

Minutes of the Presbytery of London

North Caradoc-St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, North Caradoc, Tuesday, September 8, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

In North Caradoc, and within North Caradoc-St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of London met in Regular Session on Tuesday, the eighth day of September, two thousand and nine, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening.

Constitution The Moderator, the Reverend Keith McKee welcomed everyone to the meeting, and made special mention of the Praise Band of North Caradoc-St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and thanked them for the uplifting music they provided prior to the meeting. He also thanked the members of the Court for their many messages of sympathy he received following the sudden death of his Father. Mr. McKee then made special mention of the upcoming marriage of the Reverend Amanda Birchall, and extended the congratulations and best wishes of the Presbytery. He then constituted the Court with Prayer.

Worship The Worship Service was conducted by the Reverend Kathy Fraser, the Reverend Keith McKee, the Choir of North Caradoc-St. Andrews, and the Sacrament of Holy Communion was served by The Rev. Kathy Fraser and Elders of this congregation.

**Welcome,
Courtesies and
Announcements** The Moderator welcomed and introduced new Representative Elders. Margaret McCullough was representing the WMS.

Attendance John Bannerman, Amanda Birchall, Charlotte Brown, Mavis Currie, Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen, Kathy Fraser, Tom Godfrey, Terry Ingram, Ian Johnston, Keith McKee, Douglas Miles, Lynn Nichol, Andrew Reid, Robert Shaw, Kevin Steeper, Andras Rameshwar, Ministers; Bob Baron, John Cameron, Ruth Ann Drozd, Chris Evans, Larry Gibbings, Theresa Glithero, Tom Jeffery, Mark Jones, Patrick Laurin, Jacqueline Leitch, Matthew Marshall, Marg McCullough, Ian McFarlane, Linda McKenna, Sheila McMurray, Nancy Newell, Barbara Nyitray, Wilma Reath, Linda Riddell, Don Speir, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Trudy Van Der Hoek, Peter VanderKooy, Elders; Rob Evans, Elmwood; William Khalil, Almanarah; Doug Gillard (Praise Band Leader), Leah Skiffington, Ned Skiffington, Lauren Huston, Erin Huston, Lauren Bourke, Colin Gillard, Cameron Gillard, Christina Gillard (Praise Band Members), Kathy Gillard (Adult Choir Leader), Nancy Tomchick, Maxine Tofflemire, Wilma Reath, Lorraine Lamont, Marilyn Bailey, Maureen Tomchick, Lily Carrothers, Gord McAuslan, Doug Gillard, Theresa Glithero (Adult Choir), Brian Huston, Carol Huston, Diane Brodie, Larry Langford, Kathy Gillard, Doug Gillard, Theresa Glithero (Elders) Barb Bolton, Charlie Bolton, Betty Walker, (Congregation), North Caradoc-St. Andrews.

Regrets Sabrina Caldwell, Michael Stol, Ministers; Marg Chester, Bruce Dickert, Carlton Dindial, Ross MacKay, Joe Ruitenbeek, Nancy Springer, Norma Stevenson, Elders.

Absent Mark Turner, Minister.

Docket **MOTION** (Baron / McMurray) THAT the Docket be approved for this meeting

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with the following changes: Remove the 7:50 p.m. Stated Hour, include with the approvals of the Minutes, the Special Meeting of June 16, and the Exit Review Report for Dorchester / South Nissouri. CARRIED.

**Stated Hour
7:30 p.m.**

MOTION (Evans / Baron) THAT the actions of the Clerk in citing the congregation of Bethel, Ilderton to appear at this meeting be homologated. CARRIED.

**Retirement of the
Rev. Doug Miles**

MOTION (Evans / Baron) THAT the following members of Bethel, Ilderton be given permission to address the Court: Carl Crossett, Rob Fraser. CARRIED.

The Moderator called on the Presbytery Representative for Bethel, Ilderton, Mrs. Margaret McCullough to speak regarding the impending retirement of the Reverend Douglas Miles. Following Margaret's comments, the Moderator called on the Clerk of Session of Bethel, Ilderton, Mr. Carl Crossett to speak, followed by Mr. Rob Fraser. All spoke in appreciation of the ministry of Doug Miles and his wife Shirley, and expressed their best wishes to Doug in this, his second retirement.

MOTION (Evans / Baron) THAT the resignation of the Reverend Doug Miles be accepted with the gratitude of the Presbytery for his service to Bethel Church, Ilderton, and the Presbytery during his time within the Presbytery of London.

The Moderator invited members of the Court to speak, and Ian Johnston, Terry Ingram, Kathy Fraser, and finally the Moderator, Keith McKee all expressed their thanks for Doug's time within this Presbytery.

The Reverend Doug Miles was then invited to speak, and he reflected on his 50 years of ministry, and expressed his appreciation for the support of both the congregation of Bethel, Ilderton, and of the Presbytery of London.

The **MOTION** CARRIED.

MOTION (Evans / Baron) THAT the Bethel Presbyterian Church, Ilderton, pulpit be declared vacant effective November 1, 2009. CARRIED.

MOTION (Evans / Baron) THAT an Exit Review Team to Bethel, Ilderton, be named by the Vacancy and Visitation Committee. CARRIED.

MOTION (Evans / Baron) THAT the Moderator appoint an Interim Moderator to Bethel, Ilderton, in consultation with the Exit Review Team. CARRIED.

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The Moderator invited the members of Bethel, Ilderton, who had come to the meeting in response to the Citation, to stay for the balance of the meeting, but also gave them permission to leave should they wish.

**Stated Hour
7:50 p.m.**

The Stated Hour set for 7:50 p.m. for the Southdale Chaplaincy has been postponed until the October meeting.

**Stated Hour
8:10 p.m.**

AGREED THAT the Stated Hour set for the presentation from Oakridge be moved up to 8:00 p.m.

Oakridge

The Reverend Terry Ingram circulated revised plans for the building addition to Oakridge Presbyterian Church. He explained that since the original plans were approved by the Presbytery, in which Oakridge was given permission to proceed with their building project in April, 2008, at an approximate cost of \$4.7 million, the plans were affected by the downturn in the world economy. Therefore, the plans have been revised to a budget of approximately \$2.6 million. Mr. Ingram described how the new project has been drawn up and costed.

MOTION (Ingram / Jones) THAT Oakridge Presbyterian Church be given permission to proceed with their building project at an estimated cost of \$2.6 million based on architectural diagrams presented to the Presbytery of London on September 8, 2009, and that the congregation be given permission to award tender for this project and acquire adequate mortgage financing. **CARRIED.**

**Administrative
Business**

MOTION (Evans / Baron) THAT the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 16, 2009 be adopted as circulated. **CARRIED.**

MOTION (Evans / Baron) THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 23, 2009 be adopted as circulated. **CARRIED.**

MOTION (Evans / Baron) THAT the Minutes of the Special meeting of July 26, 2009 be adopted as circulated. **CARRIED.**

The Moderator reported that as per instructions from the Presbytery at the meeting of July 26, 2009, he has appointed the Reverend Lynn Nichol as Interim Moderator to the Dorchester / South Nissouri pastoral charge, effective September 1, 2009.

MOTION (Evans / Baron) THAT the Minutes of the Special Meeting of August 13, 2009 be adopted as circulated. **CARRIED.**

Sheila McMurray rose to commend the work of the Leading with Care Team through their investigation of the issue dealt with at the August 13, 2009 meeting.

The Moderator, the Reverend Keith McKee reported that the Rebuke had taken place earlier in the day. He also indicated that as yet the Commission had not been required to meet, and noted that one member of the Commission, the Convenor of the

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Leading with Care Committee, Kathy Fraser, has been replaced on the Commission by Andrew Reid, as the Rev. Fraser will be unavailable for several weeks.

The Clerk, Mrs. Chris Evans, presented the Report of the Administrative Team.

RECOMMENDATION #1 (Evans / Baron) THAT the following correspondence be received for information: CARRIED.

Number	From	Regarding
09-46	E. Bartlett, G. A. Office	Changes to the Roll

RECOMMENDATION #2 (Evans / Baron) THAT the following correspondence be referred as named: CARRIED.

Number	From	Regarding	Refer To
09-47	K. McKee, IM - Almanarah	Ailsa Craig Grant Request	Admin Team
09-48	Assembly Office	Shipment of A&P's	Clerk to Distribute
09-49	Knox College	John Park	Students & Educ.
09-50	Knox College	Gail Turnbull	Students & Educ.
09-51	S. Shaffer, Comm. On Educ. & Recept.	Andras Rameshwar	Students & Educ.

RECOMMENDATION #3 (Evans / Baron) THAT the Standing Orders remain unchanged for the 2009-2010 year.

The Clerk announced that copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the General Assembly 2009 are available and requested that everyone ensure that the copies for their church are picked up, as well as if anyone will be seeing members on the Appendix, that they collect those copies as well and see that they are delivered.

The Clerk announced that the sign-up lists for the Ministry Teams are being circulated, and strongly encouraged everyone to sign up for at least one of the teams.

The Moderator announced that as instructed, the Clerk has circularized information regarding the restrictions related to the Rev. Don McInnis, to all Presbyteries in Canada. Once the conditions related to these restrictions are met, the Clerk will also circularize that information.

Session Records Mr. Rob Evans examined the Session Records of Knollwood Park Presbyterian

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Church, London.

MOTION (Currie / Evans) THAT the Session Records of Knollwood Park Presbyterian Church be attested as being neatly and correctly kept. CARRIED.

Students and Education Team Terry Ingram noted that since the Convenor of the Students and Education Team has accepted a Call to another Presbytery, this Team is in need of a new Convenor.

Denominational Work Team No Report

Vacancy and Visitation Team Tom Jeffery presented the report of the Vacancy and Visitation Team.

He noted that the visitation team to Oakridge is now Kevin Steeper + an Elder from Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, Kathy Fraser (replacing John Van Vliet, and then Tom Godfrey) + an Elder from St. George's, and Margaret McCullough.

MOTION (Jeffery / Van Bilsen) THAT the Exit Review Team for Bethel Presbyterian Church, Ilderton be: The Rev. Amanda Birchall + an Elder from the Appin / Melbourne Pastoral Charge, and the Reverend Deb. Dolbear-Van Bilsen + an Elder from the Glencoe / Wardsville Pastoral Charge. CARRIED.

Exit Review Visitation to Dorchester / South Nissouri The Reverend Robert Shaw circulated the report of the Exit Review Team for Dorchester and South Nissouri Churches.

MOTION (Shaw / Steeper) THAT the pastoral charge of Dorchester / South Nissouri be given permission to begin the search process of seeking a new minister. CARRIED.

MOTION (Shaw / Steeper) THAT this Review Team be dismissed with the thanks of the Court. CARRIED.

DaySpring Visitation Report The Reverend Andrew Reid presented the report of the Visitation Team to DaySpring Presbyterian Church. He drew to the Court's attention two changes to the wording of this report, namely, changing "many" to "some" in the second paragraph under Impressions, and under Notes, changing the second paragraph to read "Mr. Rameshwar has faced some recent health problems, and the Session is pleased to know that he is making use of available support systems, both formal and informal, as he faces the challenges of balancing

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ministry and his studies.”

MOTION (Reid / Baron) THAT the people of DaySpring be commended for their faithfulness to the Gospel and for their commitment to maintaining a Presbyterian witness in their community. CARRIED.

MOTION (Reid / Baron) THAT the Moderator name a Team to assist the Interim Moderator, Session and congregation of DaySpring, with input from the Rev. Andras Rameshwar, to explore alternative ministry configurations involving the congregation of DaySpring Presbyterian Church and others that will further the work of God's kingdom through a Presbyterian presence and witness in north London. CARRIED.

MOTION (Reid / Baron) THAT the Reverend Andras Rameshwar be encouraged to proceed with fulfilling the requirements of the Committee on Education and Reception to be received as a minister of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. CARRIED.

MOTION (Reid / Baron) THAT the Visitation Team be dismissed with the thanks of the Court. CARRIED.

**Leading with
Care Committee**

No Report

**Hospital Visitor
Team**

No Report

**Youth and
Campus
Ministries Team**

Mavis Currie gave a verbal report, celebrating that between 50 - 60 young people and leaders attended CY-09 from our Presbytery - the largest number from any Presbytery. She also announced that there will be a meeting of Youth Leaders in the near future.

**Website and
Communications
Team**

No Report

**Small Church
Ministries Team**

Lynn Nichol had no report, but indicated that there would be 2 requests for funding to be considered at the next meeting.

**General Assem-
bly 2011 Local
Arrangements
Committee**

Keith McKee reported that this committee would be meeting in the near future.

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Knox St. Thomas Interim Moderator Advisory Team John Bannerman reported that this team has been working during the summer and their report would be ready soon for the Interim Moderator.

Trinity-West Elgin Dissolution Team Lynn Nichol presented the proposed Mission Plan for Trinity-West Elgin, and the Moderator turned the Chair over to the previous Moderator, Mr. Tom Jeffery, as Mr. McKee is the Interim Moderator for a major proposed beneficiary of this money, namely, Almanarah Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Lynn Nichol explained the rationale behind the choices for distribution of these funds, including one of the disbursements directed to the Presbytery of London entitled Local Community Outreach.

MOVED (Nichol / Baron) THAT the Mission Plan for Trinity-West Elgin be approved by the Presbytery of London and that the Clerk forward this document to the appropriate office in Church Offices. CARRIED.

Reports of Interim Moderators Almanarah - Mr. Tom Jeffery resumed the Chair while the Moderator, in his position as Interim Moderator for Almanarah Presbyterian Church gave his report. Mr. McKee indicated that things are going extremely well at Almanarah, and also reported that since the proposed Interim Moderator for Almanarah, the Reverend Johan Olivier, has accepted a Call to Knox Church, Guelph, the Reverend Keith McKee has agreed to stay on as Interim Moderator at Almanarah into the new year. He has developed a very good working relationship with William Khalil and the congregation, and also with the number of vacancies we are presently experiencing within the Presbytery it is difficult to find another interim moderator. Mr. Jeffery expressed the thanks of the Court to Mr. McKee for his diligence with this new congregation.

The Moderator then resumed the Chair.

Burns, Mosa - in the absence of the Interim Moderator, the Reverend Kathy Fraser reported that the Search Committee is very close to presenting the name of an individual to Session to be invited to preach for the Call.

Crinan - Argyle / Largie - Duff - Amanda Birchall reported that things are going well within this pastoral charge, the pulpit is well supplied.

DaySpring - Mavis Currie had nothing to report in addition to the previous report.

Dorchester / South Nissouri - Lynn Nichol has just been appointed Interim Moderator and will be meeting with the Sessions on Thursday.

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Fingal - Knox - Kevin Steeper reported that the Pulpit is being supplied, and that he will be meeting with the Session in the near future.

St. Thomas - Knox - Andrew Reid gave a verbal report updating the Presbytery on the progress being made at Knox. He noted that the Contract for Interim Ministry calls for a review of the ministry every six months. This review has been done and a full report will be forthcoming.

The Interim Minister at Knox had no report to present this month.

Knox-St. Thomas Christian Education Team - Mavis Currie presented the report of the Christian Education Team to Knox, indicating that as was their understanding, the completed report with observations and recommendations was presented to the Session in June, 2009. Recommendations included visioning for the CE committee, continued use of the Rotation Model curriculum and continued employment of the current CE staff person, along with encouraging continuing education for all involved in youth and children's ministry at Knox.

MOTION: (Currie / Reid) THAT this team be dismissed with the thanks of the Court. CARRIED.

North Yarmouth - St. James - John Bannerman reported that the pulpit is being supplied, and pastoral care offered. Session will meet on September 16th.

Port Stanley - St. John's - Terry Ingram reported that the pulpit is being ably supplied by Tom Jeffery, Lay Missionary, and that three new elders have been elected and ordained.

Mr. Ingram then presented Mr. Jeffery's contract for renewal.

MOTION (Ingram / Bannerman) THAT the contract for Mr. Tom Jeffery as Lay Missionary to St. John's Presbyterian Church, Port Stanley be approved. CARRIED.

Amanda Birchall rose to commend Tom Jeffery for all his hard work, noting that he is also the Clerk of Session at Guthrie, Melbourne, and serves on a number of committees of Presbytery in addition to his part-time employment.

Other Business Nil

Adjournment On a motion by Robert Shaw, the Court stood adjourned at five minutes past nine in the evening, to meet again in regular session on Tuesday, the thirteenth day of October, two thousand and nine, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening, in

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Dorchester, and within Dorchester Presbyterian Church.

The Moderator thanked everyone for their participation and then closed the meeting with Prayer.

Moderator

Clerk