

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

**Staff Support:** Rev. Lynne Allin, Minister, Congregational Support & Mission, [lallin@united-church.ca](mailto:lallin@united-church.ca); Pretima Kukadia, [pkukadia@united-church.ca](mailto:pkukadia@united-church.ca)

**Present:** Greg Simpson, Adam Kilner, Andi McKillop, Dave Whiting, Lynne Allin, Pretima Kukadia

**Absent:** Jim Evans, Mark Perry, Name

**Regrets:** Name, Name, Name, Name

**Welcome and Constitute Meeting:** Andi McKillop welcomed everyone to the meeting. The meeting was then constituted and opened.

**Acknowledging the Land:** Territorial lands are acknowledged on behalf of the Covenant Commission by Andi McKillop:

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.

**Election of New Chair of Covenant Commission**

**MOTION** by Dave Whiting / Adam Kilner that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council appoint Greg Simpson as Chair of the ARW Covenant Commission.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**Opening Worship:** Greg Simpson presented worship. The Summer of Love: ‘John 15:11-12 So that my joy may be in you and so that *your joy may be complete ....*’

**Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION** by Andi McKillop / Dave Whiting that the agenda be accepted as circulated.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**Appointment of Representative to the ARWRC Executive**

**MOTION** by Andi McKillop / Adam Kilner that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council appoint Dave Whiting as an alternate as representative to the ARWRC Executive.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**Consent Docket**

1. **Previous Minutes:** Approval of Previous Minutes of June 1, 2022 be accepted as circulated.
2. **Pastoral Charge Supervisors & Companions**
  - a. Appoint Janice Pow as pastoral charge supervisor for Burgessville United Church effective 06/07/2022
  - b. Appoint Kerry Stover as pastoral charge supervisor for Mount Brydges United Church 7/1/2022
  - c. Appoint Wanda Burse as pastoral charge supervisor for Thamesville United Church effective 7/1/2022
  - d. Appoint Carol Ferguson as pastoral charge supervisor for Corunna United Church effective 7/1/2022

**3. Annual Reports**

The Covenant Commission receives the following communities of faith 2021 Annual Reports with thanks:

Sprucedale / Providence Pastoral Charge	Central United Church, Sarnia
Avondale United Church, Tillsonburg	Dundas St. United Church, Woodstock
Mt. Elgin United Church	New Vision United Church, St. Thomas
Southwold Pastoral Charge, Frome	St. Paul's United Church, Aylmer
St. Paul's United Church, Tillsonburg	Trinity United Church, Glencoe
Trinity United Church, Wallaceburg	Leamington United Church, Leamington

Discussion for next meeting: A need to do some education around what is to be included in an Annual Report, look at best practices and checklist for the reports. John Neff has put together a form for a summary of annual reports to upload to SharePoint. Lynne will create a separate folder for easy access.

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

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5. **Community of Faith Profiles** to be received with thanks

Financial Viability, St. Paul’s Aylmer	St. Paul’s United Church Tillsonburg
Rowntree United Church, London	

6. **Confirmation of Email Vote**

**MOTION** by Mark Perry/ Andi McKillop that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the financial viability worksheet for Riverside United Church and their request to seek a full-time Intentional Interim Minister.

End of Consent Docket -----

**MOTION** by Andi McKillop / Dave Whiting that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the consent docket as circulated.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**New Business**

1. **Collaboration Agreement: Chalmers United Church, Kintore and St. Andrew’s United Church, Brooksdale**

**MOTION** by Adam Kilner / Andi McKillop that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the collaboration agreement between Chalmers **United Church** and St. Andrew’s United Church.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

2. **Amalgamation Agreement: Ridge Community United Church and New Scotland United Church**

**MOTION** by Dave Whiting / Andi McKillop that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the amalgamation agreement and community of faith profile for Ridge Community United Church and New Scotland United Church. The effective date of amalgamation shall be September 15, 2022. The new name for the amalgamated congregation shall be New Scotland-Ridge United Church, Rondeau Pastoral Charge.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

3. **Community of Faith Profiles**

**Chalmers United Church, Kintore**

**MOTION** by Adam Kilner / Dave Whiting that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the Community of Faith Profile for Chalmers United Church and their request to seek a call/appointment for a full-time minister up to Category C. Fifty percent of the time and expenses to be shared with St. Andrew's United Church, Brooksdale.

**MOTION****CARRIED****St. Andrew's United Church, Brooksdale**

**MOTION** by Dave Whiting / Andi McKillop that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council having reviewed the Community of Faith Profile for St. Andrew's United Church consent to share a minister for 20 hours per week, up to category C with Chalmers United Church, Kintore.

**MOTION****CARRIED****Thamesville United Church, Thamesville**

**MOTION** by Adam Kilner / Dave Whiting that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council having reviewed the Community of Faith Profile for Thamesville United Church consent to their request to seek a call/appointment for a full-time minister up to category C.

**MOTION****CARRIED****Metropolitan United Church, London**

**MOTION** by Andi McKillop / Dave Whiting that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council having reviewed the Community of Faith Profile for Metropolitan United Church consent to seek a call/appointment for part-time ministry personnel 20 hours per week, up to category F.

**MOTION****CARRIED****4. Property****Dunlop United Church, Sarnia**

**MOTION** by Andi McKillop / Dave Whiting that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consent to the request from Dunlop Central United Church to use up to \$16,000 from their restricted funds to cover costs related to their HVAC system. The Commission was grateful for the discussion prompted by this request. The decision takes into account that there are other resources available to Dunlop Central United Church which can be accessed for this project. The Commission came to the conclusion that it is in

the congregation's best interest to protect the restricted fund so that it may be available for future needs such as ministry initiatives or needs not covered by other accessible funds.

**MOTION**

**DEFEATED**

Adam Kilner abstained from this vote.

**Ridge Community United Church, Blenheim**

**MOTION** by Adam Kilner / Andi McKillop that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consent to the request from Ridge Community United Church to demolish the church building as part of the process for selling the property.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

**Other Business**

1. **Executive Report:** Orientation days planned for September 7, 2022 to cover topics we need to more time to discuss. The Commission will be given time for a half-hour presentation at the Fall Meeting.

2. **Congregational Support & Mission Report: Lynne Allin**

Harrow United Church looking to be a HUB centre and seeking satellites. St. Paul United Church, Sarnia was discussed as well as Central United Church, Windsor which is preparing their property to list it for sale.

3. **Other Information**

Central United Church, Sarnia is planning to covenant with ARW Regional Council on Sunday, October 16, 2022.

There is a need for community/networking/events within communities of faith.

**Next Meeting:** August 17, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

**Worship by: Andi McKillop**

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

**MOTION**

**AGREED**

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.