

## Minutes of the Presbytery of London

Knox Presbyterian Church, Fingal, Ontario, Tuesday, January 12, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

In Fingal, and within Knox Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of London met in Regular Session on Tuesday, the twelfth day of January, two thousand and ten, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening.

- Constitution**        The Moderator, the Reverend Keith McKee welcomed everyone to the meeting, and constituted the Court with prayer, adding special prayers for the people of Haiti following the serious earthquake today.
- Worship**             The Worship Service was led by the Reverend Kevin Steeper, Interim Moderator to Knox, Fingal.
- Welcome,  
Courtesies and  
Announcements**     The Moderator welcomed representatives from the WMS, Margaret McCullough, and Mildred Greig, as well as Marie Ostrander, Ruby Cromwell, Dave Pell, Session members from Knox, Fingal, Jean Gooding, St. James, North Yarmouth, and Robert Wilson, Dorchester/South Nissouri, and William Khalil, Almanarah.
- Announcements were shared regarding upcoming events, and John Bannerman made special note of the need for volunteers to conduct worship services at Parkwood Hospital on the third Sunday each month. Worship leaders are needed for January, February, April and May.
- Attendance**         John Bannerman, Mavis Currie, Kathy Fraser, Tom Godfrey, Terry Ingram, Amanda MacMillan, Keith McKee, Lynn Nichol, Andrew Reid, Robert Shaw, Kevin Steeper, Michael Stol, Ministers; Bob Baron, John Cameron, Marg Chester, Bruce Dickert, Ruth Ann Drozd, Chris Evans, Larry Gibbings, Harrison Greig, Tom Jeffery, Patrick Laurin, Jacqueline Leitch, Matthew Marshall, Paulina McCormick, Margaret McCullough, Ian McFarlane, Linda McKenna, Sheila McMurray, Nancy Newell, Barbara Nyitray, Linda Riddell, Don Speir, Nancy Springer, Norma Stevenson, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Trudy Van der Hoek, Peter VanderKooy, Elders; Carol Rayner, Treasurer; William Khalil, Almanarah; Robert Wilson, Dorchester/South Nissouri; Rob Evans, Elmwood; Jean Gooding, St. James, N. Yarmouth; Marie Ostrander, Ruby Cromwell, Dave Pell, Knox, Fingal; Mildred Greig, Knox, Komoka; "Others".
- Regrets**             Charlotte Brown, Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen, Ian Johnston, Ministers; Carlton Dindial, Theresa Glithero, Ross MacKay, Wilma Reath, Joe Ruitenbeek, Elders.
- Absent**              Mark Turner, Minister.
- Docket**              **MOTION** (Evans / Fraser) THAT the Docket as circulated be adopted for the meeting with the following addition: Report of the Exit Review Team to Bethel, Ilderton be added as part of the Vacancy and Visitation Report. CARRIED.

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**Administrative Business**      **MOTION** (Evans / Fraser) THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 10, 2009 be adopted as circulated. CARRIED.

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

**REC. #1** (Evans / Fraser ) THAT the following correspondence be received for information: CARRIED.

<b>Number</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Regarding</b>
09-76	G. Haynes	Copy of Response to Southdale Chaplaincy Application
09-77	E. Bartlett	Changes to Roll, October
09-78	Pension & Benefits Board	Copy of Information to Congreg. Treasurers
09-79	G. Haynes	Copy of Response to Almanarah Application
09-81	S. Roche	Copy of Information regarding Clergy Residence Ded'n.
09-82	E. Bartlett	Changes to Roll, November/December
09-83	K. Ballagh-Steeper	Thank You Card re Memorial to her Mother
09-84	Southdale Chaplaincy	Thank You Letter and Receipt for Ailsa Craig Donation

The Clerk then read an e-mail she had received earlier this date from the Clerks of Assembly, which served to clarify the status of the move towards allowing Lay Missionaries to administer the Sacrament of Holy Communion. At this time, there is no change to the policy. This will be recorded as correspondence for the next regular meeting.

**REC. #2** (Evans / Fraser ) THAT the following correspondence be referred as named: CARRIED.

<b>Number</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Regarding</b>	<b>Refer To</b>
09-80	S. Kendall, General Assembly Office	Ballots for Moderator	In Mail Slots

**COMMISSIONERS TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY - 2010**

**MOTION:** (Evans / Fraser ) THAT the following be appointed as Commissioners to General Assembly in 2010: CARRIED.

Ministers

The Rev. Lynn Nichol  
The Rev. Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen  
The Rev. Charlotte Brown  
Backup: The Rev. Kathy Fraser

Elders

Mrs. Anne Webster (Chalmers)  
Mrs. Elaine Allen (Elmwood)  
Sue Wardell (North Caradoc-St. Andrews)  
Backup: Mrs. Carrie Thornton (Westmount)

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The Clerk reminded everyone that their Ballots to Nominate the Moderator of the 2010 General Assembly are in their Mail Slots, and that they must be returned no later than March 20, 2010 so they may then be couriered to the General Assembly Office in time to be counted on March 31, 2010.

**COMMISSION RE COMPLAINT**

The Commission met on Friday, January 8, 2010 at the office of John McNair in response to communication from the complainant's lawyers. The commission continues to do the work of the Presbytery. As Mrs. Fraser is now back from her leave of absence, the Moderator has once again appointed her, in her capacity as convener of the Leading with Care Committee, to serve on the commission.

**BURNS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MOSA**

In response to a request from the Interim Moderator to Burns, Mosa, the Reverend Michael Stol, the Moderator has appointed the following team to complete an inspection of the Manse: Amanda MacMillan (convenor), Bob Baron, Patrick Laurin and Greg MacMillan. It has been the practice in past that there be an independent manse inspection when a charge with a manse becomes vacant.

**MOTION:** (Evans / Fraser) THAT the actions of the Moderator in appointing the team of Amanda MacMillan (convenor), Bob Baron, Patrick Laurin and Greg MacMillan to inspect the manse of Burns, Mosa, be homologated. This team will report later in the meeting.

The Clerk reminded everyone that they should take a copy or two of the entitled "No Small Jewel" by John A. Johnston - A History of the Synod of Southwestern Ontario. These books are free.

**Session Records** Mr. Rob Evans had reviewed the Session Records of Westmount Presbyterian Church, London.

**MOTION** (Jeffery / Evans) THAT the Session Records of Westmount Presbyterian Church, London, be attested as being neatly and correctly kept, with the following notes: 27.2, 27.3, 27.5, 27.6, 27.8, 27.11. CARRIED.

**Students and Education Team** No Report

**Denominational Work Team** Terry Ingram brought the report of the Denominational Work Team to our attention. It was felt that due to the importance of the topics sent down from the General

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Assembly that a Special Meeting should be called to discuss these matters.

**MOTION:** (Shaw / McCullough) THAT the topics for study be deferred to the February Meeting. CARRIED.

**MOTION** (Fraser / Stol) THAT the Moderator call a Special Meeting of the Presbytery to discuss the six matters sent down for study. CARRIED.

Dr. Ingram then brought forward the Remits which were discussed as follows:

**Remit #1:** Regarding Membership of Synod Committees.

**MOTION:** (Ingram / Reid) THAT the Presbytery of London respond in the affirmative to Remit #1. CARRIED.

**Remit #2:** Regarding Election of Elders.

**MOTION:** (Ingram / Reid) THAT the Presbytery of London respond in the affirmative to Remit #2. CARRIED.

**Remit #3:** Regarding Multiple Minister Congregations, terminology.

**MOTION:** (Ingram / Reid) THAT the Presbytery of London respond in the affirmative to Remit #3. CARRIED.

**Vacancy and  
Visitation Team**

Tom Jeffery requested that the visitation reports on the visits which have been done should be submitted as soon as possible so that there won't be a large backlog.

**Bethel Exit  
Review Team**

Amanda MacMillan presented the report of the Exit Review Team to Bethel, Ilderton.

**MOTION:** (MacMillan / Jeffery) THAT the desire to improve communication be addressed by the Session during the interim time before a new minister is called. CARRIED.

**MOTION:** (MacMillan / Shaw) THAT the Session be encouraged to rely on their Interim Moderator, and their future minister for pastoral care, and be mindful to not call on Rev. Miles, but allow him the privilege of retirement. CARRIED.

**MOTION:** (MacMillan / Jeffery) THAT this Exit Review Team be dismissed with the thanks of the Court. CARRIED.

**Leading with  
Care**

Kathy Fraser reported that the Leading with Care Committee will be meeting in the near future to discuss holding a workshop.

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- Hospital Visitor Team** Marg Chester reported on behalf of the Hospital Visitor Team, and outlined some important aspects of the report. In particular it should be noted that the position has evolved from a "Hospital Visitor" to more of a Spiritual Care Provider for both patients and families of those facing life-threatening illness or injury. She also noted that the Team recognizes the value of the work Doug Bruce, our Hospital Visitor, provides, and recommends that he give a presentation annually to Presbytery.
- Youth and Campus Ministries Team** Mavis Currie reported that Canada Youth Services are now drawing to a close, that over 90 care packages were provided to University and College Students, and that plans are under way for this year's One-Day Wonder. Negotiations are under way to have a Magician participate, and help will be needed for food and crafts. Mavis has application forms available, and they should also be on the Website in the near future.
- Website and Communications Team** No Report
- Small Church Ministries** No Report
- G.A. 2011 Local Arrangements Committee** Keith McKee reported that the General Assembly 2011 Local Arrangements Committee would be meeting on January 20, 2010, and would have a report at the next meeting of Presbytery. He indicated that numerous sub-committees will be forming to ensure all aspects of the General Assembly run smoothly.
- Trinity-West Elgin Dissolution Team** No Report
- Manse Inspection Report - Burns** Amanda MacMillan addressed the report of the Team which had conducted the inspection of the Burns, Mosa Manse. Questions were addressed regarding the issue of pest control issues. Reference was made to a comment in the report indicating that heating bills are high, stating that although heating bills are high, they are being paid. Michael Stol, the Interim Moderator to Burns, expressed thanks to the committee.
- MOTION:** (MacMillan / Jeffery) THAT the Burns-Mosa Manse Inspection Team be dismissed with the thanks of the Court. CARRIED.
- DaySpring Ministry Team** Andrew Reid reviewed the report of the DaySpring Ministry Team which had been circulated with the Advance Reports. The report indicated that this Team would be meeting again with the DaySpring Session on January 6, 2010, to discuss further the proposal from Almanarah. Mr. Reid updated the Court indicating that no final decision had been made and that discussions will continue.
- Reports of** Almanarah - The Moderator, the Rev. Keith McKee requested former Moderator,

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**Interim  
Moderators** Mr. Tom Jeffery to assume the chair so that he could present the Interim Moderator's Report. Mr. McKee then presented a very positive and encouraging report about the growth and progress within Almanarah Presbyterian Church. He discussed the proposal which the Almanarah Session had presented to DaySpring, which at this point has been rejected by the DaySpring Session, which was a disappointment to the Almanarah Session.

**NOTICE OF MOTION:** I, Robert Shaw, will move or cause to be moved the following motion at the April, 2010 meeting of the Presbytery of London:

THAT the Trust-Deed of DaySpring Presbyterian Church be transferred from DaySpring Presbyterian Church to Almanarah Presbyterian Church, with the acceptance of the congregation of Almanarah Presbyterian Church, effective June 01, 2010 with the following conditions:

- 1) THAT the Almanarah congregation purchase the land and building of DaySpring Presbyterian Church for the amount of the outstanding loan held by the Presbytery's Building and Extension Fund (forty thousand dollars);
- 2) THAT the Almanarah congregation pay for all the legal costs associated with the purchase;
- 3) THAT Almanarah assume responsibility for the contents of DaySpring congregation, allowing DaySpring congregation use of such contents in the exercise of its ministry (i.e. Communion Table, Baptismal Font, piano, office equipment, etc.);
- 4) THAT DaySpring Presbyterian Church be granted use of the Sanctuary Sunday mornings for worship and of the facility at other times in the week (i.e. mid-week programming) in consultation with the Session of Almanarah RENT FREE for a period of five years.

**MOTION:** (Nichol / Fraser) THAT the congregations of DaySpring and Almanarah be cited to appear at the Presbytery meeting in April, when this Motion will be presented. CARRIED.

Lynn Nichol suggested that Canada Ministries should be in attendance at this meeting. Mavis Currie requested that she be allowed to attend the Administrative Team meeting when this matter will be discussed.

**Moderator  
Resumed Chair** The Moderator, the Reverend Keith McKee then resumed the Chair.

Bethel, Ilderton - Tom Godfrey reported that the pulpit is well supplied, a Search Committee has been formed.

**MOTION:** (Godfrey / McCullough) THAT Bethel, Ilderton be given permission to

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seek a new minister. CARRIED.

Burns, Mosa - Michael Stol reported that following an unsuccessful Call process, they are back at “square one”, and are once again seeking profiles.

Argyle, Crinan / Duff, Largie - Amanda MacMillan reported “diligence”.

DaySpring, London - Mavis Currie referred to the report which had been circulated with the Advance Reports.

Dorchester / South Nissouri - Robert Shaw reported that Robert Wilson is preaching and providing pastoral care, and is being well-received. Profiles are being received, and the congregational profile has been completed.

Knox, Fingal - Kevin Steeper reported that worship and ministry are continuing in good form, that the Search Committee is reviewing profiles, and that the Rev. Dr. Les Files has celebrated Communion in homes.

Knox, St. Thomas - Andrew Reid presented his report, which was circulated with the Advance Reports. He then presented the report of the Interim Minister, the Rev. Ian Johnston, who was unable to be at this meeting.

Oakridge, London (Associate Minister) - Terry Ingram reported “diligence”, indicating that the Search process was beginning, and also that ground has been broken on the expansion project at Oakridge.

St. James, North Yarmouth - John Bannerman reported that there is a good spirit at St. James, that the pulpit is supplied and pastoral care is being provided. The Search Committee is looking at candidates.

St. John's, Port Stanley - Terry Ingram reported that Tom Jeffery is providing a good Lay Ministry at St. John's, and that sacraments are being celebrated.

**Other Business** Nil

**Adjournment** On a motion by John Cameron, the Court stood adjourned at five minutes past nine in the evening, to meet again in Regular Session on Tuesday, the ninth day of January two thousand and ten, at seven o'clock in the evening, in London, and within Almanarah Presbyterian Church (St. George's Presbyterian Church).

The Moderator then closed the meeting with Prayer.

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Moderator

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Clerk