**The Link – January 2022**

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

[www.presbylondon.ca](http://www.presbylondon.ca)



There are three teams within the presbytery of London: The Business Team, the Ministry Team and the Congregation Team. Each team meets outside of the regular meeting of the court to deal with business that pertains to their team mandate.

The Presbytery of London met over zoom on Wednesday January 11th, 2022. Below is a brief summary of items discussed at the meeting. The meeting was opened with prayer and a devotional given by Rev. Keith McKee.

The presbytery moved “in camera” (ie. without visitors) to discuss a confidential matter.

The treasurer gave a full financial report, outlining transactions in the presbytery’s general account, and also in the funds of the presbytery that have a specified purpose.

**The Refugee Committee**: The presbytery of London has sponsored several refugees with funds collected from the presbytery. This committee has sponsored several refugees to Canada in the last decade. During the pandemic, they have not sponsored any new refugees but are exploring more sponsorships this year. The committee gave a brief report to the presbytery, including a recommendation that they seek up to three people who have been refugees to serve on the committee. It was felt that these individuals would be helpful to understand the unique needs and experiences of those who come to Canada as refugees.

**Young Adult Representative (YAR) o General Assembly:** The presbytery of London is permitted to send a young adult representative to General Assembly in June 2022. It has not been decided yet whether General Assembly will be in person or over zoom. This opportunity is for young people aged 16-25 years. The YAR from the Presbytery of London must be available to attend the whole Assembly, if it is in person. If Assembly is in-person, meals, transportation and accommodation (in residence) costs are covered by the Presbytery and by General Assembly. If your church has eligible young adults in your congregation who would be interested in this opportunity, please have them mail/email the clerk of presbytery a letter of application. Letters should include the applicant’s name, address, telephone number and e-mail address, along with a brief description of their educational background, church involvement and community activities. All applications received will be reviewed by the Business team of the Presbytery. The deadline for receiving applications is January 31, 2022.

**A Memorial Minute for Rev. Robert Shaw:**  Rev. Robert Shaw passed away on January 9th, 2022 at the age of 68. Rev. Shaw served in the presbytery of London at Knox-St. Andrew’s Church, Dutton for a number of years, before retiring in Strathroy. A memorial minute outlining his generosity of spirit and gifts in ministry and life were read at the presbytery meeting.

**The General Presbyter:** Rev. Jim Patterson gave a full report on his work in the new position of General Presbyter. The General Presbyter is co-ordinating worship leadership and pastoral care at several of the churches in our presbytery who are not in a position to call a minister.

**Vacancies:** The following churches are currently in the process of discerning a call to a new minister or half time stated supply: Westmount, Trinity, St. Lawrence, Oakridge. The interim moderators of each church was given an opportunity to share their progress.

**Who’s who in the Presbytery?**

The Moderator: Rev. Andrew Thompson, minister at Knox-St. Andrew’s, Dutton

The Clerk: Mrs. Carrie Thornton.

The Treasurer: Mr. Lu Brule

Past Moderators: Rev. Mavis Currie and Rev. Shelly Butterfield-Kocis.

