

Minutes of the Presbytery of London
DaySpring Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

In London, and within DaySpring Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of London met in Regular Session on Tuesday, the thirteenth day of April, 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.
- Worship** The Worship Service was led by the Reverend Andras Rameshwar, with Eva Murray accompanying the hymns.
- Welcome,
Courtesies and
Announcements** The Moderator welcomed representatives from the WMS, Margaret McCullough. Cynthia Breadner was introduced by Nancy Newell. Cynthia is in her first year at Knox College, and is serving in a part-time capacity as Lay Missionary at St. James Presbyterian Church, North Yarmouth. Her recognition service was held on Sunday, March 28, 2010. Cynthia's certificate is in the process of being transferred from her previous Presbytery, and when that is received, she will be under the care of the Presbytery of London.
- Matt Marshall reminded everyone of the upcoming Stewardship workshop at Knox, St. Thomas and requested all registrations be in by April 22nd.
- Keith McKee reminded everyone of the upcoming Leading with Care Workshop on April 28th, from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm at Elmwood.
- Attendance** John Bannerman, Charlotte Brown, Mavis Currie, Deb. Dolbear-Van Bilsen, Tom Godfrey, Amanda MacMillan, Keith McKee, Andrew Reid, Kevin Steeper, Michael Stol, Mark Turner, Ministers; Bob Baron, John Cameron, Marg Chester, Bruce Dickert, Carton Dindial, Ruth Ann Drozd, Chris Evans, Larry Gibbings, Tom Jeffery, Patrick Laurin, Jacqueline Leitch, Janice Lockhart, Ross MacKay, Matthew Marshall, Paulina McCormick, Margaret McCullough, Sheila McMurray, Nancy Newell, Barbara Nyitray, Wilma Reath, Linda Riddell, Joe Ruitenbeek, Don Speir, Nancy Springer, Norma Stevenson, Gerald Stocking, Trudy Van der Hoek, Elders; Carol Rayner, Treasurer; Cynthia Breadner, William Khalil, Robert Wilson,, Lay Missionaries; Andras Rameshwar, DaySpring; John Van Eyk, St. James, N. Yarmouth; Cathy Cornhill, Rob Evans, Elmwood.
- Regrets** Kathy Fraser, Terry Ingram, Ian Johnston, Lynn Nichol, Robert Shaw, Ministers; Ian McFarlane, Linda McKenna, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Peter Van der Kooy, Elders.
- Absent** All members were either present or accounted for.
- Docket** **MOTION:** (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the Docket as circulated be adopted for the meeting. CARRIED.

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London
DaySpring Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m.**

Administrative Business **MOTION:** (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 9, 2010 be adopted as circulated. CARRIED.

Financial Statements **MOTION:** (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the Financial Statements of the Presbytery of London for 2009, produced by the Treasurer, Mrs. Carol Rayner, and reviewed by the Reverend Deane Cassidy, be adopted as circulated. CARRIED.

Session Records The Session Records of DaySpring Presbyterian Church were examined by Rob Evans, and the Session Records of Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church were examined by Mavis Currie.

MOTION: (Jeffery / Evans) THAT the Session Records of DaySpring Presbyterian Church be attested as being neatly and correctly kept, with the following notes: 27.1, 27.2, 27.5, 27.11. CARRIED.

MOTION: (Currie / Jeffery) THAT the Session Records of Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church be attested as being neatly and correctly kept, with the following notes: 27.9, 27.12. CARRIED.

The Clerk presented the Report of the Administrative Team.

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

Number	From	Regarding
10-18	Crieff Hills	Campaign - Auction
10-19	World Alliance of Reformed Churches	Invitation to Women's Pre-Council, June, 2010
10-20	Gordon Haynes	Fund for Ministerial Assistance

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

Number	From	Regarding	Refer To
10-21	T. Hamilton, G. A. Office	Academic Degrees, Clerks & Conveners, Memorials	Clerk

The Clerk read a Thank You note from Kate Ballagh-Steeper, acknowledging the donation made by the Presbytery of London in memory of her Mother, Sandra Ballagh.

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London
DaySpring Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m.**

AILSA CRAIG DISTRIBUTION

The Administrative Team has reviewed the three applications for grants from the Ailsa Craig moneys, and makes the following recommendation:

REC. #3 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the Ailsa Craig Moneys be distributed as follows:

Youth Ministries (A Night to Remember - Spring High School Event):	\$ 600
Almanarah Congregational Retreat:	\$ 1,000
Southdale Chaplaincy (Chaplaincy Funding)	<u>\$ 3,400</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 5,000</u></u>

CARRIED.

CRIEFF HILLS

Regarding Correspondence #10-18, the Clerk had distributed this information at the February meeting. If anyone wishes to view the DVD, is asked to contact the Clerk.

WORLD ALLIANCE OF REFORMED CHURCHES

Regarding Correspondence #10-19 - if anyone wishes information, is asked to speak to the Clerk.

FUND FOR MINISTERIAL ASSISTANCE

Regarding Correspondence #10-20 - for information and applications please see the Clerk.

EMPEY ESTATE

REC. #4 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the funds received from the Empey Estate in the amount of \$79.33 be donated to DaySpring Presbyterian Church.
CARRIED.

WORKSHOPS

Since there are a number of new Clerks of Session and Congregational Treasurers within the Presbytery the Administrative Team feels it is appropriate to conduct training workshops for both of these groups - as an

Minutes of the Presbytery of London
DaySpring Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

opportunity to share experience and receive updates by the longer standing Clerks and Treasurers, and also for training for new people.

REC. #5 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the Administrative Team set up two workshops to be held this Fall, one for Clerks of Session, and one for Congregational Treasurers. CARRIED.

CYNTHIA BREADNER

Ms. Cynthia Breadner has now been recognized as Lay Missionary to St. James, North Yarmouth.

REC. #6 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT Cynthia Breadner be given permission to sit and correspond at meetings of the Presbytery of London. CARRIED.

NOTICE OF MOTION

The 2010 General Assembly will run from June 6 - 11, 2010. The June meeting of the Presbytery of London is scheduled for June 15, 2010. The Administrative Team feels that since the Commissioners will not arrive home until immediately prior to the meeting, it would not be reasonable to expect them to have their reports prepared for presentation at the meeting on June 15, 2010.

Therefore, at the May meeting of the Presbytery of London, the Administrative Team will move or cause to be moved THAT the June meeting of the Presbytery of London be re-scheduled to June 22, 2010.

**Students and
Education Team**

Amanda MacMillan presented the Report of the Students and Education Team, noting that the Committee had met with William Khalil March 11, 2010, and that after reviewing Mr. Khalil's written documents, knowing that he has preached before the Presbytery in February, 2010, and prayerfully considering his application to be a candidate for ministry and ordination,

RECOMMENDATION #1: (MacMillan / Dolbear-Van Bilsen) THAT the Presbytery of London approve William Khalil as a certified candidate for Ministry in the Presbyterian Church in Canada. CARRIED.

The process, will now continue with William being interviewed by the National Committee on Education and Reception, set for early May, 2010 in Toronto.

Amanda also noted that Mr. Bob Wilson will be interviewed by the Students and Education Team later this month, and members of Presbytery will be notified so that they may participate.

Minutes of the Presbytery of London
DaySpring Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

She also noted that the time is approaching for the Annual Interviews of our other certified candidates for the Ministry.

MOTION: (MacMillan / Dolbear-Van Bilsen) THAT Kevin Steeper be given permission to pursue the following two courses of study: Doctor of Ministry, focussing on Reformed Christian Spirituality, program at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and also a diploma in Spiritual Direction at the Haden Institute.
CARRIED.

Denominational Work Team Andrew Reid, on behalf of the Denominational Work Team and as a follow-up to the notice that was circulated by the Clerk regarding Nominations to Committees of General Assembly, asked if there were any nominations. None have been received.

Vacancy and Visitation Team Tom Jeffery reported that there is a need for volunteers to serve on the Clerk Search Team, which needs to start work as soon as possible as the Clerk will be completing her term as of May 1, 2011. He asked for anyone interested in serving on this team to contact him.

Mr. Jeffery also indicated that the Annual interview with the Treasurer had just been held, and the Treasurer, Mrs. Carol Rayner, at this interview, tendered her resignation. Therefore, a search team will need to be established to locate a new Treasurer.

a) Visitation to Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church - this report was presented by Tom Jeffery.

RECOMMENDATION: (Jeffery / Stol) THAT the Visitation Team to Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church be dismissed with the thanks of the Court.

b) Visitation to Oakridge Presbyterian Church - this report was presented by Kevin Steeper.

RECOMMENDATION #1: (Steeper / McCullough) THAT the Minister and Session of Oakridge be commended for the sense of Christian fellowship that is present within the congregation, and that the congregation be commended for the fine ministry that is taking place and for the desire to meet their challenges with a sense of faithfulness to the Gospel wisdom and insight.

RECOMMENDATION #2: (Steeper / McCullough) THAT the Visitation Team to Oakridge Presbyterian Church be dismissed with the thanks of the Court.

Leading with Care No Report

Hospital Visitor Team Marg Chester presented the Report of the Hospital Visitor Team, and outlined the Memorandum of Understanding which has been in process for a number of years.

Minutes of the Presbytery of London
DaySpring Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

RECOMMENDATION #1: (Chester / Brown) THAT the Presbytery of London accept the Memorandum of Understanding between the Presbytery of London and London Health Sciences Centre.

NOTICE OF MOTION: I, Marg Chester, give notice of motion that at the next meeting of Presbytery I will move or cause to be moved THAT the Presbytery Hospital Visitor Team become a Core Ministry Team to ensure that there is continuity with regards to the MOU and the role of the Convenor.

**Youth and
Campus
Ministries Team**

No Report

**Website &
Communications
Team**

Mavis Currie asked for input as to the usage of the Website, as this is the time stated to re-evaluate whether or not the Website is worth keeping.

**Evangelism
Team**

No Report

**Small Church
Ministries Fund**

No Report

**G.A. Local
Arrangements
Committee**

Keith McKee indicated that this committee has met and will have a full report for the May meeting of Presbytery.

**Trinity-West
Elgin Dissol-
ution Team**

No Report

**DaySpring
Ministry Team**

No Report

**Reports of
Interim
Moderators**

Almanarah, London - The Moderator asked the previous Moderator, Mr. Tom Jeffery to assume the Chair while he presented the Report on Almanarah. The Interim Moderator to Almanarah, Keith McKee indicated that as per his most recently circulated Follow-up Report, there is a strong possibility that Almanarah will be able to have its own facility in the near future. A Church located at 250 Hamilton Road East has recently come up for sale, and the Session members were able to tour the property, and reported that this is a building in excellent repair, which fits the needs of Almanarah, at least for the time being. Mr. McKee also indicated that Canada Ministries is willing to be involved in purchasing this property, as long as the Presbytery is supportive of such a purchase.

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London
DaySpring Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m.**

MOTION: (McKee / Laurin) THAT the Presbytery of London recommend to the Trustee Board of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, through Canada Ministries, the purchase of 250 Hamilton Road East, London, Ontario, for the purposes of a building to house Almanarah Presbyterian Church, or with the provision to the Presbytery of London an amount of money for the purchase of this church.
CARRIED.

Mr. McKee also reported that there will be an Adult Baptism of three women wishing to convert to Christianity - yet another cause for celebration at Almanarah. He also indicated that the Almanarah DVD is now ready for circulation and use at churches on their Almanarah Sundays.

Moderator, Pro Tem, Mr. Tom Jeffery, commended the Rev. McKee for all his hard work in supporting and guiding this new congregation into a bright future.

The Moderator, the Rev. Keith McKee then resumed the Chair.

Bethel, Ilderton - Tom Godfrey reported that Bethel's pulpit is well-supplied, the Search Committee is reviewing profiles and considering applications.

Burns, Mosa - Michael Stol reported that Burns Presbyterian Church has just celebrated its 175th Anniversary. They held a special Anniversary Service this past Sunday, which was extremely well-attended, with the Moderator of the 135th General Assembly, the Rev. Harvey Self, as the guest preacher. Mr. Stol also reported that things are running well at Burns, and the search for a new minister continues.

Argyle, Crinan / Duff, Largie - Amanda MacMillan reported that things are going well in this charge, and that meetings are being held to re-evaluate the financial situation, and determine how much they are able to afford for ministry, whether it be full-time, half-time, or any other options.

DaySpring - Mavis Currie presented the report of the Interim Moderator of DaySpring, indicating that this congregation is undergoing a Visioning exercise. She hopes to be able to report the results of this process at the June meeting of Presbytery. Mavis also presented the contract which has been signed by the Interim Moderator, the Clerk of Session and the Rev. Rameshwar, for a three month period.

MOTION: (Currie / Speir) THAT the three-month contract between DaySpring Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Andras Rameshwar be approved by Presbytery.
CARRIED.

The Contract reads as follows:

CONTRACT BETWEEN DAYSPRING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND THE REV. ANDRAS RAMESHWAR.

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London
DaySpring Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m.**

Mr. Rameshwar will:

- 1. Lead worship and preach each Sunday*
- 2. Provide pastoral care to the sick and shut-ins*
- 3. Provide regular ongoing visitation*
- 4. Officiate at weddings and funerals within the bounds of the charge*
- 5. Perform other duties as requested by the Session or Interim Moderator.*

The goals of this ministry are the maintenance of congregational life, the provision of continuity of leadership and the nurture of spiritual growth while the Session and congregation discern God's vision for their future.

The Session will be moderated at all times by the Interim Moderator.

This agreement is for a period of three months, effective April 16, 2010 until July 15, 2010. This agreement may be terminated by the Session or the Rev. Rameshwar upon two weeks written notice, without further obligation financial or otherwise.

This agreement must be approved by the Presbytery of London before it is binding.

The Rev. Rameshwar will be employed on a part-time basis and will be compensated as follows:

- 1. Stipend: \$6,800 in total for the duration of three months (calculated based on 80% of a full-time stipend of thirty-four thousand dollars (\$34,000) inclusive of travel allowance).*
- 2. Housing allowance: \$3,200 in total for the duration of three months (calculated based on 80% of a full-time housing allowance of sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000) per year inclusive of utilities).*
- 3. As a lay missionary, Mr. Rameshwar also qualifies for health and dental benefits within the plan of the national church (\$3,860/year benefit) for the duration of this three-month contract.*

Details such as holidays, study leave etc. are to be on a pro rata basis of three months employment.

During the length of this agreement, the Rev. Andras Rameshwar will be accountable to the Interim Moderator of the charge.

This Agreement is effective April 16, 2010. It must be signed and returned to Mr. Don Speir, Clerk of Session by Wednesday, April 7, 2010.

The agreement was signed by all parties.

Dorchester / South Nissouri - No Report

Minutes of the Presbytery of London
DaySpring Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Knox, Fingal - Kevin Steeper reported that the pulpit is being well-supplied, and Communion is being celebrated. He also sought the prayers of the Court as a candidate will be preaching for the Call to Knox, Fingal this coming Sunday.

Knox, St. Thomas - No Report

Quarterly Reports of Assessor Elders, Knox, St. Thomas had been circulated for information

Oakridge, London - No Report

St. James, North Yarmouth - John Bannerman reported that there is cause for celebration at St. James with the recent Recognition Service of Cynthia Breadner. He attended the Easter Sunrise Service and was very pleased with Cynthia's leadership of this service.

St. John's, Port Stanley - No Report

Other Business None

Adjournment On a motion by John Cameron, the Court stood adjourned at eight-twenty-five o'clock in the evening, to meet again in Regular Session on Tuesday, the eleventh day of May, two thousand and ten, at seven o'clock in the evening, in London, and within Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer. He then noted that prior to the meeting on May eleventh, at five o'clock, the people of Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church will be serving a dinner. Members wishing to attend are asked to notify the Clerk, Chris Evans, so that there will be enough for all.

Moderator

Clerk