

The Link – November 2023

A Presbytery of London Newsletter for Sessions & Congregations

www.presbylondon.ca



The Presbytery of London met on Tuesday November 14th, 2023 at 7pm St. George's Presbyterian Church, London. Opening worship was led by Rev. Donghwi (David) Son, London Korean Christian Church.

Announcements: Do you have an announcement from your congregation that you would like to share with other congregations in our presbytery through the Link newsletter? Please send your announcements in writing to m.currie@knoxstthomas.ca a few days before presbytery. Please put "For the Link" as the subject line.

A Call to Anita Evans: One of the responsibilities of a presbytery is to review and approve calls to ministers or students within their geographic area. The call is a written document that includes the commitment of a church to a minister; it notes the percentage of members and adherents who signed the call. Anita Evans is a graduate of Knox College who has been interviewed and accepted as a candidate for ordination by the presbytery of London. A call to Ms. Evans from our neighbouring presbytery, Lambton West Middlesex, was received and considered regarding a position at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Beechwood. Following the approval and acceptance of a call, individuals are eligible for ordination (if they are not already ordained.) A service of ordination is conducted by the presbytery. Anita Evans' ordination service will take at Oakridge Presbyterian Church, her home congregation.



The Presbytery Financial Report and Budget: The presbytery's funds were reviewed. A few notes regarding these funds:

1. The General Fund – used to cover general expenses incurred such as honorarium cheques and all other expenses as they come due.
2. Dayspring Fund – established to provide support for new congregations or for promoting renewal within existing congregations.
3. Dr. Daniel Stalker Memorial Fund – established to provide financial support to students studying at one of our denomination's colleges.
4. Discretionary Account - used to cover any expenses that may not be budgeted with the approval of Presbytery.
5. The Refugee account – used for the work of settling refugees. Currently, there is a balance of approximately \$3000.

Contract Ministry Position approved for Caradoc Presbyterian Church: A part time contract ministry position was presented for approval. The contract would engage Rev. John Bannerman, a recently retired minister of the Presbyterian Church in Canada to offer leadership for Caradoc Presbyterian Church for a six month period.



Truth and Reconciliation: The Moderator of the General Assembly, Rev. Mary Fontaine will be visiting the Presbytery on November 25th. This event is hosted by Huron Perth, Lambton West Middlesex and the Presbytery of London. The deadline for registration for the lunch is November 15th.

The Ministry Team and the Congregation Team both gave reports. A recommendation from the Ministry team regarding ordination was tabled. (This means that the matter was not discussed or voted upon; this matter may be lifted from the table at a later meeting.) The matter of a church that is contemplating closure was discussed, and the presbytery encouraged that a meeting with this congregation's session and the presbytery team happen quickly.

A Memorial Minute was read for Helen Joyce Pollock: Joyce was a graduate of early childhood education and served as a member of the order of diaconal ministry within the Presbyterian Church in Canada. She married Rev. Murdo Pollock, a well known and long serving Presbyterian minister. Living well into her nineties, Joyce is remember for her many acts of service, her commitment to the church and her community. An active member St. Lawrence, St. George's and Elmwood Presbyterian Churches – she lived a life of great faith and service. Well done, good and faithful servant.

How do I learn more about the Presbytery of London? Go to our website! www.presbylondon.ca, ask your rep elder or your minister!



Please pray for...

- Anita Evans, as she prepares for ordination.
- Caradoc Presbyterian Church, as they continue with the New Beginnings Process and begin a contract ministry with Rev. John Bannerman.
- Rev. Shelly Butterfield Kocis
- The Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, Rev. Fontaine.
- Churches that are struggling and particularly any congregation contemplating dissolution.
- Clergy and sessions who are beginning preparations for Advent and Christmas.

