

Chalmers Presbyterian Church  
Winterbourne, Ontario  
May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009

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**DATE AND PLACE:**

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington met in Regular Session on Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 within Chalmers Presbyterian Church, Winterbourne Ontario. This is the first Presbytery meeting at Chalmers in anyone's memory. We were served wonderful refreshments – all of which were brought in as there was no running water.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Ministers:** B. Ashfield, L. Ashfield, L. Bell, J. Borthwick, C. Brown, W. Bynum, W. Dawes, H. Gale, M. Gedcke, J. Hamalainen, S. Ma, B. Martin (Moderator), D. McCallum, M. Molengraaf, L. Paquette, R. Sinasac, N. St. Louis, A. Sutherland, K. Vandermeij, J. Veenstra, D. Whitecross, D. Wright, K. Wübbenhorst

**Representative Elders:** L. Arbuckle, M. Blake, B. Bonner, G. Cober, J. Crane, J. DeSchiffart, J. deGroot, G. Forsyth, A. Foster, D. Henry, I. Howell, A. Israel, D. Kim, M. Koeslag, G. MacRobbie, S. Neufeld, J. Patterson, R. Renton, R. Rowat, L. Samis, G. Scott, Glennys Stewart, Neil Stewart, E. Suggit, W. Welsh, R. Whetham, J. Zaryski

**Ministers on The Appendix to the Roll:** J. Smith, R. Spencer, M. Whitson

**Alternate Representative Elders:** J. Akerstream, H. Cleghorn, E. Fairbairn, A. Isaac, J. MacDowell (Clerk), A. McNabb, W. Turner

**Observers and Committee Members:** L. Pentelow, M. Pentelow, L. VanMossel

**W.M.S.:** J. Godin, Phyllis Stewart

**Retired Missionaries:** B. Geddes, J. Geddes

**Guests:** Paul Park (Church of the Lord), David Blake (Knox Waterloo), David Phillips (The Vine), Reuben St. Louis (CY09)

**REGRETS:**

**Ministers:** P. Garrison, M. Gaskin, J. Smit

**Representative Elders:** S. Grimwood, G. Schieven, D. Rickers, D. Vickers

**Ministers on the Appendix to the Roll:** R. Duncanson

**WORSHIP AND CONSTITUTION:**

The Rev. Mary Whitson led us in worship – assisted by The Rev. Brooke Ashfield, Sue Neufeld and Ruth Millard. Ruth also provided the music. Candles were lit as Mary spoke about light. The Moderator, The Rev. Dr. Brice Martin, constituted the Court with prayer.

**COMMISSIONING SERVICE:**

The Clerk called the following forward for the Commissioning Service for those attending The 135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

**Ministers:** Don McCallum (Kortright Guelph and Convenor), Aubrey Botha (Central Cambridge), Brooke Ashfield (Knox Waterloo), Mark Gedcke (Calvin Kitchener), Karla Wübbenhorst (Westminster-St. Paul's Guelph) and Sunho (John) Ma (Church of the Lord Waterloo)

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**Elders:** Gwen MacRobbie (Knox Crieff), Eloise Gardiner (Eden Mills), Margaret McKenzie-Leighton (St. Andrew's Hespeler Cambridge), Frank Thompson (Calvin Kitchener), Lloyd Weeks (Kitchener East), Gib McIlwaith (Assessor Elder Waterloo North)

**YAR:** David Sturtevant (St. Andrew's Kitchener)

Angus Sutherland (Convenor of Committee on History), Reuben St. Louis and Herb Gale.

The Moderator asked the commissioning questions to those attending and asked support of all the Presbytery.

### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:**

The Moderator warmly welcomed all and called for introductions. Mary Whitson introduced Sue Neufeld, Representative Elder from Chalmers Winterbourne. Brooke Ashfield introduced David Blake from Knox Waterloo and The Clerk introduced David Phillips from The Vine.

### **DOCKET:**

J. Patterson/D. Wright moved the adoption of the Docket as printed. *CARRIED.*

### **MINUTES:**

The Clerk mentioned (and apologized) for missing one motion in the Minutes of March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009. J. Patterson/M. Richardson moved that the Special Committee sent to Waterloo North Presbyterian Church be dismissed with the thanks of the Court. *CARRIED.*

Andrew Foster/B. Ashfield moved the adoption of the amended Minutes of March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009. *CARRIED.*

### **BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT:**

The Clerk, Janet MacDowell, reported for the committee.

## **Business Committee Report March, April and May 2009**

### **1. Correspondence:**

09-036	From Gordon Haynes, Fund for Ministerial Assistance with application forms	Clerk
09-037	From Terrie-Lee Hamilton, Assembly Office with acknowledgement of receiving 17 Moderator Ballots	Clerk
09-038	From Elizabeth Bartlett, Assembly Office with Changes to the Roll	Clerk
09-039	From Terrie-Lee Hamilton, Assembly Office with information (and a DVD) of Niigaanbatowaad: Front Runners – including study guide	Mission and Outreach
09-040	From Chantal Jackson – Co-director Camp Janet MacDowell, Clerk	Education, Issues and

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09-041	Cairn with a monthly update From John Borthwick, with information on a workshop on Friday, April 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 – Facilitator is Susan Dafoe-Abbey, Parent Consultant	Fellowship Education, Issues and Fellowship
09-042	From Stephen Allen, Justice Ministries, with information on an Ecology Workshop at 50 Wynford on April 25 <sup>th</sup>	Outreach
09-043	From Elders' Institute, with this month's tip	General
09-044	From Calvin Brown, with information on a Renewal Fellowship Workshop – Facilitator is The Rev. Dr. Aubrey Botha, April 4 <sup>th</sup>	General
09-045	From John Borthwick and Robert Spencer applying to initiate Robert Spencer becoming a Minister in Association with St. Andrew's Guelph	Business Committee
09-046	From Janet MacDowell, Synod Clerk, requesting a nomination as Moderator of Synod for 2009/2010	Business Committee
09-047	From John Borthwick, with information regarding speaker/author Tony Robinson – April 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2009 at Harcourt Memorial United Church – the role of lay leaders at a time when mainline church congregation face great change	Education, Issues and Fellowship
09-048	From Dennis Carrothers, requesting Presbytery to accept his letter of resignation.	Congregational Affairs
09-049	From Terrie-Lee Hamilton, Assembly Office, requesting changes affecting professional church workers	Clerk
09-050	From Terrie-Lee Hamilton, Assembly Office, with acknowledgement of one Moderator Ballot	Clerk
09-051	From Mark Gaskin, with a thank you for the Induction Service and regrets for his first 2 Presbytery Meetings as he is Past President for his Rotary Club	Clerk
09-052	From St. Andrew's Church Guelph, with a copy of an agreement between St. Andrew's Guelph and The Rev. Dr. Robert Spencer regarding his designation as Minister in Association	Congregational Affairs
09-052	From Reuben St. Louis, with a Canada Youth Update for April	Education, Issues and Fellowship

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09-053	From John Borthwick, with information on a dramatic presentation – St. Paul’s first letter to the Christians in Corinth	General
09-054	From Elders’ Institute with e-news	Education, Issues and Fellowship
09-055	From Chantal Jackson, Co-Director, Cairn, with information that their ‘Early Bird’ deadline has been extended to June 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2009	Education, Issues and Fellowship
09-056	From David Blake (with Brooke and Linda Ashfield’s direction) with an outline and the motions for the new building at Knox Waterloo	Congregational Affairs
09-057	From John-Peter Smit, with an opportunity for youth – Kairos Canada – June 17-20 at U of W.	Mission and Outreach
09-058	From Jackie Czeglédi, Ministry and Church Vocations, with the names of candidates who have recently come before The Education and Reception Committee	Ministry
09-059	From Stephen Roche, CFO/Treasurer, requesting information on payment for commissioners for General Assembly	Treasurer
09-060	From Harry Klassen, Project Co-ordinator with an update on The Emmaus Project	Business Committee

**2. Matters to Note:**

- (a) The Business Committee will meet on **Thursday, September 3rd**, 2009 within Westminster-St. Paul’s Church Guelph. Time: 1000 hours. Outreach to provide refreshments.
- (b) Anxiously awaiting **Statistical Reports** from St. Andrew’s Hespeler Cambridge, Church of the Lord Waterloo
- (c) **Representative Elder forms** are due by May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009. **A BIG THANK YOU** to those who have sent them in – St. Andrew’s Gordonville, St. Andrew’s Galt, Knox Guelph, Kortright, Westminster-St. Paul’s, Knox-Calvin Harriston, Conn, Knox Palmerston, Knox Drayton, Rockwood, Eden Mills, St. Andrew’s Guelph, St. Andrew’s Arthur, Gale Elmira, St. Giles Cambridge, Knox Preston and St. Andrew’s Hespeler
- (d) **Changes:** *Rev. Linda Paquette* as of April 17<sup>th</sup> P.O. Box 474, Grand Valley L0N 1G0 519-928-2601 Fax: 519-928-5441 *Rev. Mark Gaskin* 519-504-5270 *Rev. Dennis Carrothers* 50 Capulet Lane, Apt. 1209, London, ON N6H 0B1
- (e) **First quarter assessments** not yet received from Conn. It is only April and all the second quarter have been received except Conn and Knox-Calvin Harriston – good job!!!

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- (f) **Effective September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009**, the quadrants will be rotating:  
Cambridge Quadrant – Education, Issues and Fellowship  
Guelph Quadrant – Ministry Committee  
Kitchener/Waterloo Quadrant – Congregational Affairs  
Northern Kingdom – Mission and Outreach
- (g) **Synod Commissioners:**  
**Ministers:** Brice Martin X Nan St. Louis X  
**Representative Elders:** Knox Guelph (Wilma Welsh – Moderator Designate) X St. Andrew's Guelph (Ross Rowat) X
- (h) The following Sessions have had their **Minutes attested** neatly and correctly kept:  
St. Giles Cambridge  
Central Cambridge  
Knox's Galt Cambridge  
St. Andrew's Hespeler Cambridge  
Knox Preston  
Kortright Guelph  
Duff's Puslinch

The following Session has had their **Minutes attested** with notes:  
St. Andrew's Galt Cambridge

### 3. **Recommendations:**

- (A) That the actions of The Business Committee in assigning correspondence, be homologated.
- (B) That The Rev. Angus Sutherland be nominated as Moderator of The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington for 2009/2010.
- (C) That Wilma Welsh be the nomination from The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington as Moderator of The Synod of Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda.
- (D) That The Rev. Dr. Robert Spencer become a Minister in Association with St. Andrew's Guelph.
- (E) That the Memorial to The Rev. Lawrence Cowper be spread in The Minutes and forwarded to The Presbyterian Record.

The Rev. Lawrence John Cowper – Passed on to be with his Lord and Saviour and His beloved wife Kay – who predeceased him by 3 months. He was a student Minister at the three point charge of St. Andrew's-Knox Spencerville and Prescott, Minister at St. Columba Hamilton and after retirement assisted at Central Presbyterian church in Hamilton. Retired to Fergus and was attending St. Andrew's In Fergus. He is survived by his children Judy, Lynn and David and proud Grandfather of 10. Funeral Service was held on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009 within St. Andrew's

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Presbyterian Church, Fergus with The Rev. Dr. Alan McPherson officiating.

Andrew Foster/N. St. Louis moved that the report be received and considered. *CARRIED.*

Andrew Foster/N. St. Louis moved Recommendation A. *CARRIED*

Andrew Foster/N. St. Louis moved Recommendation B. *CARRIED*

Andrew Foster/N. St. Louis moved Recommendation C. *CARRIED*

Andrew Foster/N. St. Louis moved Recommendation D. *CARRIED.*

The Moderator remembered The Rev. Lawrence Cowper with prayer.

### **Report as a Whole:**

Andrew Foster/N. St. Louis moved adoption of the report as a whole. *CARRIED.*

### **STATED HOUR:**

David Phillips did a power point presentation of how The Vine works and how it is best used. He also provided the most commonly provided and required curriculum and material.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **Congregational Affairs Committee:**

Andrew Foster, Convenor, reported for the committee.

Andrew Foster/C. Brown moved that the report be received and considered. *CARRIED.*

#### **1. Request from Duffs, Puslinch**

Duff's requested permission to use \$145,000 from their manse fund to finance essential work on their building. They provided ample justification, showing that they are in a strong financial state and well able to continue to meet their obligation to provide their minister's housing allowance from revenue.

**Recommendation 1:** Moved by A. Foster/C. Brown that Duff's, Puslinch, congregation be permitted to draw from their manse fund for essential renovations to their building. *CARRIED*

#### **2. Waterloo North Presbyterian Church**

Waterloo North continues to work with All Saints Anglican to plan the future of their congregations and their space requirements. A joint working group has been set up, and they have asked that the presbytery be represented on it. The convener of the Congregational Affairs Committee has agreed to take this role for the time being.

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#### **4. Interim Moderators' reports**

Our thanks to all the interim moderators for their work and for taking the time for the important business of keeping the court informed of their progress.

#### **5. Visitation update**

The plan is complete and the visitation teams have been advised.

#### **6. Presbyterians Sharing**

Rev Penny Garrison thanked the congregations for their response to this year's Presbyterians Sharing allocations, as follows:

*"Thank you so much for your congregation's commitment to Presbyterians Sharing... I ended up hearing back from all the congregations in the Waterloo-Wellington Presbytery except for one. That is a record during my time as Stewardship convener. I am certainly encouraged by your efforts and desire to give faithfully even in these economically difficult times. The submission had been made on your behalf. May God bless you as follow-through in this area."*

Thanks to Penny for her work in encouraging all the congregations again this year.

#### **7. Palmerston and Drayton.**

**Recommendation 2:** A. Foster/C. Brown moved that the Rev Dennis Carrothers' resignation be accepted and that his name be placed on the Appendix to the Roll of Presbytery. *CARRIED.*

#### **8. Request from Knox, Waterloo.**

The committee received a detailed submission from Mr David Blake, Chair of the Knox Redevelopment Committee, regarding their rebuilding plans and requesting Presbytery support for the project. After considerable discussion, as the Congregational Affairs Committee is not generally accustomed to such excitement, the committee makes the following recommendations:

**Recommendation 3:** A. Foster/C. Brown moved that the presbytery give approval to the Trustees of Knox Presbyterian Church Waterloo to enter into a mortgage/construction loan in the amount of up to \$5,000,000 to build their new church on their current site. *(Note that the total cost is projected to be approximately \$6.6M, and that current pledges are greater than \$2.3M. The \$5M amount is therefore a ceiling figure that should not be reached).* *CARRIED.*

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**Recommendation 4:** A. Foster/C. Brown moved that the presbytery approve a loan of \$125,000 and a grant of \$125,000 from the Development Fund to Knox Waterloo to support the reconstruction of their building. The payment is requested in 3 equal installments: at the start of construction, 6 months after the start and at the end of construction. *CARRIED.*

**Report as a Whole:**

Andrew Foster/C. Brown moved the adoption of the report as a whole. *CARRIED.*

**Ministry Committee:**

Nan St. Louis, Convenor, reported for the committee.

N. St. Louis/J. deGroot moved that the report be received and considered. *CARRIED.*

N. St. Louis/J. deGroot moved that the following be added to the visitation list of questions in the Standing Orders – previously circulated as a Notice of Motion

*Leading With Care*

**Questions for Presbytery Visitation Teams**

1. Do all ministry activities have written job descriptions? Please make these available for the Visitation Team.
2. Is risk assessment an integral part of your planning for all ministry activities?
3. Are Covenant of Care forms being used for all ministry activities? Please make these available for the Visitation Team.
4. Do you follow the *Leading With Care* guidelines when recruiting, orienting teachers/leaders?
5. How do you orient and train your teachers/leaders?
6. Who oversees Police Record Checks for all high risk ministries and where is the information stored? (Minister(s) included ?)
7. Are your teacher(s)/leader(s) personally supervised and supported?
8. What have you learned from your annual evaluation?

*CARRIED.*

N. St. Louis/J. deGroot moved that The Leading With Care Committee be dismissed with the thanks of the Court. *CARRIED.*

**Report as a Whole:**

N. St. Louis/J. deGroot moved the adoption of the report as a whole. *CARRIED.*

**Education, Issues and Fellowship Committee:**

Karla Wübbenhorst, Convenor, reported for the committee.

Karla reported on the Moderator's dinner and what a wonderful time we all had. She also thanked all those in attendance and all that worked so hard to provide a great time.

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Karla also reported that John-Peter Smit, Congregational Development Consultant for our Synod would like to provide annual Elder Workshops – the first to be held within Kortright Presbyterian Church, Guelph on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Reuben St. Louis also provided numbers and some excitement for CY09.

**Outreach Committee:**

Brooke Ashfield, Convenor, reported for the committee.

The report was previously circulated.

Brooke then invited Elder Don Kim and Pastor Paul Park, from Church of the Lord (Joonim) to show us a wonderful power point presentation on the major growth and excitement that there is in their congregation. Along with a number of other things, there was a picture taken each year on their anniversary to show their growth – amazing.

**IAND Committee:**

Marty Molengraaf, Convenor, reported for the committee.

M. Molengraaf/L. Ashfield moved that the report be received and considered. *CARRIED.*

Waterloo Wellington Presbytery is vast and complex. It contains 32 congregations in three major urban centers, plus a half dozen cities and many more towns and villages. As well, it includes congregations with a strong rural base. This diversity creates an ongoing list of challenges and opportunities.

In June of 2006 the Presbytery charged the Initiatives and New Directions task force (IAND) to:

- study population trends,
- discover the resources available within the Presbytery for doing ministry and outreach
- identify congregations that may not be self sustaining
- recognize new ministries within existing congregations
- celebrate ministry and outreach initiatives of our congregations
- highlight areas of excellence
- discover areas where congregations need help to develop viable ministries
- and to determine areas of unmet need within the Presbytery.

The IAND task force did not begin its work until the fall of 2007. From that time to the present we have been actively involved in this work. We have studied the population trends and have good data about this. Generally speaking, our Presbytery contains areas of vast population growth. Kitchener Waterloo, Cambridge, Guelph, Fergus, Salem, and Elora – all these urban centers are slated to have extensive growth in the next decade and following.

The Natural Church Development promoted by our national church is a helpful and useful tool for churches to assess their congregational health. We continue to encourage our Presbytery to use NCD on an annual basis.

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In the almost two years of study, we have also noted changes, concerns and issues that have occurred in the Presbytery. For example:

1. Several Presbytery committees were sent in to St. Andrew's Cambridge to offer support and determine direction. An Interim Minister was appointed, the Presbytery gave permission to the congregation to seek a full time minister and a minister has been called.
2. St. Giles, Cambridge has become self supporting and has experienced a wonderful sense of renewal and purpose.
3. Several Presbytery committees have also been sent in to Waterloo North as it struggles financially and pastorally. The relationship with the Anglican Church regarding the shared property and building has been also problematic and the overall issues at Waterloo North continue to concern us.
4. Vacancies at the following
  - a. St. Andrew's Kitchener, now filled
  - b. Knox Harriston, now filled
  - c. Knox Palmerston, Knox, Drayton
  - d. Knox Guelph
  - e. Knox Crieff
  - f. Kortright, Guelph (effective August 1, 2009)
  - g. Knox Elora, St Andrew's Alma (effective end of September 2009)
  - h. Winterbourne and Baden continue to be very small congregations with ongoing questions of sustainability.
  - i. Major renovations and improvements at St. Andrew's Mount Forest and Knox Conn enabling more effective ministry
5. Knox Church, Waterloo and Gale Church, Elmira are in the process of seeking to build new facilities; Knox on its current parking lot and Gale Church on a new and bigger parcel of land on the edge of town.
6. Congregations (like Knox's Galt) are embarking on costly renovations and changes to their buildings.
7. Congregations (like Calvin, Kitchener) are hoping to expand their ministries and their staffing.

While these kinds of issues are certainly part of the work of any Presbytery, we feel that the scope as well as our current polity creates specific problems for us. Given our present structure together with our size, our Presbytery cannot always keep its pulse on all the celebrations and concerns of congregations within its bounds. As a committee we have found our own mandate at times to be overwhelming.

In the work of supporting, sustaining and expanding the mission and ministry of our Presbytery, we believe it is time to explore the idea of hiring an Executive Presbyter. This position is very

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common in the Presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church, USA and the job description often includes mission, strategic planning as well as congregational and pastoral support. In fact, we have recently been made aware that the Presbytery of Brampton is considering hiring a part time Executive Presbyter.

Presbytery has a responsibility to actively support congregations and ministry teams in order to ensure that the factors necessary for growth are in place. There are reports and recommendations (for example the Boyer Report 2001) that need consistency and at times suggestions for implementation. We believe that an Executive Presbyter can help the Presbytery to proactively lead congregations through this growth, as well as responding to areas of concern that might arise.

**Recommendation:**

M. Molengraaf/L. Ashfield moved that the IAND Committee explore the idea of an Executive Presbyter for the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington. This would include possible job descriptions, the possibility of sharing an Executive Presbyter with the Presbytery of Brampton, as well as qualifications and financing and to report back to the Presbytery with these findings. *CARRIED.*

**Report as a Whole:**

M. Molengraaf/L. Ashfield moved the adoption of the report as a whole. *CARRIED.*

**ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION:**

Jim Patterson moved adjournment. The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer noting that it was the one year anniversary of the passing of Mr. Ian Dudgeon.

The meeting was adjourned to meet in Regular Session on Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at Knox Conn Presbyterian Church. Supper will be provided at 6:00 p.m. with Worship and Meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m.

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Moderator

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Clerk

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