

Minutes of the Presbytery of London

New St. James Presbyterian Church, London, Tuesday, September 8, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

In London, and within New St. James Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of London met in Regular Session on Tuesday, the eighth day of September, two thousand and fifteen, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening.

Constitution The Moderator, Mr. Robert Baron, welcomed everyone to the meeting and constituted the Court with prayer.

Worship The Worship Service was led by Rev. Andrew Reid, Robert Baron and Mikal Schomburg.

Welcome, Courtesies and Announcements The Moderator extended a welcome to all present. Mildred Greig and Margaret McCullough represented the WMS.

Attendance John Bannerman, Charlotte Brown, Mavis Currie, Deb Dolbear-VanBilsen, Ed Hoekstra, William Khalil, Amanda MacMillan, Keith McKee, John Park, Heather Paton, Andrew Reid, Michael Stol, Andrew Thompson, Robert Shaw, Jane Swatridge, Ministers; Bob Baron, Janis Boyle, Lily Carrothers, Linda Charlton, Richard Cote, William Cron, Janet Donkervoort, Ruth Ann Drozd, Lynda Drummelsmith, Ian Fleck, Mildred Greig, Patrick Laurin, Pat MacKay, Matt Marshall, Sheila McMurray, Nancy Newell, Inge Stahl, John Stewart, Gerald Stocking, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Trudy Van Der Hoek, Alison Williams, Elders; Lu Brule, Treasurer; Carrie Thornton, Clerk; Megan Shin, Student Minister; Margaret McCullough, WMS; Jill Barker, Tom Telfer, Westmount; Peter Vanderkooy, Knox, Fingal; Marlene Peck, Elmwood.

Regrets Mark Turner, Ministers; Tom Jeffery, Linda McKenna, Barbara Nyitray, Elders.

Absent Ray Burgess, Sandra VanDerVeen, Elders

Docket **MOTION:** (Reid/Drozd) THAT the Docket as circulated be adopted for the meeting. CARRIED.

Stated Hour 8:00 pm **MOTION:** (Brown/Bannerman) THAT the action of the Clerk in citing the congregation of Westmount Presbyterian Church be homologated. CARRIED.

Retirement of Rev. Michael Stol The Clerk read the letter received from Rev. Michael Stol.

MOTION: (Currie/Boyle) THAT the following members of Westmount Presbyterian Church be given permission to address the Court: Jill Barker, Tom Telfer. CARRIED.

J. Barker and T. Telfer spoke about the ministry of Rev Stol.

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M. Currie shared several stories about working with M. Stol at Westmount.

M. Stol addressed the Court and spoke about his Call to Westmount and the warmth and graciousness of the people there. He has enjoyed the fellowship and work of the Presbytery and he strongly believes he is being called from Westmount to future adventures.

The Moderator thanked Rev. Stol for his service to the Presbytery.

The Moderator invited the members of Westmount to stay for the remainder of the meeting but gave them permission to leave if they wished.

MOTION: (Reid/Dolbear-VanBilsen) THAT the application of the Rev. Michael Stol to retire from ministry in the Presbyterian Church in Canada as of January 1, 2016 be granted. CARRIED.

MOTION: (Drozd/Brown) THAT the Rev. Andrew Reid be appointed interim moderator of Westmount Presbyterian Church effective September 8, 2015. CARRIED.

MOTION: (Fleck/McKee) THAT the request of the session of Westmount Presbyterian Church to begin the search process immediately be granted. CARRIED.

**DaySpring
Dissolution
Team**

The Court AGREED that Bruce Curtis, convenor of the DaySpring Dissolution Committee be given permission to address the Court.

B. Curtis came forward and presented the report circulated with the advance reports.

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MOTION: (Reid/McKee) THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Presbytery of London, held on June 16, 2015, be adopted as circulated. CARRIED.

MOTION: (Reid/McKee) THAT the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Presbytery of London, held on June 23, 2015 be adopted as circulated. CARRIED.

**Report of the
Administrative
Team**

The Moderator invited the Clerk, C. Thornton, to present the Report of the Administrative Team.

MOTION: (McKee/Reid) THAT recommendations 1 through 10 be adopted by consent. CARRIED.

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RECOMMENDATION #1: THAT the following correspondence be received for information:

	Number	From	Regarding
15-78		E. Bartlett, Assembly Office	changes to the Roll April - June
15-80		D. Tait-Katerberg, Presbytery of Westminster	Rev Bruce McAndless-Davis, letter of standing
14-87		S. Kendall, Principal Clerk	items for attention of Sessions

RECOMMENDATION #2: THAT the following correspondence be referred as named:

Number	From	Regarding	Refer To
15-76	R. Shaw	clergy housing allowance	admin team
15-77	E. Bartlett, Assembly Office	congregational pages A&P	Clerk
15-79	R. Fee, LMA	nominations Associate Secretary Canadian Ministries	admin team
15-81	Financial Services, PCC	invoice GA accommodations & meals	Treasurer
14-82	S. Kendall, Principal Clerk	items for the attention of Presbyteries	admin team
14-83	S. Kendall, Principal Clerk	2015 remits	admin team
14-84	S. Kendall, Principal Clerk	nominations for Moderator 142nd GA	admin team
14-85	S. Kendall, Principal Clerk	overtures, memorials, petitions 2016	admin team
14-86	S. Kendall, Principal Clerk	commissioners 2016 GA	Clerk
15-88	T. Hamilton, Assembly Office	shipping 2015 A&Ps	Clerk
15-89	J. Fung, London Mandarin Alliance Church	rental of DaySpring	trustee bd/ dissolution team
15-90	R. Shaw	resignation IM North Caradoc- St. Andrew's.Knox, Komoka	Moderator
15-91	H. Chappell, PCC	Presbyterians Sharing June 2015	circ. elect.
15-92	B. Nawratil, Financial Services	mission plan Bethel	convenor Bethel team
15-93	J. Henderson, Presbytery of Huron-Perth	certificates of transfer, Rev A. Thompson, Rev. S. Thompson	admin team

RECOMMENDATION #3: THAT the following Elders be named as Representative and Alternative Representative Elders to the Presbytery of London for the 2015-2016 year:

Burns - Mosa : (R) Donna Jean Van Bilsen (A) Carol Leitch (A) Jim McKellar;

Chalmers - London : (R) Richard Cote (A) Pat MacKay;

Knox - Komoka / North Caradoc-St. Andrew's : (R) Mildred Greig (A) Lily Carrothers;

Appin / Guthrie - Melbourne : (R) Tom Jeffery (A) Lorna Martin;

St. James - North Yarmouth : (R) Nancy Newell (A) Joan Mansell;

St. Lawrence - London : (R) Inge Stahl (A) Alison Williams

RECOMMENDATION #4: THAT the Clerk write a letter of appreciation to the following Elders who have retired:

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Debbie Kemp (Chalmers, London)

Angela Osborne (Knox, Komoka / North Caradoc-St. Andrew's)

David Laphorne, Joan Taylor (St. Lawrence, London)

RECOMMENDATION #5: THAT The Reverend Dennis Carrothers be added to the appendix to the Roll of the Presbytery of London effective June 17, 2015.

RECOMMENDATION #6: THAT The Reverend Andrew Thompson be added to the Appendix to the Roll of the Presbytery of London effective September 1, 2015.

RECOMMENDATION #7: THAT The Reverend Sarah Thompson be added to the Appendix to the Roll of the Presbytery of London effective September 1, 2015.

RECOMMENDATION #8: THAT the resignation of the Rev. Robert Shaw as interim moderator of Knox Presbyterian Church, Komoka and North Caradoc-St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church effective August 31, 2015 be accepted with the thanks of the Court.

RECOMMENDATION #9: THAT the action of the Moderator appointing The Rev. Jane Swatridge interim moderator of Knox Presbyterian Church, Komoka and North Caradoc-St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church effective September 1, 2015 be homologated.

RECOMMENDATION #10: THAT The Rev. Jon Van Den Berg be added to the Appendix to the Roll of the Presbytery of London effective August 1, 2015.

RECOMMENDATION #11: (McKee/Reid) THAT the grant application by Almanarah Presbyterian Church to Canadian Ministries in the amount of \$26,000 for 2016 be approved. CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATION #12: (McKee/Reid) THAT the transition allowance for the Rev. Jon Van Den Berg be extended by four weeks. CARRIED.

The Clerk advised the Court that the Administrative Team was not aware that the Rev. J. Van Den Berg was entitled to four weeks of accrued vacation time when the motion to sever the pastoral tie was made. Recommendation #12 will extend the transition period by four weeks.

**Records
Examination**

MOTION: (T. Van Der Hoek/D.J. Van Bilsen) THAT the Session Records of Oakridge Presbyterian Church, London be attested as being neatly and correctly

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kept. CARRIED.

Treasurer Report The Treasurer, L. Brule, requested that committee convenors approve expenses before payment. He also advised the Court that the 2016 budget is in process and to forward all budget requests to him by October 20, 2015.

Almanarah R.A. Drozd circulated a written a written report and provided a brief verbal summary.

MOTION: (Drozd/Khalil) THAT the Presbytery of London allocate \$5,000 for the year 2016 as the third year of the three year allocation previously approved by the Presbytery for Almanarah Presbyterian Church for assistance in church development. The approval was subject to review in the second and third year. CARRIED.

Students and Education Team **MOTION:** (Park/Stol) THAT the Presbytery of London approve the certification for ordination of Mikal Schomburg. CARRIED.

MOTION: (Stol/Dolbear-VanBilsen) THAT the Rev. Keith McKee be granted study leave from November 1st through 7th, 2015 to attend the Festival of Homiletics in Toronto. CARRIED.

MOTION: (McKee/Dolbear-VanBilsen) THAT the Rev. Amanda MacMillan be granted study leave from November 2nd through 8th, 2015 to attend the Festival of Homiletics in Toronto. CARRIED.

Denominational Work Team No report.

Vacancy and Visitation Team R.A. Drozd reported that the St. Lawrence support team has met with the congregation and will review the results prior to scheduling another meeting with the congregation.

R.A. Drozd advised the Court that the Team had conducted the annual review of the Treasurer and the Clerk.

MOTION: (Drozd/Stol) THAT both the Clerk and Treasurer be commended for their excellent work with Presbytery and that the review team be dismissed with the thanks of the Court. CARRIED.

Leading with Care Team No report.

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Mission and Evangelism Team J. Van Den Berg advised he will be circulation material in advance of the October team meetings.

Hospital Visitor Team No report.

Youth & Campus Ministry Team H. Paton presented the written report which was circulated with the advance reports.

Website and Communications Team No report.

Small Church Ministries Team No report.

Reports of Interim Moderators Knox, Fingal – E. Hoekstra reported diligence.

St. James, North Yarmouth – J. Bannerman reported the session will be meeting later in the month; M. Schomburg's contract is finished at the end of 2015; the election of elders is proceeding.

St. John's, Port Stanley – **MOTION:** (Cron/Hoekstra) THAT the contact between St. John's Presbyterian Church, Port Stanley and Mr. Tom Jeffery, Lay Missionary, from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016 be approved.
CARRIED.

A copy of the contract is attached to these minutes.

Knox, Komoka/North Caradoc-St. Andrew's – J. Swatridge reported all is going well.

Argyle, Crinan/Duff, Largie – R. Shaw reported that the pulpit is supplied and the sacraments are being celebrated.

St. Lawrence, London – J. Park reports diligence.

Elmwood Avenue, London – K. McKee presented the written report which was circulated with the advance reports.

Other Business None.

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Adjournment On a motion by K. McKee, the Court stood adjourned at sixteen minutes after nine o'clock in the evening, to meet again in Special Session on Sunday, the thirteenth day of September, two thousand and fifteen, at six thirty o'clock in the evening, in Dutton and within Knox St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and in Regular Session on Tuesday, the thirteenth day of October, two thousand and fifteen, at seven o'clock in the evening, in London, and within Oakridge Presbyterian Church.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

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St. John's Presbyterian Church, Port Stanley, Ontario Lay Missionary Agreement Between Tom Jeffery and St. John's Presbyterian Church, Port Stanley

The contract of employment with Mr. Jeffery is for a period of October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016.

The contract must be renewed in writing yearly. Either party may terminate the contract by providing thirty (30) days written notice. The contract consists of sixteen (16) hours of paid employment weekly, with the expectation that eight (8) hours will be spent in preparation and deliverance of preaching and worship, with eight (8) hours committed to performing pastoral care, attending meetings, and programs (as outlined by Session). Mr. Jeffery will receive a yearly stipend of \$22,500, which is inclusive of housing, utilities and study leave. (This figure is greater than the calculated minimum stipend and allowances for Category III for 2016, as set out in the 2015 Acts and Proceedings of the General Assembly). In addition, Mr. Jeffery is to receive five (5) weeks of paid holidays annually.

Mr. Jeffery will be responsible to the Session of St. John's Presbyterian Church, Port Stanley, and its Interim-Moderator. Regular reports will be made to Session.

Support and nurture Christian Development **Roles and Responsibilities of Mr. Jeffery will include, but are not limited to the following:**

- **Worship and Preaching each Sunday:**

Order and share conduct of worship (ie order of service, choice of scripture readings, hymns);

Prepare and preach sermons on all Sundays except on Communion Sundays, and occasional absences such as illness, or with prior permission of the Session and Interim-Moderator;

To arrange for pulpit supply on those Sundays when absent from the pulpit, in consultation with Session and the Interim-Moderator;

Conduct funerals and other appropriate services as requested;

Conduct nursing-home services as requested, and with the permission of Session.

- **Pastoral Care**

Oversee the general pastoral care of the congregation, working in close association with the Session and Interim Moderator.

Visit new families who have come into the church;

Do hospital and institutional visits.

- **Nurture and Christian Development**

through Bible Study and other Activities designed for adults and children and as requested by Session.