



Dear Commissioners and Visitors to the 137th General Assembly:

On behalf of the Local Arrangements Committee of the Presbytery of London, I extend to you very sincere greetings as you prepare to come to London for this year's General Assembly. We have selected as our motto for General Assembly "Down by the Riverside." We chose this motto because the River Thames runs through the city and its tributaries unite most of the congregations within our bounds. We stand together in welcoming you to the Presbytery with its geographical and cultural diversities.

The Opening Worship Service will be held on Sunday, June 5, 2011 at 7:30 PM at Alumni Hall on the Campus of the University of Western Ontario. Alumni Hall is a short walk from the residence where you will be housed while you are with us. The service of worship will be led by the Moderator of the 136th General Assembly, the Rev. Herb Gale, and by various members and congregational representatives of the Presbytery of London. Following the service and the opening meeting, you are invited to a reception that will be held on the grounds of historic Huron College.

On the evening of Monday, June 6th a banquet is planned in Great Hall, one of the most beautiful areas on the campus. Every effort will be made to suit to the dietary requirements some of you may have. Please plan to attend the banquet and savour the excellent cuisine of Chef Michael Colby.

We are very excited that an art exhibition has been especially created for General Assembly by the curator of the University's McIntosh Gallery and by a committee of the local arrangements committee. The McIntosh will afford commissioners a place apart to pray and to reflect upon the art throughout the daytime hours. Wednesday, the 8th of June will see four events planned for commissioners and others. New St. James Church, London is hosting a concert and dinner. Westmount Church is planning a walking tour of London followed by a dinner at that congregation. North Caradoc-St. Andrew's Church, a rural congregation will preparing a barbecue with some local entertainment. Members of Knox Church, St. Thomas will be putting on a newly written play and serving dinner in that Church. Transportation to these events will be arranged and easily accessible.

Speaking of transportation, volunteers look forward to picking some of you up at the airport, the train station or the bus station and returning you to the same on Friday afternoon.

In conclusion the work of the Local Arrangements Committee will be successful only when you truly feel at home here in London, the Forest City. This we seek to accomplish in all that we do now in preparation for and during that special week in June when The Venerable 137th General Assembly meets. I remain

Yours in Christ's service,

The Rev. Keith McKee,
Convener of the Local Arrangements Committee of
The 137th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada