

**Covenant Commission**  
**Antler River Watershed Regional Council**  
**OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**  
*Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith*

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**Place/Time:** Zoom Call 9:00 a.m.

**Roster:** Marie Santos (L, Chair), Tom Brunt (L), Deb Ellacott (L), Jim Evans (OM), Judith Fayter (OM), Adam Kilner (OM), Mark Marshall (OM), Andi McKillop (L), Emmanuel Ofori (OM), Mark Perry (OM)

**Staff Support:** Pretima Kukadia-Kinting, Admin Assistant, PKukadia@united-church.ca  
Rev. Lynne Allin, Minister, Congregational Support & Mission, LAllin@united-church.ca

**Present:** Deb Ellacott, Tom Brunt, Adam Kilner, Mark Marshall, Andi McKillop, Marie Santos, Lynne Allin, Pretima Kukadia-Kinting

**Regrets:** Jim Evans, Judith Fayter, Mark Perry

**Absent:** Emmanuel Ofori

**Welcome and Constitute Meeting:** The meeting was constituted and opened by Marie Santos.

**Acknowledging the Land:** The United Church of Canada acknowledges that its buildings and ministries, from coast to coast are on traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples.

**Opening Worship:** A short worship was provided by Marie Santos, 'challenges and jubilees'.

**Opening Motions:**

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Deb Ellacott / Mark Marshall that the agenda be accepted as amended.

MOTION

CARRIED

Approval of Previous Minutes:

MOTION by Adam Kilner / Tom Brunt that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the minutes of 12-04-2019 as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED

MOTION by Andi McKillop / Adam Kilner that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the minutes of 12-11-2019 as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED

**New Business**

**a. Pastoral Charge Supervisors**

MOTION by Mark Marshall / Adam Kilner that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council appoint Mary Ann Silverthorn as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Knox United Church in Embro for the period of January 20-February 3, 2020.

MOTION

CARRIED

MOTION by Tom Brunt / Deb Ellacott that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council appoint Adam Kilner as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for St. Luke’s United Church in Embro for the period of January 20-February 3, 2020.

MOTION

CARRIED

**b. Permission to list/Sell property**

MOTION by Tom Brunt / Adam Kilner that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consent to the request by the trustees of **Appin United Church** to the listing of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Plan 168, Block D, lots 4,5,6,12,13,14 Municipality of Southwest Middlesex, County of Middlesex, Ontario, and the municipal address of which is 86 Wellington Ave, Appin, Ontario, N0L 1A0, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Appin United Church, a congregation of the United Church of Canada , as vendor, and Robin Tiller Of Appleby Real Estate, brokerage, Coldwell Bankers, as agent, dated the 7<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2020, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Real Estate Agent	Robin Tiller
Commission rates	3% if she brings buyer, 4% Split 2&2, plus HST
Asking Price	\$249,000
Proposed Possession Date	May 2020

The net proceeds from the sale to be invested in a restricted fund with interest available to the congregation. The congregation may consult with ARW covenant commission regarding the use of the fund for specific ministry initiatives at any time.

The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of Appin United Church, a congregation of the United Church of Canada and part of the Glencoe/Appin Pastoral Charge, in trust for Appin United Church as a part of The United Church of Canada:

MOTION

CARRIED

MOTION by Deb Ellacott / Adam Kilner that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consent to the listing of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Lots 4 - 6, Block Q, Plan 3, Chatham-Kent, and the municipal

address of which is 91 Grand Avenue East, Chatham, Ontario, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of **Victoria Avenue United Church**, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, and Steve Carroll, Sales Representative, Royal LePage, Peifer Realty Brokerage, the terms of which will be as follows:

Commission: 4% + HST or 3% + HST if Steve Carroll sells the property himself;

Asking Price: \$250,000; and

Proposed Possession Date: January 1, 2020.

The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of Victoria Avenue United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada and part of the Victoria Avenue Pastoral Charge, in trust for the Victoria Avenue United Church as part of The United Church of Canada.

The net proceeds from the sale to be invested in a restricted fund with interest available to the congregation. The congregation may consult with ARW covenant commission regarding the use of the fund for specific ministry initiatives at any time.

MOTION

CARRIED

**c. Community of Faith Profile information:**

MOTION by Adam Kilner / Andi McKillop that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the profile and living faith story of **St. David's United Church in Woodstock**, for the purpose of declaring a vacancy, with the provision that they provide more information regarding their decision to hire only category A or B, with the potential to revise the category. It is also suggested that they consider adding more information to their living faith story to help potential applicants learn more about the ways they live out their ministry.

MOTION

CARRIED

MOTION by Adam Kilner / Deb Ellacott that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the updated demographic and profile information for **Courtright-Sixth Line Pastoral Charge** for the purpose of declaring a vacancy. The covenant commission recommends that the pastoral charge create an SME site or create a full-time position up to category B for ordained, diaconal or designated lay minister, with encouragement to continue to explore ministry sharing opportunities with neighbouring communities of faith.

MOTION

CARRIED

MOTION by Andi McKillop / Deb Ellacott that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the profile and living faith story for **Wesley Knox**

**United Church in London** for the purpose of searching for a supply appointment and youth minister, pending approval by the congregation.

MOTION

CARRIED

**d. Other Business**

MOTION by Tom Brunt / Mark Marshall that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council revise the disbanding date for **Zion United Church, Rural Pastoral Charge** from December 31, 2019 to a date to be determined when the work of closing accounts has been completed.

MOTION

CARRIED

Discuss process for handling finances of disbanding congregations: 2019 was 14 property sales, meeting with 3 regional treasurers coming up, make process straightforward for pastoral charge treasurers, e.g. Mission & Service amount accounted from ?, a letter of thanks from Commission Chair

Discussion re: Lynne has been delegating role of commissioners, e.g. companions at covenanting service, aid with profiles, or with more pastoral charge supervisors, Lynne's concern is trying to delegate all these roles for two regions

Andi considering administrative contacting with liturgy.

Discuss role at next meeting

Discussion re: Budget of \$10,000 to use throughout the year for workshops, what else? Only events organized by the commission? Exec may look at increasing budget if not enough, e.g. for supervisor mileage, lunches,

Discussion re: Symbol to leave at community of faith after covenanting service – take Bible, basin, stole, bowl and cup if not available. What do we leave? Who is buying? Certificate? Small hand towel?

Discussion re: Olde West Oxford Cluster, Beachville closed, Sweaburg, Foldens and West Oxford became cluster 15 years ago. Minister gave notice for June 2020. Would need congregational meeting and covenant commission and sharing of assets between West Oxford and Foldens. Can they leave cluster without leaving pastoral charge? If meeting called doesn't name possibility of closing, is it proper?

**Next Meeting:** February 5, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Worship by: **Judith Fayter**

**Meeting adjourned 10:30 a.m.**