

Induction of the Rev. Amanda Wickenheiser,
Rockwood & Eden Mills Presbyterian Churches,
November 16, 2014

DATE AND PLACE:

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington met in Special Session within Eden Mills Presbyterian Church on Sunday, November 16th, 2014 for the sole purpose of Inducting the Rev. Amanda Wickenheiser into the pastoral charge of Rockwood Presbyterian Church and Eden Mills Presbyterian Church.

ATTENDANCE:

Ministers: Rev. Scott McAndless (Moderator), Rev. Michael Burns, Rev. Mark Gaskin, Rev. Alex MacLeod, Rev. Johan Olivier, Rev. Scott Sinclair.

Representative Elders: Judith Harrison, Gib McIlwrath, Nel Stewart, Earl Suggitt, Liz Samis

Alternate Representative Elders: Reg Samis, Wilma Welsh

Minister to be Inducted: Rev. Wanda Wickenheiser

Ministers on the Appendix to the Roll: Rev. Dr. Linda Bell, Rev. Dr. Arnold Bethune, Rev. Dr. Brice Martin

W.M.S. – Phyllis Stewart

Clerk: Dr. Wilma Welsh

REGRETS:

Ministers: - Rev. John Borthwick, Rev. Calvin Brown, Rev. Chris Ji Hoon Cho, Rev. Janice Hamalainen, Rev. Dr. Mark Lewis, Rev. Dr. Herb Gale, Rev. Kathy Morden, Rev. Mark Richardson, Rev. Glen Soderholm

Representative Elders: Isabel Howell, Maria Liston, Walter MacNeil, Lydia Maitland, Ross Rowat, Robert Seim, Jim Zaryski

Alternate Representative Elders: Sandy Wilmering

CONSTITUTION:

The Moderator, the Rev. Scott McAndless constituted the Court with prayer.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

The Moderator warmly welcomed all and called for introductions. Agreed on motion of Scott Sinclair/Neil Stewart that anyone in attendance from another Presbytery be invited to sit and correspond...

ORDER OF WORSHIP:

The Interim Moderator Alex MacLeod and the Moderator Scott McAndless, walked the Court through the Order of Worship. It was agreed on motion of Jeff L. Smith/Janice Hamalainen that

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the Order of Worship be adopted as printed. The presbyters will recess during the singing of the last hymn and stand at the back of the church for the Benediction. CARRIED

PENSION AND BENEFITS:

The Moderator asked The Rev. Amanda Wickenheiser if she is a member of the Pension and Dental Plan. She answered 'yes'.

STIPEND:

The Moderator asked The Rev. Amanda Wickenheiser if her first month's stipend has been paid. The reply was 'no'. It was agreed that the Interim Moderator would look into the matter.

ADDITION TO CONSTITUENT ROLL:

Darrell Clarke/Marion Hunter moved that The Rev. Amanda Wickenheiser be added to The Constituent Roll of The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington at the conclusion of the service. CARRIED

DISCHARGE OF INTERIM MODERATOR:

Darrell Clarke/Marion Hunter moved that The Interim Moderator, the Rev. Alex MacLeod be dismissed with the thanks of the Court but remain on as mentor to the Rev. Amanda Wickenheiser for a minimum of one year. CARRIED

BENEDICTION:

It was agreed that the Presbytery would conclude when the Benediction is pronounced at the end of the service.

EDICT:

The Clerk, Wilma Welsh, entered the Sanctuary and read the Edict. The Edict was also read on November 9th and 16th, 2014 at both Rockwood and Eden Mills congregations. A signed copy of the Edict from both congregations was returned to the Clerk.

The Court entered the sanctuary and the service was led by The Alex MacLeod.

NARRATION OF STEPS – presented by Wilma Welsh, Clerk

The Rev. Linda Paquette, minister of Rockwood and Eden Mills, notified the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington at its meeting on November 13, 2012, of her intention to retire effective Jan.31, 2013.

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The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington appointed the Rev. Alex MacLeod, Interim Moderator at its meeting of Nov.13, 2012. He conducted the required exit interview with the Rev. Linda Paquette on Jan.15, 2013.

At their meeting on Mar.22, 2013, the Sessions appointed the search committee which then held a series of meetings to reflect upon ministry in the 21st century and also to reflect upon the particular identity of Rockwood and Eden Mills.

Later in the year, as part of the process of self-reflection as a search committee and as two congregations, a Congregational Meeting for Visioning was held on Oct.22, 2013, with an attendance of 70 persons. The congregational profile was finalized. Following approval of the profile by the two congregations, the vacancy was advertised on the Presbytery Church in Canada website and placed on file with Ministry and Church Vocations.

Upon agreement at the meeting of the Rockwood and Eden Mills sessions meeting on Dec.4, 2013, the Interim Moderator corresponded with the clerk of Presbytery requesting permission to proceed with the necessary steps to call a minister. Permission was granted by the Presbytery at its meeting on January14, 2014.

36 applications were received following the advertising of the vacancy. The search committee began going out to hear candidates lead worship in a live congregational setting.

In June, the search committee arrived at a short list of 3 candidates to interview. Initially, a first round of interviews was held online using Skype. Then the committee conducted interviews in person with all 3 finalists.

On June 29, 2014, it was agreed to recommend that Amanda Wickenheiser be invited to preach for the call. This decision was immediately communicated by the Interim Moderator to the Clerk of Presbytery and the convener of the Congregational Affairs committee, as well as to Amanda Wickenheiser herself.

On Sunday Sept.14, 2014, Amanda Wickenheiser preached for the call at Rockwood and Eden Mills. An attendance of approximately 80 professing members plus adherents attended the worship services. The congregation met in a duly called congregational meeting immediately following the worship service held at Rockwood Church and voted unanimously to extend a call to Amanda Wickenheiser.

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Both the sessions and the congregations, having met the candidate and experienced her ministry, are well convinced that Amanda Wickenheiser possesses all the classical competencies of Presbyterian ministry (especially preaching and the conduct of worship, congregational leadership and pastoral care) together with a deep spirituality and ability to build a rapport with youth and those outside the church, which are gifts that will bless and will serve Rockwood and Eden Mills well in its vision for mission and ministry.

The call was signed by 95% from Rockwood Church and 92% by Eden Mills

The search committee, session and congregation of Rockwood and Eden Mills believe this to be a call from God upon the life of Amanda Wickenheiser.

SERVICE, INDUCTION AND SIGNING THE FORMULA:

The Rev. Scott Sinclair delivered the message. "Here for the Grace of God". The Scripture readings were Acts 20: 17-37 and Proverbs 3: 5-8. The hymns were Holy spirit, come, confirm us; Lord, you give the great commission, and God of grace and God of glory.

At the appropriate time, the Clerk, Wilma Welsh presented the Rev. Amanda Wickenheiser to the Moderator requesting that she be inducted. With the appointed preamble and questions, the Rev. Scott McAndless inducted the Rev. Amanda Wickenheiser into the pastoral charge of Eden Mills Presbyterian Church and Rockwood Presbyterian Church.

The Presbytery was then called forward to give the right hand of fellowship after which the Formula was signed.

BENEDICTION:

The Presbytery recessed during the last hymn leaving the newly inducted minister, the Rev. Amanda Wickenheiser to pronounce the Benediction.

REFRESHMENTS:

The congregation provided a time of fellowship and refreshments following the service.

Rev. Scott McAndless, Moderator

Dr. Wilma Welsh, Clerk

Wilma Welsh, Clerk (clerkwatwell@gmail.com)