

President's Report for CABF, 2023.

Love unites all, . . . The heart of God, the heart of all creation, and our own hearts become one in love. . . . It is in the heart of God that we can come to the full realization of the unity of all that is, created and uncreated.

(Henri Nouwen, Bread for the Journey, 1997)

I thank God for this honor to serve as your President throughout this past year. What a blessing.

One of the perks of this office, is to be an ex-officio member on all the committees.

For example, when I met with the Program Committee I was energized by the great ideas and enthusiasm as the Rushton Lecture and AGM weekend events were planned and implemented.

Meeting with the Publication Committee, and grasping their vision for the future of engaging the CABF members (and others) through the written word, whether in print or digital, gave cause for reflection and hope.

The Credentials Committee was continually hopping. Zoom meetings with various individuals and churches from all areas of Canada, helped me to realize how broadly the CABF was growing, and how important it has been to have a strong format to offer these beautiful people seeking a safe and welcoming home.

Working with the Nominating Committee has allowed me to consider the great gifts of our membership and how best they can be utilized.

Thank you to Rev. Dan Green for agreeing to act as Vice President following the move of Rev. Don Flowers closer to family in USA. Thank you to all members of Council who have consistently served in their positions of expertise.

As I close this brief report, let me welcome all the new members, churches and individuals, to our association. I pray that as the future unfolds, we shall become better acquainted and our family of CABF will grow richer and more blessed.

May you recognize in your life the presence, power, and light of your soul. . . .
May you realize that the shape of your soul is unique, that you have a special destiny here, that behind the facade of your life there is something beautiful and eternal happening.

(John O'Donohue, To Bless the Space Between Us, 2008)

Shalom,
Marlene Knowles