

Minutes of the Presbytery of London

Westmount Presbyterian Church, London, January 10, 2006, 7:00 p.m.

At London, and within Westmount Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of London met in Regular Session on Tuesday, the tenth day of January, two thousand and six, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening.

- Dinner** At 6:00 p.m. Westmount Presbyterian Church served those present a delicious ham dinner.
- Worship** Prior to commencement of the Worship Service, the Reverend Michael Stol informed those present that the Reverend Lee Donahue had passed away the previous evening, and that a private family service will be held on Friday, January 13, 2006. The Reverend Michael Stol, the Reverend Mavis Currie, and Mr. Owen Thornton conducted the service of Worship, with musical accompaniment by Ms. Janice Sinker, Director of Music at Westmount Church.
- Constitution, Welcome and** The Moderator, the Reverend Kathy Fraser constituted the meeting with prayer. She welcomed the members of Presbytery to the meeting, and extended a special welcome to Mrs. Catherine McMillan, and Margaret McCullough who were representing the WMS, a number of new Presbyters, and other guests in attendance.
- Attendance** The Rev. Kathy Fraser (Moderator), Hugh Appel, Kate Ballagh-Steeper, John Bannerman, Amanda Birchall, Mavis Currie, Terry Ingram, Gloria Langlois, Donald McInnis, Keith McKee, Douglas Miles, Linda Moffatt, Lynn Nichol, Johan Olivier, Jim Redpath, Robert Robinson, Kevin Steeper, Michael Stol, Mark Turner, Hugh Creaser (Appendix), Ministers; Terry Axford, Ruby Cromwell, Carl Crossett, Ann Dahl, Ruth Ann Drozd, Marilyn Edwards, Chris Evans (Clerk), Margaret Field, John Goodfellow, Tom Jeffery, Ken Keith, Jacqueline Leitch, Sharon Marshall, Adele McCallum, Margaret McCullough, Irene McLean, Sheila McMurray, John McNeil, Dorothy Meikle, Hugh Orchard, Ben Ormseth, Charles Parsons, Linda Riddell, Gordon Sims, Don Speir, Norma Stevenson, Gerald Stocking, Owen Thornton, Trudy Van Der Hoek, Sandra Van Der Veen, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Peter VanderKooy, Allan Woolner, Elders; Kay Hirtle, St. John's, Port Stanley, Rob Hirtle, St. John's, Port Stanley, Catherine McMillan, WMS London Presbyterian, Others.
- Regrets** Regrets were received from: Sabrina Caldwell, Andrew Human, Robert Shaw, Ministers; Bruce Dickert, Ian Fleck, Elders; Robert Sinasac, Ordained Missionary Audrey Gordon, Treasurer.
- Docket** **AGREED** that the docket be accepted as printed and circulated.
- Stated Hour** Mr. Graham Gould, Director of Camp Kintail was welcomed to the meeting.
7:30 p.m. **MOVED** (Jeffery / Ballagh-Steeper) that Graham Gould be given permission to address the Court. **CARRIED**.
- Graham gave a presentation about the various programmes offered at Camp Kintail, and encouraged members of the Court to promote and support this Camp. The Moderator thanked Graham for his presentation, and encouraged him to remain for the

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balance of the meeting.

**Stated Hour
7:45 p.m.**

Rev. Spence Edwards, Synod Youth Consultant, was welcomed to the meeting. **AGREED** that Rev. Edwards be given permission to address the Court. Spence outlined many activities that are being planned for Youth in our Synod, with particular emphasis on the upcoming CY 2006. The Moderator thanked Spence for his presentation, and encouraged him to remain for the balance of the meeting.

Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting of November 8, 2005 and the special meeting of December 7, 2005 had been printed and circulated at least ten days prior to the meeting.

MOTION (Evans / Thornton) THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of November 8, 2005 be approved. **CARRIED.**

MOTION (Evans / Thornton) THAT the minutes of the special meeting of December 7, 2005 be approved. **CARRIED.**

**Administrative
Team Report**

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

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

Number	From/Date (d-m)	Regarding
05-133	Presbytery of PEI	Suspension of D. MacKenzie, Lay Pastor
05-134	S. Filyk (25-10)	Thankyou for Stalker Fund Grant
05-136	Pres. College, Montreal (03-11)	Thankyou re S. Filyk Grant
05-137	Presbytery of Pickering (02-07)	Katherine Heal and Martin Lee not certified for Ministry
05-142	S. Kendall (13-12)	Receipt of List of G. A. Commissioners
05-143	B. Murray (12-12)	Appreciation for Ministry of M. Stol's
05-144	S. Philpot	Changes to Roll - October
05-145	S. Philpot	Changes to Roll - November
05-146	Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington	Letter of Standing - Campbell Laker
05-148	M. Wehrmann, Synod (15-11)	Mission & Evangelism Events for 2006
05-149	J. Haas, Pension & Benefits	Pension Calculations
05-151	M. Wehrman	General Assembly in Pres. Of Niagara

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

Number	From/Date (d-m)	Regarding	Refer To
05-135	Bill Kinchlea (07-11)	Resignation as Rep. Elder	Admin Team
05-138	M. Lewis (09-11)	Covenanting for Justice	Denom. Work Team
05-139	G. Gould, Camp Kintail (25-10)	Request for Stated Hour	Admin Team
05-140	S. Edwards, Synod Youth (08-11)	Request for Stated Hour	Admin Team
05-141	I. Fraser, Presby. Record (14-12)	New Board Members	Presbytery
05-147	G. Haynes, (29-11)	Canada Ministries Grant App. Info.	Admin Team
05-150	E. Briard, Presby. Of Pickering	Question re Assessment Calculation	Treasurer

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05-151

S. Kendall, Assembly Office (22-12)

Hosting Gen. Assembly 2007/8/9

Admin Team

- Roll Changes** **REC. #3** (Evans / Thornton) THAT Mrs. Ruth Ann Drozd be appointed as our third Equalizing Elder, that Mrs. Trudy Van der Hoek be appointed as Alternate Representative Elder for Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, and that Mrs. Sheila McMurray be appointed as Representative Elder for Trinity Community Presbyterian Church. CARRIED.
- Resignation of Bill Kinchlea** **REC. #4** (Evans / Thornton) THAT the resignation of Mr. Bill Kinchlea as Representative Elder for Trinity Community Presbyterian Church be accepted with regret. CARRIED.
The Clerk will send a letter to Mr. Kinchlea.
- Permission to Sit and Correspond** **REC. #5** (Evans / Thornton) THAT at this meeting and all subsequent meetings, Robert Sinasac, Ordained Missionary, Tom Jeffery, Lay Missionary, and Audrey Gordon, Treasurer, be given permission to sit and correspond. CARRIED.
- Permission to Report** **REC. #6** (Evans / Thornton) THAT due to time sensitivity, the St. Lawrence Exit Review Team be given permission to report. CARRIED.
- Examination of Session Records** Mr. Tom Jeffery reported that he had examined the Session Records of Westmount Presbyterian Church, London
MOVED (Jeffery / Field) THAT the Session records of Westmount Presbyterian Church, London, be attested as neatly and correctly kept, *cum nota*. CARRIED.
- Students and Education Team** **REC. #1** (Ballagh-Steeper / Keith) THAT study leave be approved for Keith McKee, who will be going to Presbyterian College from February 12 - 18. CARRIED.
REC. #2 (Ballagh-Steeper / Keith) THAT study leave be approved for Kathy Fraser, who will be going to Presbyterian College from February 12 - 19. CARRIED.
- Denomination Work Team** No Report
- Vacancy and Visitation Team** Lynn Nichol presented the report of the Vacancy and Visitation Team, which had been circulated with the Advance Notices.
REC. #1 (Nichol / Stol) THAT the Presbytery homologate the naming of Robert Shaw (Convenor), Lynn Nichol, and one elder to be named, as the Review Team to Glencoe and Wardsville churches. CARRIED.
REC. #2 (Nichol / Redpath) THAT the Moderator Search team be Kevin Steeper, Chris Evans, Kathy Fraser. CARRIED.
REC. #3 (Nichol / Jeffery) THAT the following congregations be visited and reports

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presented at or before the June meeting of Presbytery: Dorchester and South Nissouri; North Caradoc-St. Andrews and Knox, Komoka. CARRIED.

REC. #4 (Nichol / Redpath) THAT the following congregations be visited and reports presented at or before the November meeting of Presbytery: Knollwood Park, London; Knox-St. Andrews, Dutton; Knox, St. Thomas. CARRIED.

REC. #5 (Nichol / Jeffery) THAT the following teams be named for congregational visitation for 2006 :

Dorchester and South Nissouri:	Jim Redpath, Elder from Knox, Fingal Kevin Steeper, Elder from Elmwood, London
North Caradoc-St. Andrews and Knox, Komoka:	Linda Moffatt, Elder from Burns, Mosa Bob Robinson, Elder from New St. James, London
Knollwood Park, London:	Mavis Currie, Elder from Westmount, London Kate Ballagh-Steeper, Elder from Ailsa Craig
Knox-St. Andrews, Dutton:	Hugh Appel, Elder from Crinan or Largie Michael Stol, Elder from Westmount, London
Knox, St. Thomas:	Keith McKee, Elder from St. George's, London John Bannerman, Elder from Chalmers, London

CARRIED.

**Review Team
Guidelines**

The Vacancy and Visitation Team was asked to create a set of guidelines for Review Teams. The following is recommended:

Description

Review Teams are appointed to visit congregations when a minister is preparing to leave the charge, for whatever reason. They should consist of a minimum of three members, at least one being a minister and one being an elder. These teams are assembled by the Vacancy and Visitation Team and appointed upon recommendation to the Presbytery.

Purpose

The purpose of these visits is primarily to reflect on the situation in the congregation(s) and what the Presbytery and/or congregation(s) need to do in the interests of future ministry in the charge. This will normally include either a recommendation that the charge be given permission to seek a new minister, or recommendations concerning what the team believes should be addressed prior to this permission being given.

Although copies of the Review Team's report may be given to the session(s) as a courtesy, the team reports to the Presbytery. The team listens, reflects on what it has heard, and reports to the Presbytery, in an attempt to be helpful to the future ministry of the congregation(s).

In case of conflict between the outgoing minister and congregation(s), or conflict

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within the congregation(s), it is not the job of the Review Team to mediate in this conflict, but to report it to Presbytery, with initial recommendations.

Procedure

The Review Team will meet with the outgoing minister, with the session(s), and with the congregation(s), to reflect on the situation in the congregation(s), and their future directions in ministry. Congregations in multiple-point charges will be visited separately. Proper notice of the meetings should be given (i.e. announced on two Sundays prior). If possible, these meetings should take place before the minister leaves. The resource for regular congregational visitations may be helpful to review teams. A written report, with any recommendations, will be prepared by the team and presented to the Presbytery.

REC. #6 (Nichol / Thornton) THAT the above guidelines be approved, and appended to the Standing Orders of the Presbytery of London. CARRIED.

Tom Jeffery will now be the Convenor of the Vacancy and Visitation Team.

St. Lawrence Exit Review Team Terry Ingram presented the Report of the Exit Review Visitation Team to St. Lawrence Presbyterian Church, detailing meetings with the Reverend Harold Kouwenberg, the Session, and the members of the congregation. The conclusion indicated that the team felt "It is apparent from our discussions with the minister, session and congregation that St. Lawrence Presbyterian Church is not in a position at the present to proceed with a call. We are of the opinion that their first task is to discern a commonly held vision for their future and develop a plan for ministry to achieve it."

REC. #1 (Ingram / Appel) THAT St. Lawrence Presbyterian Church not be given permission to proceed to a call at this time. CARRIED.

REC. #2 (Ingram / Appel) THAT the Reverend Lynn Nichol be named Interim Moderator. CARRIED.

REC. #3 (Ingram / Appel) THAT this Review Team be dismissed. CARRIED.

Hospital Visitor Advisory Team Don McInnis reported that the Hospital Visitor Team has met, and is comprised of the following members: Don McInnis, Elaine Allen, John Comrie, Ann Dahl, and Audrey Gordon. Don McInnis indicated that Mr. Douglas Bruce, the hospital visitor was also in attendance, and had discussed his activities to date. Mr. McInnis will be asking permission for Mr. Bruce to address Presbytery at its March meeting. The Team has agreed to meet quarterly, with the next meeting scheduled for April 3, 2006.

Campus Ministry Communications Team Mavis Currie spoke briefly regarding the mandate of the Campus Ministry Communications Team, indicating that in future it may be appropriate to create two separate teams again.

Small Church Ministries Fund No Report

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- Evangelism (Church Growth)** Owen Thornton had circulated a written report with no recommendations for the information of the Court.
- Reports on Vacancies**
- DaySpring, London - Interim Moderator, G. Langlois verbally reported Diligence, and that ministry is continuing at DaySpring .
- St. John's, Port Stanley - Interim Moderator, D. McInnis, verbally reported that Mr. Tom Jeffery has now been officially recognized as Lay Missionary in this charge. He also indicated that he will be presiding at the Blessing of the Nets in February.
- Rodney / Kintyre / New Glasgow - Interim Moderator, J. Redpath, verbally reported that all three of these charges now have Clerks of Session and Roll Clerks.
- New St. James, London - Interim Moderator, K. McKee reported Diligence. The Transition Committee has been meeting regularly, and a Search Committee will be formed in the near future. Rev. McKee indicated that "Healing is Happening".
- Glencoe / Wardsville - Interim Moderator Pro-Tem, H. Appel reported that the Rev. Les Files and Debbie Van Bilsen have been preaching in these two charges.
- St. Lawrence, London - Interim Moderator, L. Nichol reported that pulpit supply is in place.
- Presbyterian Record** The Clerk drew attention to a communication from the Presbyterian Record which is seeking new members on their Board of Directors
- Adjournment** On a motion by K. McKee, the Presbytery stood adjourned at nine fifteen o'clock in the evening, to meet again in Regular Session on the fourteenth day of March, two thousand and six, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening, in London, and within Chalmers Presbyterian Church. The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer and the Benediction.

K. Fraser, Moderator

C. Evans, Clerk