

Congregational Support Commission
Antler River Watershed Regional Council
OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith

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

Roster: Greg Simpson (DLM, Chair), Herb deJong (L), Judith Fayter (OM), Adam Kilner (OM), Andi McKillop (L), Mark Perry (OM), Jim Stirling (L), Carey Wagner (DM), Dave Whiting (L)

Staff Support: Rev. Lynne Allin, Minister, Congregational Support, lallin@united-church.ca; Pretima Kukadia, Admin, Communications, Records pkukadia@united-church.ca

Present: Greg Simpson, Herb DeJong, Judith Fayter, Andi McKillop, Mark Perry, Jim Stirling, Carey Wagner, Dave Whiting, Lynne Allin

Absent: Pretima Kukadia

Regrets: Adam Kilner

Welcome and Constitute Meeting: Mark Perry welcomed everyone to the meeting. The meeting was then constituted and opened.

Acknowledging the Land: Territorial lands are acknowledged on behalf of the Congregational Support Commission by Mark Perry:

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: Dave Whiting presented worship. Allison O'Connor from Young at Heart in Siloam joined us and she shared about their program of inclusion.

Approval of Agenda

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

MOTION

CARRIED

Consent Docket

1. **Approval of Minutes** of June 7, 2023 be accepted as circulated.
2. **Appointment of Pastoral Charge Supervisors & Companions**
 - a. Bonnie Pilkey to Westminster United Church, Thamesford to cover a sabbatical from May 16 to August 31, 2023.
 - b. Jane Van Patter to Trinity United Church, Ingersoll effective July 1, 2023.

c. George Bozanich to Central United Church, Windsor effective July 5, 2023.

3. **Annual Reports**

The Congregational Support Commission receives the following communities of faith 2022 Annual Reports with thanks:

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|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Rowntree United Church | Dundas St. Centre United Church |
| Essex United Church | South Caradoc |

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

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

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----- End of Consent Docket -----

MOTION by Judith Fayter / Andi McKillop that the Congregational Support Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the consent docket as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED

New Business

Transitions

1. **Bryanston and Villages United Church:** Amalgamation on December 15, 2023

MOTION by Mark Perry / Judith Fayter that the Congregational Support Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consent to the amalgamation of Bryanston United Church and Villages United Church effective December 15, 2023. The name of the community of faith shall be Villages United Pastoral Charge.

MOTION

CARRIED

2. **Thorndale Pastoral Charge and Browns Pastoral Charge United Church:** Collaborative Ministry Agreement

MOTION by Mark Perry / Andi McKillop that the Congregational Support Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consent to the Collaborative Ministry Agreement between Thorndale United Church and Browns United Church, effective July 1, 2023.

MOTION

CARRIED

Property

3. **Darrel S Moffat United Church, Tilbury**

MOTION by Judith Fayter / Andi McKillop that the Congregational Support Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consent to the request from Darrel S Moffat

Memorial United Church, Tilbury to access \$6,000 dollars from their restricted fund with the intent to repay it by December 31, 2023.

Note: They are working on a collaborative agreement with South Buxton. We can choose to waive repayment to the fund.

MOTION

CARRIED

4. Ilderton United Church

They are preparing documents to request use of restricted funds for capital projects. They have funds in general account but prefer to use restricted funds.

5. Central United Church, Windsor

Sale has fallen through again due to inability of purchaser to arrange financing. Trustees are working to relist at a lower price, information will be coming soon.

Other Business

1. Updates on Annual Report Reviews

Annual reports have been assigned to commission members, leaving Herb and Jim until later. Many seem to lack trustee's reports.

2. Notes of Afternoon Discussion on June 7, 2023

We can continue our reflection on these points at the orientation meeting in September. There are many ideas around a 'United Church presence.' Where churches get to know other churches. Eric Skillings, Bruce Cook and Colin Swan have started a network like this in their areas.

3. Executive Report: Greg Simpson

There was a very short Executive meeting after the Tri-Regional meeting on June 15.

4. Tri-Regional Evaluation Report:

Was a gathering at the Regional Council office in Hamilton. This was a start in the process. Executives have yet to decide on priorities and dissemination of the reports.

5. Congregational Support Minister Report: Lynne Allin

Orientation meeting on July 13 at 1:00 pm for Jim Stirling, Herb deJong and Karen Tobey, a new member on the Horseshoe Falls Congregational Support Commission.

John Neff and I have the Pastoral Charge Supervisors training almost completed.

Statistics reports: many communities of faith have not submitted their stats. This can affect their assessment. And the United Church requires these for long-term planning.

Belle River Pastoral Charge to disband: Are in a pastoral charge with Woodslee, but have decided to disband. Are not interested in amalgamating. Essex United Church is without a minister. Encouraging area churches to have a discussion. Should we encourage Circuit

Riders? Many churches have 3 to 5 years left as members age and die. Centralization is not possible when members cannot drive to local churches.

Kerwood United Church in conversation with Strathroy United Church about amalgamating.

SharePoint switchover will happen this fall.

Next Meeting: September 6, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Worship by: Greg Simpson

MOTION that the Congregational Support Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council having concluded its business, be adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

MOTION

AGREED