

Covenant Commission
Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council
OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Connecting, Supporting, Transforming

1:40 pm, Silver Lake Camp, Kinloss

Roster: (10) Margaret Bakker, Judy Chalmers, Ann Harbridge (DLM), Sandy Loomis, Ted Oldfield, Ross Carter, Norm Eygenraam, Arthur Hills, Thom McDonough (RDLM), Connie Shiell

Staff Support: Sue Duliban, Executive Assistant
Rev. John Neff, Minister, Congregational Support and Mission

Present: Sandy Loomis, Ann Harbridge, Thom McDonough, Arthur Hills, Ross Carter, Norm Eygenraam, Margaret Bakker

Regrets: Judy Chalmers, Ted Oldfield, Connie Shiell

Absent:

Welcome: by John Neff

Business

1. Decision Making

It was agreed that the Covenant Commission would use a consensus model of decision making.

2. Chair

Ann Harbridge put her name forward to be chair of the Covenant Commission. All were in agreement.

3. Secretary

Secretary of the Covenant Commission will be Sue Duliban and meeting follow up will be done by John Neff.

4. Covenant of Confidentiality

Commission members were asked to sign a covenant of confidentiality.

5. Meeting dates

In order to coordinate all the meetings of the three regions and staff involvement the week of the month meetings will take place was predetermined. The Covenant Commission will meet one week prior to the Human Resources Commission

ARW wk 1 – CC; wk 2 – HR

WOW wk 2 – CC; wk 3 – HR

HF wk 3 – CC; wk 4 – HR

John Neff will send out a Doodle Poll to figure out the best day of the week to meet. The first few meetings will take place in person in order for the Commission members to get to know one another.

6. Emergent Business

John Neff to provide list of churches and ministers in region.

Covenant Commission will gather list of who are current Pastoral Charge Supervisors.

The following appointments of pastoral charge supervisors was agreed:

- a. Gord Dunbar pastoral charge supervisor for Pine River United Church from June 24-September 30, 2019 during the sabbatical of Rev. Vickie Johnson;
- b. Gord Dunbar pastoral charge supervisor for Lucknow United Church from August 26-November 24, 2019 during the sabbatical of Rev. Lynne Wilson;
- c. Doug Kaufman pastoral charge supervisor for Ripley-Bervie/Kinloss Pastoral Charge from mid June to end of July, 2019 while Marsha Roberts is away;
- d. Randy Banks pastoral charge supervisor for Londesborough United Church;
- e. Cathie Stewart Savage pastoral charge supervisor for Trinity United Church, Kitchener;
- f. Chris Fickling pastoral charge supervisor for Christ the King United Church, Kitchener.

John Neff will look for a pastoral charge supervisor for Arthur United Church for July 1 if no suitable candidate found.

7. Chatsworth United Church – Proposal for disbursements at time of disbandment

It was agreed Chatsworth United Church could transfer \$4,764.08 from the proceeds of the sale of the church building to the general account; provide \$4,000 to the seniors facility, in which they have been meeting, for rent; \$10,000 to the Twp of Chatsworth for perpetual care of the cemetery (previous United Church cemetery).

Chatsworth United Church is asked to provide an updated proposal for all disbursements not to exceed 30% of total finances in accordance with the regional property policy.

8. Community of Faith Profile information:

- i. Grenfel United Church
- ii. Angus United Church
- iii. Temple Hill United Church
- iv. Trillium United Church, Cambridge

It was agreed to receive the Community of faith profiles with thanks.

9. Hampstead UC agreement with Operation Sharing

There was consensus with the agreement between Hampstead United Church and Operation Sharing with the addition of the items that were highlighted which include changes to formatting, wording in item 1.3, and the addition in Appendix B of "Communion - ordained minister of The United Church of Canada quarterly".

John will seek agreement from Hampstead United Church and Operation Sharing to the changes and have the agreement signed.

10. Trinity UC, Kitchener – Transition Team Mission Plan Report

The Covenant Commission receives the Transition Team Mission Plan Report from Trinity United Church, Kitchener for information and thanks Trinity United Church for their faithful work.

11. Name change

The Covenant Commission agrees with the name change for the amalgamated congregations of St. John's United Church, Flesherton and Eugenia United Church of the Flesherton Pastoral Charge – to Highland United Church.

12. Westminster United Church, Orangeville grant application

The Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council agrees with the *Application for Capital Loan for Pastoral Charge or Congregation* from Westminster United Church, Orangeville in the amount of \$100,000 for a term of 5 years, and will forward it to the finance department of General Council.

13. Items Identified for discussion at future meetings:

- a. [CoF Annual Self Assessment](#)
- b. [Covenant Agreement](#)
(John to ask Rod for the notes from the AGM around these two).
- c. Training Resource Pools
 - i. Visitors to communities of faith to build relationship
- d. Uniformity of Community of Faith (CoF) profile worksheets
- e. Best practices
 - i. Decisions are with, not about, CoFs
 - ii. Policy decisions in person
 - iii. Routine stuff via Zoom
 - iv. Terms of Service (rotating 3 yr terms)
 - v. Expression of Interest – Lyn Workman
 - vi.

14. Items for information

- a. Property Policy will be worked on by staff over summer (based on approved motion)
- b. Communities of faith proposal for disbursement of property will be honoured according to the property policy after disbandment
- c. Use of Dropbox and Zoom

Next Meeting: 2nd week of July. Day to be determined through a Doodle Poll