**Congregational Support Commission**

**Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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WOWRC Purpose:***Connecting, Supporting, Transforming***

WOWRC Values:***Love Unconditionally, Seek Reconciliation, Risk Courageously***

WOWRC Commitment to be:***Affirming, Anti-Racist***

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[May 11, 2023], **[7:00 pm]**, Zoom Call

Roster: (8) Ann Harbridge (DLM, Chair), Marg Bakker (Lay), Judy Chalmers (Lay), Norm Eygenraam (Lay), Arthur Hills (Lay), Bruce Gregersen (OM-RP), Marg Krauter (Lay), Roz Vincent-Haven (DM-RP)

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

Sue Duliban, Executive Assistant

## Present: Ann Harbridge, Judy Chalmers, Norm Eygenraam (Lay), Bruce Gregersen

## Regrets: Roz, Arthur Hills (may make it late), 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: Arthur Hills

Opening Worship:Reading from Helen Steiner Rice

## Opening Agreements:

Approval of Agenda:

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

Approval of Previous Minutes:

The Congregational Support Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council **agree t**o approve the minutes of April 13, 2023 as circulated.

## Business Arising:

1. Email vote (confirmation of)

May 9, 2023

MOVED by Arthur Hills, Seconded by Norm Eygenraam: That the congregational support commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approves the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is formerly Christ the King United Church, and the municipal address of which is located at 167 Thaler Avenue, Kitchener, Ontario, N2A 1R5, in the Regional municipality of Waterloo, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of St. James’ - Rosemount United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as property holders as a result of an amalgamation dated December 31, 2022, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Purchaser: Mansur Mehdi (company to be formed)

Sale Price: $1,411,000

Deposit: $100,000

Balance Due: The buyer agrees to pay the balance of the purchase price, subject to adjustments, to St. James’ Rosemount United Church on completion of this transaction

No mortgage, conditions, warranties asked for or provided. Chattels include fixed items.

Closing date: August 9, 2023 CARRIED

1. Grace UC, Thornbury – CoF profile deferred until they explained the ¾ time and submit a category.

We received their information.

1. Correspondence: N/A
2. Pastoral Charge Supervisors
   1. John Neff to Annesley UC, Markdale of their Annual meeting on April 30, 2023.
   2. Heather McCarrel to Wiarton UC and Shallow Lake UC effective May 1, 2023.
   3. Sheryl Spencer to Lions Head UC and Pike Bay UC effective May 1, 2023.
   4. Nancy Knowles to St. Mary’s UC, St. Mary’s effective immediately.
   5. Elaine Longland to St. John’s UC Alliston for a congregational meeting to approve the 2023 budget on May 28th.
   6. John Neff to Port Elgin for their governing body meeting on June 14, 2023.

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| **Pastoral Charge** | **CoF** | **PCS Name** | **PCS Start** | **PCS End** |
| Brucefield Community Pastoral Charge | Brucefield Community United Church | Needed | 02-01-2024 |  |
| Cambridge: Armenian Evangelical (EM) Pastoral Charge | Armenian Evangelical United Church, Cambridge | Needed |  |  |
| Centre Wellington: Hope Springs Pastoral Charge | Hope Springs United Church, Centre Wellington | Needed | 06-12-2023 | 08-27-2023 |
| Stratford Pastoral Charge | Avondale United Church, Stratford | Needed | 09-01-2024 | 01-07-2025 |
| Thornbury: Grace Pastoral Charge | Grace United Church, Thornbury | Needed | 06-16-2023 |  |

1. Documents received for information
   1. Bloomingdale UC – [Annual Report](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/CovenantCommission/EYUaVDJWY55JitzA2g4w6x8BjgncvenKecS3PlepgVxi9Q?e=2RMD9l)
   2. Blyth PC – [Annual Report](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/CovenantCommission/ERpcFOePq_dLo3znZQpUVF4BmI8PIw3lhHYRjj8WRwmzbA?e=e3UAQc)
   3. Chesley PC – [Annual Report](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/CovenantCommission/EXUpX2ONdl9FjBPSE7wEXggB4j64i1XVrkic7t9UjH0YQQ?e=FXQ40l)
   4. Creemore – New Lowell UC – [Annual Report](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/CovenantCommission/ETf6hHE0JtZFmKEm4IYyPVIBAWG2xiGgryLXvKa6fkro3w?e=8kbOzz)
   5. New Hamburg UC – [Annual Report](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/CovenantCommission/EXZ-rvHR9HFAlZ5fT_KY0TgBeM_16wsU3AZAMHdCqOQNsw?e=yLjAYK)
   6. Palmerston: James St. UC – Annual Reports – [James Street UC](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/CovenantCommission/Ecz1jp8MDyRDpA5hUkECObsBZp61t1YO-WJKO-wiMj9kQA?e=pWebWX), [Palmerston UC](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/CovenantCommission/EaV7qSUnQGVBsYfMPtS4-2kBVBEiWy6-E_esaCNj223Cew?e=xhiAJu)
   7. Shallow Lake UC – [Annual Report](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/CovenantCommission/ESHkPSe-wmxFqhkL9LK2RfwBNu2Nmbh_LBOEX8Mbu6RIQA?e=ASU6OA)
   8. Mount Carmel-Zion UC, Morriston – [Annual Report](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/CovenantCommission/ERoB3-Mnr3xPkWXLj0w9W0cBsYt8rGhiOXgf7zhOh5VpOg?e=dD0rZw)
2. Report from Rep to the Executive – Ann Harbridge

Ann reported that she provided the terms for the Congregation Education and Training Fund. It was approved by the Executive as presented. Motion (April 19, 2023): That the Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council Executive endorse the Congregational Support Commission’s Congregation and Education Training Fund policy as developed by the Congregational Support Commission and that staff add the Fund to the WOWRC governance handbook.

Some concern with so many congregations without ministry personnel, that the remit on the Indigenous church might fall through the cracks. Cathy Hird has agreed to champion this work, so if we are aware of churches who may need support on this, we could reach out to Cathy. There will also be a session at the regional meeting.

A shared position with 5 Oaks has been filled. 2 contract positions have been made permanent – no change to the budget. (Krista Ford & Michele Petick)

A recruitment team is to be appointed with representation from each decision-making body to help with the recruitment cycle. (Any volunteers?)

Opening worship at the spring meeting will include a presentation of flags to affirming congregations.

Exec agreed that grant applications for congregations should be put through our commission to confirm that the congregation is viable before funds are granted.

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

## New Business:

1. Goldstone UC – Disbanding FYI
2. Grand Bend: Huron Shores UC – Report from Commission appointed by the Executive

This report will be read and screen shared for the meeting.

1. James Street UC, Palmerston – Use of restricted funds

PCS reports: As a new ministry, can some of the restricted funds be accessed to ensure a strong start under a new minister. It would be helpful if WOW could offer some assurance that these funds could be accessed, if needed, to support getting this new ministry off to a good start.

The CSC requests a proposal of if they want to use capital funds.

1. St. John’s UC, Chesley – [Use of Restricted Funds](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/CovenantCommission/EYb9925ENE1Pj_eqlHixTSoBRMPhdGyex6iVVQRH17TbAg?e=iHaftV).

CSC is amenable to the to the use of restricted funds and requests a projected budget for 2 years and a closure plan. When this is ready they are asked to join a CSC mtg to present.

1. Tottenham & Rich Hill UCs – [Amalgamation agreement](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/CovenantCommission/EVb3bXUi_opJksHzX0WirxgBGMy9UCthVqPOTYVsAcUV8Q?e=EVe2TZ)

MOTION Norm Eygenraam / Judy Chalmers that the Congregational Support Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approves the amalgamation agreement between Tottenham UC and Rich Hill UC, including the establishment of a Fund for charitable work in the local area. CARRIED.

1. Making your Church Building a Community Asset course – On hold for now.
2. Central Westside UC, Owen Sound – Request for non-member to serve on governing body.

MOTION Bruce Gregersen / Judy Chalmers that the Congregational Support Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council agrees with the request of Central Westside UC, Owen Sound that Meagan Rose be given permission as a non-member and chair of the Communications Committee to be a member of the governing body, according to their constitution, while serving in that position. CARRIED.

Next Meeting:Regular meetingThursday, June 8 by Zoom Call – [time to be picked]

Worship by:

Land Acknowledgement:

## Adjournment