



# LICENSED LAY WORSHIP LEADERS

The Ottawa Presbytery  
of  
The United Church of Canada

May 2018

**To all clergy, secretaries, Official Board/Council chairs,  
supply and worship committee chairs and anyone who  
arranges pulpit supply:**

*This booklet is designed to inform you about the rich resource of Licensed Lay Worship Leaders in the Ottawa Presbytery. It provides basic information (The Manual 2016, The United Church of Canada references in brackets) and the names, phone numbers and email addresses of the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders, with a short description provided by the Worship Leader.*

A Lay Worship Leaders licence is for providing occasional worship leadership and preaching within the bounds of Ottawa presbytery when the regular designated minister is unable to do so in a pastoral charge. Licensed lay worship leaders can provide Sunday worship services and other special services on request with the permission of incumbent clergy or the pastoral supervisor in a pastoral charge. The licence does not include presiding at Communion or marriages.

**Who are the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders?**

Licensed Lay Worship Leaders are members of the laity who feel a call to preaching and worship leadership,

- \* are members in good standing in a UCC congregation,
- \* have been recommended by a Session, or Official Board,
- \* have successfully completed a course of study following guidelines set by General Council,
- \* are licensed by their Presbytery.

Licensed Lay Worship Leaders are contacted directly by those responsible for arranging the worship services of a Pastoral Charge

- \* Normally one Licensed Lay Worship Leader should be engaged for no more than two weeks in a row. There are many LLWL looking for an opportunity to serve. If it is desired to engage one LLWL for an extended period, this should be reviewed with the LLWL and Pastoral Relations Ministry Teams of Ottawa Presbytery.

**Compensation**

Ottawa Presbytery has set the following minimum standards for the compensation of Licensed Lay Worship Leaders:

Licensed Lay Worship Leaders are to be compensated as follows:

- For single point charges – a minimum of \$125.00 plus kilometres travelled at the rate established by the General Council Salary guidelines, presently 41 cents per kilometre, and
- For multiple-point charges – a minimum of \$150.00 plus kilometres travelled at the rate established by the General Council Salary guidelines, presently 41 cents per kilometre.

(This is a minimum rate and churches may establish higher rates.)

## **The Course of Education and Continuing Education**

The LLWL course involves at least two years of study and includes theology and church history, Hebrew and Christian scriptures, preaching, and worship and pastoral skills related to worship leadership. It includes a reading list and seminars.

Licensed Lay Worship Leaders continue to polish their skills and develop their theology through pulpit supply, reading, and continuing education events.

## **Role of Presbytery**

Those who are recommended and who have completed the course are examined by the Presbytery ministry team. Enquiry is also made by the ministry team as to the ability, character and doctrine of the applicant. Those who meet the criteria are recommended to the Presbytery for licensing.

A licence is renewable annually. A Licensed Lay Worship Leader may change pastoral charges within the same Presbytery. The licence granted by one Presbytery is not, however, valid if the licence holder moves to a different Presbytery. The Licensed Lay Worship Leader shall function under the direction of Presbytery.

## **Licensed Lay Worship Leaders Ministry Team**

The ministry team is responsible for establishing the education and examination criteria, and for developing the policy within which Licensed Lay Worship Leaders are expected to function. Comments on Licensed Lay Worship Leaders' performance should be addressed to the ministry team because they provide supervision and accountability. All of the above shall be approved by the Presbytery. The ministry team maintains a list of Licensed Lay Worship Leaders and reports annually to the Presbytery.

Chair: Georgina Fitzgerald  
Members: Joan Heyland  
Rev. Eric Lukacs  
Heather McGrath  
Robert Nelson

## **How do I become a Licensed Lay Worship Leader?**

An interested person applies through the Session, or Official Board of their local church. The Session then applies in writing for that person to the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders Ministry Team who maintains a waiting list for the next course. Information can be obtained through the Presbytery Office at (613) 224-5318.

## LICENSED LAY WORSHIP LEADERS IN OTTAWA PRESBYTERY

\* *Can lead worship in French*

\*\* *Not available during winter months (check bio.)*

<b>Joanne Braaksma</b> (2015)	(613) 838-2679	<a href="mailto:joannebraaksma@hotmail.com">joannebraaksma@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Christine Burbridge</b> (2016)	(613) 232-6509	<a href="mailto:burbridges@rogers.com">burbridges@rogers.com</a>
<b>David Clemis</b> (2009)	(613) 837-7331 (613) 265-2673	<a href="mailto:davidclemis@hotmail.com">davidclemis@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Carolle Dallas-Arbuckle</b> (2015)	(613) 821-2828	<a href="mailto:cdallas@ripnet.com">cdallas@ripnet.com</a>
<b>Dana Ducette</b> (2012)	(613)-595-0540	<a href="mailto:danaducette@hotmail.com">danaducette@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Dietlind Gardell</b> (1992)	(613) 952-3415	<a href="mailto:dgardell@sympatico.ca">dgardell@sympatico.ca</a>
<b>Nancy Huggett</b>	(613) 730-0123	<a href="mailto:nhuggett@gmail.com">nhuggett@gmail.com</a>
<b>Marni Hunt Stephens</b> (2004)	(613) 424-8121	<a href="mailto:marnihs@rogers.com">marnihs@rogers.com</a>
<b>Dori Jensen</b> (1999)	(613) 831-8267	<a href="mailto:djensen@jssinc.ca">djensen@jssinc.ca</a>
<b>Joanne Kosmack</b> (2012)	(819) 595-9747 (819) 224-2150	<a href="mailto:kosmackj@hotmail.com">kosmackj@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Stephanie Langill</b> (2015)	(613) 236-0617	<a href="mailto:slangillrece@gmail.com">slangillrece@gmail.com</a>
<b>Heather McGrath</b> (2012)	(613) 830-7652	<a href="mailto:hmcgraths@gmail.com">hmcgraths@gmail.com</a>
<b>Bridget Meszaros</b> (2004)	(613) 489-2956	<a href="mailto:bbmesz@hotmail.com">bbmesz@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Carla Miner</b> (2009)	(613) 831-2825	<a href="mailto:cjminer@magma.ca">cjminer@magma.ca</a>
<b>Ruth Mooney</b> (2009)	(613) 798-0212	<a href="mailto:ruth_mooney@sympatico.ca">ruth_mooney@sympatico.ca</a>
<b>Andrew Nicholls</b> (2015)	(613) 523-0405 (613) 797-4428	<a href="mailto:andrew.nicholls@ocdsb.ca">andrew.nicholls@ocdsb.ca</a>
<b>Jeannie Page</b> (2015)	(613) 290-1393	<a href="mailto:jeanniepage@bell.net">jeanniepage@bell.net</a>
<b>David Patterson</b>	(613) 837-1308	<a href="mailto:david.patterson@consultant.com">david.patterson@consultant.com</a>
<b>Don Reynolds</b>	(613) 227-6555	<a href="mailto:reynoldsl@tlb.sympatio.co">reynoldsl@tlb.sympatio.co</a>
<b>Hilda Sabadash</b> (2004)	(613) 234-8929	<a href="mailto:hsabadash@servernorth.com">hsabadash@servernorth.com</a>
<b>Alison Sales</b> (2015)	(613) 983-7974	<a href="mailto:alisonsales@rogers.com">alisonsales@rogers.com</a>
<b>Sharon Sanderson</b> (1989)	(613) 297-6603	<a href="mailto:sandersonlsharon@gmail.com">sandersonlsharon@gmail.com</a>
<b>Carol Scott</b> (2015)	(613) 795-8183	<a href="mailto:carol_g_scott@hotmail.com">carol_g_scott@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Sandra Smith</b> (2017)	(613) 843-7558	<a href="mailto:san.smith@rogers.com">san.smith@rogers.com</a>
<b>Joanne Tanner</b> (2009)	(613) 277-3991	<a href="mailto:joanneltanner@yahoo.com">joanneltanner@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Lynda Therkelsen</b> (2012) **	(613) 774-0616	<a href="mailto:lynda611@hotmail.com">lynda611@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Bonnie Warnock</b> (2009)	(613) 838- 5828	<a href="mailto:warnockba49@gmail.com">warnockba49@gmail.com</a>

**Joanne Braaksma**  
(Licensed 2015)

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Being a retired teacher, I was looking for a mental challenge and I found it by taking the LLWL course. I thoroughly enjoyed learning more about the Bible, religion, and how the United Church works. My home church is **St. Paul's United** in Richmond ON. Currently, I sing in the choir, am president of the UCW, secretary for the Richmond Food Bank which works out of St. Paul's. God works in mysterious ways and I am so glad He has taken me on this journey. Have car will travel and preach!

**Christine Burbridge**  
(Licensed 2016)

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I was born and grew up in Ottawa, and have been an active member of **Glebe-St. James United Church** for over 20 years. As a member of our Worship Committee for several years, I value well-planned worship services and how they are received by the congregation. I feel it is important to balance continuity and innovation in worship in order for the service to be meaningful for all. As a trained labyrinth facilitator, I am interested in contemplative practices and lead a monthly labyrinth walk at GSJ. I also lead an annual quilting retreat each fall for GSJ.

**David Clemis**  
(Licensed 2009)

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Retired member of Canadian Forces and Government of Canada. Has been involved in Christian Education, Worship and Sunday School. Loves to tell stories and engage congregation. Very much interested in use of multimedia in worship. Presbytery rep. of **Orleans United**. Member of Presbytery and Conference Communication and Pastoral Relations.

**Carolle Dallas-Arbuckle**  
(Licensed 2015)

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My joy in sharing my faith and worship services with others inspired me to be a LLWL. I am a member of **Metcalfe St. Andrews United Church**. I am an active member of UCW from the local church unit to the National UCW level. Children's ministry is an important part of my faith journey.

<b>Dana Ducette</b> (Licensed 2012) (613)-595-0540 <a href="mailto:danaducette@hotmail.com">danaducette@hotmail.com</a>		
	<p>I grew up across Canada! Literally. Born in Manitoba, I have lived in Alberta, PEI, and Ontario. Moving and traveling with my family has been a real pleasure and opened my eyes to the bountiful blessings of what it means to be Canadian. My husband and I, along with our children, attend <b>Stittsville United Church</b> where I have led worship on many occasions. My career in operational logistics has led me to the Heart and Stroke Foundation and the University of Calgary's Faculty of Medicine. Throughout my faith journey I have developed a great sense of JOY in preparing and leading worship. The Lay Worship Leader course has been a wonderful first step in fulfilling God's call for me.</p>	
<b>Dietlind Gardell</b> (Licensed 1992) (613) 761-8626 <a href="mailto:dgardell@sympatico.ca">dgardell@sympatico.ca</a>		
	<p>Currently Health Canada. Mother and grandmother. Graduated from Seaway Valley first Lay Preacher class '92. Served In Seaway Valley and Ottawa Presbytery rural and city congregations: I love both Children's Time and preaching for adults. Since '94 Presbytery lay representative for <b>Glebe-St. James United</b>. Member of Church-in-Society Presbytery Committee. Interests in aboriginal issues and bioethics, science &amp; music.</p>	
<b>Marni Hunt Stephens</b> (Licensed 2004) (613) 484-8121 <a href="mailto:marnihs@rogers.com">marnihs@rogers.com</a>		
	<p>Born and raised on military bases, settled at <b>Orleans United Church</b> since 1985, because it feels like home. Called to share faith and drama after teaching Sunday School, leading youth groups, singing in choirs, being a lay reader, and discovering the wonder of being open to the Holy Spirit.</p>	
<b>Dori Jensen</b> (Licenced 1999) (613) 831-8267 <a href="mailto:djensen@jssinc.ca">djensen@jssinc.ca</a>		
	<p>I am an active member of <b>Britannia United Church</b> and am involved there in Pastoral care and on worship committee. I enjoy planning and leading worship services and having an opportunity to share, with others along life's journey, the Good News of the Risen Christ.</p>	

**Joanne Kosmack**  
(Licensed 2012)

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(819) 224-2150

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I am a retired high school teacher interested in quilting and serving my church in West Quebec. I am a member of **Chelsea United Church**, in Chelsea, QC. My faith is based on hope, an expectation that Christ indeed lived and died for us and what our God has declared and promised is indeed true. With the help of the Holy Spirit, I live my life with this assuredness.

**Stephanie Langill**  
(Licensed 2015 )

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*Here am I, Lord!* My journey of spiritual discernment led me to explore licenced lay worship leadership. I find real enjoyment in sharing the simple truth of scripture stories with children and youth. I believe what creates meaningful worship experiences for young people isn't so different from what makes meaningful worship for everyone! I am a member of **Glebe-St. James United** and I feel blessed to be a part of such an open and caring church family.

**Heather McGrath**  
(Licensed 2012)

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Home church: **Orleans United** where she gets to experience great preaching. Works part time as a nurse which is her passion. "No answers. Still searching. Sermons should be stimulating, relaxed and in some sense fun. Who can keep their mind on a subject for more than 2 minutes, unless it meets a present need? God speaks through the scriptures. The LLWL should open the door for the scriptures to speak to the congregation."

**Bridget Meszaros**  
(Licensed 2004)

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Member of **North Gower United Church**. I am a soft spoken woman but when I feel called to speak, another spirit-filled voice is projected. I am a seeker of God's wisdom and kingdom. I feel that we can do this through the study of scripture, prayer and through each other. My background is in small rural churches.

**Carla Miner**  
(Licensed 2009)

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Member of **St. Paul's United Church in Carp**. A lifelong "career" of teaching Sunday School, combined with delight in Bible studies, has led to this Lay Worship Leader program, which has reaffirmed what joy there is in "telling the good news". Her other career as a scientist, working in high-tech full-time (at the moment anyway!), means that she is not usually available on short notice, but it also brings an **interesting** perspective on such topics as the relationship between science and religion. Ask about her trip to the Holy Land...

**Ruth Mooney**  
(Licensed 2009)

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Present member of **First United**, former member of Southminster and Knox United churches. Led by the spirit to share and express my faith to others, and a strong desire to be involved in the eternal. I receive great satisfaction in preparing and leading services; I enjoy researching the Bible texts and other commentaries and applying them to life today.

**Andrew Nicholls**  
(Licensed 2015)

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I am blessed to have taken this wonderful step in my faith journey. It has been a two year adventure God has taken me on and I am interested to see where God takes me next. I have a growing interest and passion in drama and I am looking to take the step and challenge myself to bring that into worship when appropriate. All in God's timing! My family (wife and three daughters) and I attend **Orleans United Church** and I am also very fortunate to attend Bethany United Church and be a part of that wonderful faith community as well. I would be honoured to assist with worship anywhere in the Ottawa area.

**Jeannie Page**  
(Licensed 2015)

(613) 290-1393

[jeanniepage@bell.net](mailto:jeanniepage@bell.net)



A lifelong member of the UCC, I am passionate about inter-cultural, inter-generational worship and music and following God's call for peace and justice. I have participated in several United Church Mission Learning trips to the Global South. I am an active member of **Emmanuel United** where I serve on Council, sing with the Senior Choir and a musical group called "Redwing Blackbird", and am Chair of the Global Partners Committee, liaising with our Partners in El Salvador and Zambia. As a writer, poet and story teller, I love to share Jesus' message of love and hope. I am available to lead worship in Ottawa area on short or long notice.

**David Patterson**

(613) 837-1308

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Retired civilian member of RCMP as project manager with mobile communications. Lay Presbytery Representative of **Orleans United Church**.

**Don Reynolds**

(613) 227-6555

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I am self-employed and have been sharing my faith with congregations throughout the Ottawa valley and West Quebec for 20 years.

**Hilda Sabadash**

(Licensed 2004)

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I was the former program coordinator of Bereaved Families in Ottawa and now volunteer as a facilitator for grief groups. I chair the Pastoral Care Committee at **Glebe St. James**. I enjoy being part of a church community where faith in the form of Healing Touch, Prayer Circle and quilting (very amateur) is a part of our lifestyle. I am also available at short notice.

**Alison Sales**

(Licensed 2015)

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I am a member of **Orleans United Church** where I am a part of the Outreach Committee. I value my church community and enjoy the annual women's retreat and women's wilderness canoe trip. A Joyful Yarn (the stitching group at OUC) is another interest. I am a mother of two young adults and work in a local insurance agency. As a worship leader I strive to provide engaging and meaningful services with contemporary storytelling and humour.

**Sharon Sanderson**  
(Licensed 1989)

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Worship - an opportunity to hear God's Love as it touches our lives today - for renewal, comfort, challenge and inspiration. I have experience leading a variety of worship experiences including Sunday/mid-week services, meditative services, congregational retreats and Quiet Days. I am blessed with wonderful support from **Rideau Park** and my family. I support Rideau Park as a member of the Music and Worship committee, and the Healing Pathway ministry.

**Carol Scott**  
(Licensed 2015)

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Carol Scott is a member of **Emmanuel United Church** where she is part of the Worship Committee and other related groups. She believes that within community worship, our faith practices can evolve and grow stronger for the good of all creation. As a facilitator for the UCC Comprehensive Review, she had the opportunity to interview several congregations within Ottawa and across Canada, and looks forward to the opportunity to lead worship in various Ottawa Presbytery congregations. Carol finds poetry writing is her natural form of expressing the deep Mystery that pervades all of life.

**Sandra Smith**  
(Licensed 2017)

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I am a member of **Barrhaven United Church** where I serve as co-chair of worship, a member of the pastoral care team, and a community movie night coordinator. I am passionate about theology, preaching, pastoral care and community events. I have worked as a teacher with the OCDSB, and an activity leader at The Courtyards on Eagleson. I am a mother of two daughters. My hobbies include in-line skating, ventriloquism, and shibashi.

**Joanne Tanner**  
(Licensed 2009)

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I am an Office Administrator at a high school during the week; dealing with teenagers all week long is probably part of the reason I find peace in studying the Word of God. I have led worship at several churches and have met some wonderful people along the way. My faith journey has led me on an amazing journey, I am enveloped in a sense of peace and joy when creating in worship, and I have had the pleasure of hearing people tell me I delivered just what they needed to hear. The glory for that goes to God, I am just the vessel. Worship gives me a chance to connect with God on a deeper level and I enjoy sharing the stories of our ancestors in a way that relates to life today. My home church is **First United Church**.

**Lynda Therkelsen**  
(Licensed 2012)

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I am a registered nurse. I have lots of interest in pastoral and palliative care. I am a really conservative person. I am always eager and ready to learn. I really enjoy helping and serving others. I presently work in dialysis but have a long history of working in critical care from newborns to elderly. For the moment I am available to lead worship in my own pastoral charge. I shall wait for retirement to get more involved. Member of **St. Andrew's/St. Paul's United Church, Russell.**

**Bonnie Warnock**  
(Licensed 2009)

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I have served in various capacities in several United Church communities throughout Ontario as my husband and I worked and raised our family in Timmins, Thunder Bay, Sudbury, Sault Ste Marie, and Pembroke. Retired now, we have made our home in Richmond, Ontario. I am an active member of **St. Paul's United Church in Richmond** Ontario and am currently Chair of Session. I am both excited and challenged by the opportunity to serve.