

# The Link – September 2024

## A Presbytery of London Newsletter for Sessions & Congregations

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



The Presbytery of London met at Knox-St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Tuesday September 10<sup>th</sup> 2024 at 7pm. Opening worship and communion was led by outgoing moderator Rev. David Clark. Rev. Herb Hilder was installed as the moderator for the 2024-2025 church year. Below are a few highlights of our meeting!

### Upcoming Events:

Burns Mosa Presbyterian Church will soon be celebrating their 190<sup>th</sup> anniversary! As part of their celebrations, they will be hosting a concert featuring KJ & The Motones on **Sunday October 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm**. Advance tickets are available for purchase. The following **Sunday October 27<sup>th</sup>** Rev. Reuben St. Louis will be joining them during their morning worship service for a "Camp Song Sing-a-long".

Westmount Presbyterian Church is hosting a children's after school musical theatre program, including dinner, on Wednesdays from 4:00 to 6:30 pm starting **September 18**. This will culminate in a special musical presentation of Chimes in the Night on **Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup>**. For more information or to register, please email [1stkimductor@gmail.com](mailto:1stkimductor@gmail.com).

### The Business Team Report:

- Rev. Jon Van Den Berg has retired effective July 31, 2024.
- The Presbytery of London has agreed to support the grant application of St. James Presbyterian Church, North Yarmouth to the Supporting Ministries Grant – Sustaining Ministries program
- The Synod of Sothwestern Ontario will be holding their annual meeting over Zoom again this year and we will be needing to send commissioners
- The vacant position of Moderator-Elect needs to be filled in short order with the one-year term as moderator beginning **September 2025**
- The annual review of the positions for clerk and treasurer was presented and all recommendations were approved

### Ordination and Induction:

The congregation of Knox-St. Andrews Presbyterian Church presented a call to Sonia Brule to become their new minister of word and sacraments. Several members of the congregation spoke to the call. Sonia graciously accepted the call. The ordination service for Ms. Brule will be held on **Sunday September 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** at Oakridge Presbyterian Church. Details for the subsequent service of induction at Knox-St. Andrew's will be forthcoming.

### Minutes of Recognition:

Rev. Keith McKee presented a memorial minute for **Rev. Deane Cassidy**. Deane was a minister at several churches in the Presbyterian Church including St. Andrew's in Strathroy and was listed on the appendix of the Presbytery of London.

Rev. Andrew Fullerton presented a minute of appreciation for **Rev. James Patterson** for his two years of service as General Presbyter. Jim was instrumental in the initial implementation of this new role for the Presbytery. Several other Presbyteries have been seeking to learn from our experiences.

### **Team Reports:**

Both the Ministry Team and Congregation Teams reported diligence as they gather again after a well-deserved summer break.

**Vacancies in the presbytery:** Reports on the following churches which are without a permanent minister (and not under the care of the General Presbyter) were received: Trinity Church, Caradoc Church, Burns Mosa Church, Knox-St. Andrew's Church, Knox, St. Thomas Church.

**How do I learn more about the Presbytery of London?** Go to our website!  
[www.presbylondon.ca](http://www.presbylondon.ca), ask your rep elder or your minister!



**Did you know?** The Synod of Southwestern Ontario has a Creative Ministries Committee which can provide grants to congregations for initiatives to provide new and creative approaches to ministry. Further information regarding this fund can be found on the Synod website at <https://pccweb.ca/creativeministry/> or you can speak with our Presbytery's representative Rev. Jon van Den Berg.

### **Please pray for...**

- Rev. Shelly Butterfield-Kocis
- The newly inducted Moderator Rev. Herb Hilder
- Sonia Brule and the congregation of Knox-St. Andrews as they begin a new ministry together
- New and returning members of Presbytery committees
- Congregations who are in the midst of a vacancy
- Inspiration for ways in which you may best serve the courts of the Church

### **Meet the Moderator**

Rev. Herb comes from Welland, Ontario. He holds academic degrees from Brock, the University of Western Ontario and Knox College and a Certificate in Spiritual Formation from Columbia University in Decatur, Georgia.

He has served congregations in Guelph, Sackville and Port Elgin, New Brunswick, Chilliwack and Prince George, British Columbia. He has served as Presbytery Clerk and Moderator of the Synod of BC. Rev. Herb stepped away from full time active ministry in December 2019 and moved to London in 2022. They have two adult daughters--Ruth and Jane and a delightful now 10-month-old granddaughter, Nora.



Rev. Herb's 'happy place' is Niagara Falls where the first thing upon visiting is to ensure the 'water is still flowing'.