

Regular Meeting of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington
 Kitchener East Presbyterian Church
 Sept. 11, 2018

The Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington met at Kitchener East Presbyterian Church, Kitchener on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 for the regular meeting of Presbytery. Refreshments were served at 6:30 pm and the meeting was constituted following opening worship at 8:00 pm.

WORSHIP

Worship was led by Rev. Mark Richardson and the sacrament of the Lord's Table was celebrated.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT AND WELCOME

The Rev. Susan V. Clarke constituted the assembly with prayer. The moderator extended thanks to Rev. Richardson and Kitchener East Presbyterian Church for hosting the Presbytery. The moderator welcomed all visitors in attendance asking for them to be introduced.

ATTENDANCE

Ministers: Rev. Susan V. Clarke (Moderator), Rev. Darrell Clarke (Clerk), Rev. Brooke Ashfield, Rev. Linda Ashfield, Rev. John Borthwick, Rev. Edward Charlton, Rev. Alex MacLeod, Rev. Scott McAndless, rev. Kathy Morden, Rev. Johan Olivier, rev. Nick Pavel, Rev. Mark Richardson, Rev. Scott Sinclair, Rev. Greg Smith, Rev. Glen Soderholm, Rev. Jane Swatridge, Rev. Michelle Yoon

Representative Elders: Lenore Arbuckle, Carolyn Boyne, William Cassels, Janet de Groot, Candance Delane, Andrew Foster, Marion Hunter, Alan Israel, Frank Kivell, Joan Knox, Walter MacNeil, Daewon Lee, Janet MacDowell, Gib McIlwrath (moderator-elect), Vern Platt, Jim Zaryski

Alternate Rep. Elders: Catherine Hertel, Peter Devries, Robert Renton

Appendix: Rev. Linda Bell, Rev. Jeffrey Smith, Rev. Angus Sutherland

Treasurer: Allan Stewart

Graduate Students: Diane Boyd

WMS: Jean Godin

REGRETS

Ministers : Rev. Mark Lewis, Rev Aubrey Botha, Rev. Mark Gaskin, Rev. Bill Bynum, Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst, Rev. Frank Szatmari (Intermission)

Rep. Elders : Ross Rowat, George Forsyth, Erik Kabbes, Peggy Lennox,

Appendix : Rev. Walter MacLean

Welcome and Introductions

Rev. Glen Soderholm introduced members of Knox's Galt Session: David Durward, Beth Evans and Robert Quarrie.

Moved by Glen Soderholm/Alex Macleod that the members of Galt Session present be invited to sit and correspond. Carried

Darrell Clarke, Clerk – clerkwatwell@gmail.com

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Janet MacDowell introduced Catherine Hertel as the proposed new representative elder for St. Andrew's Kitchener.

Moved by Scott McAndless/Linda Ashfield that Diane Boyd be invited to sit and correspond.

Rev. Alex Macleod introduced Les Ferrier, the new rep elder for Kortright PC.

AGENDA

Moved by Ed Charlton/Mark Richardson that the proposed agenda be adopted as presented. Carried.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Moved by Mark Richardson/Ed Charlton that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Presbytery held on June 16th, 2018 be adopted as presented. Carried.

Moved by Andrew Foster/Gib McIlwrath that the minutes of the July 15th Emergent Meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

Moved by Scott Sinclair/Janet de Groot that the minutes of the emergent meeting of the Presbytery held at 1PM on Sept. 5th, 2018, as amended, be adopted. Carried.

The court then moved in camera, to review the minutes of the Emergent Presbytery meeting of Sept 5th at 1pm. All those present at the Emergent Meeting were invited to remain and review the minutes.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Janet De Groot that the minutes of the emergent meeting of the Presbytery held at 2PM on Sept. 5th, 2018, as presented, be adopted. Carried

The court moved out of in camera and the meeting continued.

Installation of Moderator – Mr. Gibson McIlwrath

The outgoing moderator Rev. Susan Clarke installed the new moderator Mr. Gibson McIlwrath as the moderator of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington. Susan handed over the many gavels she had received as a sign of the authority of the office and shared a poem with the new moderator and Presbytery.

The Moderator provided opening remarks on how he hoped to see his year as Moderator unfold.

I asked the indulgence of the court that I wanted to say three things before starting the business.

I want start by thanking presbytery for the honor of being selected to serve as the moderator.

I have a meditation that came out the week before in the email with Kitchener Easts email bulletin. It was written by Rev. Mark Richardson but it connected with me personally and as something we all should keep in mind while we conduct the business of the court tonight and the coming months. There are already some challenging items on the agenda and there will be more throughout the year.

“The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.” Proverbs 18:21 NIV

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The wise man Solomon said, “Life and death are in the power of the tongue.” That is a very blunt statement. It does get our attention! That’s the intention of hyperbole.

Solomon was clearly thinking of people who use their tongues in communication to affirm or assault other people. We glibly say, “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me.” We know this is not true. We have all been bruised, bullied or beaten down by the words of others. We have also been comforted, challenged and complimented. Think of living as referring to growth, development, exploration, creativity, maturation, and fulfillment. Yes, the tongue can encourage all of those things. It can also promote the opposite. The power of life and death are indeed within the capacity of each of us. If the tongue can express itself with that kind of strength, we need to be aware and very wary of its influence. That observation escalates the role of speech to high importance. It is safe to assume Solomon was right and is representing a wise perspective. After all, he received his wisdom from God! Please consider the words of the wisdom writer in the New Testament, James 3:1-12.

As we move through our life of relationships, we extend to others invitations to life or death as we touch their lives with our words and actions. Our lives are an invitation to others. Words and actions expressed in our relationships will set the vast spider web of relationships a tremble. The invitation to engage comes in many ways. It is not just words. In fact, more information is communicated non-verbally than with words. Words are quite weak comparatively. Gestures, facial expressions, closeness or distance, eye contact and many other factors are of great importance.

The Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament bears witness to the impact of our behavior and words on each other.

“Anxiety in a man’s heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad.” Proverbs 12:25

“Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.” Proverbs 12:18

“Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.” Proverbs 16:24

On the other hand, there are many references to invitations to die.

There are those “who have sharpened their tongues like a sword, they aim bitter speech as an arrow.” Psalm 64:3

“How long will you torment me and crush me with words,” said Job, who also spoke of “the scourge of the tongue.” Job 19:2

“There is one who speaks rashly like thrusts of a sword.”

“I am in the midst of . . . men whose teeth are spears and arrows, whose tongues are sharp swords.” Psalm 57:4

In both Proverbs and Psalms there is a clear and unambiguous distinction made between words that have a positive outcome and those that have an adverse outcome. These are ways we invite each other to life or to death.

Let us take the words of Scripture to heart as we seek to honour our Lord with our words and with how we say our words, that we would more and more be bearers of gracious life to all.

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The third item is I realized that most moderators have Sunday responsibilities but as a lay person I will be able to visit congregations on Sundays. The Presbytery has suspended congregational visitations.

I would like to visit the all congregations throughout the year. Not as an official visitation but as a connection with the Presbytery and the congregations. I don't see myself preaching or necessarily participating in the service but being available to update or share with the congregation what Presbytery is doing or could do for them. Maybe just over coffee at the end of the service. I am open to suggestions from the congregations and specific dates if interested.

STATED HOUR: Committee of Inquiry – Knox's Galt, Final Report "Appendix G" (p. 22)

Moved by Brooke Ashfield, seconded by Jane Swatridge that the report of the Committee of Inquiry into the proposed sale of Knox's Galt be received for discussion. Carried

The convener – presented the report – provided the details leading to the formation of the committee – the reason and the terms of reference of the committee.

Bill Cassels rose on a point of information asking that the report had not addressed the proposal from Knox's Galt laid before the Presbytery and moved that the report be received with thanks. There was no seconded for the motion and the motion fell.

Recommendations of the Committee of Inquiry

1. That the Presbytery commend interim moderator Rev. Glen Soderholm for his diligence, pastoral sensitivity, and encouragement to the congregation of Knox's Galt during a challenging time. Moved by Brooke Ashfield/Jane Swatridge. Carried.
2. That the Presbytery commend Rev. Angus Sutherland who is the stated supply and gives caring pastoral care (on contract basis) to the congregation of Knox's Galt. Angus has brought stability, warmth, and humour to a declining congregation, recently attracting some new members to Knox's. Moved by Brooke Ashfield/Jane Swatridge, Carried.
3. That the Presbytery encourage the five Presbyterian congregations in the City of Cambridge to write to their mayor and council commending the new By-law changing zoning of 'places of worship,' from N1 to CMU1 and to show to the mayor and council that Section 6.3 limiting the zoning change to the confines of the original building is not desirable. Moved by Brooke Ashfield/Jane Swatridge. Discussion followed.

David Durward spoke against the motion. Below are his written remarks shared with the Presbytery:

Knox's Galt is not supportive of the committee's 3rd recommendation for the following reasons:

- 1) The current zoning, as well as the drafts to date, all harmonize with our desire to maintain the property as a place of worship which would continue if the grace proposal is eventually approved
- 2) The current section 6.3, which the report terms 'not desirable' is in fact the city of Cambridge's inclusion to ensure that places of worship at the time of the rezoning approval, remain as places of worship into the future.

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in our discussions with Paul Smithson senior planner-policy for the city of Cambridge, he indicated that he was unaware of any changes which might be made to this section in the 3rd draft which is expected shortly, but anticipated that it would essentially remain the same, since it was a strong desire of the city. While he was somewhat puzzled by a potential letter from congregations opposing 6.3, he did acknowledge that such a communication, would be considered as feedback on the upcoming draft. He also mentioned that a formal rezoning application might be more effective, but given the timing, a final decision would take considerable time.

3) It would appear that the committee's recommendation is an outgrowth of its input surrounding the zoning changes from its various consultants. based upon our information, we have a number of issues with their statements concerning increased values attributed to the Knox's property, particularly in view of the fact that there appears to be no written opinions of potential value from any of its sources. the planner's report specifically outlines significant potential limitations to future development of the property

4) Lastly, our appraisal in May 2017 from a qualified, independent professional who was aware of the upcoming zoning changes, under the section 'highest and best use', felt that if the property were to continue as a place of worship, it would be the optimal option. incidentally, he also mentioned to us that if he had felt that a change of zoning was potentially more beneficial, he would have recommended that it be explored through a planner.

The mover and seconder withdrew the Recommendation.

4. That the proposal from the Session and Congregation of Knox's Galt requesting Presbytery approval in principle to the proposal for option and sale of the Knox's property to Grace Bible Church, be not approved. Moved by Brooke Ashfield and Seconded by Jane Swatridge.
 Discussion followed.

The mover spoke to the resolution.

David Durward spoke to the motion and his written remarks shared with the Presbytery are included below:

On behalf of the Knox's Galt congregation, I would like to speak against recommendation # 4.

approximately 4 years ago the need for change at Knox's Galt, was formerly introduced to the congregation. the major influence which prompted this discussion surrounded the building's on-going costs and the prospects of escalating requirements. through the ensuing years, we have received the benefit of the insights of 3 ministers, 4 committees and numerous property-related professionals. as presbytery is aware, formal amalgamation discussions were also held with westside. with the appointment of our interim moderator in early 2017, we began to re-examine our options in both our session, and later with our congregation. from these discussions, it was quite evident that:

- 1) the majority wished to remain at Knox's, at its current location, for as long as possible.
- 2) there was no desire to re-commence amalgamation talks
- 3) there was no desire to sell the building & relocate
- 4) we found some support to possibly sell the building with a clear understanding that a portion would remain as the centre for worship for the Knox's congregation.

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we were approached by grace bible church in the spring and following numerous meetings, received the grace proposal on October 12, 2017.

as we proceeded to obtain approval in principle for the proposal, it was acknowledged by all parties, that presbytery had the final authority to permit more detailed discussions with grace to continue. Session passed the motion, with 1 negative vote.... we were advised that the decision was based purely on the wording of the motion, rather than its intent. at a congregational vote, with 66 members present (including the elder who had voted negatively), the proposal was unanimously accepted. we were also advised that the congregational affairs committee of presbytery, following a discussion of the proposal, also voted unanimously to support it. in summary, out of nearly 100 votes cast, there has only been 1 negative one. Clearly it has been and continues to be the congregation's overwhelming desire, subject to presbytery approval, to proceed with the grace proposal.

as I mentioned before, we have a number of issues with the committee's statements contained in both the march interim report and the final June report. as well, in our opinion, we do not believe the committee has fulfilled its mandate to presbytery, as outlined in the specific accountabilities section of the final report. briefly these include such items as a valuation of the Knox's property, a suggested selling price, including terms & conditions, potential liabilities associated with the grace proposal. let me be very clear to all of you, we have been advised by the committee that it does not possess any formal, written opinions of current or future value of the Knox's property from its numerous consultants, nor does it possess any written information outlining the steps necessary to enhance the perceived value, their related costs or time necessary to complete the legal changes.

from the contents of this report it would appear that the committee has focused much of its emphasis upon the property's economic potential value, rather than its continued potential as a place of worship and a centre for enhancing pastoral care in the Galt core. as I mentioned earlier, it is your decision which of these prospects should have the greater priority, but our proposed 'Christian discount', should serve as an indication of Knox's choice.

in summarizing the major financial differences between Knox's and the committee with respect to the property value, I would point out that the grace proposal contains a specific offer to pay a specified amount at a future point in time, whereas the committee is attempting to project some undefined future value, which may appeal to some potential future purchaser, at some unknown point in time. in the event that grace did not wish to proceed with the future purchase, the details of the committee findings could then help to assist with alternative considerations.

some years ago, I suggested to my welsh minister that we should consider holding a bingo to raise money for some mission projects for the church. His response was simply 'there will be no gambling activity either inside or outside associated with the Presbyterian church'. given the lack of quantifiable, identifiable information surrounding the committee's assessment of the Knox's property value to offset the proposal values, I would suggest that the committee is asking the presbytery to gamble upon the future appeal of the property based upon some unknown potential gain.

lastly, I would also suggest that the committee has not directly identified its reasons for not recommending the approval of the grace proposal, nor has it provided any suggestions as to what modifications might be considered in order for it to proceed. grace had expressed a willingness to consider modifying its proposal, but based upon the information contained in the report, there are grounds for it to do so.

Rev. Angus Sutherland spoke against the motion. He noted that as stated supply at Knox's Galt he was not consulted by the committee of inquiry. He addressed the court and presented evidence that the congregation was indeed a viable congregation. He noted that there have been new signs of new life – 6 new members – 7 children for the Sunday school. The challenge for the congregation going forward

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is the cost of the building. He stated that Knox's Galt should have the option to determine its future. More time is required to see if there is new life - there is tremendous potential – but have to be freed from the cost of the building. Parking is not an issue and can be solved.

Bill Cassels spoke against the motion. Grace Bible Chapel has been growing exponentially and the recommendation initially presented to the Presbytery spoke to the possibility of God's kingdom growing further. He cited biblical examples of renewal and stated that he believed that God was in the proposal. He asked the Presbytery to think of what God could do and that the presbytery will regret it if votes in favour of the motion. He asked that we stand aside and let people grow.

Motion to extend the meeting by one half hour: As it is now 9:30 PM - A Motion to continue the meeting by one half hour was moved by Janet De Groot/ Greg Smith. Carried

Glen Soderholm spoke against the motion. He felt that the opposition to the proposal was fear-based thinking. He stated that Knox's Galt was being fiscally responsible in wanting to sell the building to grace bible chapel. He stated that the congregation merely asked the Presbytery for an opportunity to come back with a more refined proposal, that was the original question.

Vern Platt rose on a Point of Order and asked speakers to state whether they were speaking for or against the motion at the beginning of their comments.

The mover of the motion, Rev. Brooke Ashfield, responded that the original proposal before the Presbytery is not a good deal for Knox's Galt– and all the planner and other professionals who revised the proposal agreed. As well all members of the committee agreed. All planners and others as well as business members of the committee.
 Mover asked for the vote.

The Clerk requested a standing count:
 Yes: 21. No: 7. The motion was carried.
 Andrew Foster abstained from the vote.

Given the hour, it was moved by Alex Macleod and duly seconded that the report be tabled so that the Mission and Outreach Committee report could be received and considered. Carried

Report of the Mission and Outreach Committee – Appendix “E”

Moved by Scott McAndless and Andrew seconded that the report of the Mission and Outreach Committee be received and considered. Carried.

Moved by Scott McAndless and seconded by Andrew Foster that That the Presbytery support for the Two Rivers application, to Canada Ministries, requesting a grant of \$10,000 per year, for three years, beginning in 2019. Carried

Committee of Inquiry Report Presentation continued.

The report of the Committee of Inquiry was removed from the table. Moved by Mark Richardson/Greg Smith. Carried

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5. That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington prayerfully and urgently encourage the congregations of **Knox's Galt and Central Cambridge, who have long been neighbours and friends, to commit to a process of amalgamation.**

We ask that there be no pre-conditions, and that each session and congregation first pray: **"Lord, what do you want from me, from us, to accomplish your will in downtown Galt-Cambridge."**

Moved by Brooke Ashfield/Jane Swatridge.

Discussion followed.

The mover spoke to the motion and explain the committee's reasoning for this recommendation.

A friendly amendment was moved by Glen Soderholm that the word "commit" be replaced by the words "explore." An additional amendment was moved by Brooke Ashfield to add the words "with humility" following "explore". The amendment was agreed by the mover and seconder. Carried

6. We recommend that the Presbytery, through the Business Committee, hire a skilled professional church facilitator using funds already approved for professional expertise at the March 13, 2018 meeting. We have some suggestions to consider, but would desire that both congregations agree first on a facilitator prior to entering the process of amalgamation. Moved by Brooke Ashfield/Jane Swatridge.

Discussion followed.

Mark Richardson sought clarification to the recommendation. Is this a directive? If not, why spend the money on the use of a facilitator?

The amended motion was carried.

7. That the Committee of Inquiry be dismissed. Moved by Brooke Ashfield/Jane Swatridge. Carried

Moved by Brooke Ashfield/Jane Swatridge that the report as a whole be accepted. Carried

Report of the Congregational Affairs Committee – Appendix "D"

Moved by Johan Olivier/John Borthwick that the report of the Congregational Affairs committee be received and considered. Carried.

Recommendation 1:

Moved by Johan Oliver/John Borthwick that the Rev. Dr. Herb Gale serve as Interim Moderator of the session of St. Andrew's Kitchener, commencing either October 1, 2018 or November 1, 2018 pending the direction on which date the IM should start, received from St Andrews Kitchener. Carried

Recommendation 2:

Moved by Johan Oliver/John Borthwick that Andrew Foster (Central Cambridge) and another elder to be named later to the interim moderator's advisory committee. Carried.

Moved by Johan Olivier/John Borthwick that the report as a whole be accepted. Carried

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At the hour of 10 PM the moderator asked if there was agreement to continue the meeting. There was not unanimous consent to continue.

The Clerk asked that the items referred to the business committee report be referred back to the business committee for execution.

Moved by John Olivier/Scott McAndless that the items contained in the business committee report be referred back to the committee for execution. Carried.

It was noted that items (b) and (c) would be returned to the Presbytery for discussion at their next meeting.

The report of the treasurer was not received.

The report of the Ministry committee was not received.

REPORTS :

- a. Business Committee – APPENDIX “A” Rev. Darrell Clarke
 - a. Correspondence
 - b. Enhanced FDF Proposal from Credence Consulting (sent previously)
 Recommendation: That the business committee with the help of any interested Presbyters, be tasked with the responsibility of developing a contract reflective of the work laid out in the proposal. *(New Information: Keith Regher has removed himself from the proposal due to health reasons)*
 - c. Presbytery Renewal Coordinator position
 - d. 2018 General Assembly – Action Items (documents attached)
 - Notification of the nomination for Moderator of the 145th General Assembly deadline. (Nov. 30, 2018)
 - Notification of the deadline to name commissioners to the 145th General Assembly. (March 1, 2019)
 - Selection of a young adult representative to the 145th General Assembly. (March 15, 2019)
- 2018 Remit Package (documents attached)
 - Response to be submitted to the General Assembly Office by April 1, 2019.
 - Remit A
 - Remit B
 - Remit C
- 2018 General Assembly Referrals (documents attached)
 - Report “On the Question of Unity and Diversity”
 - Report to “Review Length of term Service for Elders”
- e. Memorial Minute – Rev. Brice Martin – Moderator McIlwrath
- f. Letter of Thanks from the General Assembly Design Committee and the appointment of a Presbytery Rep to GA Design Team
- g. Rev. George Robertson to be transferred to the appendix
- h. Transfer of Rev. Lisa Dolson to the Presbytery of Huron-Perth

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- i. November Synod – Nov. 3 Bradford
 - j. Reports of GA Commissioners – Information Only
 - k. Revised application for funding request for Chris Clements, St. Andrew's, Fergus
 - l. Meeting Dates
-
- b. Treasurer' Report – APPENDIX "B" Allan Stewart
Not Received
 - c. Ministry Committee – APPENDIX "C" Rev. Scott Sinclair
Not received
 - d. Congregational Affairs – APPENDIX "D" Rev. Johan Olivier
Received and considered during the tabling of the committee of inquiry report.
 - e. Mission and Outreach – APPENDIX "E" Rev. Scott McAndless
Received and considered during the tabling of the committee of inquiry report.
 - f. Education, Issues, and Fellowship Committee– Rev. Ed. Charlton (no report)

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Business Committee is Tuesday, October 2, at Kitchener East Presbyterian Church.

The next regular meeting of the Presbyter is Tuesday, November 13th at St. Andrew's Church, Alma. Refreshments will be at 6:30 PM. The meeting will commence with worship at 7PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved that the meeting be adjourned. Carried

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Appendix A – Business Committee Report

a. Correspondence

#	Date	Received from	Topic	Forwarded to Presbytery via
18 113	June	17 Pauline Tomlinson	Job Posting - CE Coordinator	Website
18 114	June	19 Frances Hogg	Personnel Changes Request for A and P	Clerk
18 115	June	20 Rev. Dewald Delport	Removal of Rev. House You from Appendix	Clerk
18 116	June	21 Dean Bulloch	Directors and Officers Insurance Coverage	Treasurer
18 117	June	21 Terri-Lee Hamilton	Changes to Congregational and Ministerial Information Pages - A and P	Clerk
18 118	June	21 Frances Hogg	Changes to Congregational and Ministerial Information Pages - A and P	Clerk
18 119	June	21 Kathryn Muir	Changes to Congregational and Ministerial Information Pages - A and P	Clerk
18 120	June	22 Rev. Stephen Kendall	Thank you to WW GA Local Coordination Committee	Rev. Jane Swatridge Bus. Comm for future reference
18 121	June	26 John Fong	Digital Communications and SM Empowerment	reference
18 122	June	27 Rev. Jennifer Cameron	Non recertification of Herbert Borger, Student	Clerk
18 123	July	6 Kathryn Muir	Certificate of Transfer request for the Rev. George Robertson	Clerks, Presbytery of Hamilton and Waterloo-Wellington
18 124	July	18 Rev. Don Muir	Record of Employment Resource	Clerk
18 125	July	18 Katharine Sisk	Crossing Cultures Event, Oct 11	Presbytery
18 126	July	19 Kathryn Muir	Changes to the Role, June 2018	Presbytery
18 127	July	19 Dianne Veenstra	General Assembly Invoice	Bus. Com., Treasurer
18 128	July	23 Robert Quarrie	Request for Documentation in Support of the final report of the Committee of Inquiry	Clerk, Committee of Inquiry
18 129	July	27 Robert Quarrie	Response to Convenor of Committee of Inquiry re- request for Documentation	Clerk, Committee of Inquiry
18 130	July	31 Dianne Veenstra	General Assembly Invoice (revised)	Bus. Com., Treasurer
18 131	August	7 Hannah Cho	Notice of 2018 A & P, Book of Forms CD delivery	Clerk
18 132	August	13 Joyce Callcott	Letter re: Situation at Palmerston (Incident reported)	Ministry Comm., Bus. Comm
18 133	August	13 Rev. Nick Pavel	Letter re: Situation at Palmerston (incident reported)	Ministry Comm., Bus. Comm
18 134	August	13 Gabriella Pavel	Letter re: Situation at Palmerston (Incident reported)	Ministry Comm., Bus. Comm
18 135	August	16 Heather Card	Request for research	Clerk

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#	Date	Received from	Topic	Forwarded to
18 136	August	19 Rev. Scott Sinclair Lucille Seiler, Dianne Horsburgh, Marion Dick, Glen Cober	Conclusion of Investigation and SAASH Committee report findings Letter re: Situation at Knox, Palmerston (re report of SAASH Committee)	Congregation and Session of Palmerston Bus. Comm., Ministry Comm., SAASH Ministry Committee
18 137	Aug 20 +			
18 138	August	21 Kathryn Muir	Request for Address Update	Ministry Committee
18 139	August	28 Kathryn Muir	2018 General Assembly Action Items	
18 140	August	29 Rev. Don Muir	Updated Information, Clerk's Corner	Clerk
18 141	August	29 Rev. George Vais	Memorial Service for Faith Vais	Presbytery
18 142	August	29 Rev. Scott McAndless	Latest Podcast Episode	Presbytery Clerk, Committee of
18 143	August	30 Robert Quarrie	Request for Information, Committee of Inquiry	Inquiry
18 144	August	30 Jennifer Astop	Fall Deadlines for National Grants Switching of EG Fund grant to alternate conference	Presbytery
18 145	August	30 Chris Clemens		Bus. Committee
18 146	August	30 Fallis, Fallis & McMillen LLB	Letter re: Situation at Knox, Palmerston	Bus. Committee
18 147	August	31 Jackie Czegledi	E & R Information re Candidates	Clerk
18 148	August	31 Keith Regehr	Withdraw from Credence and Co FDF Proposal	Bus. Committee Presbytery (emergent)
18 149	Sept.	1 Rev. Brooke and Linda Ashfield	Letter of Support for the Call of the rev. Leslie Wal meeting)	
18 150	Sept.			
18 151	Sept.	3 Betty Pries	Replacement of Keith Regehr on Credence FDF Pro	Bus. Committee
18 152	Sept.	3 Zak Pavel	Letter re: Situation at Knox, Palmerston (Incident reported)	Ministry Comm., Bus. Comm
18 153	Sept.	4 Ian Mason	Can. Soc of Pres. History Annual Meeting, Sept 29	Presbytery Bus. Comm., Ministry
18 154	Sept.	4 Henry Heidinga	Letter re: Situation at Knox, Palmerston	Comm.
18 155	Sept.	5 Rev. Wendy Paterson	Call to the Rev. Leslie Walker	Presbytery
18 156	Sept.	5 Kathryn Muir	Notification of Y.A.R. Eligibility WW	Ministry Comm.
18 157	Sept.	6 Rev. Scott McAndless	Continuing education request	Ministry Comm.
18 158	Sept.	6 Kathryn Muir	Changes to the Roll Transfer of Rev. George Robertson to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington	Presbytery Clerk, Ministry Committee
18 159	Sept.	7 Rev. Bob Sim		
18 160	Sept.	7 Rev. Alex MacLeod	Missional Imagination Course Material	Presbytery

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b. Credence FDF Proposal (sent previously)

At the June meeting the Presbytery approved the following:

That the business committee with the help of any interested Presbyters, be tasked with the responsibility of developing a contract reflective of the work laid out in the proposal.

On August 31, the clerk received a note (Item 148 of the correspondence), that Keith Regehr, was withdrawing from the proposal. On September 3 (Item 151 of the correspondence), Betty Pries, the principal of Credence and Co, suggested an alternate to replace Mr. Regehr. In reviewing the changes and in review of the development of the proposal and scope of work with Mr. Regehr, that the following recommendation be presented to the Presbytery.

Recommendation: That an ad hoc committee of Presbytery, chaired by the Clerk, be formed to review the changes in the proposal, and if satisfactory, develop a contract for any revised FDF proposal and to report back to the Presbytery, the proposal and contract, for approval at the November Presbytery meeting.

c. Presbytery Renewal Coordinator

GOAL: TO ESTABLISH THE POSITION OF PRESBYTERY RENEWAL COORDINATOR

IMPERATIVE: To provide the Presbytery with the position of Renewal Coordinator to:

- **Provide oversight and execution and implementation of all Presbytery Renewal Efforts in cooperation with, and recommended in, the Credence and Co proposal for the FDF position.**
- Coordinate FDF/Presbytery activities, advisory group, and coordination with business committee and Presbytery “the court”
- Coordinate national church renewal opportunities within the Presbytery
- Maximize effectiveness of resources allocated to the renewal effort in the Presbytery

RESPONSIBILITIES: The responsibilities of this individual would be:

- Coordinate and represent Presbytery’s renewal goals in the development of a work plan and the unfolding facilitation work of Credence including enabling and empowering congregational or group efforts in the development of new ministries during and after the two-year FDF term.
- Coordination of Presbytery resources in support of the implementation of a longer-term strategic plan
- Administer new and established renewal funds requests as identified by the Presbytery

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- Seek and leverage other sources of funding for identified renewal projects including national church office programs related to congregational life within the Presbytery, including the cyclical project.
- Support and oversee implementation of grant receiving renewal projects within the Presbytery
- Oversight (with CA Committee or successor) of Interim Ministry with a focus on renewal or regeneration.
- Implement an annual congregational health survey and scorecard in coordination with the annual statistical report.
- Maintain an inventory of renewal projects and ministries within the Presbytery, updating the Presbytery on their implementation status and progress.
- Oversight and coordination of the EGEF activities and its advisory committee with a view to supporting the implementation and sustaining of new ministries.
- Coordination of the redesign of the Presbytery structure and standing orders in support of this proposal
- Source and adapt electronic and printed resources and online bibliographies to equip new ministries in the areas of fundraising, marketing, program development, governance, and financial management. Create on-line bibliography with resources tailored for use in new congregational development and by renewing ministries.
- Develop potential frameworks of renewal for each congregation/cluster/geography in cooperation with the FDF
- Improve and encourage communication within the Presbytery, between congregations, Sessions and Presbyters, in the improvement of participation in Presbytery wide/congregational partnerships focused on renewal.
- Develop and Maintain a list of renewal resources for congregations.

ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES:

- Central point of contact for Presbytery renewal initiatives.
- Execution of Presbytery funded congregational renewal projects as required.
- Establishing new expressions of spirituality within the Presbytery.
- Development of a 10-year strategy and strategic framework.
- New standing orders for the operation of the Presbytery.
- Support Presbytery committees in the administration of their responsibilities

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REPORTING:

Updates at each business committee and regular Presbytery meeting.

Position Funding:

In support of the Visioning Team recommendations and the Committee of the Whole (March 2017) the Presbytery allocated \$100,000 for a Future Directions facilitator (1 Year contract) and \$135,000 for the development of a Presbytery Strategic Plan. Under the proposals presented today, the funds would be allocated as below:

- Future Directions Facilitator - \$100,000 in support of the 2-year Credence Proposal with a .5 resource
- Development of a Strategic Plan - \$135,000 (\$45,000) to support a .50 renewal coordinator for the Presbytery. (see spreadsheet for additional information)

Note: Given the change in the Credence and Co proposal and personnel, the business committee recommends:

Recommendation: That an ad hoc committee of Presbytery be formed to develop a comprehensive job description and posting, and interview process for the position of Presbytery renewal coordinator, in coordination with a review of the Credence and Co. proposal, and to report back to the November meeting of Presbytery.

d. 2018 General Assembly – Action Items (Documents Attached)

- Selection of a young adult representative to the 145th General Assembly. (March 15, 2019)

Recommendation: That the Ministry Committee of the Presbytery establish a process for receiving applications for and select a Y.A.R, to be presented for approval to the March 2019 meeting of Presbytery.

2018 Remit Package

- Response to be submitted to the General Assembly Office by April 1, 2019.
- Remit A
- Remit B
- Remit C

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Recommendation: That an ad hoc committee comprising the commissioners to the 2018 General Assembly review the remits from the 2018 General Assembly and bring forward a report with recommendations to the March 2019 meeting of Presbytery.

2018 General Assembly Referrals

- Report “On the Question of Unity and Diversity”
- Report to “Review Length of term Service for Elders”

Recommendation: That an ad hoc committee comprising the commissioners to the 2018 General Assembly study the referrals from the 2018 General Assembly and bring forward a report with recommendations to the March 2019 meeting of Presbytery.

e. Memorial Minute – Rev. Brice Martin

Recommendation: That a memorial minute for the Rev. Brice Martin be received by the Presbytery.

f. Letter of Thanks from the General Assembly Design Committee and the appointment of a Presbytery Rep to GA Design Team, Rev. Jane Swatridge (Letter attached)

Recommendation

That Rev. Jane Swatridge be appointed as the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington’s representative to the 2019 and 2020 General Assembly Design Team.

g. Addition of the Rev. George Robertson to be added to the appendix of the roll.



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

The Presbytery of Hamilton

Transfer of the Rev. George Robertson

This certifies that George Robertson lately minister at Knox Waterdown in the Presbytery of Hamilton is a minister of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, in good and regular standing. He

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is hereby, at his own request, transferred to the care of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington and commended to the confidence of the court.

Given this 1st day of September in the year 2018, by order of presbytery.

September 1, 2018

Rev. Bob Sim

Burlington, Ontario

Clerk, Presbytery of Hamilton

Recommendation: That the Rev. George Robertson be added to the appendix of the roll.

h. Transfer of the Rev. Lisa Dolson to the Presbytery of Huron-Perth

Recommendation: That the Rev. Lisa Dolson be transferred to the care of the Presbytery of Huron-Perth.

i. November Synod – Nov. 3 Bradford

The congregations of Rockwood-Eden Mills and Knox, Palmerston representative elders and the Revs. Kathy Modern and Alex MacLeod, be commissioners to the Synod of Central Ontario and Bermuda on November 3, 2018.

Next two churches order

j. Reports of GA Commissioners – Information Only

Recommendation: That the reports from General Assembly Commissioners below be received for information.

Commissioner to General Assembly report to Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington.
From Scott Sinclair for the September 11th, 2018 meeting of Presbytery.

I have been asked to report on the Clerks of Assembly and Remits to the 144th General Assembly. There were no remits included in the reports to General Assembly this year.

The Clerks of Assembly reported:

A memorial to the late Rev. Dr. Earle F. Roberts, former clerk of the General Assembly.

They continue to diligently address emerging questions and issues from individuals and courts of the denomination.

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Many overtures and documents referring to the denomination's inclusion of LGBTQ+ community were considered by the clerks. Consultations were conducted and legal counsel was sought regarding these items. Of particular import is the status of properties held in trust by congregations that may wish to disassociate from the PCC should the denomination decide to become inclusive of the LGBTQ+ community. They outline a process to address this in their report; too complicated to repeat here. These were referred to the Assembly Council.

Overture #21, 2017 requesting permission for adherents in congregation to vote in the election of elders was not granted.

Overture #31, 2017 regarding the right to dissent when absent from a court was answered with a revision to the Book of Forms section 8.1.

Overture #9, 2017 regarding length of service for elders was referred to sessions and presbyteries for report back to the 2019 General Assembly.

Proposed amendments to the Book of Forms' definitions of censure will be brought to the attention of Sessions and Presbyteries through the Barrier Act.

Clarification of the Book of Forms' sections of Elder Election (132) was not sent through the Barrier Act as it was not new legislation.

Clarification of the Book of Forms' templates for call documents (Appendix A) were made by reconfiguring how they will appear.

Most of the recommendations of the Clerks of Assembly were adopted by consent.
Respectfully submitted - Scott Sinclair

LIFE AND MISSION AGENCY

Purpose

The church has mandated that the Life and Mission Agency strive, under the power of the Holy Spirit, to help enable the church to serve the world as a sign of the reign of God, to be faithful to the mission statement of the church and to affirm the vision and desire of The Presbyterian Church in Canada to be a church integrating discipleship, evangelism, social action and justice.

The Life and Mission Agency fulfils this mandate by providing resources to the congregations and courts of the church as we work together to envision and create new and innovative models for ministries.

The Life and Mission Agency supports the church by giving leadership in the programs mandated by the General Assembly. The agency responds flexibly, creatively and effectively to the needs of congregations as well as the courts and committees of the church as they seek assistance in responding to the call of Jesus Christ to mission.

Darrell Clarke, Clerk – clerkwatwell@gmail.com

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The Life and Mission Agency is divided into the following sections:

- Program Support and Administration
- Canadian Ministries
- Communication
- International Ministries
- Justice Ministries
- Ministry and Church Vocations
- Presbyterian World Service and Development
- Stewardship and Planned Giving

Inspired by God's promise of abundant life, PWS&D envisions a sustainable, compassionate and just world.

Compassion: PWS&D walks with distressed and marginalized people, listening carefully to their stories and responding effectively.

Justice: PWS&D works for equality, empowerment, human dignity, peace and stewardship of creation. In solidarity, we affirm that all people are entitled to know their rights, to receive equal protection and to have access to and control over resources.

Partnership: PWS&D believes in dynamic relationships that involve mutual learning, trust and shared vision. Healthy partnerships are accountable, ethical, equitable, flexible and respectful.

PWS&D has sent thousands of dollars to multiple emergency and relief programs around the world.

PWS&D staff, committee members and overseas partner staff continue to represent PWS&D through speaking engagements across the country. These engagements provide a valuable opportunity for people to hear first-hand news and stories of impact about PWS&D's development and emergency relief programs.

In 2017, PWS&D completed 83 speaking engagements at Sunday worship services, presbytery and synod meetings, WMS gatherings, youth events and workshops. Congregations and church groups interested in arranging a PWS&D speaker are encouraged to give at least 2 months' notice and should contact Karen Bokma (kbokma@presbyterian.ca or 1-800-619-7301 ext. 240).

A joint report from the Presbyterian Colleges (Presbyterian College at McGill in Montreal, Knox College at University of Toronto, and St. Andrews College and Vancouver School of Theology at

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University of British Columbia) in was presented to General Assembly by the Principals of each institution. As well, displays were set up in the main meeting hall by each of the colleges during GA for delegates to visit and ask questions.

The colleges, although each being unique and geographically remote from each other, are striving to work together to offer programs jointly many of which are available online.

Each of colleges are also striving to integrate themselves more fully into their individual Universities academic life by offering courses to a wider range of students.

Only Presbyterian College presented recommendations to GA – they were accepted and were all of a general nature.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Lennox, Representation Elder, St. Andrews Gordonville.

Report to Presbytery from the General Assembly.

First of all, I would like to report diligence. I attended all sederents and am grateful for the opportunity to take part in this assembly. It was a learning experience for me. I was asked to report on two items:

The first is The Presbyterian Church building Corporation.

The Corporation was formed in 1968, and is now 50 years old and has provided assistance to 233 church building and renovation projects for a total of 5,4 million dollars, plus in 2017 loans were approved for the following: Knox Church Thedford Ontario, St Giles Ottawa, and Camp Kintail. At the end of 2017 there was a total of \$5,287,555 in loans advanced or approved for advances. Three churches retired their loans in 2017: St John's Bradford Ontario, Mississauga Chinese Church and Wellspring on Prince Edward Island. The General Manager also acts as co-ordinator for the corporation. Eight loans were approved for the total amount of \$628,000. The Corporation also provides assistance to retired ministers. Ten individuals are receiving assistance at this time.

The Corporation is providing information to congregations and assists with their decisions on improvement and repair to their buildings. As of Dec 31st 2017, the financial statement was audited. There are 21 directors from all across Canada.

The second item for report is about the work of the WMS

The meeting of the WMS Council was held May 18th 2017 with approximately 30 delegates and council executive, to discuss and deal with the matters before them.

Recommendations from the Council Executive for two new "Together we can" projects were

Darrell Clarke, Clerk – clerkwatwell@gmail.com

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discussed and approved: 1) Haiti, Gender-based violence and 2) Kenora Fellowship Centre. The resource, the movie "Half the Sky", will be released in the fall of 2018 with the support of the WMS. The WMS has an amazing number of projects that they organize or support:

Mission awareness Sunday, April 29, 2018 this year was led in many congregations with a resource written by the Rev Mark Tremblay, "Understanding Truth, Living Reconciliation".

The National women's conference took place May 19-22 after a planning team of 20 from across Canada had done their work so that over 500 women and a few men could come together in Richmond Hill for worship and work. There were 14 workshops. Two grants were received for this conference totaling over \$35,000 so that high quality programs could be provided. As well, they were able to sponsor 3 indigenous leaders to attend.

It would take too long to tell you about all the work that the WMS is doing at home and abroad, spreading the name of Jesus Christ and extending His love and aid to those who need a hand up. Their full report is available on the PCC web-site.

They are to be applauded for their faithfulness in continuing the work Jesu gave us to do. Again, thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend this year's General Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,
 Gaston St Louis

k. Meeting Dates for the year 2018-2019:

- November 13, 2018 - TBD
- January 8, 2019 -
- March 12, 2019
- May 14, 2019 – Knox, Guelph
- June 18, 2019 – University of Guelph

I. Revised application for funding request for Chris Clements, Fergus; for information only.

Chris Clements Youth and Discipleship Pastor, St Andrew's Fergus

Business Committee of Waterloo Wellington Presbytery August 30, 2018

Re: Conference Sponsorship for Emerging Generations

Dear Business Committee,

I recently heard you had agreed to sponsor a portion of my conference fees for an event this fall. I appreciate your interest in our youth and young adult ministry at St Andrew's Fergus. I confess over the summer however, I had come to wonder if you had encountered some difficulty with my request. I now understand your delayed response was due to some health issues, which is really quite understandable.

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Beginning to suspect that my request had fallen through, in mid-August also had a paper accepted at a closer and therefore less costly gathering. Looking to be frugal with my budget, and interested in an opportunity to present, I had confirmed with this alternate conference. Feeling it was too much to attend two gatherings in the year, I did not register with this fall's conference, which I discovered more recently you had approved funds for.

Our moderator, Alex McLeod, tells me it would not be overly forward of me to see if you might consider sponsoring my participation at this alternate conference, in place of the gathering this fall. This alternate conference is calling itself Pastoral Theology with Men and Boys, and will meet May 29 to May 31, 2019, in Philadelphia. This gathering seeks to offer wisdom for ministry with men and boys ages 12 to 34. The focus on men and boys has been adopted in light of research suggesting boys and young men can struggle in unique ways with the life of faith.

Seeing a need to reach out to the young men of our congregation, this conference had caught my eye. I anticipate the costs associated with this conference would be: Conference Fees: \$220 CND Two Nights Air-B-N-B: \$260 CND Gas: \$160 CND Food: \$160 CND Total: \$800 CND If you feel you might provide half of this sum, I would be very appreciative. I apologize for the confusion in switching conferences and hope this is not too frustrating at your end. Thank you for your time In Christ, -Chris.

Recommendation: That the Presbytery homologate the Business Committee's decision to apply the \$500 Emerging Generations Fund Grant, approved at the June Presbytery meeting, to this request.

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B. Treasurer's Report

FINANCIAL REPORT TO WATERLOO-WELLINGTON PRESBYTERY AS AT August 31, 2018

	<u>to Aug 2018</u>	<u>Budget 2018</u>	<u>amount remaining</u>
INCOME			
Assessment Income	103,936	138,581	34,645
Income from induction services	504	1,000	496
Other income - interest	2,494	5,312	2,818
Total Income	106,934	144,893	37,959
EXPENSES			
Synod Assessment	26,145	52,290	26,145
Special project - Two Rivers Church	12,000	12,000	-
Special project - Post Sec. student grants	16,400	16,400	-
Special project - Bunun Exchange	3,434	4,000	566
Special project - Canada Youth 2018	600	2,500	1,900
Special projects - total	32,434	34,900	2,466
Clerk's honorarium	8,753	13,130	4,377
Treasurer's honorarium	4,620	6,930	2,310
CPP/EI	629	943	314
Liability Insurance	2,713	3,000	287
General and office supplies	1,601	2,000	399

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C. Ministry Committee Report

Committee on Ministry Report to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington Sept. 11th, 2018

The Committee on Ministry (CoM) has not met once since the last meeting of the Presbytery. We are scheduled to meet again on Sept. 18th, 2018. This may change.

As convener of the CoM I have been responding to various issues through the summer regarding our ministers and staff.

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care group of the CoM are continues to provide pastoral encouragement to several ministers of the Presbytery.

Subcommittee on Students

There is nothing to report at this time.

Young Adult Representative

We are requested to appoint a Young Adult Representative to the 2019 meeting of the General Assembly.

Employee Assistance Program

We remind all church staff of the services available to them and their families through the Employee Assistance Program. These services include: Counselling, Work-life service, Legal support services, financial information, wellness advice and more.

A mailing from the Pension and Benefits Board regarding this service was distributed to churches in August.

An online orientation session will take place on September 25th, 2018, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

More information is available online at guidanceresources.com.

Upcoming ministry issues

The CoM will be following up on some motions from the meeting of the Presbytery on September 5th, 2018.

Submitted with style
Rev. Scott Sinclair, convener.

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D. Congregational Affairs Committee

Congregational Affairs Committee Report to the September 11 2018 Presbytery Meeting

The Congregational Affairs committee met August 29 2018 to discuss various items of business. The following is our report with two recommendations on one matter and information on a third:

1. Interim Moderacies:

Interim moderacies are ongoing at Knox's Galt, Mount Forest/Conn, Fergus, Rockwood/Eden Mills, Livingston Baden and Joonim

1.1. Interim Moderacy at St. Andrew's Kitchener:

At the June meeting, Presbytery was advised of the impending retirement of the Rev. Dr. Mark Lewis from St. Andrew's Kitchener. Mark's official retirement date is Friday, November 9, 2018. He intends to take his two remaining weeks of study leave from Saturday, October 27 to Friday, November 9.

The pulpit is to be preached vacant by the Interim Moderator on Sunday, November 11th.

We make the following recommendations re: interim moderacy.

Recommendation 1: That the Rev. Dr. Herb Gale serve as Interim Moderator of the session of St. Andrew's Kitchener, commencing either October 1, 2018 or November 1, 2018 pending the direction on which date the IM should start, received from St Andrews Kitchener.

We note that it is a wonted practice of this Presbytery at times to install interim moderators before the departures of incumbents to facilitate transition, on the understanding that the interim moderator is eligible to receive 5% of the salary of the incumbent during the period of overlap.

Recommendation 2: That Andrew Foster (Central Cambridge) and another elder to be named later to the interim moderator's advisory committee.

2. A further matter in hand (for information):

While the practice of regular Presbytery visitation to congregations has been suspended for the present, the Congregational Affairs committee has received a request from a session for a visitation, has struck a visitation team, and hopes to conclude the visit in the early Fall. We anticipate that a visitation report will be forthcoming to the November Presbytery meeting.

Respectfully submitted
Rev Johan Olivier
Convener CA Committee

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F. Mission and Outreach Committee

Mission and Outreach Committee
Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington
September 11 Report to Presbytery

First item for information:

Diane Boyd will provide an update on the MISSIONAL IMAGINATION

(A cohort exploring the practice of mission.)

Second item:

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

TRC is applying for \$10,000/year for 3 years.

The TRC application must be submitted by October 1.

The Following Documents have been provided by TRC:

Story of Mission

Income and Expenses Sheet: January – August, 2018

Annual Leading with Care report to presbytery

TRC 2019 Budget Proposal

Recommendation: That the Presbytery indicate its support

for the Two Rivers application, to Canada Ministries, requesting a grant of \$10,000 per year, for three years, beginning in 2019.

Move by scott and seconded by Andrew. Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Mark B. Gaskin

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Supporting Documents for the Two Rivers Congregation and its Canada Ministries Grant:

Story of Mission

Two Rivers Church has been deepening the roots of its mission over this last year, as we continue in our purpose of shaping missional apprentices of Jesus.

Stories of the new followers of Jesus from the past few years remain encouraging stories of spiritual formation and development:

HC became an apprentice Living Room leader in this last year. Her palpable desire to be transformed by the renewing of her mind has resulted in great challenge to others who have grown comfortable and stale in their discipleship.

JT would say he's still trying to make sense of faith in Jesus Christ, but, is absolutely committed to, and sustained by, the Two Rivers community as he journeys. He is also part of Triad (triads and quads are very small groups that are sprouting up as people find a few others with whom they can meet regularly to share friendship in Christ), which has sustained him in difficult times.

PS, who had given up on church a number of years ago, has found a home at Two Rivers, and he finds his confidence in the gospel growing every month. He has now taken on a number of responsibilities in Living Rooms and in Communications as he grows into a dependable leader amongst us.

In addition to our three Living Rooms (with a possible fourth this Fall) we have made a decision to move to every Sunday meetings as well. This was precipitated by finally recognizing that our unusual rhythm was making it difficult for people to remember when our meetings were scheduled. Now there will be a gathering of the whole community every week at St. Andrew's Church, and they will include liturgies, dinners, prayer events, and educational events. We hope that this will build some momentum and excitement for the gathering of the whole community.

We are experiencing some success with a feature called Learning Rooms (to complement Living Rooms). This Fall we are offering a repeat course on the Enneagram (very popular in our group) as well as new opportunities in Generosity and Personal Financial Management and Creative Writing. These typically run for about 6 sessions, in different rhythms, and there are other possible Learning Rooms being dreamed up.

We have established a Generosity Team (who were mentored by Herb Gale in June) as they take on the task of developing faithful and proportional giving amongst our people. We are encouraged by their enthusiasm and commitment to this endeavour.

We are especially pleased to be welcoming a new half time staff person to the team. Dan V. will be directing the Prayer Project, which is an initiative in mentoring our people in deepening contemplative prayer practice, group prayer events, and creative liturgical application. He also has considerable experience in Children's Ministry, and one of the encouraging signs is the participation of some families with children these days, so he will be facilitating that growth area. Of great help is that he has been raising his own support for this calling. It is

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becoming clearer all the time that as the broader church moves forward, it will have to be much more imaginative and creative in funding its ministries.

We are grateful to God for the generous support of our Presbytery in encouraging and resourcing this mission. We believe the fruit mentioned above (and more that can't be told because of limited space) should help us all rejoice in God's faithfulness. We also acknowledge that there are discouraging moments, and that this is painstaking and frustrating work, but thankfully it is God's work!

Annual Leading with Care report to presbytery

In August 2018, the Leadership Team discussed our current situation with respect to Leading with Care, and initiated the following report:

- 1) There has been no change in Leadership Team personnel, so Leading with Care training and Police checks of those in Leadership positions (appropriate to high risk ministry) are up to date.
- 2) It has been established that Leading with Care policy will be best reviewed at the March and September meetings of the Leadership Team
- 3) Our insurance policies have been reviewed and remain adequate to our situation.

Seeking to be faithful to our mission, vision, and core practices the Two Rivers Church mission meets primarily in the homes of our participants, as well as two Sunday evening worship services held at Knox Presbyterian Church monthly in downtown Guelph, on occasion in Caf e's in the neighbourhood, and on two retreats a year.

This year we have had a family with children participating in our community. The parents take their children out during the sermon, but, otherwise are in worship the rest of the time under supervision. We anticipate establishing a Children in Worship program this Fall, and have committed to having two adults present during their time apart (again, this will generally during the preaching of the word). Any new volunteers will be instructed in the Leading with Care policy, and will have police checks done.

Our group is all in good health, both physically and mentally, thus I would say we don't have any senior persons falling into the traditional categories of vulnerability.

Assessment of Risks and Strategies for Minimizing Risks:

When the pastor and leaders have appointments, they primarily use local establishments to meet, but, when in a home, ensure that they are not alone with vulnerable persons.

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Income and Expenses Sheet: January – August, 2018

Two Rivers Church	
Income and Expense	
January - August, 2018	
	Total
INCOME	
General Fund Income Received	37,285.00
Non-Received Gifts (Loose Donations)	502.45
Revenue Canada Helps	838.00
Revenue-Canadian Ministries	5,000.00
Revenue-Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington	32,000.00
Total Income	\$ 75,625.45
GROSS INCOME	\$ 75,625.45
EXPENSES	
Accounting Software	171.76
Christian Education Materials	335.52
Hall Rental and Incidentals	452.00
Insurance	543.64
Interest and Bank charges	255.55
Liturgical Supplies	64.24
Ministry Resource Expenses	336.74
Office/General Administrative Expenses	213.40
Payroll Expenses	
CPP Employer Portion	1,204.48
EI Employer Portion	952.88
Housing Allowance and Utilities	14,333.36
Medical/Dental Expense	2,336.58
Pension Expense	4,480.00
Stipend	26,666.64
Total Payroll Expenses	\$ 49,973.94
Study Leave, Education and Training	22.11
Website hosting	141.40
Total Expenses	\$ 52,510.30
OTHER EXPENSES	
Guest Speaker Honourarium	450.00
Miscellaneous	19.99
Total Other Expenses	\$ 469.99
BALANCE	\$ 22,645.16
Tuesday, Sep 04, 2018 10:22:16 AM GMT-7 - Accrual Basis	

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TRC 2019 Budget Proposal

	2018 Budget	2018 Actual	2019 Budget Proposal
INCOME			
Carry Forward	-4,410.25		
Fundraising	15,000.00	10,500.00	17,000.00
General Fund Income Received	43,000.00	26,785.00	48,000.00
Non-Received Gifts (Loose Donations)	1,500.00	502.45	1,500.00
Revenue Canada Helps		838.00	1,000.00
Revenue-Canadian Ministries	0.00		
Revenue-Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington	32,000.00	32,000.00	20,000.00
CRA Return			
Total Income	\$ 87,089.75	\$ 70,625.45	\$ 87,500.00
Gross Revenue	\$ 87,089.75	\$ 70,625.45	\$ 87,500.00
EXPENSES			
Christian Education Materials	500.00	305.41	500.00
Fundraising Expenses	250.00		250.00
Ministry Resource Expenses	1,000.00	336.74	1,000.00
Website hosting	270.25	50.10	270.25
Interest and Bank charges	200.00	255.55	200.00
Study Leave, Education and Training	500.00	22.11	500.00
Hall Rental and Incidentals	1,000.00	452.00	1,000.00
Insurance	815.40	543.64	815.40
Accounting Software	211.48	171.76	211.48
Office/General Administrative Expenses	250.00	213.40	250.00
Presbyterians Sharing	3,500.00		4,000.00
Benevolent Offering	500.00		500.00
Liturgical Supplies	500.00	205.64	500.00
Payroll Expenses			
CPP Employer Portion	1,806.72	1,204.48	1,806.72
EI Employer Portion	1,337.06	952.88	1,337.06
Housing Allowance and Utilities	21,500.00	14,333.36	21,500.00
Medical/Dental Expense	4,652.64	2,336.58	4,652.64
Pension Expense	7,680.00	4,480.00	7,680.00
Wages	40,000.00	26,666.64	40,000.00
Total Payroll Expenses	\$ 76,976.42	\$ 49,973.94	\$ 76,976.42
HST Paid	100.00		100.00
Guest Speaker Honourarium		450.00	
Travel	0.00		0.00
Total Expenses	\$ 86,573.55	\$ 52,980.29	\$ 87,073.55
Surplus/Deficit	\$ 516.20	\$ 17,645.16	\$ 426.45

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E. Education, Issues and Fellowship Committee (no report)

G. Committee of Inquiry – Knox’s Galt

Final Report of the Committee of Inquiry Knox’s Galt

June 19, 2018

Preamble:

This committee was formed by Presbytery on January 9, 2018 in response to a letter from the Session of Knox’s Galt Presbyterian Church dated November 22, 2017 requesting approval in principle of a proposal (to be further negotiated into a clearer form) to option and sell their property to Grace Bible Church.

The members of the Committee of Inquiry, are Brooke Ashfield, convenor, Graham Parsons, Harry Janssen, Jane Swatridge, Gordon Coyne, ex-officio: Allan Stewart Treasurer, Darrell Clarke, Presbytery clerk, Susan Clarke, moderator of Presbytery.

The Mandate of the Committee included a quote from the Book of Forms:

“200.8 No congregation may sell, mortgage, or otherwise contract debt upon the security of church property or negotiate a loan for capital purposes, without first obtaining the sanction of the presbytery. The presbytery is enjoined to make minute inquiry into the circumstances of each case, the presbytery realizing its grave responsibility in the matter (see sections 151 and 162.1).

The Specific accountabilities are:

- Ascertain the value, potential use or sale of the property, review any and all existing agreements, notes, minutes of Session, Presbytery and congregational meetings, related to a proposed sale/lease of the property; and in light of such review, make recommendations to the Presbytery on the disposition of the property known as Knox’s Galt.
- These recommendations shall include the sale price, structure of sale, and payment schedule (including down payment or amounts held in escrow until the completion of the sale); the terms thereof as related to the recommendations
- Review the liability of all options upon the presbytery and congregation, and to make recommendations thereto.
- To contract any necessary resources with regards to the physical structure (inspection, engineering); future use (city planning/application); structure of the sale (legal, real estate); and any other resources deemed necessary to undertake its work.
- Review and make recommendations for the maintenance and repair of the building in the support of the sale of the property.
- Review and make recommendations in regards to the plans for the future of the congregation or other measures including a recommendation in regards to the future viability of any congregation in the same location, through amalgamation (200.11) or at another location (200.7).

Darrell Clarke, Clerk – clerkwatwell@gmail.com

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- To meet with and seek opinion of other congregations within the Presbytery (upon receipt of notice from their session) in regards to any of the above.
- And to investigate any related possibilities which may become known during the course of its inquiry, related to the above terms.

This was a committee of inquiry. We did not question the terms of reference as given by the Presbytery. The author of this report was not present at the November 14, 2017 discussion concerning this matter as being admissible, or not admissible, as part of a piece of information in a report from the Congregational Affairs Committee to that meeting. The discussion was not recorded in the minutes. It seems that there might have been some misunderstandings and difficulties that are inevitable when a discussion is about a process rather than the substance of a report. The committee felt it wise to start with a clean slate on the day the committee was formed on January 9, 2018.

This is an abbreviated **summary of the actions** of the committee since formation on January 9th.

- **January** 2018, committee formed by Presbytery, information gathered and communication to the committee sent out. More information requested and received from Knox's, including annual reports, Presbytery studies, email discussions about the proposal, and appraisal information amounting to four inches of printed matter. Letter of support sent to Knox's to be read in public worship. Additional clarification on terms of reference. Conversation with Dr. John Peter Smit, Synod consultant, who also authored the 2012 report to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington on the future of Knox's Galt. Distribution of reports to the committee:
 - 1) Boyer Report 2001,
 - 2) Spencer Report 2004,
 - 3) Visitation Report of the Presbytery visitation Borthwick 2009 (received 2010),
 - 4) Smit report 2012,
 - 5) Report of the Planning/Future Direction committee of Knox's October 26, 2016
- **February**, review with committee the large amount of information contained in the files. Contact with a development lawyer seeking an opinion on proposal between Knox's and Grace Bible Church, as per bullet two of the committee terms of reference. Contact with professional planner and large commercial realtor/broker seeking background potential of building as per bullet one of the committee terms of reference. Short written opinion from Development lawyer requesting more particulars. Opinions received from professional planner and large commercial realtor/broker regarding potential value of property. Meeting with Interim Moderator Glen Soderholm. Meeting of Committee of Inquiry and meeting of committee and Knox's Galt representatives at Knox's. Review of meetings and draft of first interim report. Contact and conversation, with permission of Knox's Galt, of the author of the appraisal document dated July 7, 2017. Also received opinions from one real estate professional, and one professional planner. Brief conversation with the minister of Westside Presbyterian Cambridge, who viewed their situation as not substantially related to downtown Galt issues.
- **March**, a letter was received from Central Church Cambridge expressing concern about parking issues should the proposal between Knox's and Grace Bible Church be implemented. Call with major national Commercial Real Estate professional. Recommended a process of

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hiring a planner, **Findings (interim) reported to Presbytery March 13, 2018:** The committee reported diligence in their first interim report. After multiple reports on the 'situation' of Knox's Galt initiated by the Presbytery, in 2001, 2004, 2009, 2012, and one report from a special committee in the congregation Planning/Future Directions in 2016, and a review of statistics as reported by Knox's Galt to Presbytery and recorded in the Annual Acts and Proceedings of the Presbyterian General Assembly, the conclusion is that Knox's has declined at a steady rate from a peak of about 1400 members (as reported verbally) in 1962 to 889 members in 1979 to 519 members in 1989, to 301 in 2005, to 161 at the end of 2016. It was an observation of the session of Knox's that worship attendance is in the 35 person range on an average Sunday. There is a sense that financial viability of the congregation is ending. At a meeting with Knox's representatives, we learned that Knox's is not financially able to have a full time minister, and that is difficult to pay the upkeep costs on this this large 34,500 square foot facility. Maintenance costs are about \$100,000 per year. The congregation has good stewardship and the books are in good order.

- **April**, we met with John Filice (a church specialist) from Cushman Wakefield real estate. John Whitney of Whitney and Company, a Waterloo Region Commercial Real Estate Specialist, Paul Grespan, a development lawyer and developer in Waterloo Region. All recommended working with a planner to find the potential value of the property. They recommended that the proposal for option and sale of Knox's Galt to Grace Bible Church be reviewed as these professionals indicated that the proposal was very advantageous to Grace Bible Church, and of less value to a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. As a connectional Church, Presbyteries have a duty of care, to all congregations in matters about property. To better understand the complex issues of church and commercial properties, (which are much, much different from what we encounter in residential real estate), the Committee, hired professional ability in the firm of MHBC, Planning, Urban Design of Waterloo Region. This was as per the adoption of committee's recommendations at the March 13 meeting of Presbytery. The Committee requested an "Assessment of Development Potential Report", as a matter of due diligence on behalf of the Presbytery. Two members of the committee also consulted with the minister and a representative of Grace Bible Church. This was a warm and clear meeting where the committee members were forthright about the process of discernment that the Presbytery Committee of Inquiry was required to follow. The Grace representatives indicated that they respected the need for due diligence on both sides.
- **May**, met with the sessions of Central Cambridge, and Knox's Galt, gave presentations and received questions and comments following the presentation. After much discussion and pastoral concern for our sisters and brothers in downtown Galt, we prayerfully requested that they consider amalgamation one more time. We believe, and we said in our presentation: "**A made in Galt solution would provide the optimal result for the Presbytery.**"
- **June**, an Assessment of Development Potential Report by Dan Currie, MA, MCIP, RPP, and Trevor Hawkins, M.PL, MCIP, RPP, received and reviewed with one of the authors on June 15. This concise and clear report indicated an imminent and permanent increase in the value of all urban church buildings in City of Cambridge, and likely in other Ontario City centres. **The current zoning By-law in Cambridge is N1 for both Knox's and Central.** This is quite restrictive. A long anticipated updated set of By-laws was released in a Draft in mid-May of

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2018, which will **change zoning to CMU1 (core-area-zoning City of Cambridge)** which is in sync with **Region of Waterloo new Official Plan Zoning** and the **Province of Ontario Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe**.

This zoning change will permit commercial activity in church buildings as an acceptable activity as well as retail, public hall, banquet hall, personal service, and other uses. The result of this imminent rezoning is that the property value of Knox's Galt property and facilities increased, effective with the announcement of the proposed zone change in May of 2018. The planner also showed steps that the Presbytery could take to advocate for approval of the proposed zoning at municipal councils. The planner indicated that there is substantial development potential in the property of Knox's. There was one more meeting with the minister of Grace Bible Church where the information about the increase in value was shared, and where prayer was also shared. Grace Bible Church is understandably concerned about any indefinite delay, and is also concerned about any increase in price. While appreciating the desire of the people of Knox's Galt to continue their community by opting and selling their property, the proposal, in the opinion of the Committee of Inquiry, is not good stewardship. The proposal was reviewed by every professional that we consulted and we were strongly advised to seek solutions that reflected the value of the property.

Last week the committee received a copy of the letter from Central Church Session to the Interim Moderator of Knox's Galt requesting meetings to consider amalgamation. We believe that **Amalgamation is the optimal answer to maintaining a vital Presbyterian witness to Jesus Christ in the downtown of Galt, Cambridge**.

As this is the final report, we wish to offer the Presbytery some of the discoveries that were found along the journey, but were not necessarily part of the direct mandate of the committee. **The committee recommends;**

8. That the Presbytery commend interim moderator Rev. Glen Soderholm for his diligence, pastoral sensitivity, and encouragement to the congregation of Knox's Galt during a challenging time.
9. That the Presbytery commend Rev. Angus Sutherland who is the stated supply and gives caring pastoral care (on contract basis) to the congregation of Knox's Galt. Angus has brought stability, warmth, and humour to a declining congregation, recently attracting some new members to Knox's.
10. That the Presbytery encourage the five Presbyterian congregations in the City of Cambridge to write to their mayor and council commending the new By-law changing zoning of 'places of worship,' from N1 to CMU1 and to show to the mayor and council that Section 6.3 limiting the zoning change to the confines of the original building is not desirable.
11. That the proposal from the Session and Congregation of Knox's Galt requesting Presbytery approval in principle to the proposal for option and sale of the Knox's property to Grace Bible

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Church, be not approved.

12. That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington prayerfully and urgently encourage the congregations of **Knox's Galt and Central Cambridge, who have long been neighbours and friends, to commit to a process of amalgamation.**

We ask that there be no pre-conditions, and that each session and congregation first pray: **"Lord, what do you want from me, from us, to accomplish your will in downtown Galt-Cambridge."**

13. We recommend that the Presbytery, through the Business Committee, hire a skilled professional church facilitator using funds already approved for professional expertise at the March 13, 2018 meeting. We have some suggestions to consider, but would desire that both congregations agree first on a facilitator prior to entering the process of amalgamation.

14. That the Committee of Inquiry be dismissed.

I am humbled and privileged to have convened a committee with simply outstanding people. The ability and grace shown to me and to each other is an example of the strength and resilience of the Presbyterian Church. We also wish to express gratitude to the congregations of Knox's Galt and Central Cambridge, who have shared their stories and concerns with the committee. As a committee, we have prayed together, contemplated, researched, and looked for answers, when they were difficult to find. I am grateful for this experience and I highly value each one of the members of this committee.

Respectfully submitted,



Brooke Ashfield for the Committee of Inquiry

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Appendix

The Committee of Inquiry is much indebted to the following people whose guidance and professional skills offered insight, wisdom and valuable evidence based materials which guided this committee. Their contributions were much valued and influential in our deliberations. (In alphabetical order)

- **Paul Britton**, MCIP, RPP, MHBC Planning Limited
- **Dan Currie** MA, MCIP, RPP Partner, MHBC Planning Limited
- **John M. Filice** B.A., M.A., Senior Vice President, Cushman Wakefield Real Estate Limited
- **Paul E. Grespan** B.A., LL.B., LL.M., Director & Lawyer, McCarter Grespan Beynon Weir PC
- **Trevor Hawkins** M.PL, MCIP, RPP Senior Planner, MHBC Planning Limited
- **Michael Lambert**, Sales Representative, Whitney & Company Realty Limited
- **F. W. Terry Macklin** AACI, P.APP appraiser
- **Douglas W. Stewart** RPP, MCIP, Urban and Regional Planning at IBI Group
- **John Whitney**, CEO Whitney & Company Realty Limited