

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

Place/Time: Zoom Meeting 9:00 a.m.

Roster: Marie Santos (L, Chair), Jim Evans (OM), Adam Kilner (OM), Andi McKillop (L), Mark Perry (OM), Greg Simpson (DLM), Dave Whiting (L)

Staff Support: Rev. Judith Fayter, Minister, Congregational Support & Mission, ifayter@united-church.ca; Pretima Kukadia, pkukadia@united-church.ca

Present: Marie Santos, Andi McKillop, Mark Perry, Greg Simpson, Dave Whiting, Judith Fayter, Pretima Kukadia

Absent: Adam Kilner,

Regrets: Jim Evans

Welcome and Constitute Meeting: Marie Santos welcomed everyone to the meeting. The meeting was then 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: Judith Fayter presented worship. Today is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. The sun is out after many gray days. Reading from J. Philip Newell's, *Listening for the Heartbeat of God*, "A chaos of uncalculable love."

Approval of Agenda be accepted as amended.

MOTION by Mark Perry/ Andi McKillop that the agenda be accepted as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED

Consent Docket:

1. **Approval of Previous Minutes** of January 5, 2022 be accepted as circulated.
2. **Approval of Previous Minutes** of February 2, 2022 be accepted as circulated.
3. **Annual Reports** – there is an Excel file, please review with checks

The Covenant Commission receives the following communities of faith 2021 annual reports with thanks:

Dunwich Pastoral Charge	Erie Street United Church
South Buxton United Church	Talbot Street United Church
Camlachie United Church	First St. Andrew’s United Church
Union United Church	Wyoming United Church
Ilderton United Church	First United Church, St. Thomas
St. Paul’s United Church, Aylmer	Woodslee Pastoral Charge
Central United Church, St. Thomas	Thorndale Zion Pastoral Charge
Watford United Church	

4. **Self Assessments** to be received with thanks

Victoria Avenue United Church, Chatham	
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5. **Community of Faith Profiles** to be received with thanks

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MOTION by Greg Simpson/ Mark Perry that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the consent docket as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED

New Business

1. Wyoming United Church

MOTION by Greg Simpson/ Dave Whiting that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the Council Model for their governing body, as submitted.

MOTION

CARRIED

2. Central United Church, St. Thomas

MOTION by Mark Perry/ Andi McKillop that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the Constitution of their governing body, as submitted.

MOTION

CARRIED

3. Central United and First United Churches St. Thomas

MOTION by Greg Simpson/ Andi McKillop that that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the Shared Ministry Agreement between Central United Church and First United Church in Thomas.

Note: will work out details as they go along and people become available. The agreement is a 50/50 sharing of costs – are fairly evenly sized congregations. Central has had an IM, are in good position to make this happen well.

MOTION

CARRIED

4. Curries United Church Final Disbursements

MOTION by Greg Simpson/ Mark Perry that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the request of Curries United Church for final disbursement of the 33% of net funds as follows:

50% Operation Sharing; 10% Camp Tanner; 10% Refugee Fund; 10% Global Relief Response; 10% Healing Fund; 10% Mt. Elgin United Church.

MOTION

CARRIED

5. West Lorne United Church Final Disbursements

MOTION by Mark Perry/ Dave Whiting that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the request of West Lorne United Church for final disbursement of the 33% of net funds as follows:

Equally disbursed between Dunwich United Church; Calvary United Church Rodney; Pearce Williams United Church Christian Centre.

Andi McKillop abstained from the vote.

MOTION

CARRIED

6. Riverside United Church, London

MOTION by Dave Whiting/ Greg Simpson that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council receive the Community of Faith profile documents from Riverside United Church, London, and approve their request to seek a minister full-time (40 hours per week) up to Category B.

Note: Eliminating a couple of part-time positions later this year to create a full-time congregational support position.

MOTION

CARRIED

Other Business:

7. **Reports**

The last Executive Meeting was delayed due to a death: Kerry Stover was moved to ARW Human Resources Commission.

Judith Fayter:

Pastoral Charge Supervisors, had a meeting for information sharing and how to keep in touch, 75 people joined the Zoom (slightly less than half). Wanting to find a (paid at Sunday supply rate for 8 hours work, set rate of \$250?) person to recruit PCS. Has Annette Skillings in mind. Wanting to make a motion – we made this motion just before Covid19.

St. Paul's United Church, Sarnia wanting to disband. Putting UPRC in touch with them. Lauren Hodgson is now p/t staff at UPRC. This property has excellent potential. All happening very quickly.

UPRC update on congregations they're working with in our region: 2 in Woodstock having conversations, 1st-St. Andrew's and White Oaks United Churches, London looking at housing projects.

PCS needed at Dunwich United Church and elsewhere. Blenheim United Church making a decision at what they want to do – want to remain a congregation.

Make a request for volunteers to the Covenant Commission at the Spring Meeting.

Greg Simpson:

Trinity United Church, Glencoe. Resources given to them, want to get together in-person, need to do some re-configuration, worshipping with St. John's Anglicans. Paperwork slowed down.

Consent Docket Video:

The other two regions would like similar videos on disbanding, etc. Laying out the basics. On the website Toolkits the information lacks 'spirit.' More than just words! Can sense the real meaning behind why we do these profiles and other paperwork.

8. Discussion: Formation of property committee

Property takes up a lot of time: documents, listings – we need someone with background in property issues. The Covenant Commission has a resource pool that may have some interested applicants.

Next Meeting: April 6, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Worship by: Marie Santos

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

MOTION

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.