

**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 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, [jfayter@united-church.ca](mailto:jfayter@united-church.ca); Pretima Kukadia, [pkukadia@united-church.ca](mailto:pkukadia@united-church.ca)

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

**Absent:** Jim Evans, Greg Simpson, Adam Kilner

**Regrets:**

**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:** Marie Santos said a short prayer.

### **New Business**

#### **1. Ridge Community Church United Church Property Listing Issue**

**MOTION** by Name / Name that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consent the request of Ridge Community United Church to the listing of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Part of the Southeasterly half of Lot 18, in the Seventh Concession, Lake Erie Survey, Township of Harwich, County of Kent, and the municipal address of which is 20218 Mull Road, Blenheim, Ontario, N0P1A0, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Ridge Community United Church , a congregation of the United Church of Canada, as vendor and Excel Realty as Realtor dated Monday, April 11, 2022, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Excel Realty Services, Inc. Brokerage, agent Ryan Jones, requesting a 4% commission. The asking price, on his recommendation is \$25,000. The proposed possession date will be September 1, 2022. For any exceptions, see enclosed conditions.

**MOTION**

Choose an item.

Discussion:

Ridge Community United Church would like to list the property for sale. The final service will be held June 26, 2022. Will need time to dispose of contents. An August 1st sale is possible. The congregation is approximately 10 to 12 members. It is not possible to list the property for residential use as there is no septic/water available. It used to be an old Anglican church, located in Blenheim, that was rolled over. Altogether, maybe half an acre in total of church property.

Ridge Community United Church are thinking they may pursue nesting or amalgamating with New Scotland United Church.

The farmer neighbours, with whom the church has water rights, have issues with the church property being right up to their land and sharing water rights. The neighbours have had a survey done and property stakes are in place. The back door, and probably the ramp, backs onto the neighbour's property. The neighbours have sent a threatening letter. Need to respond to this immediately.

Trustees are seeking legal advice.

The Commission agreed to table this motion to the next regular meeting of the Covenant Commission waiting on further clarification.

**Next Meeting:** May 4, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

**Worship by:** Dave Whiting

Marie Santos declared the meeting adjourned at 9:25a.m.