**The Link – April 2022**

**A Presbytery of London Newsletter for Sessions & Congregations**

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The Presbytery of London met in person on Tuesday April 19th, 2022 at Chalmers Presbyterian Church, London. Masks were worn and social distancing was observed. The meeting opened with worship led by Rev. John Bannerman, minister of Chalmers and Beth Hickey, Director of Music; Rev. Mavis Currie moderated the meeting, as Rev. Andrew Thompson was absent. Below is a brief summary of items discussed at the meeting.

**Welcome!** The presbytery welcomes Rev. Herb Hilder and Rev. Katharine Michie to the appendix to the roll. Herb and Katharine are newly retired Presbyterian clergy who have moved to our presbytery from British Columbia.

**Students for the Ministry**: Elizabeth Macleod was re-certified as a student for ministry. Sonia Brule and Byron Kappes are both graduating this year, and it expected that they will be interviewed as candidates for ordination soon.

**Presbytery Finances:** The Treasurer of Presbytery, Lu Brule, presented the financial statements for the presbytery. A summary of the statements can be found on the 2nd page of this newsletter. The finances of the presbytery were reviewed by an independent party, according to best practices and deemed in good order.

**Reminder!!** The clerk of presbytery reminds congregations who have not yet sent in their presbyterian sharing allocations or their 2021 statistical reports to do so as soon as possible.

**Financial Review Team for Congregations**: The Presbytery has individuals who are willing to review financial statements for those churches who would appreciate an independent review of their finances for end of year statements. Contact Lu Brule, treasurer of presbytery for more information.

**The Refugee Committee** reported that they are hoping to finally be able to sponsor the family that they had committed to bring to Canada pre-pandemic. There were six people in this family, however, two have passed away due to Covid 19. The committee is also investigating sponsoring refugees from Ukraine. It was noted that as the next family gets settled in Canada, the committee will require more funds.

**Fundraiser for Refugees:** Dorchester Presbyterian Church is hosting a “Classic Car and Truck Show” on Saturday May 28th, 2022, 1669 Richmond Street Dorchester. 10am- 2pm. Food barbecue by Donation to Refugee Aid through the Presbytery. Volunteers are welcome.

**Red Dress Walk:** This event honouring Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women is being supported by Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Thomas and led in partnership with representatives from Munsee Delaware First Nation. Thursday May 5th, 2022 at 5pm in Pinafore Park St. Thomas. Call Knox St. Thomas at 519-631-2414 for more information.

**The Presbytery of London**

**Financial Summary for the year ended December 31, 2021**

**General Account**

The General Account had a cash balance of $15,852, Dayspring $12,212.

General Account investments $143,234, Dayspring $80,509. Other receivables $3,817.

Funds available for grants $107,972.

**Note: The Dayspring Fund** is to be used to support the establishment of new congregations or the renewal of established congregations. Grant requests are made to the presbytery

**Income Statement:**

Total revenue $82,513.

Total expenses $103,620

Deficit ($15,764)

This includes $41,500 that was paid to the congregations as Covid-19 financial assistance.

**Stalker Fund (this fund was established to provide financial assistance to students for the ministry)**

Cash balance $6,899, Investment balance $84,181.

**Income Statement:**

Interest income $2,363, expenses $3,552 Deficit for the year ($1,189).

There were student grants paid of $3,552 in 2021.

**Discretionary Fund:**

Cash balance $29,761, Investment balance $0.

**Income Statement:**

Interest revenue $108, Expenses $500 Deficit ($383).

For details about any of the accounts please see the Financial Statements provided and if you have any questions, you can email me at lcbrule@gmail.com or call me at 548-588-1408.

Lu Brule – Treasurer.