

Emergent Presbytery Meeting

Call to David Sturtevant,

to St. David's Presbyterian Church, St. John's, Nfld.

February 2, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kitchener

**DATE AND PLACE:**

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington met in Emergent Session within St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kitchener on Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. solely for the purpose of receiving the Call to David Sturtevant as the Minister of St. David's Presbyterian Church, St. John's, Nfld.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Ministers:** Rev. Susan V. Clarke (Moderator), Dr. Mark Lewis

**Representative Elders:** Janet MacDowell, Hannah Erhardt

**Clerk:** Dr. Wilma Welsh

**REGRETS:**

**Ministers:** Rev. Brooke Ashfield, Rev. Linda Ashfield, Rev. Darrell Clarke, Rev. Kathy Morden, Rev. Johan Olivier, Rev. Scott Sinclair, Rev. Glen Soderholm

**Representative Elders** - Lenore Arbuckle, Andrew Foster, Alan Israel, Gib McIlwrath,

**CONSTITUTION:**

The Moderator, the Rev. Susan V. Clarke, constituted the Court with prayer.

**ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AGENDA**

It was agreed to approve the proposed agenda as presented.

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:**

The Moderator warmly welcomed those in attendance. According to the Book of Forms we had the required number in attendance for a quorum.

**Excerpt of Minutes received from the Clerk of the Presbytery of Newfoundland, the Rev.**

**Derek Krunys**

On February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, the Presbytery of Newfoundland met at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and was constituted with prayer. Attendance: Kathy MacKay, moderator; Rev. Dr. Ian Wishart, Rev. Derek Krunys, ministers; Lillian Crawford, Margie Coombes, Lynne Allan, Elders and Assessors: Rev Jeff Murray and Murray MacDonald No regrets.

Wilma Welsh, Clerk ([clerkwatwell@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwatwell@gmail.com))

Emergent Presbytery Meeting  
Call to David Sturtevant,  
to St. David's Presbyterian Church, St. John's, Nfld.  
February 2, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kitchener

Among other business, the following was passed with regard to calling David Sturtevant to the Ministry of Word and Sacraments at St. David's, St. John's.

Moved and duly seconded that the petition to moderate to the call to Mr. David Sturtevant by St. David's Presbyterian Church, St. John's be sustained as a true Gospel call and be transmitted to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington. CARRIED

Moved and duly seconded that the right to ordain Mr. Sturtevant be waived in favour of Waterloo-Wellington. CARRIED  
Rev. Derek Krunys, Clerk

**CALL TO DAVID STURTEVANT** to become Minister of St. David's Presbyterian Church, St. John's, Nfld.

The Moderator advised that the Clerk had examined the Call and ensured that it is in proper form.

Motion – Moved by Mark Lewis/Hannah Erhardt that the call to David Sturtevant be received and considered. CARRIED.

It was agreed that Mark Lewis, as requested by the Interim Moderator of St. David's speak to the Call on behalf of the congregation of St. David's. He read an email received from Stephen Bruneau, Elder and Co-chair, Search Committee, St. David's Church St. John's, NL

*The congregation of St. David's Presbyterian Church in St. John's Newfoundland has enthusiastically endorsed the call for David Sturtevant to become our next minister. We wish to convey this desire to the Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington so as to activate the ordination, transfer and placement process as laid out in the protocols of the PCC.*

*A modest description of how this call came to be is as follows:  
A vacancy arose at St. David's last spring when its then-minister the Rev Dr. Jonathan Dent accepted a position as National Director of the Canadian Bible Society. A search committee of*

Emergent Presbytery Meeting

Call to David Sturtevant,

to St. David's Presbyterian Church, St. John's, Nfld.

February 2, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kitchener

*men and women was struck drawing from members and adherents that represented a spectrum of age, backgrounds, church organizations and experience. Under the gentle guiding hand of our Interim Moderator, Rev Derek Krunys, the committee prepared all relevant documentation and presented itself in the usual manner seeking applicants. Interest was brisk and before long we had a healthy pool of more than a dozen direct applicants from across Canada and some from around the world. Careful examination of these rendered the list down to a few preferred candidates that represented two general categories: freshly graduated youth and mid-to-late career experienced ministers. A decision was made to conduct teleconference interviews with our two best prospects and so these were arranged, back to back. The committee was treated to the delight of a consensus opinion following the interviews, as David Sturtevant did not fail to impress. His thoughtful manner, genuine faith, steadiness in the breeze of an awkward question - were all talents we had hoped to see.*

*The news that David and his wife Michelle were keen and hopeful for a positive outcome with St. David's fed back to us on the committee and so the stage was set for the preach-for-the-call. Upon their arrival and through our informal gatherings it became apparent that David was exactly as he had presented himself to be - and exactly what we had hoped for. The intelligent, fun and gentle spirit of Michelle further strengthening our hopes for a positive outcome. Any remaining doubts there may have been were put to rest when on the Sunday following an old fashioned blizzard, David Sturtevant preached to the congregation with Michelle, a guest in the choir, looking on. He was absolutely adored.*

*Many of us recognized in him the promise of great things not unlike the youthful Jim Armour who began his ministry decades ago at St. David's and grew to become one of the most respected persons in the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The congregational meeting that followed the service confirmed what we had individually felt. The previously-stipulated secret ballot resulted in an embarrassing 100% support from members, and David Sturtevant closed the meeting himself with a graceful prayer of thanks and peace.*

*We at St. David's are ready to support David and Michelle as they begin their new lives here in St. John's. We are much aware of the challenges of beginning a new career and starting a family - indeed many of us look forward to helping with these fundamental and precious stages of their*

Emergent Presbytery Meeting  
Call to David Sturtevant,  
to St. David's Presbyterian Church, St. John's, Nfld.  
February 2, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kitchener

*lives. We only hope that our pleasure in having David and Michelle in our lives somehow assuages the sadness of those elsewhere who will sadly miss them.*

*Yours Truly,  
Stephen Bruneau, Elder and Co-chair, Search Committee, St. David's Church St. John's, NL*

The following narration was received and read by the Clerk.

**Narration of the Steps**

The pulpit of St. David's Presbyterian Church, St. John's, was preached vacant April 2, 2017 by the interim moderator, Rev. Derek Krunys.

A search committee was appointed by the Session, jointly chaired by Steven Bruneau and Lori Kim Den Otter, which began work on formulating a congregation profile, which was released through Ministry and Church Vocations, advertised in the Presbyterian Record, and posted to the congregational website.

Profiles from eligible candidates seeking the call were received until October 31, 2016.

From the pool of candidates who submitted their profiles, as well as profiles received from Ministry and Church Vocations, a short list of candidates was formulated to submit a recording of their worship leadership and for a Skype interview.

After conducting their interviews December 3, 2016, the Search Committee provided the name of David Sturtevant as their unanimous recommendation to the Session of St. David's to be invited to preach for the call.

At a special meeting of the Session, December 7, 2016, the Session adopted the recommendation of the Search Committee, and issued an invitation to David Sturtevant to preach for the call January 22, 2017.

Between January 19-22, 2017, The Search Committee, Session, and other groups from St. David's took the opportunity to meet face to face, leading up to the worship service at St.

Emergent Presbytery Meeting

Call to David Sturtevant,

to St. David's Presbyterian Church, St. John's, Nfld.

February 2, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kitchener

David's led by David Sturtevant January 22, where despite a severe snow storm halting events Saturday, saw an above average attendance at worship.

Following the service of worship, a congregational meeting was called to order by the Interim Moderator, Rev. Derek Krunys, with the clerk of Session, Lillian Crawford, acting as Secretary. The terms of the call we laid out, and ballots distributed to members and adherents. Of the 55 members present, 55 voted in favour of extending the call to David Sturtevant under the terms described in the guarantee. Of the 25 Adherents present, 24 voted in favour of extending the call under said terms.

The Session met following the meeting, and deeming this a strong call, transmitted a petition to the Presbytery of Newfoundland to moderate in the call to David Sturtevant.

Between January 22, 2017, and January 31, 2017, a further 31 members not present at the congregational meeting subscribed their names to the call in the presence of an elder, and an additional 24 asked an elder to subscribe on their behalf. While the official roll lists 196 names, in the opinion of the Session and Interim Moderator this constitutes the vast majority of active members within the congregation, which in recent months has averaged between 60-70 on a Sunday.

Rev. Derek Krunys, St. John's, Nfld.

### **Call to a minister of Word and Sacraments and guarantee to presbytery of stipend**

#### **Terms of the Call**

We, the professing members of St. David's Presbyterian Church, St. John's, Nfld., being well satisfied with your faithfulness to the Gospel and your qualifications for the ministry of Word and Sacraments and confident that the Holy Spirit has led us to you, earnestly and solemnly call you, David Sturtevant, to become the Minister of this congregation. In calling you we promise you all due respect, encouragement, and allegiance in the Lord as, together, we seek to use our gifts in the church and in the world to the glory of God.

In order that you, David Sturtevant, may be free to devote yourself to ministry of Word and Sacraments among us, we the congregation of St. David's Presbyterian Church, hereby

Wilma Welsh, Clerk ([clerkwatwell@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwatwell@gmail.com))

Emergent Presbytery Meeting

Call to David Sturtevant,

to St. David's Presbyterian Church, St. John's, Nfld.

February 2, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kitchener

guarantee to the Presbytery of Newfoundland, of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, that out of our estimated annual revenue of \$175,999, we promise and obligate ourselves to provide you, as a first charge thereon, the following annually:

Annual Stipend (inclusive of travel) -	\$ 38,500
Annual housing allowance -	18,000
Total per year	56,500
Cost of utilities	

We agree to make payments of the above amounts on the first day of each month and agree to review the stipend and allowances annually in view of any changes in the cost of living or the needs of our minister.

We agree further:

1. To provide two weeks for continuing education and at least the minimum allowance as set by the General Assembly.
2. That the benefits of number 1 above shall be cumulative up to five years.
3. To provide five weeks holiday annually.
4. To pay supply during the periods of continuing education and holidays.
5. In case of disability or extended illness, to continue to provide stipend, accommodation and allowances for a period not less than that set by the General Assembly, and to pay the cost of pulpit supply.
6. To pay for Medical and Dental Insurance as provided through the Pension and Benefits Board of the General Assembly and to make contributions to the Pension Plan in compliance with the terms of the plan.
7. To provide a necessary moving expenses.
8. Optional (\$60/month cell phone allowance).

St. David's, St. John's, Jan. 22, 2017 –Presiding Ministry – Rev. Derek Krunys

St. David's, St. John's, Jan. 22, 2017- Meeting Secretary – Lillian Crawford

I hereby certify that, in pursuance of appointment of the Presbytery of Newfoundland, this call has been moderated in, and that out of a total number of 192 professing members, 86 have themselves subscribed and 24 have requested an elder to subscribe to same'''

Signature: Rev. Derek Krunys, Interim Moderator

Wilma Welsh, Clerk ([clerkwatwell@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwatwell@gmail.com))

Emergent Presbytery Meeting

Call to David Sturtevant,

to St. David's Presbyterian Church, St. John's, Nfld.

February 2, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kitchener

I hereby certify that 24 adherents of St. David's Presbyterian Church, St. John's, have this day signed this concurrence to the call in favour of David Sturtevant.

Signature: Rev. Derek Krunys, Interim Moderator

Moved Mark Lewis/Janet MacDowell that the call be sustained as a Gospel Call and placed in the hands of David Sturtevant. CARRIED

David Sturtevant was not in attendance due to his residence being in Montreal. David indicated to the Clerk that it was his intention to accept the Call if sustained by both presbyteries.

#### **ORDINATION**

Moved by Mark Lewis/Hannah Erhardt that at the request of the Presbytery of Newfoundland that David Sturtevant be ordained by the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington in his home congregation of St. Andrew's, Kitchener, on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. with the presbytery meeting at 3:30. CARRIED

#### **NEXT MEETING**

- a) Ordination and Induction for David Sturtevant – to be on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at 4:00 p.m. with the presbytery called to meet at 3:30.
- b) Regular Meeting, March 14, 2017 at Central Presbyterian Church, Cambridge at 7:00 p.m., with refreshments at 6:30 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION:**

On motion of Hanna Erhardt, the meeting was adjourned and the Benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Susan Clarke, Moderator of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington.

---

Rev. Susan V. Clarke, Moderator

---

Dr. Wilma Welsh, Clerk

Wilma Welsh, Clerk ([clerkwatwell@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwatwell@gmail.com))