

Minutes of the Presbytery of London

Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, May 11, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

In London, and within Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of London met in Regular Session on Tuesday, the eleventh day of May, 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 Reverend Kevin Steeper led the Court in Worship, with organ accompaniment by the Organist and Choir Director at Elmwood, Mrs. Lorraine Clark.
- Welcome, Courtesies, and Announcements** The Moderator welcomed representative from the WMS, Mrs. Margaret McCullough. Nancy Newell introduced Mr. John Van Eyk, a member of St. James, North Yarmouth, Terry Ingram introduced Mr. Doug Bruce, the Presbytery's Hospital Visitor, Chris Evans introduced Cathy Cornhill, the Clerk of Session of Elmwood, as well as Mr. Bert Van der Hoek, retired organist of Elmwood.
- Several announcements were shared, namely the upcoming Hymn Sing at St. James, North Yarmouth on June 11th, Eduard Klassen, Paraguayan Folk Harpist in concert at St. George's on June 6th, Anniversary Service at Glencoe, with Guest Preacher, Mark Lewis.
- Attendance** Charlotte Brown, Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen, Kathy Fraser, Terry Ingram, Ian Johnston, Amanda MacMillan, Keith McKee, Andrew Reid, Kevin Steeper, Michael Stol, Ministers; Bob Baron, John Cameron, Marg Chester, Bruce Dickert, Carlton Dindial, Ruth Ann Drozd, Chris Evans, Larry Gibbings, Tom Jeffery, Patrick Laurin, Matt Marshall, Paulina McCormick, Marg McCullough, Ian McFarlane, Sheila McMurray, Nancy Newell, Barbara Nyitray, Ben Ormseth, Wilma Reath, Linda Riddell, Joe Ruitenbeek, Don Speir, Norma Stevenson, Trudy Van der Hoek, Peter VanderKooy, Elders; William Khalil, Robert Wilson, Lay Missionaries with Special Training; Rob Evans, Cathy Cornhill, Bert Van der Hoek, Elmwood; John Van Eyk, St. James, N. Yarmouth; Doug Bruce, Hospital Visitor.
- Regrets** John Bannerman, Mavis Currie, Tom Godfrey, Lynn Nichol, Robert Shaw, Ministers; Jacqueline Leitch, Ross MacKay, Linda McKenna, Bill McMurchy, Nancy Springer, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Elders; Cynthia Breadner, Lay Missionary.
- Absent** Mark Turner, Minister.
- Docket** **MOTION:** (Evans / Baron) THAT the Docket as circulated be adopted for the meeting. CARRIED, with the inclusion of a report from the Evangelism Team.
- Administrative Business** **MOTION:** (Evans / Baron) THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 13, 2010, be adopted as circulated. CARRIED.
- The Clerk, presented the report of the Administrative Team.

Minutes of the Presbytery of London

Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, May 11, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

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

Number	From	Regarding
10-22	K. Ballagh-Steeper	Thank You Card re Donation to PWS&D
10-23	LMA	Crossing Cultures Together VI
10-29	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
10-24	E. Lamond, Clerk of Session, S. Nissouri	Commendation - Bob Wilson	Students & Ed.
10-25	Ken Allen	Request to be on Supply List	Admin. Team
10-26	S. Marshall, Clerk of Session. St.John's	Candidate for Ministry	Students & Ed.
10-27	M. Hyde, Clerk of Session, Oakridge	Candidate for Ministry	Students & Ed.
10-28	S. Gallagher, Clerk of Session. S. Nissouri	Commendation - Bob Wilson	Students & Ed.

The Clerk referred to item #10-25, noting that Dr. Kenneth Allen had requested to be included on the Pulpit Supply list, and after contacting references, notes that this person is quite acceptable as Pulpit Supply, but should not be offering Sacraments.

Following notice of motion made at the May meeting of the Presbytery,

RECOMMENDATION #3: (Evans / Baron) THAT the June meeting of the Presbytery of London be re-scheduled to June 22, 2010, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening, in London, and within Knollwood Park Presbyterian Church. CARRIED.

BETHEL, ILDERTON

The Moderator has received the resignation of the Rev. Tom Godfrey as Interim Moderator at Bethel, Ilderton, for health reasons.

RECOMMENDATION #4: (Evans / Baron) THAT the resignation of the Rev. Tom Godfrey as Interim Moderator of Bethel Church, Ilderton, effective April 30, 2010, be accepted with regret. CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATION #5: (Evans / Baron) THAT the actions of the Moderator in appointing the Reverend Kathy Fraser as Interim Moderator of Bethel Church, Ilderton, effective May 1, 2010, be homologated. CARRIED.

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London
Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, May 11, 2010, 7:00 p.m.**

RECORDS EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

RECOMMENDATION #6: (Jeffery /Evans) THAT the following schedule for records examination be adopted to comply with the Standing Orders, and that the Clerk notify congregations prior to the meeting of the request for records to be examined at that meeting: CARRIED.

Year #1

Year #2

September: Port Stanley & Knox Dutton

September: Knollwood Park

October: Dorchester & South Nissouri

October: New St. James

November: Glencoe & Wardsville

November: Oakridge, St. George's

January: Fingal, Trinity, Almanarah

January: Westmount

February: Bethel, Ilderton & Burns, Mosa

February: Knox, St. Thomas

March: Crinan & Largie

March: DaySpring

April: N. Caradoc-St. Andrews, Knox-Komoka

April: Elmwood

May: St. Lawrence

May: Appin & Melbourne

June: Chalmers

June: St. James, North Yarmouth

NOTICE OF MOTION: At the June meeting of the Presbytery of London, I, Chris Evans, will move or cause to be moved THAT the Presbytery of London name a Core Mission Team, which would be mandated to deal with Mission related matters, both within and outside of the Presbytery, and would also be represented on the Synod Mission Team.

The Clerk thanked all those congregations who had submitted their Annual Statistical Reports, and noted that Knox-St. Andrew's, Dutton's report is the only one outstanding.

The Clerk also thanked all those Clerks of Session who had submitted their Representative Elder appointments, and noted that the following had not been received: Dorchester/South Nissouri, Knox-St. Andrew's, Dutton, Chalmers, St. Lawrence. These were due May 1st, and must be submitted as soon as possible as the appointments will be affirmed at the June meeting.

Session Records The Session Records of Appin Presbyterian Church were examined by Mr. Rob Evans.

MOTION: (Jeffery / Evans) THAT the Session Records of Appin Presbyterian Church be attested as being neatly and correctly kept, with the following notes: 27.5, 27.7. CARRIED.

The Session Records of Guthrie Presbyterian Church, Melbourne, were not presented for examination, and will be dealt with at the June meeting of Presbytery.

Presbyterians Sharing Bob Baron updated the Court on the Presbyterians Sharing Allocations, noting that congregations within our Presbytery accepted 95% of the amount suggested by the Administrative Team.

Minutes of the Presbytery of London

Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, May 11, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Students and Education Team Amanda MacMillan reported that there are now six students under the care of the Presbytery. She reported that the Committee had examined Mr. Bob Wilson, and apologized for neglecting to include the Presbytery in this process, citing that this was an oversight. It was AGREED that the Committee proceed with their Recommendation to Certify Mr. Wilson for Ordination at the June meeting, with the provision that members of the Court could ask questions at that time.

Denominational Work Team No Report

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

MOTION: (Jeffery / Drozd) THAT the resignation of Carol Rayner as Treasurer be accepted with regrets and with the thanks of the Court for her dedicated and competent work as Treasurer of the Presbytery of London over the past years, and her being agreeable to remain in this capacity until a new Treasurer has been appointed by Presbytery. CARRIED.

MOTION: (Jeffery / Drozd) THAT a committee be formed by the Vacancy and Visitation Team (by calling for volunteers) to serve as the search team for Treasurer of the Presbytery of London, to assume responsibilities at an agreed time by former Treasurer and her successor. The mandate of the committee is to seek out candidates and bring forth recommendations to Presbytery as soon as they have a candidate. CARRIED.

MOTION: (Jeffery / Drozd) THAT the visitation to Almanarah be held in the fall of 2010 by team previously approved by Presbytery. CARRIED.

Mr. Jeffery noted that the Moderator Search Team will report in June.

Leading with Care Committee Kathy Fraser presented the report of the Leading with Care Committee, noting that the Committee had met in relation to the complaint against the Reverend Don McInnis, to consider a letter received from Mr. McInnis. After reading and considering the contents of the letter, the Committee concludes that the conditions of the sanctions have been met.

MOTION: (Fraser / Stol) THAT the sanctions placed upon the Reverend Don McInnis at the meeting of the Presbytery of London, held on August 13, 2009, be lifted effective immediately. CARRIED.

MOTION: (Fraser / Stol) THAT the Clerk of Presbytery be instructed to notify all Presbytery Clerks of this action. CARRIED.

MOTION: (Fraser / Stol) THAT the Clerk notify the Rev. Don McInnis of the decision of the Court regarding this matter.

The Rev. Fraser also reported that the Leading with Care Workshop held on April 28, 2010 was well-attended, and thanked those who participated.

Minutes of the Presbytery of London

Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, May 11, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Hospital Visitor Team Following Notice of Motion made at the Regular Meeting of Presbytery held on April 13, 2010,
MOTION: (Chester / Baron) THAT the Hospital Visitor Team become a Core Ministry Team to ensure that there is continuity with regards to the Memorandum of Understanding and the role of the Convenor.

Following discussion of the definition of Core Ministry Teams vs Focus Ministry Teams, and acknowledgement of the importance of this Team, the motion was DEFEATED.

The Memorandum of Understanding will be signed on Thursday, May 20, 2010, and it was suggested that due to the significance of this document, that the event be forwarded for publication in the Presbyterian Record.

Youth and Campus Ministries Team No Report

Website & Communications Team No Report

Evangelism Team Michael Stol reported that a Seminar is being planned for the Fall. He also noted that the Team is going to have a tent at the International Plowing Match. He circulated a DVD on the Ministry of Ushers and Greeters.

Small Church Ministries Fund No Report

G.A. 2011 Local Arrangements Committee Former Moderator Tom Jeffery assumed the Chair to allow the Moderator to present the report of the Local Arrangements Committee.
Keith McKee gave a detailed update on the arrangements for the General Assembly which will be in London in 2011. He shared good news that with the help of Corporate sponsors and other donations, on top of the congregational assessments, we should be able to stay within budget with no deficit. Plans are well under way regarding accommodations, opening worship, transportation, volunteer coordinator (Donna Robinson), meals, etc.

Keith requested that General Assembly 2011 be broadcast from pew and pulpit, encouraging people to think about signing up when opportunities are presented.

Trinity-West Elgin Dissolution Team No Report. The question was asked if this committee has any updates regarding the sale of these assets. The Moderator reported that the New Glasgow building has been sold, for \$23,000, and that it is possible that the Finance Office at 50 Wynford Drive may be able to forward some of this money to us, as the other two buildings are still for sale. It was also noted that the Mission Plan has been approved, which will enable the distribution of at least this portion of the funds.

The Convenor of this Team is asked to report to Presbytery as soon as possible.

Minutes of the Presbytery of London

Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, May 11, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Reports of Interim Moder- ators

The Moderator once again turned the Chair over to Mr. Jeffery so he could present the Interim Moderator's Report on Almanarah.

Almanarah - London - Keith McKee presented the report, sharing the good news that following approval of the Presbytery to purchase the former Grace Community Church at 250 Hamilton Road, the offer to purchase was accepted. The building has been inspected, and with minor items to be fixed, is in excellent repair. The roof will need to be replaced within a year's time. There will need to be some alterations made to comply with the Leading with Care Policy. Almanarah Presbyterian Church will have possession of this Church on June 16, 2010, and hold their first worship service on June 20, 2010.

MOTION: (McKee / Stevenson) THAT a Service of Dedication be held on Sunday, September 12, 2010, at 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon, with Presbytery meeting one-half-hour earlier. CARRIED.

The Interim Moderator reported that the Session has asked him to invite the Reverend Herb Gale, Moderator-Elect of the 2010 General Assembly to preach at this service.

He also thanked the Presbytery for their prayers during this challenging time and especially thanked Ruth Ann Drozd for her hard work in facilitating this purchase.

Mr. McKee reported that he has become aware that New St. James has been storing furnishings from the former Knox Presbyterian Church, Belmont, and these will be donated to Almanarah. These furnishings include: Communion Table and three matching chairs, Baptismal Font, Offering Plates, Lectern, Pulpit Fall, Communion wine trays/glasses. A Chalice will be donated by St. Andrews, Scarborough.

MOTION: (McKee / Stevenson) THAT the Presbytery of London donate the above-listed church furnishings from the former Knox Church, Belmont to Almanarah Presbyterian Church for Sacred use. CARRIED.

These items will be rededicated, with original dedication plaques remaining, at the service of dedication. Members of the former Knox Church, Belmont will be contacted.

Keith and Jan McKee are also donating to Almanarah Presbyterian Church, two solid brass vintage candelabra.

Mr. McKee reported that William Khalil has recently attended his interview with the Education and Reception Committee, and it is hoped that he will be eligible for reception into our denomination and a course of study at one of our theological colleges proscribed.

Grant Applications - The grant applications to Canada Ministries for Almanarah have been completed and have been reviewed by the Administrative Team. The 2010 Grant is for 100% of William Khalil's stipend, allowances and benefits, as well

Minutes of the Presbytery of London

Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, May 11, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

as payment of rental of St. George's Church and a liability insurance policy required by St. George's. The 2010 grant will decrease in July when the rent and existing insurance is no longer required. Canada Ministries has allowed its refund to be applied to the new insurance policy for the building.

MOTION: (McKee / Stevenson) THAT the Presbytery of London request a grant from Canada Ministries for 2011 in the amount of \$51,573.00, and that this request be forwarded to the Mission Committee of the Synod of Southwestern Ontario. CARRIED.

MOTION: (McKee / Stevenson) THAT the Presbytery of London make a preliminary grant request from Canada Ministries for 2012 in the amount of \$46,472.00 (subject to change). CARRIED.

MOTION: (McKee / Stevenson) THAT the Clerk write a letter thanking St. George's Presbyterian Church for hosting Almanarah Presbyterian Church from November 2008 until June, 2010. CARRIED.

The Moderator then resumed the Chair.

Bethel - Ilderton - Kathy Fraser has just been appointed Interim Moderator of Bethel Church, and indicated that the pulpit is supplied well into June. She will be meeting in the near future with the Session and Search Committee.

Burns - Mosa - Michael Stol reported diligence.

Argyle - Crinan / Duff - Largie - Amanda MacMillan spoke to the report which had been circulated.

MOTION: (MacMillan / Dolbear-Van Bilsen) THAT the Presbytery of London give approval for an open search of either full-time or part-time ministry for the pastoral charge of Duff Presbyterian Church, Largie, and Argyle Presbyterian Church, Crinan. CARRIED.

DaySpring - No Report

DaySpring Advisory Team - Report had been circulated - no recommendations.

Dorchester / South Nissouri - No Report

Knox - Fingal - Kevin Steeper reported that the pulpit is being supplied, Sacraments are being celebrated, the Session is meeting regularly. He then reported that a candidate had attended on April 17, 18, and preached for the Call. At the congregational meeting on April 18, 80% of those present voted in favour of the Call, but following Session's collecting of signatures, only 70% of the congregation signed in favour of the Call, which was not felt to be a strong enough call, and it went no further. The Search will begin anew.

Minutes of the Presbytery of London

Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, Tuesday, May 11, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Knox - St. Thomas - Andrew Reid reported diligence. There was no report of the Interim Minister.

Oakridge - London (Associate Minister) - Terry Ingram reported diligence.

St. James - North Yarmouth - No report.

St. John's - Port Stanley - Terry Ingram reported that things are going well.

Other Business___None

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

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk