

**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 Meeting 10:00 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, Jim Evans, Andi McKillop, Mark Perry, Jeff Smith, Dave Whiting, Lynne Allin

**Regrets:** Pretima Kukadia-Kinting

**Absent:** Deb Ellacott, Adam Kilner

**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:** Marie Santos presented worship.

**Opening Motions:**

**Corresponding Member(s):**

**MOTION** that John Neff, Minister for Congregational Support and Mission, Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council, be accepted as a corresponding member of the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**Approval of Agenda:**

**MOTION** by Jim Evans / Andi McKillop that the agenda be accepted as circulated.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**Business Arising:****Consent Docket:**

1. Approval of Previous Minutes of 04-07-2021 as circulated.
2. Pastoral Charge Supervisors & Companions
  - a. Appoint Doug Wright to the role of companion for St. Luke's United Church and St. Paul's United Church in Sarnia should they decide to work toward amalgamation.
  - b. Appoint Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa as pastoral charge supervisor for Vanneck United Church.
  - c. Appoint Mary Anne Silverthorne as pastoral charge supervisor for Norwich United Church, Norwich for June 2021.
  - d. Appoint Elizabeth Parsons as pastoral charge supervisor for ~~Horton~~ Melville United Church, effective immediately.

3. Annual Reports

The Covenant Commission receives the following communities of faith 2020 annual reports with thanks:

Banner United Church, Banner	Rowntree Memorial United Church, London
Beachville PC, Sweaburg/West Oxford	Ruthven Pastoral Charge, Ruthven
Belmont United Church, Belmont	Shiloh-Inwood United Church, Inwood
Central United Church, Windsor	Sprucedale Providence Pastoral Charge
College Ave. United Church, Woodstock	St. Andrew's United Church, St. Thomas
Cottam United Church, Cottam	St. David's United Church, Woodstock
Emmanuel United Church, Windsor	St. Paul's United Church, Aylmer
Forest United Church, Forest	Strathroy United Church, Strathroy
Grace United Church, Sarnia	Tecumseh United Church, Tecumseh
Harrietsville-Mosley UC, Harrietsville	Union United Church, Union
Ivan Pastoral Charge, Vanneck & Melville	Victoria Ave United Church, Chatham
Oneida United Church, Oneida	Watford United Church, Watford
Richwood United Church, Richwood	Wheatley United Church, Wheatley
Roseland Trinity United Church, Windsor	Wyoming United Church, Wyoming

4. Self Assessments to be received with thanks  
Strathroy United Church, Strathroy

5. Community of faith profiles to be received with thanks

St. David’s United Church, Woodstock	Strathroy United Church, Strathroy
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**MOTION** by Mark Perry / Jeff Smith that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the consent docket as circulated.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**New Business**

6. Staff Report: Lynne Allin

- ARW Regional Meeting
- Newsletter
- Medical Leave

7. Executive Report: Marie Santos

8. Community of Faith Profiles

a. White Oaks United Church – Community of Faith Profile

**MOTION** by Jim Evans / Mark Perry that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council receives the community of faith profile of White Oaks United Church, London and agrees with the recommendation that **White Oaks United Church community of faith is viable to call/appoint a minister up to Category F for 40 hours per week.**

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

b. Belmont Harrietsville-Mossley Pastoral Charge – CoF Profile, 2020 Financial Report

**MOTION** by Deb Ellacott / Jeff Smith that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the profile for the **Belmont Harrietsville-Mossley Pastoral Charge for the purpose of offering a provisional call for 30 hours per week up to Cat B.**

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

c. Appin United Church, Appin – Disbanding

**MOTION** by Andi McKillop / Mark Perry that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council **disband the Appin United Church community of faith, Appin, effective December 31, 2020 with thanks for their ministry.**

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

- d. Dunlop United Church, Central United Church, Sarnia – Amalgamation

**MOTION** by Mark Perry / Jeff Smith that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council **approve the requests from Dunlop United Church and Central United Church, Sarnia to amalgamate to form Dunlop Central United Church, Sarnia: Dunlop Central Pastoral Charge, effective June 27, 2021.**

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

- e. Sprucedale-Providence Pastoral Charge – Expense Review

**MOTION** by Deb Ellacott / Andi McKillop that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council, having reviewed the financial viability worksheets for Sprucedale and Providence United Churches, concurs with their recommendation to reduce expenses for 4 months, to give them time to complete their profile by July 1, 2021, including a complete financial viability worksheet and consider all options for balancing their budgets. Furthermore, the Covenant Commission requests a meeting with each congregation to review finances.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

David Whiting and John Neff to contact the congregations to review finances.

**Other Business:**

9. Use of Restricted Funds – ends June 30, 2021

**MOTION** by Jim Evans / Deb Ellacott that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council will consider a request to use restricted funds for the purpose of meeting salary expenses on a case-by-case basis starting July 1, 2021. Communities of faith will be required to submit a request, financial viability worksheet and annual report to the Covenant Commission.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

10. Lay Led Congregations

**MOTION** by Jim Evans / Mark Perry that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approach the Executive to:

- 1) recruit, appoint and compensate (on a per hour basis to maximum of \$15,000) an appointee to meet with communities of faith that the Covenant Commission identifies as lay-led congregations in the regional council;
- 2) direct the appointee to secure information from lay-led congregations between June 1<sup>st</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup> as to how they explore faith, worship and serve; as well as to how they connect with the wider life and mission of the United Church and to inquire what supports might be of benefit to them;

May 5, 2021

CC 21-24

- 3) direct the appointee to prepare a report providing feedback on the topics listed in 2) above for the consideration of the Covenant Commission and Executive by November 30, 2021.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**Next Meeting:** June 2, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

**Worship by:** Mark Perry

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

**MOTION**

**AGREED**

Meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

