

RICHARD BOTT

MINISTRY STATEMENT

I see God's family and household as a circle in which we are all integral parts. Each of us has various gifts and abilities we can share with others "to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope." I believe I am called to a ministry of actively using my own gifts to help others articulate, explore and share theirs.

CONGREGATIONAL EXPERIENCE

August 2006 to Present – Minister at St. Andrew's Haney United Church, Maple Ridge, British Columbia

Facilitated Worship:

- Demonstrated good preaching and excellent liturgical skills;
- Used traditional, contemporary, meditative and interactive styles of worship;
- Included inter-generational elements in all worship gatherings;
- Introduced various worship arts to the congregation (eg. drama, storytelling, liturgical movement);
- Introduced additional family-focused worship times;
- Introduced alternative worship services (eg. Family Time, Contemplative Prayer Circles, Worship in the Spirit of *Taize*, the neXus);
- Introduced a series of "take home" worship services for individuals who were unable to find worshipping communities when they were away from the congregation;
- Co-developed and co-facilitated a series of eight United Church joint Good Friday commemoration.

Facilitated Congregational Christian Nurture:

- Introduced and supported a variety of spiritual disciplines to the congregation (eg. Daily Scripture reading, *Lectio Divina*, various prayer practices);
- Introduced alternative spiritual explorations, including a monthly book club and movie night;
- Wrote and facilitated Adult Christian Nurture programmes, including "Invitation to the Christian Life", "What is 'church'? Exploring the Six Marks", "Discipleship: U.N.I.T.E.D.", "Angels", "Satan: A Study", as well as various book studies;
- Introduced the Church Board to various discernment and prayer practices.

Responsible for Spiritual Care (congregation & wider community):

- Visited congregational participants according to individual or visitor request;
- Led the Church Board through a redevelopment of the role of "Elder" and "Congregational Visitor";
- Supported the ministries of the Contact & Caring Division, as consultant and resource person;
- Acted as Chaplain to Branch 88 of The Royal Canadian Legion.

Facilitated Growth in the Ministry of Administration:

- Worked with the Church Board, Board Executive and Divisions to understand and live out their roles, as defined by the congregation's "Organizational Structure";
- Redeveloped the annual Congregational Meeting to be a time of worshipful work;
- Introduced and supported project-based action through "Asset Mapping";
- Used *Environics'* and Emerging Spirit data as a basis for connection within the congregation and with the wider community;
- Developed an advertising campaign for the congregation, which included monthly newspaper advertisements, an up-to-date website, and presence on social-networking sites.

Developed the Congregation's 'Technical Outreach':

- Designed a cohesive advertising 'look' for the congregation's print ads and posters, culminating in a congregational style-guide;
- Created and maintained *standrewsuc.com*;
- Set up a digital recording system.

1998 to 2006 – Enabling Minister at St. Marys United Church, St. Marys, Ontario

Much of this work was similar to above, plus...

Facilitated Worship:

- Introduced alternative worship services (eg. Wednesday Evening, Service of the Longest Night, Nine Lessons and Carols, Labyrinth Prayer);
- Wrote a variety of dramas for use in worship.

Facilitated Congregational Christian Nurture:

- Facilitated annual congregational vision discernment, supporting the development of direction and plans;
- Developed and initiated the *Living the Gift* year-long stewardship programme;
- Developed and led *the neXus*, a spiritual exploration group for postmodern thinkers;
- Developed and facilitated book studies on texts such as Tom Harpur's *The Pagan Christ*;
- Facilitated and enabled regular adult Bible Study programs (both lectionary & non-lectionary based);
- Led a number of Open Session Sunday School mornings;
- Organized and took part in a number of family-oriented Christian Nurture events;
- Co-led, with the priest of St. James' Anglican (St. Marys), a half-day children's event on Ash Wednesday and a joint Junior Youth Group;
- Supported the re-development of the congregation's Sunday children's programme, working with the Church School Coordinator and Christian Education Committee;
- Facilitated youth faith exploration through annual Profession of Faith groups.

Responsible for Pastoral Care (congregation & wider community):

- Visited members and adherents according to stated or interpreted need;
- Engaged in in-depth premarital, baptismal and membership preparation programmes;
- Engaged in crisis intervention with various members of the congregation and community;
- Worked in conjunction with the congregation to build a ministry of reconnection with those on the membership roll who had stopped participating;
- Led the Church Council through a re-development of the role of "Elder" and "Congregational Visitor";
- Supported the ministries of the congregational visiting programmes, as consultant and resource person;
- Acted as Chaplain to Branch 236 of The Royal Canadian Legion.

Developed Community Aspects of Congregational Life:

- Co-designed a congregational photo directory;
- Re-introduced the congregation to social gatherings (eg. Men's Breakfast, After-church Fellowship);
- Helped institute an annual volunteer celebration luncheon.

Facilitated Growth in the Ministry of Administration:

- Led a five-member staff group, working to move from "senior/subordinate" to "team ministry";
- Gave direction and support to the congregation's "Living Legacy – Living Faith" planned giving project;
- Worked with a variety of congregational committees to help them define and live out their ministries.

1994 to 1998 – Minister at Trinity United Church, Iroquois Falls, Ontario

Much of this work was similar to above, plus...

Facilitated Congregational Christian Nurture:

- Developed and led a series of Lay Worship Leadership workshops;
- Worked with the congregation on various United Church of Canada study documents;
- Co-facilitated the *Ten Days for Global Justice* programme;
- Encouraged the congregation to connect with various community and social organizations (eg. Food bank, exploration of basic needs of children in community).

Responsible for Pastoral Care (congregation and community):

- Co-facilitated a grief support group for members of the congregation and community;
- Acted as Chaplain to Branch 70 of The Royal Canadian Legion.

1992 to 1993 – Intern & Student Minister at Trinity United Church, Kirkland Lake, Ontario

WIDER CHURCH EXPERIENCE

Conflict Resolution Facilitator

- *Peachland United Church* – Peachland, BC (Spring 2010)
- *Victoria Presbytery* – Victoria, BC (Fall 2010)
- *Dunbar Heights United Church* – Vancouver, BC (Fall 2010)

Staff/Team Building Facilitator

- *Como Lake United Church* – Vancouver, BC (Winter 2012)
- *Crossroads United Church* – Vancouver, BC (Fall 2010)
- *South Arm United Church* – Vancouver, BC (Fall 2010)
- Working Retreat on Vision & Living Covenant for Victoria Presbytery (Fall 2010)
- Congregational Life Consultant for Chalmers United Church, Woodstock, Ontario (2004/05)
- Retreat facilitator for the Port Nelson United Church Council, Burlington, Ontario (2002-2004)

Worship Facilitator at a variety of events:

- *Epiphany Explorations 2011* – 9am worship – First+Metropolitan United Church (2011)
- *Children's Retreat 2010* – Lower Mainland Presbyteries of BC Conference (2010) (Co-facilitated with the Rev. Shannon Tennant and Ms. Rowan Tennant)
- *Celebration of Ministry Service 2009* – BC Conference (2009)
- *For Such a Season* – London, Hamilton, Toronto, Bay of Quinte & Manitou Conference Stewardship event (2007)
- *Faith Formation* – London, Hamilton & Toronto Conference Christian Nurture events (2004, 2003, 2002)
- *Consecration/Celebration Sunday* – Shiloh/Sixth UC, New Westminster (2009); St. Andrew's UC, Port Moody (2008); Eagle Ridge UC, Coquitlam (2006); St. Andrew's Haney UC, Maple Ridge (2006); Chalmers UC, Woodstock (2004) and First UC, Waterloo (2000)
- *Finding Abundance* – London, Hamilton, Toronto, Bay of Quinte & Manitou Conference Stewardship event
- *Representing: Fullness of Life* – London Conference Stewardship event
- Various *Congregational Annual Meetings* – BC (2009, 2008), London (2001, 2000) and Manitou (1997)

Workshop Facilitator at a variety of events:

Leadership Support:

- *Congregational vision articulation* with Pitt Meadows United Church (Summer 2011)
- *Congregational future articulation* with Agassiz/Rosedale Pastoral Charge (Summer 2011)
- *Is this what we see?* - Facilitated re-visioning exploration for Shiloh-Sixth Avenue United Church (2011)
- *What's Next?* - Facilitated discussion and setting up of process for Agassiz/Rosedale Pastoral Charge's exploration of its future (2011)
- Theme presenter at Westminster Presbytery's *Youth Retreat: If I Had \$10,000,000* (2010) Theme focus - "Let's build a church"
- *Envionics Data and Como Lake United Church* (2010)
- *Digital projection for Church Administrators* (2009) A workshop for VST's Church Office Administrators' Retreat (2009)
- *Emerging Spirit – What does it mean to Ryerson UC?* A worship service & afternoon workshop on some of the Emerging Spirit findings (2009)
- *Living the Hope: Stream 2 Presenter.* Supporting The United Church of Canada's Emerging Spirit programme (Abbotsford and Regina 2009; Waterloo, Victoria and Sudbury 2008)
- Guest Lecturer at Vancouver School of Theology's PT310 – *Mission Church & Ministry* (2007)
- Facilitation of Consensus and Spiritual Discernment for the London Conference Annual Meeting (2006)
- *Discerning the Spirit* – A day workshop for London Conference (2006)
- *Opening the Box* – An evening workshop for Stoney Creek UC (2005)
- *Me... A Leader?* - A day workshop for Essex Presbytery, London Conference (2005)
- *Learning to Lead Group Theological Reflection* – at "Faith Formation" event (2004)
- Theme presenter for Manitou Conference's *Youth Forum* (1996) "Let's Talk About Sex"

Discipleship Support:

- *Getting Attached: Congregational Development through Affiliation*. A workshop for the UCCan's *More Franchises* event (2008)
- *Doing Church Differently*. A three-day workshop for the Oxford School for Christian Studies, co-facilitated with Dr. Reginald Bibby (2007)
- *The St. Marys Model*. A day workshop for Toronto United Church Council on *A Ministry of Reconnection* (based on the work of Dr. Reginald Bibby) (2006)
- *Knowing your Faith / Speaking your Faith* at Camp Bimini Training Event, Huron-Perth Presbytery (2005)
- *Who are We?* A London Conference Youth Exploration Day (2003)
- *The Place of Faith Formation in Outreach and Congregational Evangelism* for London Conference's Division of Christian Development (2003)

Stewardship Support:

- *Finding the Sacred in Jericho's Walls* at *New Light... New Day* a Manitoba & NWOntario Conference event (2003) and *Breakthrough: A Renovations Event* (2002)
- *Stewardship Directions* for the Official Board of the Brucefield-Kippen Pastoral Charge (2001)

Worship Support:

- *Engaging Youth in Worship*. A workshop for Vancouver School of Theology's *Children & the Church* event (2012)
- *Digital Projection in Worship: A Hands On Workshop*. A 1.5 day workshop for congregations in BC Conference on various techniques, uses, and background considerations of digital projection in worship (2009)
- *Creative Worship*. A workshop for the five conference *For Such a Season* stewardship event (2007)
- *Worship Anew*. A day workshop for Erie Presbytery of Hamilton Conference (2006)
- *Leading Worship at Camp* for the Camp Bimini Training Event, Huron-Perth Presbytery (2004)
- *Worship as a Steward* at *New Light... New Day*
- *Me? A Worship Leader?* A two day leadership-education event for lay people in Huron-Perth Presbytery (2003)
- *Engaging People in Worship: Introducing New Ideas* at *Representing: Fullness of Life* (2002).
- *Spirit Moving: Worship in a Creative Mode*. An Algoma Presbytery & Manitou Conference Con-Ed event (2002)
- *Creating Creative Worship*. At *Awesome God* a London Conference Christian Nurture event (2001)
- *Music as Prayer*. At Manitou Conference's *Neighbours Praising God II* event (1997)

Structural Leadership:

- Chairperson, Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery Oversight Board for First United Church Mission (2011)
- Developed a "one day" Joint Needs Assessment Process for Westminster Presbytery (2011)
- Mentor for four colleagues in BC Conference's "Sowing Seeds, Growing Leaders" Programme (2011)
- Pastoral Charge Supervisor & immediate oversight of Queens Avenue United Church (2008-2010)
- Workshop on church governance with Pitt Meadows United Church (2009)
- Facilitator of a Healing Circle with Pitt Meadows United Church (2009)
- Member of the Worship & Theme Planning Committee for BC Conference (2009, 2008)
- Convenor of the Spiritual Care Network Facilitation Group for BC Conference (2007-2009)
- Chairperson of Pastoral Relations (Westminster Presbytery, 2006-2009; Huron-Perth 1998-2001; Cochrane 1997-1998);
- Convenor of the Campus Ministry Working Group for BC Conference (2006)
- Member of the London Conference Search Committee (Stewardship/Social Justice post) (2006)
- Member of the London Conference Interim Ministry Committee (2006)
- Author of the initial draft covenant between Terrace Bay Community Church & Cambrian Presbytery (2005)
- Representative to the Roman Catholic & United Church of Canada Dialogue (2004-2009)
- Educational Supervisor. Ordination Intern – Kathleen Edmunds (2009), LPMiT Intern – Fred Darke (2004-2006)
- Congregational Life Consultant for Chalmers United Church, Woodstock, Ontario (2004/05)
- Parliamentarian and Proposals Coordinator for London Conference (2004-2006)

- Member of the London Conference Staff Support Committee (2003-2006)
- President of London Conference (2003/04)
- Facilitator of the Business Committee of Commission 'B' at the 38th General Council (2003); Facilitator of a Sessional Committee at the 36th General Council (1997); Commissioner to the 32nd General Council (1988); Youth Forum member at the 31st General Council (1986)
- Facilitator for the Business and Agenda Committee of London Conference, developing a new process for electing Commissioners to General Council (2002/03)
- Retreat facilitator for the Port Nelson United Church Council, Burlington, Ontario (2002-2004)
- Chairperson of Huron-Perth Presbytery (2000/01); Chairperson of Pastoral Relations Committed Westminster Presbytery (2006-2009), Huron-Perth Presbytery (1998-2003), Cochrane Presbytery (1997); Member of Huron-Perth Presbytery Pensions Committee (2004/05); member of Cochrane Presbytery Education & Students Committee (1994-1998)
- Pastoral Charge Supervisor for South Porcupine United Church, South Porcupine, Ontario (1997-1998)

OTHER MINISTRIES

- Chairperson and Board Director, *Sanctuary* a not-for-profit ministry helping congregations to learn and support individuals working through issues of mental health (2011-2012)
- Developed, created and maintained ucc-resources.ca (2010-present)
- Member of the Maple Ridge & Area Ministerial Association (2006-2007)
- Administrator of the UCCan's online worship presence: The Worship Place (2005-2009)
- Interviewee on *Spirit Connection's* "The Money Show" regarding congregational stewardship (2005)
- Actor/writer for *Opening Doors Inviting Generosity* by the *Support to Local Ministries Unit* (2004)
- Convenor of the St. Marys Ministerial Association (2004/05, 2000/01)

LIFELONG LEARNING

- *Diploma in Adult Education* at University of British Columbia (Vancouver, British Columbia) (in process)
- Designation of *Interim Minister* by BC Conference, The United Church of Canada (2007)
- Designation of *Interim Minister* by London Conference, The United Church of Canada (2006)
- *The Basics of Transitional Ministry* at The Interim Ministry Network (Andover, Mass.) (2004-2005)
- *School for 'Discernmentarians' (Spiritual Discernment Leadership)* at Five Oaks (Paris, Ontario) (2004)
- *Analytical Thinking, Open Thinking & Interpersonal Relations* at BC Open University (2003-2004)
- *Doctor of Ministry* at Canterbury College (Windsor, Ontario) and Ashland Seminary (Ashland, Ohio) (2001-2003)
- *Diploma in Stewardship Studies* at Queen's Theological College (Kingston, Ontario) (2000-2002)
- *Ministry of Supervision* through the Division of Ministry Personnel & Education UCCan (2000)
- *Stephen Leader Certification* through Stephen Ministries (Orlando, Florida) (1999)
- *Certificate in Dispute Resolution* at Laurentian University (Sudbury, Ontario) (1998)
- *Ordained* in The United Church of Canada: Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario Conference (1994)
- *Master of Divinity* at Queen's Theological College (Kingston, Ontario) (1990-1994)
- *Bachelor of Social Sciences (Women's Studies & Sociology)* at University of Ottawa (Ottawa, Ontario) (1987-1990)
- *French Immersion Summer Programme* at Laurentian University (Sudbury, Ontario) (1986)

MANDATORY TRAINING

- *Sexual Abuse Prevention* (BC Conference, Feb. 2011)
- *Racial Justice Training* (UCCan Online, Nov. 2010)

PUBLISHED WORKS

- Prayers, litanies and a communion liturgy in *Gifts in Open Hands* (eds. Maren C. Tirabassi and Kathy Wonson Eddy). Pilgrim Press. Cleveland, Ohio (June 2011).
- *Worship Outline: Esther (a prophetic leader)*. Article in *Mandate magazine*. The United Church of Canada, Toronto, Ontario. (May 2011).
- *An Invitation to the Christian Life*. Co-author, with the Rev. David Anderson of an 8-week exploration of basic Christianity for people new to it. (2011)
- Editor and writer of "walking a disciple's path" a 15 book series focused on Adult Discipleship Development in The United Church of Canada (2010/2011)

- Prayer in *Gathering – In the Potter’s House: a prayer resource for GC40*. The United Church of Canada. Toronto, Ontario. (2009).
- “Week 1.” Devotions and prayers in *Advent Awakenings*. The United Church of Canada. Toronto, Ontario (2008).
- *We Hold These Children: A Service for Children’s Sunday*. Worship resource for the Children, Young Teens, and Youth desk of The United Church of Canada. Toronto, Ontario (2008).
- *A New Chapter*. Workshop and resources on transformational change for *Emerging Spirit: Living the Hope*. The United Church of Canada. Toronto, Ontario (2008). (Included as a chapter in *Living the Hope Journal*.)
- *Writing Prayers for Congregational Use*. Article in *Gathering: resources for worship planners*. The United Church of Canada. Toronto, Ontario. (L/E/P 2008).
- *Christian Family Sunday Worship*. Resource in *Family Ministries Kit*. The United Church of Canada. Toronto, Ontario. (Winter 2007). Co-written with the Rev. Ms. Shannon Tennant.
- *Picture This: Digital Presentations*. Chapter in *Arts and the Spirit*. United Church Publishing House. Toronto, Ontario (2007).
- *Daily Scripture and Prayer Brochure*. (Publisher/Editor/Writer) Weekly web and print-based spiritual practice resource. Maple Ridge, British Columbia (2006-2009).
- *A Family Christmas*. Article in *Exchange Magazine*. The United Church of Canada. Toronto, Ontario. (Fall 2006). Co-written with the Rev. Ms. Shannon Tennant.
- *An Asset-Based Interactive Stewardship Process for Lent or Pentecost*. Article in *Gathering: resources for worship planners*. The United Church of Canada. Toronto, Ontario. (L/E/P 2006).
- *Building a Lenten Labyrinth*. Article in *Exchange Magazine*. The United Church of Canada. Toronto, Ontario. (Fall 2004).
- *A Ministry of Reconnection*. Article in *Exchange Magazine*. The United Church of Canada. Toronto, Ontario. (Fall 2003). (Reprinted in *Restless Churches*. Dr. R. Bibby. Woodlake Books. Kelowna, British Columbia. (2004)).
- *A Steward? Drama* in *Gathering: resources for worship planners*. The United Church of Canada. Toronto, Ontario. (S/A 2003) (Reprinted in *Worship for All Seasons: Year B*. The United Church of Canada. Toronto, Ontario. (2005)).
- *Collegial Caring: The Effect of Peer Supervision Groups on the Stress of Ministry Personnel in The United Church of Canada*. Dissertation in completion of Doctor of Ministry degree. Ashland, Ohio. (April 2003).
- Prayers, liturgies and dramas in *Gathering: resources for worship planners*. The United Church of Canada. (Toronto, Ontario) (L/E/P 2012, A/C/E 2011/12, S/A 2011, L/E/P 2011, A/C/E 2010/11, S/A 2010, L/E/P 2010, S/A 2009, L/E/P 2009, A/C/E 2008/09, S/A 2008, L/E/P 2008, A/C/E 2007/08, S/A 2007, L/E/P 2007, A/C/E 2006/07, S/A 2006, L/E/P 2006, A/C/E 2005/06, S/A 2005, L/E/P 2005, A/C/E 2004/05, S/A 2003, A/C/E 2000/01)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Member of the *Association of Theological Field Educators*

(Last Update: February 7, 2012)