

Regular Meeting, Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington  
 Kitchener East Presbyterian  
 Tuesday, Sept. 10th, 7PM

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington met for its regular meeting at Kitchener East Presbyterian Church, Kitchener, on Sept. 10, 2019. Worship (with Communion) was led by the Rev. Mark Richardson.

Mr. Gib McIlwrath, moderator of the Presbytery, constituted the Presbytery. He thanked the congregation of Kitchener East for their hospitality.

**Attendance:**

Ministers: Rev. Brooke Ashfield, Rev. Linda Ashfield, Rev. John Borthwick, Rev. Peter Bush, Rev. Bill Bynum, Rev. Susan Clarke, Rev. Hugh Donnelly, Rev. Herb Gale, Rev. Mark Gaskin, Rev. Scott McCandless, Rev. Alex MacLeod, Rev. Kathy Morden, Rev. Nick Pavel, Rev. Mark Richardson, Rev. Scott Sinclair, Rev. Greg Smith, Rev. Glen Soderholm, Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst.

Rep. Elders: Lenore Arbuckle, Janet de Groot, Candace Delane, Les Ferrier, George Forsyth, Andrew Foster, Pauline Hall, Marion Hunter, Alan Israel, Frank Kivell, Gil Langerak, Daewon Lee, Janet MacDowell, David Mallet, Gib McIlwrath, Alex McNabb, Vern Platt, Ross Rowat, Sue Senior

Appendix: Rev. Mark Gedcke, Rev. Darrell Clarke

Treasurer: George Myers

**Regrets:**

Ministers: Rev. Jane Swatridge, Rev. Ed Charlton, Rev. Dr. Aubrey Botha,

Rep. Elders: Jean Godin and Peggy Lennox

Appendix: Rev. Walter MacLean, Rev. George Robertson, Rev. Linda Bell, Rev. Angus McGillivray

**Guests from Knox PC, Dunnville, Ontario:**

Mary Lou Johnston, Margaret Clark, Kim Clark, Rev. Graham Kennedy (IM), Cathy Kennedy, Deb Maarhuis, Bill Baker, Kaye Bullock, Barb Jones, Nicole Reid

Graham – Knox, Dunnville, welcome.

**Welcome and Introductions**

Brooke Ashfield introduced Knox Waterloo's new representative elder Sue Senior to the Presbytery.

Scott Sinclair introduced Gale, Elmira's new representative elder Gil Langerak and John Baxter alternate representative from Doon PC.

Kathy Morden introduced Knox-Calvin, Harriston's new representative elder David Mallet.

**Move by Linda Ashfield/Greg Smith that visitors sit and correspond. Carried**

**Adoption of Proposed Agenda**

Moved by Andrew Foster/Janet MacDowell that the agenda be adopted as presented - Carried

**Minutes – June 18th, 2019 Regular Meeting and August 20<sup>th</sup> Emergent Meeting**

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Correction on the August 20<sup>th</sup> meeting – Recommendation 10 – both Linda and Brooke Ashfield are on the constituency roll.

Moved by Sue Senior/Glen Soderholm that the minutes of the regular meeting of Presbytery on June 18th, 2019, and the Emergent Meeting of the Presbytery on August 20<sup>th</sup>, be adopted as amended. Carried.

### **Installation of the Moderator Elect – Mr. Gibson McIlwrath**

The moderator was installed by the Rev. Susan Clarke. The moderator thanked the court for the honour to serve another term.

### **The consent recommendation contained the following recommendations:**

Business Committee: Recommendations 1, 2, 6 and 7

Treasurer's Report: Recommendations 1–3

Mission and Outreach: Recommendations 1-4

Business committee recommendation 6 and 7, treasurer's recommendation #2 and recommendations #2 and #3 of the Mission and Outreach Committee were removed from the consent recommendation.

Moved by Les Ferrier/Karla Wubbenhorst that the recommendations contained in the Consent recommendation be approved as amended.

## **Reports**

### **Business Committee Recommendations:**

#### **Recommendation 6:**

Moved by Scott Sinclair/Pauline Hall that the Induction Service for the Rev. Peter Bush be held on Oct 20th at 3pm at St. Andrew's, Fergus and the induction service for the Rev. Hugh Donnelly be held on Oct. 6 at 3pm at Knox, Waterloo; with Presbytery convening at 2:30 PM for both services. Carried.

#### **Recommendation 7:**

Moved and duly seconded that the Presbytery appoint a member of its court to act as moderator designate to support the work of the moderator as outlined in the standing orders and the tradition and practice of the Presbytery, including membership on the business committee, with the expectation that the person become moderator in the following year. Carried.

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### **Treasurer's Report Recommendations:**

#### **Recommendation 2:**

Moved by Scott McAndless/Les Ferrier that seeing that the "Finance and Property committee has yet to be constituted and meet, and considering the urgency of the loan request (as Kortright is starting the construction on September 16, 2019,) that the Presbytery approve the loan of 50% of the budgeted cost of \$210,000, or \$105,000 to Kortright Presbyterian Church, to be repaid in in ten yearly installments at 0% interest.

Questions followed. Vern Platt asked the treasurer to speak to the financial situation of the Presbytery. The Treasurer provided an update on the situation and the demand for additional loans from other congregations. Linda Ashfield asked additional questions. Les Ferrier spoke in support of the motion.

The motion was carried.

### **Mission and Outreach Committee Recommendations:**

#### **Recommendation 2:**

Moved by Scott McAndless/Greg Smith that the Presbytery indicate its support for the Two Rivers application, to Canada Ministries, requesting a grant of \$8,000 for 2020. Carried

#### **Recommendation 3:**

Moved by Linda Ashfield and duly seconded that the Presbytery continue to support the Two Rivers Mission with a \$10,000 donation for 2020 budget.

#### **Discussion followed. An amendment was proposed by Karla Wubbenhorst.**

Moved by Karla Wubbenhorst/John Borthwick that Recommendation 3 be deferred to the November presbytery. After discussion the amendment was deferred.

#### **An additional amendment was proposed by Karla Wubbenhorst.**

Moved by Karla Wubbenhorst that Recommendation 3 be referred to the treasurer. Carried

### **Call to the Rev. David Whitecross from the congregation of Knox Presbyterian Church, Dunnville.**

Moved by Scott McAndless/Scott Sinclair that the call to the Rev. David Whitecross be received and considered. An amendment was offered by K. Wubbenhorst that the presbytery defer its

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consideration until a compliant received in the Presbytery of Niagara is dealt with. The moderator ruled the amendment out of order. The motion was carried.

**The interim moderator, the Rev. Graham Kennedy, narrated the steps of the Call:**

Stages in the settlement of our vacancy at Knox Church, Dunnville. November 2017: Presbytery declares the congregation to be vacant as of January 1, 2018, and appoints Graham Kennedy as Interim Moderator. December 15, 2017: Last official Sunday in the pulpit for the Rev Dennis Wright. January 1, 2018: Period of severance for the Rev. Dennis Wright begins.

April 30, 2018: Period of Severance for Dennis Wright ends

May – October, 2018: The congregation prepares its profile

September, 2018: Congregational meeting held to determine the willingness of the Congregation to proceed towards issuing a Call and using congregational funds as required, and if necessary to sustain a call.

November, 2018: First submission of the profile to the Ministries Committee:

February, 2019: Profile is presented to Presbytery by the Ministries Committee, and approved.

Knox's Congregational Profile is circulated, and applications are received. (February, March, April, May, 2019).

First interviews (2) with the Search Committee are held in May, 2019: both candidates withdraw from consideration.

Search Committee invites David Whitecross for an interview; The Whitecross interview with Search Committee is held in June, 2019. The Search Committee informs Session of its opinion and recommendation that David Whitecross be invited to preach for a Call to Knox Church: Session agrees and the invite is issued, and accepted.

Letters go out to the congregation informing them of the work of the Search Committee, the recommendations of Session, and an autobiographical letter from the candidate. The congregation is invited and encouraged to attend worship on Sunday, July 21, with opportunity to meet David Whitecross on Saturday, July 20, following his meeting with Session, Board, Choir and Christian Education personnel.

Sunday, July 21, 2019: David Whitecross preaches for the Call, and the congregation is reminded again, that the congregational meeting to seek its mind on issuing a Call will be held on the following Sunday, July 28, following the regular Service of Worship.

Sunday, July 28, 2019: Following worship, Knox Church is called to order by the Interim Moderator, and the Search Committee states its case why this Call should proceed. Session shows its support, and the floor is opened to the congregation to address the matters concerned, which they did in moving speeches that touched the hearts of many present. Some spoke against such a Call, and others stated their support. In time, the discussion ended, as everybody who wanted to speak got his and her chance to do so.

A request for a secret ballott was made and granted. The people recorded their votes, and scrutineers provided the results: 25 votes for issuing the Call to David Whitecross, and six opposed. Seven adherents signed the Call as well.

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Elders took the Call document to their districts, and the result to date is:

59 communicant members signed the Call out of a total membership of 72.

(January 1, 2019): 82%

8 member were not in favour (11%), and 5 abstained (7%)

25 adherents signed their concurrence (77%) in the Call, and 8 (23%) were not in favour

The terms of the call to the Rev. David Whitecross were reviewed by the clerk and found to be in order.

**The Rev. Graham Kennedy shared the reasons for the translation with the Presbytery:**

1. Knox Church, Dunnville thoroughly enjoyed its experience of Dave Whitecross in his candidacy for our pulpit vacancy. He demonstrated himself as an able, sympathetic and gracious preacher, leader and caregiver, able and competent to teach while yet being open to being taught. Backed up by solid and fulsome letters of reference regarding his ministry and teaching and experience with youth and adults alike in St. Andrew's, Fergus, together with testimonials from fellow clergy, we feel that God has chosen Dave Whitecross just for us at this time. Our congregation has a sense of excitement and anticipation in calling him to be our minister.
2. Knox Church appreciated Dave's calming, nurturing, and respectful leadership style, seeking to unite people to join hands and hearts in a team-building effort. The results would be transparent, and always mindful of minority opinions held by those perhaps not yet ready to come aboard on decisions made and ventures proposed.
3. The congregation appreciated and enjoyed Dave's creativity as seen in Mission trips to the Caribbean, his interest in Bible studies, and his imaginative and sometimes humorous conduct of worship, as well as his energy, initiative, and genuineness as a Christian leader. We were touched by his obvious gifts in pastoral care, experience in Christian Education, and his sense of vision and personal involvement in the mission of Christ's Church to the world.
4. For all of the above reasons, and our sense that David Whitecross is the right minister for this charge, and at this time, the congregation seeks the support of both the Niagara and Waterloo-Wellington Presbyteries in calling, and inducting the Rev David Whitecross to be the new minister for Knox Church, Dunnville.

We, office-bearers and members of the congregation of Knox Church, Dunnville, being professing members desirous of promoting the glory of God and the good of the church, being destitute of a fixed pastor, and being satisfied by our experience of the faith in Jesus Christ, and by the personal grace, wisdom, kindness, competence and integrity of you, the Rev David Whitecross, have agreed to invite, as we by these presents do invite and call you to undertake the office of pastor among us, promising you, on your acceptance of this our Call, all due respect, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord, and further engage to contribute to your suitable maintenance, as God may prosper us. In

Darrell Clarke, Clerk – [clerkwatwell@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwatwell@gmail.com)

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witness thereof we have subscribed this Call on this the twenty-eighth day of July in the year 2019.

We hereby present to the Presbytery of Niagara of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, that the estimated annual revenue of the said pastoral charge for the maintenance of religious ordinance among ourselves is regularly **one hundred and twenty-two thousand dollars \$122,000 (2018)**.

We hereby agree to pay out the said revenue, as it shall be collected, and as first charge thereon, to The Rev. David Whitecross the annual salary of sixty-five thousand, eight hundred and fifty dollars, (\$65,850), plus the cost of utilities, which can be summarized as follows: forty-six thousand dollars (\$46,000) in stipend (including a travel allowance), a housing allowance of \$18,000 plus the cost of utilities, an allowance for telephone/internet of \$1200, and a study leave (Continuing Education) compensation of \$650.

We agree to make payments of the above amounts monthly [half-monthly, or weekly], and we undertake to review the package of stipend and allowances annually in consideration of any changes in the cost of living or in the needs of our minister. We further engage to use our utmost diligence to the end that David Whitecross may regularly receive the stipend and allowance herein named.

We agree further:

1. To provide two weeks for continuing education annually 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 vacation annually, which shall be used in the year that it is given.
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 Pensions 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 pay the necessary moving expenses of the minister.

The Clerk of Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington, attested the call: Total number of members: 72; signed in favour at congregational meeting: 25, further subscribed to the call: 34 for a total of 59. Adherents who subscribed to the call: 25.

Moved by Brooke Ashfield/Kathy Morden that representatives from Knox Presbyterian Church, Dunnville, and the congregation to which Rev. David Whitecross is being called are invited to speak in support of the call. Carried.

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Kaye Bullock in support of the call and quoted Psalm as appropriate to the situation. Margaret Clarke and the Clerk of Session, Bill Baker also spoke in support of the call.

Moved by Linda Ashfield/Janet MacDowell that the call to the Rev. David Whitecross be sustained as a gospel call and presented to the Rev. David Whitecross. Discussion followed.

Karla Wubbenhorst question of narration of steps of the call and the question was declared out of order by the moderator. Karla Wubbenhorst spoke against the motion – because of a procedural issue – presbytery could not vote on this issue in advance of a remit before the general assembly on same-sex ordination.

Andrew Foster spoke in favour of the motion stating that we need to lead rather than follow. Pauline Hall, Clerk of Session of Rev. Whitecross's previous call also spoke in support of the motion. John Borthwick spoke in favour of the motion, stating that the process and call followed full disclosure and transparency throughout. He stated that doctrine doesn't trump human rights legislation.

Linda Ashfield noted that Rev. Whitecross was on the appendix of the Presbytery and is in good standing. Rev. Whitecross' orientation was known to the Presbytery and no one in the court spoke at that time.

Rev. Graham Kennedy, the interim moderator of Knox PC. Dunnville stated that the opinions shared were correct and that there are two sides to this issue, however for a variety of procedural and moral issues the call should be sustained.

Motion carried.

Point of order – Karla Wubbenhorst asked that her dissent be recorded.

Reasons for Dissent:

At its meeting of September 10, 2019, the Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington approved, as recommendation 5 of the Business Committee report "that the call to the Rev. David Whitecross be sustained as a gospel call and presented to the Rev. David Whitecross." During the debate on that question I raised my concern that if it sustained this call the Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington would be acting *ultra vires* (beyond its powers) given that remits allowing the Presbyterian Church in Canada to hold a doctrine of marriage as between a person and a person were proposed this year, but had not yet been passed. Nor do we know if they will be passed, given that 2 of 3 stages in the Barrier Act procedure have not yet been satisfied. When the search committee of Knox Dunnville proposed to the session that the Rev. David Whitecross be invited to preach for the call, when the congregation voted to extend the call to the Rev. David Whitecross, and when the call to the Rev. David Whitecross was sustained by the Presbytery of Niagara, all bodies concerned were in possession of the knowledge that the Rev. David Whitecross is in a same sex marriage, for he disclosed this in his interview and in an autobiographical letter shared with the congregation. The issue was also brought out in the meeting of Niagara Presbytery on August 25. Therefore I am left to conclude that the congregation of Knox Dunnville and the Presbytery of Niagara are determined to achieve by civil disobedience and case-law precedent a much desired outcome (the ordination of clergy in same sex relationships) which has yet to be achieved through the orderly processes of church-wide consultation and General Assembly legislating, as is underway through the Barrier Act.

Niagara Presbytery's action in sustaining the call, to my personal and certain knowledge, is the subject of a

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complaint, submitted to their Presbytery clerk within 10 days of the August 25th meeting at which their action was taken. In seeking to bring this to light as information pertinent to the question before our Presbytery (whether to sustain this call) the court was told by the Moderator and clerk of our Presbytery "we checked and no complaint has been received." While it is technically true that Niagara Presbytery is to hold a meeting on September 18 to determine whether the complaint is in order and therefore whether it can formally be "received," it was misleading to our Presbytery to deny any knowledge of the complaint's existence, as it is in the hands of the Niagara Presbytery clerk, and as conversation has clearly taken place concerning it between our clerk and theirs. At the time when the call was spoken to by the interim moderator of Knox Dunnville and two others from the fulsome delegation of Knox Dunnville representatives present in our court that evening, I gave another opportunity for them to be transparent with us as to the issue this call raises, when I asked the question whether we might be allowed to know the contents of the Rev. David Whitecross' "autobiographical letter" alluded to in the Narration of Steps. Again our Moderator impeded our Presbytery's full access to relevant knowledge by not allowing the interim moderator to answer the question. Therefore in speaking against the motion to sustain the call, I undertook to clarify the procedural problem that existed with it, though I should have preferred others simply to have been honest with us as they presented the call. My plea was for our Presbytery not to repeat the error of the Presbytery of Niagara. However our Presbytery, voted to sustain the call, and in so doing welcomed the opportunity to be civilly disobedient and knowingly to take an action that lay beyond its powers, thus disrespecting the Barrier Act and the General Assembly. This is the reason for my dissent.

Submitted this 19th day of September,  
 the Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst

The Call was placed in the hands of Rev. David Whitecross by the Moderator. After thanking the Presbytery for their support, the Rev. David Whitecross indicated that he would accept the call. The moderator prayed for the success of the ministry of Rev. Whitecross.

## **Moderator Designate**

### **Recommendation:**

Moved by Scott Sinclair/Scott McAndless that Section 4 of the Standing Orders of the Presbytery of Waterloo- Wellington, be amended and expanded to include the following section:

7: That the Presbytery appoint a member of its court to act as moderator designate to support the work of the moderator as outlined in the standing orders and the tradition and practice of the Presbytery, including membership on the business committee, with the expectation that the person become moderator in the following year. Carried.

**Induction Services:** Rev. Peter Bush's induction is now October 20<sup>th</sup> at 3pm at St. Andrew's, Fergus and Rev. Hugh Donnelly's induction is 3pm on October 6, 2019 at Knox, Waterloo. (Presbytery commencing at 2:30 PM for both)

### **For Information of the Presbytery:**

#### **Update on Business Committee communication with Knox's Galt**

The moderator, Gib McIlwrath updated the presbytery – a second letter with a deadline is to be sent.

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## **Synod**

The Synod of Central and Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda shall meet on November 2nd at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Toronto, Ontario. Commissioners from the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington

Congregations:

Knox's Galt, St. Andrew's, Hespeler

Alternates: Knox, Elora; St. Andrew's, Alma

Ministers: Rev. Scott Sinclair, Rev. Aubrey Botha

Alternates: Rev. Frank Szatmari, Rev. Susan Clarke

The online meeting application "Go To Meeting" will not be renewed due its lack of use by the Presbytery.

Recommissioning of Rev. Kathy Morden, at Knox-Calvin Presbyterian Church, Harriston, at 10am - Sept 22, 2019

## **Announcements**

Ontario Presbyterian Chorus – Knox, Elora

Westminster-St.Paul – Mike Glugash – 21<sup>st</sup> Sept. 930-12pm

April Schneider will be at Two Rivers on Oct. 19

## **Next Meeting**

**Business Committee (at Kitchener East Presbyterian – 10am)**

**Oct 1, Nov. 5, Dec. 3 2019; Jan 7, Feb 4, March 3, Apr. 2, May 5, June 9, 2019.**

## **Future Presbytery Meetings:**

- Nov. 12 2019 – St. Andrew's, Fergus
- Jan. 14 2020 – Westminster - St. Paul's
- Mar. 10 2020 – TBD
- May 12 2020 – TBD
- June 16 2020 -TBD

It was duly moved and seconded that the Presbytery adjourn. Carried. The Moderator closed the Presbytery with Prayer.

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## **Appendix 'A' - Report of the Business Committee – Rev. Darrell Clarke**

### **Recommendation 1:**

That the report of the business committee be received and considered.

#### **a. Correspondence**

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#	Received from	Topic	Referred to:
19	119 Natasha Krahn	Invoice - Credence and Co	Treasurer
19	120 Chris Clemens	Report Pastoral Theology Conference	EIF
19	121 Kathryn Muir	Updating A and P	Clerk
19	122 Don Muir	D&O Insurance Coverage	Clerk
19	123 Debbie McKeivitt	Request for Information - re Loan	Treasurer
19	124 Reg Greg Smith	Info on Credence and Co process	Clerk
19	125 Don Muir	Update Amalgamation and Dissolution guidelines	Presbytery
19	126 Diana Veenstra	Stat Reports and GA Invoice	Clerk, Bus. Committee
		Process of Call to Rev. Peter Bush, Presbytery of	
19	127 Barbara Pilozow	Winnipeg	Clerk
19	128 Rev Scott Sinclair	Faith Development Facilitator, Gale	Presbytery
19	129 Terri-Lee Hamilton	YAR Invoice	Treasurer
19	130 Robert Quarrie	Questions to Presbytery	Bus. Committee
19	131 Kathy Muir	G.A. Remits and Referrals	E.I.F Committee
19	132 Terri-Lee Hamilton	Clerk Reminders 2019-2020	Clerk
19	133 Maggie Leung	Presbyterian Sharing Update - July	Presbytery
19	134 Rev. Alex MacLeod	Request for Update Loan Request	Bus. Committee
19	135 Jennifer Astop	Fall Deadlines for National Grants	Presbytery
19	136 Ian Mason	Can. Soc of Pres. History Annual Meeting	Presbytery
19	137 Kathryn Muir	Changes to the Roll - July	Presbytery
19	138 Oliver Ng	Public Meeting - Guelph	Guelph Churches
19	139 Rev. Peter Bush	MNWO Synod - New Clerk	Clerk
19	140 Rev. Cherrie Inksetter	Call to Rev. David Whitecross	Bus. Committee
		Notice of pending Transfer of Rev. Wendy Patterson	
19	141 Anne Boden	to WW	Clerk
19	142 Rev. Susan Clarke	Notice of Allison Lupton Concert	Presbytery
19	143 Kathryn Muir	Pastoral Letter from the Moderator	Presbytery
19	144 Maggie Leung	Presbyterian Sharing Update - August	Presbytery

### Recommendation 2:

That the decisions of the business committee in the assignment of the correspondence be homologated.

### b. Call to the Rev. David Whitecross from the congregation of Knox Presbyterian Church, Dunnville.

### Recommendation 3:

That the call to the Rev. David Whitecross be received and considered.

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## **1. Narration of the Call: Graham Kennedy, Interim Moderator, Session of Knox Presbyterian Church, Dunnville**

Stages in the settlement of our vacancy at Knox Church, Dunnville

November 2017: Presbytery declares the congregation to be vacant as of January 1, 2018, and appoints Graham Kennedy as Interim Moderator

December 15, 2017: Last official Sunday in the pulpit for the Rev Dennis Wright

January 1, 2018: Period of severance for the Rev. Dennis Wright begins.

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May – October, 2018: The congregation prepares its profile

September, 2018: Congregational meeting held to determine the willingness of the Congregation to proceed towards issuing a Call and using congregational funds as required, and if necessary to sustain a call.

November, 2018: First submission of the profile to the Ministries Committee:  
 (Request by the Committee for more detail)

February, 2019: Profile is presented to Presbytery by the Ministries Committee, and approved.

Knox's Congregational Profile is circulated, and applications are received.(February, March, April, May, 2019).

First interviews (2) with the Search Committee are held in May, 2019: both candidates withdraw from consideration.

Search Committee invites David Whitecross for an interview; The Whitecross interview with Search Committee is held in June, 2019.

Search Committee informs Session of its opinion and recommendation that David Whitecross be invited to preach for a Call to Knox Church: Session agrees and the invite is issued, and accepted.

Letters go out to the congregation informing them of the work of the Search Committee, the recommendations of Session, and an autobiographical letter from the candidate. The congregation is invited and encouraged to attend worship on Sunday, July 21, with opportunity to meet David Whitecross on Saturday, July 20, following his meeting with Session, Board, Choir and Christian Education personnel.

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Sunday, July 21, 2019: David Whitecross preaches for the Call, and the congregation is reminded again, that the congregational meeting to seek its mind on issuing a Call will be held on the following Sunday, July 28, following the regular Service of Worship.

Sunday, July 28, 2019: Following worship, Knox Church is called to order by the Interim Moderator, and the Search Committee states its case why this Call should proceed. Session shows its support, and the floor is opened to the congregation to address the matters concerned, which they did in moving speeches that touched the hearts of many present. Some spoke against such a Call, and others stated their support. In time, the discussion ended, as everybody who wanted to speak got his and her chance to do so.

A request for a secret ballott was made and granted. The people recorded their votes, and scrutineers provided the results: 25 votes for issuing the Call to David Whitecross, and six opposed. Seven adherents signed the Call as well.

Elders took the Call document to their districts, and the result to date is:

59 communicant members signed the Call out of a total membership of 72.

(January 1, 2019): 82%

8 member were not in favour (11%), and 5 abstained (7%)

25 adherents signed their concurrence (77%) in the Call, and 8 (23%) were not in favour

Graham Kennedy  
 Interim Moderator

August 25, 2019

## **2. Call to Rev. David Whitecross and Guarantee of Stipend**

The terms of the call to the Rev. David Whitecross were reviewed by the clerk and found to be in order, and are outlined below.

Note: The extract of the Presbytery of Niagara approving and forwarding the call to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington has been received and is posted below:

**Acting Moderator: Marilyn Clarke**  
**Clerk: The Rev. Cherie Inksetter**  
**205 Linwell Rd., St. Catharines, ON, L2N 1S1**  
**905-934-4939**

The Presbytery of Niagara met in special session on Sunday, August twenty fourth (24th), two thousand and nineteen (2019), within Knox Presbyterian Church, Dunnville, Ontario at three (3:00) o'clock p.m.

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The Moderator, the Moderator, opened the meeting with prayer and constituted the Court.

Sitting with the moderator were the following: Cherie Inksetter (Clerk), Wally Hong, Ben Cousineau, Joyce Harrison, Debbie Kallender, Leslie Kinghorn and others.

As it was the only business, the Call and Guarantee of Stipend Document was duly read.

Congregational Representatives Spoke in favour of the call.

The following recommendations were adopted.

It was moved by Wally Hong and seconded by Leslie Kinghorn that the guarantee of stipend as it is spelled out in the call document be approved. CARRIED

It was moved by Wally Hong and seconded by Trish Archibald that the call in the name of Rev. David Whitecross, be sustained as a gospel call and that it be transmitted to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington. CARRIED

It was moved by Anita Van Nest and seconded by Joyce Harrison that representatives of the Presbytery and the congregation will speak in support of the call at the meeting of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington. CARRIED

Yours truly,

Cherie Inksetter, Clerk, the Presbytery of Niagara

**Call and Concurrence: The Rev. David Whitecross, From Members and Adherents of Knox Presbyterian Church, Dunnville, Ontario**

As submitted to The Presbytery of Niagara, August 25, 2019

**REASONS FOR TRANSLATION**

5. Knox Church, Dunnville thoroughly enjoyed its experience of Dave Whitecross in his candidacy for our pulpit vacancy. He demonstrated himself as an able, sympathetic and gracious preacher, leader and caregiver, able and competent to teach while yet being open to being taught. Backed up by solid and fulsome letters of reference regarding his ministry and teaching and experience with youth and adults alike in St. Andrew's, Fergus, together with testimonials from fellow clergy, we feel that God has chosen Dave Whitecross just for us at this time. Our congregation has a sense of excitement and anticipation in calling him to be our minister.
6. Knox Church appreciated Dave's calming, nurturing, and respectful leadership style, seeking to unite people to join hands and hearts in a team-building effort. The results would be transparent, and always mindful of minority opinions held by those perhaps not yet ready to come aboard on decisions made and ventures proposed.

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7. The congregation appreciated and enjoyed Dave's creativity as seen in Mission trips to the Caribbean, his interest in Bible studies, and his imaginative and sometimes humorous conduct of worship, as well as his energy, initiative, and genuineness as a Christian leader. We were touched by his obvious gifts in pastoral care, experience in Christian Education, and his sense of vision and personal involvement in the mission of Christ's Church to the world.
8. For all of the above reasons, and our sense that David Whitecross is the right minister for this charge, and at this time, the congregation seeks the support of both the Niagara and Waterloo-Wellington Presbyteries in calling, and inducting the Rev David Whitecross to be the new minister for Knox Church, Dunnville.

We, office-bearers and members of the congregation of Knox Church, Dunnville, being professing members desirous of promoting the glory of God and the good of the church, being destitute of a fixed pastor, and being satisfied by our experience of the faith in Jesus Christ, and by the personal grace, wisdom, kindness, competence and integrity of you, the Rev David Whitecross, have agreed to invite, as we by these presents do invite and call you to undertake the office of pastor among us, promising you, on your acceptance of this our Call, all due respect, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord, and further engage to contribute to your suitable maintenance, as God may prosper us. In witness thereof we have subscribed this Call on this the twenty-eighth day of July in the year 2019.

We hereby present to the Presbytery of Niagara of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, that the estimated annual revenue of the said pastoral charge for the maintenance of religious ordinance among ourselves is regularly **one hundred and twenty-two thousand dollars \$122,000 (2018)**.

We hereby agree to pay out the said revenue, as it shall be collected, and as first charge thereon, to The Rev. David Whitecross the annual salary of sixty-five thousand, eight hundred and fifty dollars, (\$65,850), plus the cost of utilities, which can be summarized as follows: forty-six thousand dollars (\$46,000) in stipend (including a travel allowance), a housing allowance of \$18,000 plus the cost of utilities, an allowance for telephone/internet of \$1200, and a study leave (Continuing Education) compensation of \$650.

We agree to make payments of the above amounts monthly [half-monthly, or weekly], and we undertake to review the package of stipend and allowances annually in consideration of any changes in the cost of living or in the needs of our minister. We further engage to use our utmost diligence to the end that David Whitecross may regularly receive the stipend and allowance herein named.

We agree further:

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8. To provide two weeks for continuing education annually and at least the minimum allowance as set by the General Assembly.
9. That the benefits of number 1 above shall be cumulative up to five years.
10. To provide five weeks vacation annually, which shall be used in the year that it is given.
11. To pay supply during the periods of continuing education and holidays.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. To pay the necessary moving expenses of the minister.

### **3. Attestation of the Call by the Clerk of Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington:**

Total number of members: 72; signed in favour at congregational meeting: 25, further subscribed to the call: 34 for a total of 59. Adherents who subscribed to the call: 25.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 4:**

That representatives from Knox Presbyterian Church, Dunnville, and the congregation to which Rev. David Whitecross is being called are invited to speak in support of the call.

#### **RECOMMENDATION 5:**

That the call to the Rev. David Whitecross be sustained as a gospel call and presented to the Rev. David Whitecross.

The Call is placed in the hands of Rev. David Whitecross by the Moderator (Note: The candidate has seven days to declare if he accepts the Call.)

#### **Prayer of the Moderator**

#### **c. Moderator Designate**

At a future sederent, I will move or cause to be moved:

#### **Recommendation 6:**

That Section 4 of the Standing Orders of the Presbytery of Waterloo- Wellington, be amended and expanded to include the following section:

7: That the Presbytery appoint a member of its court to act as moderator designate to support the work of the moderator as outlined in the standing orders and the tradition and practice of the Presbytery, including membership on the business committee, with the expectation that the person become moderator in the following year. Darrell Clarke

Darrell Clarke, Clerk – [clerkwatwell@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwatwell@gmail.com)

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**d. Induction Services: Rev. Bush – Sept. 29 – 3pm, Rev. Donnelly – Oct 6 – 3pm (Presbytery commencing at 2:30 PM for both)**

**Recommendation 7:**

That the Induction Service for the Rev. Peter Bush be held on Sept. 29 at 3pm at St. Andrew's, Fergus and the induction service for the Rev. Hugh Donnelly be held on Oct. 6 at 3pm at Knox, Waterloo; with Presbytery convening at 2:30 PM for both services.

**For Information of the Presbytery:**

**e. Update on Business Committee communication with Knox's Galt – the Moderator.**

**f. Synod**

**The Synod of Central and Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda shall meet on November 2nd at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Toronto, Ontario. Commissioners from the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington**

Congregations:

Knox's Galt, St. Andrew's, Hespeler

Alternates: Knox, Elora; St. Andrew's, Alma

Ministers: Rev. Scott Sinclair, Rev. Aubrey Botha

Alternates: Rev. Frank Szatmari, Rev. Susan Clarke

**g. Go To Meeting Application (not to be renewed)**

**h. Recommissioning of Rev. Kathy Morden, Sept 22, 2019**

**i. Update from Taiwan students – November Presbytery**

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## **TREASURER'S REPORT TO WATERLOO-WELLINGTON PRESBYTERY ON SEPTEMBER, 2019**

### **Recommendation #1:**

That the report of the treasure of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington be received and considered.

### **Financial Report to August 31, 2019**

The general fund monthly financial report to August 31, 2019 is on the following page. The report is very much in line with what would be anticipated to this point in 2019 and there are no issues of concern.

As reported to the May 2019 presbytery meeting that we encountered a loss from our PCC consolidated fund investment due to a very adverse 2018 last quarter, especially in December. Also noted there had been a very strong positive market rebound in both January and February of 2019 and this was reflected in the Q1-2019 report from the PCC consolidated fund with a gain of close to 6.8% in Q1-2019 alone, which translates to over \$46,000. The Q2-2019 reflects a smaller gain than the first quarter of 1%

### **Outstanding Issues**

As of the end of July 2019 five congregations have requested financial support for real estate, building infrastructure or renovation issues. Three requests have been in writing and two are verbal at this point in time. Between them these requests accumulate to significantly more dollars than the presbytery will be able to provide. This is after allowing for the resources which must be reserved to pay for the decisions made at the Committee of the Whole Meeting held at Gale Elmira in March 2017. Most of these commitments support congregational planning for renewal, missional church planting or next generation ministry efforts. It will be the difficult task of the new presbytery Finance and Property committee to discern the best way forward in this situation. Congregations cannot be guaranteed support until this new committee has completed its deliberations.

It is a great joy to be able to take over the finances from Allan Stewart, who has been very helpful in the takeover. I trust to do as fine as Job as Allan over the next three years. I look forward to working with all of the moderators, clerks, committee members, presbyters and fellow church treasurers, to make this a successful transition and an enjoyable and fulfilling experience.

Respectfully submitted,  
George L Myers, Treasurer

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To reach me: George L Myers, 671 Woolwich Street #709 Guelph ON N1H 3Y9 519-823-2378  
[glmyers1945@gmail.com](mailto:glmyers1945@gmail.com)

Loan to Kortright Presbyterian Church. In May, the Presbytery received a request for a loan to support the redesign of the sanctuary at Kortright Presbyterian Church. The business committee has reviewed the project and found it meets the criteria of the Development Fund. It was the intention to have this request reviewed by the new approved Finance and Property Committee. As this committee has not yet been constituted and met, and with construction on the new sanctuary starting soon, the following recommendation is made:

**Recommendation 3:**

That the report of the Treasurer be accepted as presented.

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**FINANCIAL REPORT TO WATERLOO-WELLINGTON PRESBYTERY AS AT AUGUST 31, 2019**

<b>INCOME</b>			
Assessment Income	95,495	127,326	31,832
Income from induction services	-	1,000	1,000
Other income - interest	1,444	4,532	3,088
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>96,939</b>	<b>132,858</b>	<b>35,919</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Synod Assessment	<b>38,978</b>	<b>51,970</b>	12,993
Special project - Gen. Assem. 2014	-	-	-
Special project - Two Rivers Church	-	-	-
Special project - Post Sec. student grants	16,900	16,900	-
Special project - Bunun Exchange	1,840	4,000	2,160
Special project - Women Gathering - 2019	1,900	3,000	1,100
Special project - Canada Youth 2018	-	-	-
<b>Special projects - total</b>	<b>20,640</b>	<b>23,900</b>	<b>3,260</b>
Clerk's honorarium	8,910.67	13,366	4,455
Treasurer's honorarium	4,703.33	7,055	2,352
CPP/EI	644	967	323
Liability Insurance	2,831	3,000	169
General and office supplies	848	2,000	1,152
Telecommunications	408	1,500	1,092
Audit and legal fees	500	500	-
Bank interest and service charges	122	300	178
<b>Office expenses - total</b>	<b>18,967</b>	<b>28,688</b>	<b>9,721</b>
Travel and mileage	1,704	5,000	3,296
Meals and hospitality	85	500	415
<b>Travel - total</b>	<b>1,790</b>	<b>5,500</b>	<b>3,710</b>
Grants - U of G chaplaincy	9,000	9,000	-
Grants - Students for Ministry	-	2,500	2,500
Grants - New Life Counselling	1,500	1,500	-
<b>Grants - total</b>	<b>10,500</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>2,500</b>
Commissioner's Expenses GA 2019/2018	715	3,500	2,785
Conference Funds	1,222	2,500	1,278
Student Psych. assessments/counselling	-	1,000	1,000
Pulpit supply for visitation	-	1,000	1,000
Visitors and Gifts	-	1,000	1,000
Christian education	-	500	500
Clerk's consultation April 2018	-	-	-
Student certification	-	300	300
<b>General expense - Total</b>	<b>1,937</b>	<b>9,800</b>	<b>7,863</b>
<b>Total All Expenses</b>	<b>92,811</b>	<b>132,858</b>	<b>40,047</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>4,128</b>	-	<b>(4,128)</b>

Appendix "C" – Report of the Mission and Outreach Committee

Darrell Clarke, Clerk – [clerkwatwell@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwatwell@gmail.com)

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**Mission and Outreach Committee**  
**Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington**  
**September 10 Report to Presbytery**

Two Rivers Congregation (TRC) is applying for a 2020 Canada Ministries Grant.

Two Rivers been designated as a sustaining ministry,

which is eligible for a series of diminishing grants for five years.

They were approved for \$10,000 in 2019, and are applying for \$8,000 for 2020.

The TRC application must be submitted by October 1.

The Presbytery must indicate its approval when submitting an application.

The Following Documents\* were reviewed:

1. Story of Mission 2019
2. Leading with Care Report 2019
3. TRC 2020 Budget & 2019 YTD

\*Copies may be made available for those who wish to review them.

**Recommendations:**

Recommendation 1: That the report of the Mission and Outreach Committee be received and considered.

Recommendation 2: That the Presbytery indicate its support for the Two Rivers application, to Canada Ministries, requesting a grant of \$8,000 for 2020.

Recommendation 3: That the Presbytery continue to support the Two Rivers Mission with a \$10,000 donation for 2020 budget.

Recommendation 4: That the report as a whole be accepted.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark B. Gaskin on behalf of

Our Leader, Scott McAndless