

**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 9:30 a.m.

**Roster:** Marie Santos (L, Chair), Deb Ellacott (L), Jim Evans (OM), Adam Kilner (OM), Andi McKillop (L), Mark Perry (OM), Jeff Smith (OM), Dave Whiting (L)

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

**Present:** Marie Santos, Deb Ellacott, Jim Evans, Andi McKillop, Mark Perry, Jeff Smith, Dave Whiting, Lynne Allin

**Regrets:** Adam Kilner, Pretima Kukadia-Kinting

**Absent:**

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

**Acknowledging the Land:** Territorial lands are acknowledged on behalf of the Covenant Commission by Marie Santos:

We are gathered this morning on traditional lands. We recognize and deeply appreciate the historic connection to this ground we share. We also recognize the contributions of the Metis, Inuit, and other Indigenous peoples have made to our country. As settlers, this recognition must be clearly connected to our commitment to make the promise and the challenge of the Truth and Reconciliation real in the communities in which we live and worship. We are grateful to the Creator for this time and this place.

**Opening Worship:** Jim Evans

**Opening Motions:**

**Approval of Agenda:**

**MOTION** by Jeff Smith / Deb Ellacott that the agenda be accepted as circulated.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**Approval of Previous Minutes:**

**MOTION** by Mark Perry / Jim Evans that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the minutes of 12-02-2020 as circulated.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**Business Arising:**

**New Business:**

1. Staff Reports

**Information Package:** Mailed out in late December. Information to be updated on website asap.

**Discussions Regarding Collaborative Ministry:** Recent info session for Dorchester and Area. Plan to record a webinar for people to access.

**Information for Disbanding Congregations:** UCC Foundation is creating a resource for disbanding congregations. Hope to explore options for handling property sale/development with UPRC for all three regions.

**Increasing the resource pool:** Members of the commission are encouraged to recruit volunteers.

**Topics for 2021:**

**Pastoral Charge Supervisors:** Set a date to discuss recruiting, screening, training and paying PCs. It would be helpful to meet with HF and WOW and Diane Blanchard.

**Lay led congregations:** Regional and national staff are exploring what this could look like. Set a date to discuss this in the new year.

**Oversight Process:** Need to develop a plan for reviewing self-assessment material. Perhaps a three-year schedule.

2. Pastoral Charge Supervisors

**MOTION** by Jim Evans / Andi McKillop that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council accept, with regret, the resignation of Rev. Paul Rodey as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Epworth United Church, Kingsville as of January 6, 2021.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Mark Perry / Jeff Smith that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council appoint Rev. Tom Hiscock as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for First St. Andrews United Church, London starting 12-08-2020..

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Jim Evans / Deb Ellacott that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council appoint Rev. Wendy Milliken as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Dunlop United Church, Sarnia to cover a sabbatical from January 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Jeff Smith / Mark Perry that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council appoint Rev. Marilyn Townsend Smith as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for St. Luke’s United Church, Sarnia starting 01-01-2021.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

3. Profiles and Living Faith Stories

**MOTION** by Deb Ellacott / Jim Evans that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the profile and living faith story for Calvary United Church, London for the purpose of declaring two vacancies, one fulltime up to category F and the second half-time up to category F.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

4. Property Transactions

**MOTION** by Jim Evans / Dave Whiting that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consent to Curries United Church to draw an additional \$15,000 from their manse account to cover costs related to the sale of the property.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**Other Business:**

5. Disbanding – Appin United Church

**MOTION** by Deb Ellacott / Andi McKillop that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council receive the notice that **Appin United Church** be disbanded as of December 31, 2020.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

6. Technology Grant

**MOTION** by Mark Perry / Jeff Smith that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approves the application for a technology grant for Oneida United Church for the amount of \$321.32.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

7. Pandemic Related

**MOTION** by Jim Evans / Jeff Smith that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council confirm the GCE decision to temporarily amend the responsibility of the congregation or pastoral charge to make a decision on their annual draft budget by allowing the governing body of the congregation or pastoral charge to fulfil this responsibility where necessary until June 30, 2021.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

January 6, 2021

CC 21-4

**Next Meeting:** February 3, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

**Worship by:** Mark Perry

**MOTION** that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council having concluded its business, be adjourned. **CARRIED**

**Meeting adjourned** at 10:40 a.m.