**Covenant Commission**

**Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

Shape ***Connecting, Supporting, Transforming***

Sept 21, 2022, **Drayton United Church**

Roster: (8) Ann Harbridge, Marg Bakker, Judy Chalmers, Norm Eygenraam, Arthur Hills, Matthew Lindsay, Bruce Gregersen, Marg Krauter

Staff Support:Rev. John Neff, Minister, Congregational Support and Mission

Sue Duliban, Executive Assistant

## Present: Ann Harbridge, Norm Eygenraam, Arthur Hills, Bruce Gregersen

Regrets: Marg Bakker, Judy Chalmers, Matthew Lindsay, Marg Krauter, Sue Duliban

Welcome and Constitute Meeting:Ann Harbridge welcomed all and constituted the meeting in the name of Jesus Christ for all business that comes before it.

Acknowledging the Land

Opening Worship: Reading from John O’Donahue

## Opening Agreements

Approval of Agenda:

The Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council **agree** on the agenda.

Approval of Previous Minutes:

The Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council **agree t**o approve the minutes of June 6, 2022 as circulated.

## Business Arising

1. Email votes (confirmation of)
2. June 14, 2022 MOTION: Bruce Gregersen / Norm Eygenraam That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approves the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is 13 Elizabeth St., Teeswater, Ontario fronting on the east side of Elizabeth St. in the Municipality of South Bruce, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Teeswater United Church, of the Teeswater Pastoral Charge, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, as trustees, dated the 13th day of June, 2022, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Purchaser: Mohein Samdani

Sale Price: $382,000

Deposit: $25,000

Chattels: 5 Fire Extinguishers, central vac plus all hose, 2 stoves

Fixtures Excluded: Complete Pipe Organ, audio system, all other furnishings.

Closing date: September 16, 2022 CARRIED

**NOTE: THIS OFFER FELL THROUGH**

1. June 24, 2022 MOTION: Judy Chalmers / Matt Lindsay That the covenant commission receive the Financial Viability. Real Property, Demographics, Living Faith Story and Manse worksheets from First United Church, Waterloo and agrees with the recommendation that the First United Church, Waterloo community of faith is viable to appoint a minister Full time up to Category F for up to 25 hours per week. CARRIED
2. June 28, 2922 MOTION Norm Eygenraam / Matthew Lindsay That the Covenant commission receive the Financial Viability worksheet from Grace United, Tavistock and agrees with the recommendation that Tavistock, Grace community of faith is viable to call or appoint a supply minister up to Category F for up to 25 hours per week. CARRIED
3. June 29, 2022 MOTION: Judy Chalmers / Margaret Bakker That the covenant commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council agree to the request of Wroxeter United Church of the Gorrie/Wroxeter Pastoral Charge to the following disbursement of funds on disbandment, as per their revised proposal on the 30% distributed by the congregation according to WOW property policy:

McIntosh United Church 15%

Bluevale United Church 15%

Clifford United Church 10%

Brussels United Church 10%

Wroxeter Community Hall 5%

North Huron and Community Food Share 5%

Food Grains of Canada 40%

...and that all funds from the Wroxeter United Church, including any funds not required to pay bills prior to July 31st be held in trust, pending the outcome of the CRA Audit currently under way. This includes any funds held in the general account, trustee accounts, memorial funds and proceeds from the sale of any assets, and any other funds held by Wroxeter United Church as of July 31, 2022;

...and that upon disbandment on July 31st, all funds are to be forwarded to Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council to be held in trust, pending the outcome of the CRA Audit, after which time the proceeds will be disbursed according to the approved disbursement schedule.

...And that the trustees of Wroxeter United Church will provide complete addresses, as well as a void cheque, from each of the intended recipients named above. CARRIED

v. July 12, 2022 – MOTION: Matt Lindsay / Norm Eygenraam That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approves the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is 13 Elizabeth St., Teeswater, Ontario fronting on the east side of Elizabeth St. in the Municipality of South Bruce, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Teeswater United Church, of the Teeswater Pastoral Charge, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, as trustees, and Lorrie Lynn Tucker and Augustus Tucker, dated the 13th day of June, 2022, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Purchaser: Lorrie Lynn Tucker & Augustus Tucker

Sale Price: $425,000

Deposit: $10,000

Chattels: 5 Fire Extinguishers, fire security system, central vac plus all hose, 2 stoves, pipe organ, upright piano

Fixtures Excluded: Kitchen fridge, 2 glass show cases, communion table, candle stand, 2 flower stands, baptism font

Closing date: August 25, 2022

Conditional on zoning Change approval by the municipality. CARRIED

**NOTE: THIS OFFER FELL THROUGH**

vi. July 22, 2022 MOTION: Margaret Krauter / Judy Chalmers That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council agrees with the request of the Bethany United Church of the Elora Bethany pastoral charge and gives its consent to the listing of certain Real property, located at 6092 Fourth Line East, Centre Wellington. The legal description of the property is CON 3 EOGR PT LOT 9 RP 61R7134 PARTS 1&2 IRREG 3.00AC 361.55FR 361.55D. Listing Price: $799,000 Listing Agent: Rob Woods (Edge, Fergus), Commission rate of 3.75% + HST. Listing Date - as soon as possible. The potential closing date will be any time after October 16

And further, that the distribution of chattels and assets in the church will be determined at a later date. CARRIED

vii. July 22, 2022 MOTION: Margaret Krauter/ Judy Chalmers That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council agrees with the request of The Alma Pastoral Charge and gives its consent to the selling of certain Real Property, the legal description of which 4 Elora Street North in Alma, which is part of the Township of Mapleton. Lot 146, Plan 134 Alma Town.

Expressions of interest have been received and a private sale will be offered, with offers to be received by Aug. 4th. Any offer to be considered is to be reviewed by a real estate lawyer prior to signing and is subject to approval by the Covenant Commission. Asking Price: $550,000 Possession Date after Oct. 16, 2022

If no suitable offers come from these efforts, that the trustees list the property for the asking price of $550,000. Real Estate Agent: James Coffey (Royal LePage, Arthur), commission rate of 3.75% + HST. The listing date will be "as soon as possible" after August 5. The potential closing date will be any time after October 16. And further, that the distribution of chattels and assets in the church will be determined at a later date. CARRIED

viii. July 25, 2022 MOTION: Margaret Bakker / Bruce Gregersen That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approves the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is 13 Elizabeth St., Teeswater, Ontario fronting on the east side of Elizabeth St. in the Municipality of South Bruce, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Teeswater United Church, of the Teeswater Pastoral Charge, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, as trustees, and Justin Terrance Tout, dated the 18th day of July, 2022, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Purchaser: Justin Terrance Tout

Sale Price: $385,000

Deposit: $10,000

Chattels: 5 Fire Extinguishers, 2 cook stoves, central vac with wand and hose, 4 padded chairs, all the pews and organ

Fixtures Excluded: 1 pew in choir loft

Closing date: August 31, 2022 CARRIED

**NOTE: THIS OFFER FELL THROUGH (THIRD ONE TO FAIL)**

ix July 25, 2022 MOTION: Bruce Gregersen / Margaret Bakker That the covenant commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approve the Manse Modernization Grant request from Glen Morris United church in the amount of $5,000. Total project cost estimate is $22,000. CARRIED

x. Aug. 8, 2022 MOTION: Marg Krauter / Arthur Hills That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approves the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is 13 Elizabeth St., Teeswater, Ontario fronting on the east side of Elizabeth St. in the Municipality of South Bruce, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Teeswater United Church, of the Teeswater Pastoral Charge, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, as trustees, and Preston Crich and Jason Siertsema, dated the 5th day of August, 2022, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Purchaser: Preston Crich & Jason Siertsema

Sale Price: $250,000

Deposit: $10,000

Chattels: fire security system, 5 Fire Extinguishers, central vac with wand and hose, hot water heater, and organ and all fixtures except those listed below

Fixtures Excluded: Kitchen fridge, 2 glass showcases, communion table, candle stand, two flower stands, baptismal font

Closing date: September 16, 2022. CARRIED

xi. Aug. 23, 2022 MOTION: Arthur Hills / Margaret Bakker That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approves the sale of certain Real Property, located at 6092 Fourth Line Ariss in the township of Centre Wellington, the legal description of which is, Pt Lt 9 Con 3 East of Grand River Pilkington Pts 1 & 2, 61R7134; T/W MS 136333; Centre Wellington pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Bethany United Church, of the Elora-Bethany Pastoral Charge, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, as trustees, and Ashko Holding Inc, dated the 4th day of August, 2022, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Purchaser: Ashko Holdings Inc

Sale Price: $750,000

Deposit: $25,000

Chattels: all included except those listed below

Fixtures Excluded: 2 interior flags, electric piano main floor, clock on rear wall main floor, wall plaques and pictures, planter box 6, 2 hepa filters, sound system main floor, all tenant’s belongings and time capsule in front south east corner of church.

Rental Item: Propane tank to be assumed by buyer

Closing date: October 18, 2022

and the proceeds of the sale are to be held in trust as capital, use of which will require regional council approval. CARRIED

xii. Sept. 12, 2022 MOTION: Arthur Hills / Norm Eygenraam That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approve the lease between the trustees of Teeswater United Church and the Cornerstone Reformed Protestant Church of Huron for the property at 13 Elizabeth St. S., Teeswater, with the following terms:

* From Sept 16, 2022 until a closing date for the sale is determined.
* Rent to include Hydro & Gas costs, with a reconciliation at time of closing the sale and sole use of the property & contents
* All maintenance is the responsibility of the lessee
* the Lessor will carry full insurance on the building, Lessee will carry Liability insurance.
* The Lessor will have access for checking the property and as granted by Lessee. CARRIED

xiii Sept. 18, 2022 MOTION: Judy Chalmers / Margaret Krauter That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways regional council disband the Congregation of Oliphant Methodist (United Church) effective September 16, 2022, and ask the Executive to appoint trustees to handle the disbanding. CARRIED

## Consent Docket:

1. Pastoral Charge Supervisors Appointed
   1. Paul Vollick to Exeter eff Sept. 4, 2022 (Laurie O’Leary left)
   2. Rev. Bill Lord to Harcourt, Guelph for a meeting on Aug 17th
   3. Ann Harbridge to St. Andrew’s Bayfield, replacing John Neff as of August 25, 2022
   4. Cambridge, Cedar Hill - Arthur Hills for zoom meeting on Sept. 13th
   5. Jan Aylward to Lonsdeborough UC for a meeting on Nov. 6th (Randy Banks PCS unable to attend)
   6. John Neff to Goldstone PC effective September 19, 2022 – they will be disbanding.
   7. John Neff to Cambridge: Cedar Hill PC effective September 19, 2022.
   8. Mark Rutledge to St. Luke’s UC, Cambridge effective September 28, 2022
   9. Doug Hayward to Cedar Hill UC effective September 21, 2022. JN to talk to Board

Pastoral Charge Supervisors Needed:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Pastoral Charge** | **CoF** | **Notes** | **Topic** | **PCS Start** | **PCS End** |
| Alliston: St. John's Pastoral Charge | St. John's United Church, Alliston | ​Sungmin Jung, OM, sabbatical from March 1 to May 31, 2023 ​​Date for sabbatical not yet selected.  Spring 2023 | Sabbatical | 05-01-2023 |  |
| Arkell Pastoral Charge | Arkell United Church | ​Ann H to cover until Sept. 1, 2022 | Search | 07-01-2022 |  |
| Flesherton Pastoral Charge | Highland United Church, Flersherton/Eugenia | ​220919 - PCS Christine Smaller will be ending 221231. Need new one. In a collaborative ministry search with Dundalk​David Shearman Appointment ending | Search | 01-01-2022 | 12-31-2022 |
| Goderich: Lakeshore Pastoral Charge | Lakeshore United Church, Goderich |  | Change in PR | 10-31-2022 |  |
| Lucknow Pastoral Charge | Lucknow United Church | JN - ​PCS Gord Dunbar on sabbatical from Sept. 5, 2022 - January 10, 2023.  Need new PCS | Interaction | 09-05-2022 | 01-10-2023 |
| Morriston: Mount Carmel-Zion Pastoral Charge | Mount Carmel-Zion United Church, Morriston | Rev. Margaret Ruggles, has begun a leave | Leave | 04-21-2022 |  |
| Mount Forest-Woodland Pastoral Charge | Mount Forest United Church | Possibly Norm Eygenraam, member of Mt. Forest | Change in PR | 10-26-2022 |  |
| Cambridge: Cedar Hill PC | Cedar Hill UC | Admittand appointed – Doug Hayward. | Admittand | 06-12-2022 |  |
| Owen Sound: Central Westside PC | Central Westside UC | Can no longer do zoom meetings. Need someone who can attend in person. They meet at 5:30 pm on a Tuesday aft  Pat McDonough, Kristal McGee |  | 09-19-2022 |  |
| Dobbinton PC | Dobbinton UC | Marion Boyd no longer able to continue as PCS | Admittand | 09-19-2022 |  |
| Chesley PC | St. John’s UC, Chesley | Marion Boyd no longer able to continue as PCS | Admittand | 09-19-2022 |  |
|  |  | Catherine Smith and Henry McLeod to Rosemont UC effective January 1, 2023,  Members of Rosemont |  |  |  |

1. Documents received for information
   1. St. John’s UC, Belwood Metz Pastoral Charge CoF profiles: Living Faith Story, Financial Viability, Demographic Worksheet, Real Property, Manse info.
   2. Arthur United Church – Self-Assessment
2. Covenanting with regional council service at Pine River UC along with covenanting with new minister, Wonder Chimvinga - October 2, 2022 at 1 pm. – John Neff

The Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council **agrees** by consensus to the Consent Docket. Agreed

## New Business:

1. Ripley, St. Andrews concerned about viability. Having conversations about options. Currently has full time ministry update from meeting held Aug 23rd
2. Rental and Lease agreements – guidelines – Commission agreed
3. Cambridge, St. Luke’s - Financial Viability

**MOTION** Bruce Gregerson / Arthur Hills That Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council receive the financial viability worksheet and financial statements for St. Luke’s, Cambridge, and agree with their request to appoint a supply minister @30 hrs per week up to category C. **AGREED**

1. Auburn UC – distribution of Assets.

**MOTION** Arthur Hills / Norm Eygenraam That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approve the following distribution of assets for Auburn, Knox United Church approved by their official board meeting on June 2, 2022

Camp Menesetung 65%

Food Grain Bank 8%

Londesborough United Church 15%

Blyth United Church 3%

Lakeshore United Church 3%

Brucefield United Church 4%

Mitchell Christian bookstore 2% **CARRIED**

1. Supply Appointments
   1. Consider removing step of requiring a financial viability worksheet

The commission agrees to remove the step of financial viability for short term appointments subject to the ongoing monitoring and review by the Minister, Congregational Support and Mission. John to change the Search documentation.

1. Listowel, Calvary Grant Application for Technology

**MOTION** Bruce Gregerson/ Arthur Hills that the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approve the request for a technology grant from Listowel, Calvary United Church in the amount of $1,500.  **CARRIED**

1. Rental/Lease agreement for Emmanuel UC, Waterloo

**MOTION:** Norm / Bruce that the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approves the lease agreement from Emmanuel UC, Waterloo with Waterloo Cooperative Preschool. **CARRIED**

Arthur has declared a conflict of interest.

1. Pastoral Charge Supervision

John to get models that others are using to pay PCSs from other RCs.

CoF being supervised should be paying for this. How are payments determined? Flat Rate? Per hour?

What about level of involvement?

Are there exceptions? Admittand? Student?

Find out how many hours PCSs are currently spending.

1. Tottenham/Rich Hill

Discussion around use of capital funds if Rich Hill closes.

Next Meeting:Regular meetingThursday, October 13 by Zoom Call – 7 pm

## Adjournment

Next Agenda:

Ways to live into the regional purpose and vision.

Reducing emissions footprint by 80% by 2030