

Minutes of the Presbytery of London

Chalmers Presbyterian Church, London, Ontario, September 11, 2007, 7:00 p.m.

In London, and within Chalmers Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of London met in Regular Session on Tuesday, the eleventh day of September, two thousand and seven, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening.

Worship	The Reverend John Bannerman conducted the worship service, and celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Communion, assisted by Mr. Tom Jeffery.
Welcome, Courtesies, and Announcements	The Moderator, Mr. Tom Jeffery, welcomed everyone to the meeting, and as it was the first meeting for many new representative and alternate representative elders, all present were invited to stand and introduce themselves.
Attendance	Hugh Appel, John Bannerman, Sabrina Caldwell, Mavis Currie, Deborah Dolbear-VanBilsen, Terry Ingram, Keith McKee, Douglas Miles, Linda Moffatt, Lynn Nichol, Johan Olivier, Jim Redpath, Andrew Reid, Robert Shaw, Kevin Steeper, Michael Stol, Gloria Langlois, <u>Ministers</u> ; Terry Axford, Bob Baron, John Cameron, Ruth Carey, Carlton Dindial, Ruth Ann Drozd, Chris Evans (Clerk), Theresa Glithero, John Goodfellow, Mildred Greig, Tom Jeffery (Moderator), Ken Keith, Jacqueline Leitch, Joan Mansell, Sharon Marshall, Linda McKenna, John McNeil, Barbara Nyitray, Ben Ormseth, Linda Riddell, Eva Roberts, Gordon Sims, Don Speir, Nancy Springer, Gerald Stocking, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Trudy Van der Hoek, Peter VanderKooy, Sandra VanDerVeen, Allan Woolner, <u>Elders</u> ; Carol Rayner, <u>Treasurer</u> ; Rob Evans, Elmwood, Catherine McMillan, WMS Presbyterial.
Regrets	Amanda Birchall, Charlotte Brown, Kathy Fraser, Andrew Human, Mark Turner, <u>Ministers</u> ; Margaret McCullough, Sheila McMurray, <u>Elders</u> .
Absent	Susan Cushman, <u>Elder</u> .
Re-Installation of Moderator	The Reverend Jim Redpath, a former Moderator, re-installed Mr. Tom Jeffery as Moderator.
Constitution	The Moderator, Mr. Tom Jeffery, constituted the Court with Prayer.
Docket	The Docket had been circulated and with one addition, it was AGREED that the Docket be accepted for the meeting.
Minutes	MOTION (Evans / Drozd) THAT the Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 27, 2007, the Special Meeting of June 10, 2007 and the Regular Meeting of June 19, 2007 be adopted as printed and circulated. CARRIED.
Administrative Team Report	The Clerk, Mrs. Chris Evans, presented the Report of the Administrative Team.

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

Number	From	Regarding
07-35	E. Bartlett	Changes to the Roll - July, 2007
07-36	S. Kendall	Update re Shipment of Acts & Proceedings
07-44	S. Kendall	Official Acceptance of invitation for Presbytery of London to host 137 th General Assembly
07-45	C. McPherson, Clerk, Pres. of Pictou	Lifting of Suspension and Reinstatement of the Rev. H. Kenneth Stright

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

Number	From	Regarding	Refer To
07-38	J. Sitler	Rev. Julia Morden, Certificate of Transfer from Appendix to Roll, Barrie	Clerk
07-39	B. McCutcheon, Knox College	Annual Report re Gale Turnbull (Good Progress)	Students & Education
07-40	J. Vissers, Pres. College	Annual Report re Robert Wilson	S & E
07-41	Diocese of Huron (B. Howe)	Invitation to 150 th Anniversary	Moderator, Clerk
07-42	Pension & Benefits Office	Newsletter for retirees	Circulate
07-43	M. Peterson, Grace & St. George's Anglican Churches, Ilderton	Invitation to Magnetic Church	Circulate

Constituent Roll **REC. #3** (Evans / Drozd) further to Correspondence No. 07-38, THAT the Reverend Julia Morden's name be added to the Appendix to the Roll of the Presbytery of London. CARRIED.

REC. #4 (Evans / Drozd) THAT the following commission for Equalizing Elder be recognized and that his name be added to the roll of the Presbytery of London for September 2007 to August 2008: Gerald Stocking. CARRIED.

Core and Focus Ministry Teams A folder was circulated containing sign-up sheets for the various Core and Focus Ministry Teams for the upcoming 2007-2008 year. Everyone was strongly encouraged to participate on one or more of these teams as an excellent way to get involved in the work of our Presbytery. If anyone did not have a chance to sign up and wishes to do so, please call the clerk at 519-473-9224.

Notice of Motion Further to a Notice of Motion made at the Regular Meeting of June 19, 2007, MOTION (Stol / Shaw) THAT Inductions of Ministers of the Word and Sacrament into charges be held in a regular Sunday worship service with attendance by the Moderator, Clerk and Interim Moderator.

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Discussion followed, with the following speaking against the motion: Keith McKee, citing Book of Forms, S. 4.3, and 233-242, Andrew Reid, Deborah Dolbear Van Bilsen, and the Moderator reading the following verbal response from Don Muir of the Clerks of Assembly Office: "You can't call a Presbytery Meeting that intentionally excludes 1/2 or more of its membership", and also "it is the work of the Presbytery to conduct Inductions". The following spoke in favour of the motion: Sabrina Caldwell, Linda Moffatt, Terry Ingram, Johan Olivier, Lynn Nichol, Robert Shaw, Hugh Appel. The question was called, and the motion CARRIED by a majority. Keith McKee, Andrew Reid and Chris Evans wished to go on record as dissenting. Keith McKee indicated that he would appeal this action to the next higher court. The Clerk went on record indicating that should an induction service be held during morning worship, she would not be available and another individual would have to fulfil the duties of the Clerk. It was noted that while this motion is under appeal to a higher court, the action would be held in abeyance.

Records Examination

The Session Records of Ailsa Craig Presbyterian Church were examined by Rob Evans. MOTION (Currie / Van Bilsen) THAT the Session Records of Ailsa Craig Presbyterian Church be attested as being neatly and correctly kept. CARRIED.

The Session Records of Knollwood Park Presbyterian Church will be examined at the October meeting, as they were not made available for examination for the September meeting.

Students and Education Team

REC. #1 (Caldwell / Ingram) THAT Andras Rameshwar be recommended to the Committee on Education and Reception as a suitable candidate for ministry within the Presbyterian Church in Canada. CARRIED.

REC. #2 (Caldwell / Ingram) THAT Bob Wilson be recertified as a candidate for ministry within the PCC. CARRIED.

REC. #3 (Caldwell / Ingram) THAT Johan Olivier be granted the following Study Leave: November 19 - 21, 2007 - Certificate Program Conflict Management for Faith Communities: Conrad Grebel University College at the University of Waterloo. Communication in Creative Leadership workshop. CARRIED.

Denomination Work Team

No Report

Vacancy and Visitation Team

Robert Shaw reported that in relation to the follow-up visit to Knox, St. Thomas, the individual from the first visitation team who will also sit on the follow-up visitation team will be Doris Tutt.

Leading with Care

Michael Stol reported that the Team has been receiving reports from all congregations regarding their implementation of the Leading with Care policy.

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Hospital Visitor Team No Report

Youth and Campus Ministry Team Mavis Currie gave a review of the report which had been circulated with the Advance Reports, expanding on some of the programmes and events which will be presented in the next few months.

Website and Communications Team No Report

Small Church Ministries Fund No Report

Evangelism Team No Report, but it was noted that Owen Thornton will still be chairing this committee.

Strategic Visioning Team No Report

Reports of Interim Moderators DaySpring - Robert Shaw reported that the ministry of the Rev. Andras Rameshwar is progressing well, the congregation is responding well, some people who had left DaySpring have returned. At a Session meeting a motion was passed to request the Interim Moderator to request the approval of Presbytery for them to return to Term Eldership.
MOTION: (Shaw / Speir) THAT DaySpring Presbyterian Church be given permission to go to Term Eldership. CARRIED.

St. John's, Port Stanley - Terry Ingram reported that he will be bringing a motion to the Court at the October meeting to approve the renewal of the contract with Mr. Tom Jeffery as Lay Missionary.

Rodney / Kintyre / New Glasgow - Johan Olivier gave an update on the status of this three-point charge, and reported that the Rev. Keith Boyer has agreed to lead a Visioning Workshop in the near future to help the members discern the future of the charge. He reported that he had received a message from one of the Assessor Elders, Mr. Hugh Orchard, indicating that due to his heavy work schedule, he is unable to continue as Assessor Elder and suggested that he be replaced in this position. The Administrative Team will discuss the matter of whether or not Hugh needs to be replaced. The Clerk was asked to send a letter thanking Hugh Orchard for his work as Assessor Elder to the New Glasgow Session.

St. Lawrence, London - Lynn Nichol reported that things are moving along. The Search Committee had hoped to be able to present a call by now, but circumstances did not work out as hoped. She indicated that the Session is working well together.

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Belmont / North Yarmouth - Kevin Steeper reported that the pulpit is being supplied, and that arrangements have been made into October. Sacraments are being celebrated. The Session meetings are being moderated by either Kevin Steeper or John Bannerman, the co-interim moderators. Members of Knox, Belmont conducted a visitation and based on the completed questionnaires, they will continue on the same basis with St. James, North Yarmouth.

Other Business Ailsa Craig - Deborah Dolbear-Van Bilsen reported on the finalization of arrangements to close Ailsa Craig Church which occurred over the summer.

Amanda Birchall - Tom Jeffery gave an update on the condition of Amanda Birchall following her car accident this past Sunday.

MOTION (Currie / Redpath) THAT flowers be sent to Amanda with the best wishes of the Presbytery. CARRIED. Deborah Dolbear-Van Bilsen will take care of this.

General Assembly 2011 - Keith McKee reminded everyone of the first planning meeting of the Local Arrangements Committee on September 25th, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at St. George's Church, and encouraged representation from all congregations.

Small & Rural Churches Workshop - Hugh Appel reminded everyone of this upcoming workshop on Saturday, October 13th at Knox, Fingal.

Adjournment On a motion by Hugh Appel, the Court stood adjourned at seven minutes past nine (9:07) o'clock in the evening, to meet again in Regular Session on Tuesday, the ninth day of October, two thousand and seven, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening, in London, and within DaySpring Presbyterian Church. The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk