

The Link – January 2023

A Presbytery of London Newsletter for Sessions & Congregations

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The presbytery of London met on Tuesday January 10th, 2023 at 7pm over zoom. Worship was conducted by Rev. Dr. Roland De Vries, the principal of Presbyterian College, Montreal. Presbyterian College is one of the three seminaries within the Presbyterian Church in Canada where clergy are educated. Rev. Dr. De Vries shared several opportunities for continuing education with the presbytery.

January

What Happened at the January 2023 meeting of the Presbytery?

The Call for a New Minister to St. Lawrence Presbyterian Church: The court discussed the report of the ministry team and the report of the interim moderator from St. Lawrence regarding the call to a new minister for St. Lawrence. As there was an item line missing in the call document, and as there was concern expressed for the housing allowance offered, it was decided that the matter would be returned to the session of St. Lawrence for editing and review. It is anticipated that a special meeting of presbytery will be held in the next few weeks to process the call.

Updated List of Supply Preachers: The ministry team of presbytery reported that the list for supply preachers has been updated and circulated. Those who are regularly preaching in our presbytery are required to be certified to preach by the ministry team.

Overture from the Session of New St. James to Presbytery: One way that congregations have access to the wider church's decision making is by making an overture to General Assembly. General Assembly is the national gathering of our church. It includes 1/6 of ruling and 1/6 of teaching elders from across the country. This overture requests the denomination review "to delete, emend, or qualify the definition of the church as "the new Israel" in Living Faith."

Report of the Refugee Committee: The Kaba family arrived on Nov 28. They are housed in a semi-detached at 77 Cecelia Street, London. Rent plus utilities, including WIFI, is \$2900 per month. Stipend for food, transportation, and incidentals has been set at \$1500 per month to be reviewed as needed. A big thank you to churches that have made contributions to the Refugee fund. The committee will be looking at new sponsorships in the coming months.



Other notes of importance include:

- A short-term sick leave was approved for one of the clergy in the presbytery.
- The clerk noted that she has been experiencing email challenges in an attempt to create one group e-mail list for the presbytery. It is hoped that this will soon be resolved.
- Rev's Herb Hilder and Katharine Michie will be offering another small luncheon for presbyters in early February!