Topics Covered: Why is Spiritual Care Essential in Long Term Care facilities?

Continuing Education Events

These events are held in Ottawa each Spring and Fall to provide information on specific topics or issues of concern to pastoral care visitors.

Topics and speakers are suggested by the participants who attend our courses and events as well as by Advisory Board Members and others familiar with our Program. Persons with knowledge and experience in the chosen subject conduct a two-hour workshop during an afternoon session and repeat it during the evening.

April 5, 2021 via Zoom

Exploring Dementia

presented by Linda Leduc

Attendance: 79 paying registrants, fees waived for participants = 20

November 16, 2021 via Zoom

An Exploration of HELP (Healthy End of Life Project) Ottawa

presented by Pam Grassau

Attendance: 60 paying registrants, fees waived for participants = 10

Coordinators' Event

All coordinators of pastoral care teams or their representatives are invited to meet every second year to brainstorm, share ideas and suggestions and examine issues or topics they have identified as being of concern to their teams. This event is led by an OPCTP course facilitator or Advisory Board member.

Our next Coordinators' Event will take place in April 2023.

Consulting

Information Sessions

These sessions may be arranged with congregations or groups to describe the Ottawa Pastoral Care Training Program and to discuss what training may be designed to address specific interests and needs. The OPCTP will absorb the consultation costs for one visit by one or two trainers.

There were no Information Session consultations requested in 2022.

Needs Identification

These sessions may be arranged with representatives of congregations or groups to identify specific needs for Pastoral Care Training and to plan Special Training. The OPCTP will absorb the consultation costs for one visit.

There were no Needs Identification consulting sessions requested in 2022.

Special Training

Special Training includes all specially designed Pastoral Care Training other than the regularly scheduled ten-week Pastoral Care Training Courses, Advanced Courses and Continuing Education Events. Usually, two facilitators conduct the training. An exception may be made if the numbers do not warrant two facilitators. The cost is determined by the number and length of the training sessions.

There were no Special Training consulting sessions scheduled for 2022.