The Link – November 2022 A Presbytery of London Newsletter for Sessions & Congregations

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The presbytery of London met on Tuesday November 8th 2022 at 7pm at Argyle Presbyterian Church, Crinan. The presbytery is one of the courts of our church. The presbytery is one of the ruling bodies (or courts) of our church. One elder and one minister from each congregation participate in these monthly meetings. The meetings always begin with worship and are moderated by an elder or minister. To read the minutes of meetings or to learn more about the work of the Presbytery of London, please visit our website at: www.presbylondon.ca



Presbytery Funds: At the November meeting, the Treasurer of Presbytery, Lu Brule gave his regular financial report. The presbytery has several funds with specific purposes for the work of the wider church.

The General Fund: This fund is used to cover honorariums and general expenses. Currently there is \$37,435 in the General Fund and GICs valued at \$120,708.

The Dayspring Fund: This fund is designated for congregational development and renewal. There are specific terms and congregations within the bounds of the presbytery may apply for grants from the fund. For details about how to apply, contact your rep elder, minister or the treasurer of presbytery. The Fund has a cash balance of \$8,039 and GICs valued at \$82,298.

The Stalker Fund: This fund is used to provide support in the form of grants for students for the ministry. This fund has a cash balance of \$7,139 With GICs valued at \$84,274.

The Discretionary Fund: This fund is used to cover any expenses that were not budgeted. The presbytery's approval is required. Currently, there is \$21,286 in this fund.

The Presbytery Lending Fund:

The Presbytery Lending Fund is composed of representatives appointed by every congregation in the Presbytery of London: one representative for every two hundred members or fractions thereof in the congregation, and two representatives appointed by Presbytery. The committee meets as needed. In the last years, the officers of the committee have changed. The new officers of the Committee are Deb Noble-VanHees (Chair), Carl Taylor (secretary), Tom Currie (Treasurer). This Fund provides low interest loans to congregations who need financial assistance for specific building projects. A meeting will be called for January 2023 of the entire committee over zoom.

2023 Minimum Stipend and Allowance Schedule: The national church sets minimum figures for church leaders (clergy and lay leaders) and reviews these minimums on a yearly basis. Presbyteries can set their own minimums, provided they exceed those set by General Assembly. These figures are available through your representative elder, your minister, the national church and the clerk of presbytery. Congregations should note the changes in the printed minimums, and that housing allowance should cover the fair rental value for appropriate accommodation.

It is noted that the pay for Sunday Supply preachers is now \$190 per Sunday for both clergy and lay, plus accommodation and meals, as required, and travel expense reimbursed at the rate of \$0.45 per km.



Food Handling in Churches

St. John's, Wardsville and Glencoe Presbyterian Churches have created a survey for congregations regarding food handling within churches and Public health regulations. More information to come on this topic that affects all churches.

Presbytery Meetings move online! During the months of January, February and March, the presbytery will meet over zoom.

Please pray for....

- Congregations who are in the midst of looking for a minister.
- Clergy and Lay worship leaders as they prepare for Advent and Christmas services
- Our clerk of Presbytery, Carrie Thornton, our Treasurer, Lu Brule, and our Moderator, Richard Cote.
- The mission staff of our church who work abroad and in Canada

May The Christ Child be born in every heart, home and congregation in the Season ahead!



SORRY FOLKS, WE'RE BOOKED SOLID ... GOD HIMSELF COULDN'T GET A ROOM HERE TONIGHT