

Emergent Presbytery Meeting
Dissolution of Knox Drayton and Call
to Rev. Susan V. Clarke,
to Knox Elora and St. Andrew's Alma,
Knox, Drayton,
September 27, 2015

DATE AND PLACE:

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington met in Emergent Session within Knox Presbyterian Church, Drayton on Sunday, September 27, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. solely for the following agenda items

- 1) Call to Rev. Susan V. Clarke to Knox Elora and St. Andrew's Alma and 2) Dissolution of Knox Presbyterian Church Drayton.

ATTENDANCE:

Ministers: Rev. Brooke Ashfield (Moderator), Rev. John Borthwick, Rev. Calvin Brown, Rev. Michael Burns, Rev. Dr. Herb Gale, Rev. Kathy Morden, Rev. Mark Richardson, Rev. Scott Sinclair, Rev. Amanda Wickenheiser

Representative Elders: Lenore Arbuckle, Janet deGroot, Judith Harrison, Gib McIlwrath, Linda Palmer, Bob Renton. Liz Taylor-Samis

Alternate Representative Elders: Erik Kabbes, Gaston St. Louis

Appendix to the Roll: Rev. Dr. Linda Bell, Rev. Linda Paquette

Treasurer: Allan Stewart

Clerk: Dr. Wilma Welsh

Others: Knox Elora – Joan Munn, Jean Jackson, Kim Kabbes, Loretta Fox, Martin Bauer St. Andrew's Alma – Jo-Anne Hall, Bab Hall, Carol Geddes, Cindy Robinson

REGRETS:

Ministers: Rev. Linda Ashfield, Rev. Darrell Clarke, Rev. Mark Gaskin, Rev. Dr. Mark Lewis, Rev. Alex MacLeod, Rev. Johan Olivier, Rev. John Paeng, Rev. Glen Soderholm, Rev. Karla Wübbenhorst.

Representative Elders: Junghee Ahn, Andrew Foster, Pauline Hall, Isabel Howell, Marion Hunter, Robert Seim, Jim Zaryski

Appendix to the Roll: Rev. Angus McGillivray

WMS: Jean Godin

CONSTITUTION:

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The Moderator, the Rev. Brooke Ashfield, constituted the Court with prayer noting that adjournment would be following the pronouncing of the Benediction after the Service of Dissolution.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

The Moderator warmly welcomed all and called for introductions. The visitors from Knox Elora and St. Andrew's Alma were welcomed.

CALL TO REV. SUSAN V. CLARKE To the Knox Elora and St. Andrew's Alma Pastoral Charge

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

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

Terms of the Call

We, the professing members of the pastoral charge of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Alma, and Knox Presbyterian Church, Elora, 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, The Rev. Susan V. Clarke, to become the minister of this pastoral charge. 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.

Guarantee of Stipend and Allowances

In order that you, The Rev. Susan V. Clarke, may be free to devote yourself to ministry of Word and Sacraments among us, we, professing members of the pastoral charge of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and Knox Presbyterian Church, hereby guarantee to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington, of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, that out of our combined estimated annual revenue of one hundred and seventy thousand, three hundred and ninety-three dollars and eighty cents [\$170,393.80], we promise and obligate ourselves to provide you, as a first charge thereon, the following annually:

Wilma Welsh, Clerk (clerkwatwell@gmail.com)

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Annual Stipend inclusive of travel allowance	\$ 43,006.00
Additional multiple point travel reimbursed at \$41.00/km per year	\$ 820.00
Housing	Manse Provided
Utilities	paid

Total: \$43,826.00 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: To provide two weeks for continuing education annually and at least the minimum allowance as set by the General Assembly.

- That the benefits of number 1 above shall be cumulative up to five years.
- To provide five weeks holiday annually.
- To pay supply during the periods of continuing education and holidays.
- 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.
- To pay for Medical and Dental Insurance as provided through the Pensions and Benefits Board of the General Assembly and to make contributions to the Pension Plan in compliance with the terms of the plan.
- To pay necessary moving expenses.

Signatures Recorded Knox, Elora

Knox Presbyterian Church, Elora, Sep. 20, 2015
 (Place and date)

The Rev. Dr. Linda Bell
 (Signature of Presiding Minister)

Knox Presbyterian Church, Elora, Sep. 20, 2015
 (Place and date)

Jean Jackson
 (Signature of Meeting Secretary)

St. Andrew's, Alma

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Alma, Sep. 20, 2015
 (Place and date)

The Rev. Dr. Linda Bell
 (Signature of Presiding Minister)

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Alma, Sep. 20, 2015

Jo-Anne Hall

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(Place and date) (Signature of Meeting Secretary) **Attestation of the Call by Officiating Minister**

I hereby certify that in pursuance of appointment of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington, this call has been moderated in, and that out of a total number of 43 professing members of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Alma, 24 have themselves subscribed the call and 19 have requested an elder to subscribe to same; and that out of a total number of 167 professing members of Knox Presbyterian Church, Elora, 85 have themselves subscribed and 35 have requested an elder to subscribe to same.

Elora, ON, Sept. 25, 2015, Signed by: - The Rev. Linda Bell

Attestation of the concurrence by Officiating Minister

I hereby certify that 18 adherents of the congregation of S. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Alma, and 41 adherents of Knox Presbyterian Church, Elora, have this day signed this concurrence to the Call in favour of The Rev. Susan V. Clarke.

Elora, ON, Sept. 25, 2015, Signed by: - The Rev. Linda Bell

NARRATION OF STEPS AND REASON FOR TRANSLATION

Narration of the Steps leading to the Call of The Rev. Susan V. Clarke to be minister at St. Andrew's, Alma and Knox, Elora

To the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington
 Sunday September 27th, 2015

Following The Rev. Andrew [Apack] Song's request of the presbytery to be given permission to retire from active ministry, I was appointed to be the interim moderator, with The Rev. Kathy Morden and Elder Jim Zaryski serving as the presbytery named support committee. On June 11th, 2014, at the invitation of The Rev. Andrew [Apack] Song, the interim moderator and the support committee met with him for the prescribed exit interview.

The pulpits were preached vacant by the interim moderator on September 7th, 2014.

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In Mid-September, an outline of the next steps for the congregations during the vacancy was printed and distributed through the weekly bulletin and placed on their website.

Taking the concerns raised by the retiring minister seriously, a number of events and conversations were scheduled beginning in September, 2014. In October, both congregations were invited to a workshop led by Synod Consultant John Peter Smit, with a focus on congregational planning, going forward, including things that could begin and/or be accomplished during the vacancy.

In November, one Elora elder attended the Bowen workshop at Kortright Presbyterian, Guelph and came back to share with the whole session.

There was a "Planning for the Future" afternoon on January 18th, 2015 led by the IM. The topics covered included: discussing and determining the characteristics desired in members of our search committee; establishing congregational goals and setting priorities, going forward, that we can share with those who may be interested in being our minister; what one or two changes do we need to make in order to grow in our faith and as congregations?; and what might we consider "leaving behind" as we move forward? It's exciting to report that well over 50 people from both congregations met and worked hard and well on the tasks at hand.

The pulpits have been supplied each week by one of four worship leaders and the congregations carried on with mid-week programs as before. The elders and in Elora, the pastoral care team, carried out regular visitations, as well as providing care for those in hospital or newly bereaved. The interim moderator has arranged for the sacraments of Holy Communion and baptism, and for funerals and weddings during this time of vacancy.

The congregations have been prompt in remunerating the interim moderator and covering her expenses, as well as those of the guest worship leaders.

Session meetings occurred monthly in Elora and every other month in Alma and were moderated by the IM. The IM also attended a couple of Board meetings, as requested/invited. The rolls have been reviewed and revised, to a point. In Elora, some elders have decided to retire and

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offer their gifts in other areas of the congregation's life and 3 new elders have been elected, ordained and installed.

During October, November and December, 2014, the sessions and their profile committees worked diligently on getting the congregational profiles prepared and approved. At the January presbytery meeting we were given permission to strike a search committee and begin the search process.

A search committee of 12 [5 from Alma and 7 from Elora] was named and began their work. An advertisement was placed in the Presbyterian Record as well as on the Presbyterian Church website.

On February 28th, we held a 2½ hour orientation and training session with the search committee.

The "advertisement" on the Presbyterian Church in Canada's website generated considerable interest almost immediately. Over the subsequent months, 29 profiles were submitted and the committee met numerous times to sort and sift, to pray and discern. In every case, applicants were notified in a timely manner, whether or not they were being considered. After detailed discussion and reflection, the numbers were reduced by a half. Applicants were asked to send videos or audios and each was listened to and weighed. Again, the numbers were reduced and the remaining 6 applicants were invited for interviews. One applicant graciously declined, having decided to accept a Call to another congregation. Members of the search committee travelled off to hear candidates in their own pulpits, or in pulpits for which candidates made arrangements.

In June, 2015, having examined their hearts and thoughts, the search committee unanimously determined that they would recommend The Rev. Susan V. Clarke to a joint meeting of the sessions, asking that they invite The Rev. Susan V. Clarke to preach for the Call to St. Andrew's, Alma and Knox, Elora on September 20th, 2015. The meeting took place on June 24th, 2015 and the motion to invite Rev. Clarke was passed unanimously. When invited, Rev. Clarke agreed.

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Having expressed a desire to live in the manse, Rev. Clarke and her husband Malcolm were shown the manse in July and all is being readied to their satisfaction [and the IM's]

On September 18th, the congregations were provided an opportunity to meet Rev. Clarke and her husband at a "Meet and Greet" held in Alma. A second "Meet and Greet" was held for both congregations on September 19th in Elora.

On Sunday September 20th, Rev. Clarke conducted worship in both congregations. The IM moderated a duly called congregational meeting immediately following each worship service. It was determined, unanimously, at each that the congregations were ready to proceed with a Call.

The terms of the Call and guarantee of stipend and allowances were approved unanimously. The name of The Rev. Susan V. Clarke was inserted into the Call and voting was done by ballot. The unopened ballots from Alma were transported to Elora so that all ballots could be counted together. Two elders from each congregation joined the IM in opening and counting the ballots. Between the congregations, 99 members voted by ballot, with 98 voting in favour of extending the Call to The Rev. Susan V. Clarke. The vote was announced, persons were named to speak in favour of the Call, the meeting was adjourned and the congregations broke bread with Rev. Clarke, her husband and the IM – over lunch.

Respectfully submitted by
 The Rev. Dr. Linda J. Bell
 Interim Moderator for St. Andrew's, Alma and Knox, Elora

Moved Lenore Arbuckle/Bob Renton that the actions of the Interim Moderator be approved.
 CARRIED

Presentation of the Call

The Presbytery Clerk presented the call including the guarantee of stipend and the number of signatures supporting the call.

Moved by Mark Richardson/Amanda Wickenheiser that the call to the Rev. Susan V. Clarke from the Presbytery of Ottawa be received and considered, and that representatives of Knox

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Elora and St. Andrew's Alma (Cindy Robinson [Alma] and Loretta Fox [Elora]), the pastoral charge to which the Rev. Susan Clarke is being called, be heard. CARRIED

The two representatives, Cindy Robinson and Loretta Fox were heard both speaking to the support of the Call to the Rev. Susan V. Clarke.

Guarantee of Stipend

Moved by Erik Kabbes/Lenore Arbuckle that the guarantee of stipend be deemed acceptable. CARRIED

Sustaining the Call

Moved by Mark Richardson/Mike Burns that the call be sustained as a Gospel call and transmitted to the Presbytery of Ottawa, the presbytery from which the minister is being called. CARRIED

Presentation of Call to the Presbytery of Huron Perth

Moved by Calvin Brown/Scott Sinclair that in the event that the Interim Moderator of the Pastoral Charge is unable to attend the meeting of the Presbytery of Ottawa that we request the Clerk of the Presbytery of Ottawa to represent the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington. CARRIED

Induction

Moved by Scott Sinclair/Kathy Morden that if the call is sustained by the Presbytery of Ottawa and accepted by the Rev. Susan V. Clarke that the arrangements for the induction service be left in the hands of the moderator, clerk, and interim moderator. CARRIED

As per standing orders the last minister inducted (recognized) will preach (Rev. Cathy Kay)

Edict of Induction

The Edict of Induction is read in the calling congregation the two Sundays prior to the induction. It will be prepared by the Clerk and a signed copy of the edict be returned to the Clerk before the Induction Service.

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Offering at Induction

As per the standing orders of presbytery the offering received at the induction service will be used for the ongoing work of the presbytery.

DISSOLUTION OF KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DRAYTON

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

The Moderator warmly welcomed all and thanked them for attending this special service.

Knox Drayton Presbyterian Church ~ a brief history

In December 1883, after three months of meeting for services under the leadership of Rev. Edmison of the Rothsay and Moorefield churches, the Guelph Presbytery commissioned the congregation to organize a church. The first congregational meeting of Knox Drayton took place. Within the year, the attendance went from 25 to 70 members. Four years later, land was purchased and in 1888, the church was built. In 1906 a lot was purchased on the corner of High and Wellington Street and a manse was constructed. In 1923, a shed was built at the back of the church to house the horses. The foundation is there today complete with hooks and gables to tether the animals. In 1959, Saugeen Presbytery gave permission to sell the manse. In 1962 the Drayton and Moorefield churches were added to the Palmerston charge. For the past 53 years they have worked together, faithfully sharing the costs of ministry.

In 1949 Knox Drayton opened their doors to the Dutch immigrants who settled in the area. It would serve as their place of worship until 1952.

For the past 132 years, ministers have faithfully preached the Word of God and generations of believers, families and friends, have worked together in support of the church, the community and the world at large. During both World Wars gift packs and clothing were gratefully received by soldiers overseas. In more recent years the Sunday School, Youth group and Knox Friends

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and Fellowship supported many mission projects locally and around the world. A church is not the building, it is God's people, and as we go out into the world, it is our hope that the seeds that have been planted continue to grow and make a difference in a world that needs to hear of Jesus love and his free gift of salvation. The dash between 1883 and 2015 are filled with worship and fellowship. Out of endings come new beginnings.

ORDER OF WORSHIP:

The Rev. Brooke Ashfield, Interim Moderator and the Moderator, walked the Court through the Order of Worship. It was agreed that the Order of Worship be adopted as printed. CARRIED

The Rev. Brooke Ashfield welcomed everyone to this special service. Hymns sung were Great is thy Faithfulness
 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness One
 more step along the world I go

The Scripture Readings were Isaiah 43: 18-19 and Mark 8: 31-27.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. Kathy Morden, "The World As We Know It".

The Service of Dissolution was led by the Moderator, Rev. Brooke Ashfield and the records were presented to the Wilma Welsh, Clerk of Presbytery by the Liz Samis, Clerk of Session.

The Declaration was given by the Moderator of Presbytery,
 "In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by the authority of The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington, I declare that the congregation of Knox, Drayton, Ontario is dissolved."

BENEDICTION:

The Benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Brooke Ashfield, Moderator of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington.

REFRESHMENTS:

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

Rev. Brooke Ashfield, Moderator

Dr. Wilma Welsh, Clerk