

A Collaborative Ministry Opportunity

Central, Sackville, Visions United Churches Collaborative Ministry (CSVCM) Pilot Project is seeking the appointment of one full-time (or equivalent) ministry personnel (Ordained, Diaconal, Candidate Supply or Designated Lay Minister) to join in collaborative ministry with the incumbent Ministry Personnel, Lloyd Bruce, and three communities of forward-thinking people, for a period of 18 months. This opportunity has also been approved as a Supervised Ministry Education site.

CSVCM came into existence on April 28, 2024, with the support of the Pastoral Relations Committee of the Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council, when the three congregations agreed to enter an 18-month pilot project and struck a Commission to direct the pilot project.

Central United Church (www.centralunitedmoncton.com) 150 Queen Street, Moncton: located in the downtown core of Moncton in a building that is utilized extensively by the larger community. Presently without a Ministry Personnel, Central was most recently served on a part-time basis by the Rev. Audrey Lounder. Approximately 15 persons gather in-person each Sunday and another 15 persons gather via Zoom. Central United Church is an Affirming Ministry.

Sackville United Church (www.sackvilleunitedchurch.org) 110 Main St., Sackville: located in the downtown core of Sackville, a service centre to Southeast New Brunswick and home to Mount Allison University. Presently served by the Rev. Lloyd Bruce, approximately 35-40 persons gather each week in-person and another 15-20 participate via Facebook Live. The space at Sackville United is designed for flexibility of use. Sackville United Church is an Affirming Ministry.

Visions United Church (www.visionsunited.ca) 140 Joyce Ave., Moncton: located in a suburban area of Moncton, in a building that is owned by the John Howard Society and seeks to be a community hub and provides housing to its clients. The area is populated with a significant francophone population and subsidized housing. Presently without a Ministry Personnel, Visions was most recently served on a full-time basis by the Rev. Shawn Redden. Approximately 35-40 persons gather in-person each Sunday and another 15 persons view the gathering via Vimeo. Visions United is Affirming in practice but not formally designated.

These three Communities of Faith share similarities in values, vision, and ministry priorities, and as such, they are uniquely suited to share resources and work collaboratively in ways that will serve to strengthen and enhance all three Communities of Faith in their service to the larger community, while maintaining their autonomy.

Attached is a copy of the Description of Ministry agreed to by the three communities of faith. It is expected that the successful candidate will be one who is committed to

collaborative ministry, both with staff colleagues, individual communities of faith and the collaborative as whole. A copy of the complete Collaborative Ministry Pilot Project Proposal is available upon request. The initial appointment will be for 18-months the duration of the pilot project, with the possibility of an extension.

For more information or to express your interest in this opportunity, contact the Secretary of the Commission: Luc Poirer poirier.luc@gmail.com or (506) 540-1072

Ministry

Ministry is a vocation – a response to a call. Ministry is a response in service and as such, the tasks of ministry personnel are not always clearly defined but can be broken out into five general areas: Sunday Gathering, Faith Exploration/Development, Pastoral Care, Administration, and Service within the Larger Church, Community and World.

To the right of each area of ministry is affixed a percentage of energy/time that the team as a whole, would collaboratively devote to that area. The team will work collaboratively with other staff and key lay leaders and others in each of the three communities of faith.

Should the Ministry Team be compromised of 1 full-time and 2 part-time personnel these percentages would be adjusted to reflect the unique focus that each part of the team would bring to the whole.

This Position Description would be reviewed every six months by the Ministry Team and CMPPC.

Collaborative Ministry

This position description assumes a model of ministry that is fully team and collaborative in nature: two or more persons, equally capable, with diverse gifts and skills working for the greater good of the Collaborative, in ways that respect and support the other. Such teaming takes intentionality and a deep commitment to the values of mutuality and shared accountability.

This model of ministry is offered, not solely for the benefit of one community of faith or the other, but for the greater good of the Collaborative, with the result always being greater than the sum of its parts – this is the Spirit at work.

Sunday Gathering 30%

Members of the Ministry Team will each be responsible for planning, coordinating, facilitating, and offering leadership at one of three Sunday Gatherings within the Collaborative each Sunday, except for those times when they are away on vacation or study

leave. Members of the Ministry Team will utilize technology in creative ways to expand reach and engage persons as fully as possible.

Each member of the Ministry Team will participate in the preparation for and presiding at the sacraments of baptism and communion, and marriage and funeral rituals according to an agreed upon on-call schedule.

Members of the Ministry Team will offer leadership at local nursing and senior care homes as agreed upon in consultation with the Collaborative Ministry Team.

In collaboration with the Music Directors and the Worship Committees of each of the Communities of Faith, the Ministry Team will develop quarterly schedules for Sunday Gatherings with final approval for the schedule resting with the CMPPC.

Members of the Ministry Team will plan, coordinate, facilitate and offer leadership at weekly liturgies, reflections, and special seasonal gatherings: Advent, Lent, Holy Week, and Easter as negotiated with the CMPPC.

The Ministry Team will plan, facilitate, and participate in the leadership of Sunday Gatherings in ways that invite and support the involvement and participation of a wide cross-section of persons from each of the communities of faith.

Faith Exploration/Development 20%

The Ministry Team, leveraging technology where possible, will provide and support regular opportunities for faith exploration/development among the Collaborative, including but not limited to weekly lectionary study gatherings, seasonal or topical study groups, and intergenerational learning events.

The Ministry Team will support and promote the provision of faith exploration/development opportunities for children and youth based on the needs and availability of resources within each Community of Faith.

Pastoral Care 35%

The Ministry Team will provide spiritual guidance and emotional support for individuals and groups within the Collaborative. Each member of the Ministry Team will make themselves available for office and home visits and make visits to shut-in and institutionalized residents as requested by families or others in the congregation.

The Ministry Team will carry out regular hospital visits at the Moncton City, George Dumont, Albert House (Hospice SENB), and Sackville Memorial Hospitals as required.

The Ministry Team will work with and support the development of Pastoral Care Teams in each of the Communities of Faith within the Collaborative, as a means to expand the ministry of pastoral connection and visitation.

Members of the Ministry Team will establish an on-call schedule for responding to pastoral emergencies and will provide pastoral counselling within the scope of their practice and make referrals as necessary.

Administration/Governance 5%

The members of the Ministry Team will attend to the necessary governance and administrative tasks of the Communities of Faith within the Collaborative, as mandated by the Manual, participating in meetings of committees of which they are an ex-officio member and are required or invited.

Where possible, technology will be utilized to minimize travel, achieve administrative efficiencies, and make connections between the members of the Collaborative.

Service within Larger Church & World 10%

Members of the Ministry Team will be a visible presence in the community, participating in various community projects and events. Members of the Ministry Team will participate in Regional and National Committees of the United Church of Canada as requested.