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**PRESBYTERY OF ESSEX-KENT**  
**The Presbyterian Church in Canada**  
**Regular Meeting, Tuesday, April 19, 2022**  
**6:00pm – St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, Dresden**

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**The Presbytery of Essex-Kent was called to meet in Regular Session on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 within St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, Dresden at 6:00pm, by order of the Moderator Barbara Sargent.**

**WORSHIP** was conducted by host minister, Rev. Andrew Cornell who read from Psalm 103: 1-5 and Luke 16: 1-9, encouraging the church and her leaders to use its worldly resources for the ministry and mission of God’s church wherever we may be, being mindful of the promise of Jesus – I am with you always – from the Great Commission of Matthew 28:20.

**Call to Order - The Moderator called the Court to Order at 6:20pm.**

**Constitution – The Moderator offered prayer and Constituted the Court willing and able to deal with any matter that properly comes before it.**

**ATTENDANCE**

Present in the Court were Revs. Mike Maroney, Andrew Cornell, Lisa Aide, Tim Reddish, Shirley Murdock (Clerk), Chuck Congram (Treasurer) and Lillian Wilton (Appendix)  
Elders Present were Barb Sargent (Moderator), Mark Labadie, Bonnie Pittock, Jayne Broughton, Alison Brown, Jane Lung, Sandra Smith, Kathy Parks, Wendy Streptak, Kathy Dupuis, Bob MacVicar (sitting as alternate for Leamington) and Elaine Ross  
Also present was Rev. Brian McGuffin and Connie Hale-Duncan of LSA

**REGRETS**

Received from Revs. Shalini Sankarlal, Nancy Carle, Leslie Walker  
Elders Jeri-lou Brown and Robert Ivison  
WMS Representative Carolyn Reid

**Acceptance of Docket**

**MOTION: That the Docket be approved as presented.**

**Moved by Aide and Maroney. MOTION CARRIED**

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**MINUTES**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 15, 2022 were presented

**MOTION: That the Minutes of February 15, 2022 be adopted as presented.**

**Moved by Murdock and A. Brown. MOTION CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**CERTIFICATE TRANSER – The Clerk advised that the Certificate of Transfer for Rev. Scott McAlister had been received by the Presbytery of London.**

**All other business from the minutes will be addressed in Reports from Standing Committees.**

**STATED HOUR**

The Stated Hour of 6:30pm arrived.

The Moderator welcomed Marilyn Repchuck, representative of the Presbyterian Heritage Centre, formerly the Presbytery Museum.

Marilyn provided a powerpoint presentation on the current and continuing renovations to the Carlisle United Church, which has become the new home of the Heritage Centre. She provided posters and postcards for anyone interested in sharing them with congregations.

Marilyn also noted this was the first in-person presentation since the beginning of Covid Restrictions.

**BUSINESS RESUMES**

**Good News Moments and Prayer Requests**

The Moderator extended a welcome back to Sandra Smith after her lengthy illness.

The Moderator reported that Knox, Wallaceburg received four (4) new members on Easter Sunday.

Wendy Streptak reported that LSA would be ordaining two new elders

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

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**Report of the ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**  
**PRESENTED BY REV. ANDREW CORNELL**

The Administration Committee of the Presbytery of Essex/Kent met in person at Lakeshore St. Andrew's on April 5 with the following members present: Rev. Andy Cornell, convenor/secretary; Rev. Chuck Congram, treasurer; Rev. Shirley Murdock, clerk; Moderator Barbara Sargent and Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal, assistant treasurer.

**RECOMMENDATION 1 – That Reports of Standing Committees be received and recommendations considered.**

**MOVED BY Cornell and Aide**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDANCE**

**RECOMMENDATION 2 - That the following correspondence be received for information.**

**MOVED BY Cornell and Aide.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

1. Police Reports – Jane Lung, Jayne Broughton, Kathy Parks
2. LSA – Pension and Benefits – payment plan for current 2022 allocation
3. Enrichment Day at Crieff Hills – emailed to Clergy
4. Wayne Sankarlal – comments on Presbytery Laptop - no need to purchase new one
5. Paulin Memorial – Search for new Organist – emailed to clergy
6. GA Office – acknowledgement of GA Commissioners for 2022
7. Crieff Hills – Summer Clergy Wellness Retreat – July 4-7, 2022 – emailed to clergy
8. St. Andrew's Hall – The Art of Transitional Ministry – May 2-6, 2022 – emailed to clergy
9. Grant Program, PCC - \$5,000.00 to LSA for student summer internship program
10. GA Office – Nomination for Principal Clerk – Rev. Victor S. J. Kim
11. Changes to the rolls – as provided by General Assembly Office
12. GA Office – Reminder Statistical Reports due APRIL 15, 2022
13. Office of the Register General – Licenses to Marry (for couples issued at the beginning of Covid had extended deadlines during Covid. Some of those deadlines are about to expire as early as July 24, 2022. Clergy are advised to check dates carefully on licenses to marry, to ensure they are valid when performing marriages.

**Rev. Shirley F. Murdock – Clerk**

**CORRESPONDANCE**

**RECOMMENDATION 3 - That the following correspondence be received and referred to the appropriate individual or committee as indicated.**

**MOVED By Cornell and Aide.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

1. Funds to Presbytery from sale of Hungarian Church, \$165,715.73 – refer to Treasurer
2. St. Andrew's, Amherstburg – report of "On-Line" Ministry Proposal – to be received and considered by the Congregational Support Fund Committee.
3. PCC Finance – 2021 Q4 consolidated portfolio statement – refer to Treasurer.
4. Wallaceburg Bookbinding – Invoice for Binding Presbytery Minutes \$56.50- to treasurer

**CORRESPONDANCE – requires action**

Presbytery received a letter and memo from the PCC's Life and Mission Agency calling for all courts of the church to update inclusive language in policies, procedures and practices by June 2022.

**RECOMMENDATION 4 - That Sessions and Presbytery be mindful of inclusive language in preparing and sharing liturgies, policies, procedures and practices.**

**MOVED BY Cornell and Aide.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

A verbal report was presented by Treasurer Chuck Congram

He noted that funds from the sale of the Windsor Hungarian Church have been received.

\$20,000.00 will be received by Presbytery in payment of an outstanding loan

Bank charges amounted to \$420.00

Half of the remaining funds will be directed to the account for the newly formed Emergent Assistance Fund.

**RECOMMENDATION 5 – That the treasurer's report be received as presented**

**MOVED BY Cornell and Aide. MOTION CARRIED**

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**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Report from team reviewing **Duties of Interim Moderators**. Work is continuing.

**2. Review of Presbytery's Standing Orders.**

The committee is proposing that the sections be divided among presbytery's standing committees and the treasurer/assistant treasurer for review and report to Admin Committee by Sept. 1. Many sections may only require minor changes. New sections might be required. Appendix 9 – Trust Funds – may need significant overhaul. We have existing funds and one new fund and there is some obvious overlap/redundancy between them.

Section(s)	1-4.1	Administration committee
	4.2	Life & Mission (L&M) committee
	4.3	Ministry & Doctrine (M&D) committee
	4.4	Admin
	5	Admin
	6	Admin
Appendix	1 – committee duties	Admin
	2 -- manses	Treasurer
	3 – inductions	M&D
	4 – remuneration/int. mod	Admin (B. Sargent/S. Rajack-Sankarlal)
	5 – lay missionaries	L&M
	6 – commissioning	Admin
	7 – Bursary fund	Treasurer
	8 – Continuing education	M&D
	9 – Trust funds	Treasurer/Cong. Support Fund committee
	10 – Amalgamation assets	Admin

**RECOMMENDATION 6 – That the Standing Orders be referred as indicated and that reports with recommendations be transmitted to the Administration Committee by Sept. 1, 2022.**

**MOVED BY Cornell and Aide.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RECOMMENDATION 7 – That Bob MacVicar be named Alternate Elder for Knox, Leamington for the duration of his term of Assessor Elder.**

**MOVED BY Cornell and Aide. MOTION CARRIED**

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1. Card Ministry – Bonnie Pittock. Thinking of You Cards have been sent to Mary Templer, Sandra Smith and Jeri-lou Brown. Please contact Bonnie when you know of someone in need of cheering up.
2. Life and Mission Committee. Administration Committee is continuing its search for a new convenor.
3. Presbytery website. Rev. A. Cornell has researched the feasibility and is doing additional consultation. A full report will come to the June meeting.
4. Examination of session records have not taken place due to the lack of in-person meetings over the past two years. We will reinstate this immediately. The Moderator of Presbytery will kick it off with the session records for Knox Wallaceburg. She will prepare a schedule for future meetings. (Wallaceburg Minutes were examined by Rev. Lisa Aide and Alison Brown and found NOT to be acceptable. They were referred back to the Clerk of Session).
5. Mileage. Give the recent increase in the cost of gasoline, the Admin Committee and Treasurer are proposing a temporary increase.

**RECOMMENDATION 8 – That mileage be reimbursed at \$1 per kilometre ONE WAY immediately and for the balance of 2022 and re-evaluated in time for the 2023 presbytery budget.**

**MOVED BY Cornell and Reddish.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Schedule for future meetings**

JUNE 2020      Next Meeting of Admin – Tuesday – June 7, 2022 At 1<sup>st</sup> Chatham  
                    Next meetings of Standing Committees – Week of June 13, 2022  
                    Next regular meeting – June 21, 2022 at LSA.

SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 – St. Andrew’s, Amherstburg

NOVEMBER 15, 2022 – University Community Church, Windsor

**RECOMMENDATION 9– That the court accept the Administration Committee’s report as a whole.**

**MOVED BY Cornell and Reddish.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**REPORT OF MINISTRY and DOCTRINE COMMITTEE**  
**PRESENTED BY REV. TIM REDDISH**

M & D met via Zoom on March 30th, 2022, at 12:30pm via Zoom.  
Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal was also in attendance as Interim Moderator of Knox Leamington.

**1. Knox Leamington – Presented by Bob MacVicar**

At the Jan 30th Special Presbytery it was approved that: “A provisional, viable amalgamation/partnership plan(s) be prepared (in discussion with Congregations and Sessions, Head Office, and Presbytery) in time for Presbytery’s April meeting.”

a. Discuss progress

Rev. Shalini sent this provisional report:

At the special meeting of presbytery held on it January 30th, 2022, Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal was appointed interim moderator of Knox Presbyterian Church in Leamington (KL), effective February 15, 2022, following on from Rev. Lillian Wilton. At this special meeting, the Presbytery also permitted the Session of KL to reach out to other churches within the bounds of Presbytery of Essex-Kent to consider a partnership with KL with a deadline date of February 28, 2022. This was to ensure all churches had an opportunity to do so, before KL focused solely on the proposal put forth by Lakeshore St. Andrew’s (LSA)

On February 4, the Session met with both the outgoing moderator and incoming moderator present, to ensure that as much information was passed along. Session agreed to send a letter to the congregants informing them of Presbytery’s decision on January 30<sup>th</sup> to suspend worship services until April 2022, with the option of holding an Easter Service. It also agreed to send a letter to the Ministers and Interim Moderators within the Presbytery for the congregations in their care to consider the partnership. Responses were received from First Presbyterian, Mt. Zion. St. Andrew’s Amherstburg, St. Andrew’s Dresden University Community Church and Valetta declining the invitation to partner with KL for a variety of reasons.

Once this information was received the Session decided to focus on the LSA proposal. At its March meeting, (Mar 2) the Session examined the different options set therein. The Session

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expressed both their gratitude and concerns over each proposal. It also determined it be prudent to get an independent examination of its financial records to ascertain its viability and inform both Presbytery and the congregation of this assessment. This is to ensure the congregation no court of the Church is simply seeking a dissolution and that we are seeking to be transparent. The Session also agreed to reach out to LSA's session to further understand their understanding and approach to the options presented.

Rev. Shalini contacted, the interim moderator of LSA, Rev. Andy Cornell to set up a meeting and this was set for March 23, 2022.

On March 10, Rev. Shalini reached out to the clerk Deputy Clerk Don Muir for further clarification on the LSA proposal in terms of transfer of assets, ministry and mission, preaching and teaching in each instance. Some uncertainty was expressed in his part on how the above might be carried out in a practical sense and that the Sessions would have to determine this. The clerk stated he was unaware LSA was under the care of an Interim Moderator with the lead pastor going through Education and Reception.

On March 13, a few congregants attended LSA informally to get a sense of whether it would be a good fit for them. Included in that day were the Clerk of Session of KL and assessor elder Rev. Shirley Murdock.

All this information was considered and reflected upon and held in prayer at a special meeting held via Zoom on March 22 as the Session prepared to gather with LSA's session.

We are pleased that the Session also agreed to receive and has subsequently accepted a proposal from a retired Chartered Accountant for the independent financial review.

Unfortunately, on March 23rd, Rev. Shalini was unable to attend the meeting with LSA due to an unexpected illness. Rev. Shirley informed the LSA session of this and they continued to meet, not as a constituted meeting of Session, but as a group having an open conversation with each person taking their own notes. The following reflects the notes from the individual KL elders.

Each KL elder felt that LSA would not be a proper fit for KL. Of the biggest concern was the form of worship for the elderly congregation. While LSA has a mid-week program for seniors called Prime Time, there was no offer for a transition period from the traditional service to the contemporary one. Preaching would not be done in person but via a live stream with a host appointed to begin worship.

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Concern was also raised over the changes LSA stated needed to be done to the building especially as KL is noted as an historic site. KL was open to a short-term trial period for the benefit of the congregation but was informed a 5-year plan would have to be in place first. KL requested detailed financial information from LSA, and was willing to give up its own information, as would be the norm for a partnership. In return LSA offered its annual report. A few other concerns were noted as well.

Rev. Shalini reached out to Rev. Andy to receive comments raised LSA's session and was informed that LSA decided to withdraw its proposal, stating that it could not meet the pastoral or worship needs of the congregation. KL is grateful for the honest and quick response and the discernment involved on LSA's part.

The Session discussed this and have decided to hold a congregational meeting on April 3rd at 1:00 pm to update the members and adherents as to what has transpired this far. The Session also agreed to hold an in-person Easter service. It is grateful for a rental opportunity that has come its way, some alternative worship possibilities with the Karen group, the treasurer, as well as the independent consultant who will also provide some alternate possibilities that may present itself.

***Update***

The congregational meeting for Knox Leamington was held on April 3<sup>rd</sup> with 16 people in attendance. At the meeting the congregation was informed that Lakeshore St. Andrew's withdrew their proposal to amalgamate, and that no other congregation indicated an interest in partnering with Knox Leamington.

The congregation was also made aware of the financial assessment done by an independent retired CPA who noted the offering had been eroded since COVID and that: *"it is beyond me (in a limited review) to determine the ability to "bounce back" due to the underlying discontent in the congregation."* He also noted *"If offerings (and participating congregations) do not return to pre-covid levels, a Full Time Ministry is unattainable."*

This assessment is inline with the Presbytery's own.

The congregation was then asked where they saw themselves in a few years or what viable ministry lay ahead for them, there was no response.

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Following the congregational meeting, Session met for its regular meeting on April 6, 2022.

The financial statements for January 2022 to March 2022 were reviewed. These indicated that the income was only 25% of the total expenses. The Session considered this alarming information in conjunction with lack of responses at the congregational meeting, the lack of elders, lack of interest for any activities or events within the congregation such as Bible Study or any option for spiritual growth. There was also conversation around correspondence received that shows a continued manner of interference and conflict over any decisions made by session or presbytery. The session reflected on whether anything had improved over the last couple of years and there was no change that could be identified.

Given that Presbytery recommended Knox to review the LSA proposal or move towards dissolutions and given all the factors noted above, the Session made the difficult decision to seek permission of Presbytery to begin the process for Dissolution of the Congregation.

Submitted by Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal. Knox, Interim Moderator.

While M & D was disappointed to hear of LSA's withdrawal of their proposal, nevertheless, we are grateful for LSA's willingness to be proactive in this regard.

M & D formally received Rev. Shalini's report and, while not surprised by its findings, we were saddened to hear its contents and conclusions. We believe this is the right way forward in the circumstances. A congregational meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup> at 2pm and Barb Sargent (Moderator) and Rev. Tim Reddish (M & D Convener) will also be in attendance to represent Presbytery.

We advise Presbytery that there may be an emergent meeting in May.

**MOTION: That Knox Presbyterian Church be granted permission to begin the Process of Dissolution according to the current Policy for Dissolution**  
**MOVED BY Murdock and Maroney**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**PRAYER**

Moderator offered prayer on behalf of Knox, Leamington's sad news of probably dissolution

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**2. Study Leave Updates.**

a. Rev. Tim Reddish requests a Study leave for April 23-29 to read Luke Timothy Johnson’s “The Creed: What Christians Believe and Why It Matters” (DoubleDay, 2005).

b. Rev. Lisa Aide would like to: (a) “use some of my continuing education to sign up for the mentoring program at Presbyterian collage”; (b) “take two weeks off in May for self directed study leave, the focused of this study leave would be working on cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) and how we can bring it into worship and biblical teachings.”

She continues: “there are not a lot of books currently written on this topic together, but COVID has brought to light that many in our congregation are struggling with anxiety and other mental health issues, and CBT right now are equipping people with the tools to help name and deal with the issues. However this is not something that is often taught in the church, and yet when we look scripture, we see people struggling with similar problems. So my goal is to be able to inform people of the tools of CBT but using biblical stories to help them understand the process and also to take away some of the stigma. Some of the books I would like to get and read during this study leave are: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Mindfulness; Cognitive Behavioral Therapy: Break the Intrusive Thoughts that Sabotage You; Christian based Cognitive Behavioural Therapy & how to become Mindful of Christ Paperback. I know that is a lot of books, but I read fast, and would like to take a deep dive as I feel that this a tool that we need right now in order to minister to those who are struggling.”

**Recommendation: That Presbytery approve the above study leave requests.**

**MOVED BY Maroney and Lung.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

b. Rev. Mike Maroney had a study leave on March 14-20 to reflect on a number of webinars hosted by Church Answers. He will present a verbal report at Presbytery

**Recommendation: That Presbytery receive the above study leave report.**

**Rev. Maroney asked if he could delay his report until the June meeting of Presbytery when he will have a more detailed response.**

**The Above Motion was withdrawn and permission granted to receive a report in June.**

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**QUESTION**

Rev. Lisa Aide raised a question – If study leave is self-appointed for reading – can a portion of Study Leave Funds be used to purchase the required books.

**RESPONSE**

Our current Standing Orders do not address this issue. The question was referred to the Committee charged with reviewing related Standing Orders.

3. Margaret Ellis, Jane Lung, and Caroline Schleier-Cutler were approved to administer the sacraments at February 2020's Presbytery meeting.

**Recommendation: Margaret Ellis (FCC), Jane Lung (Wallaceburg), and Caroline Schleier-Cutler (UCC) be re-certified to administer the Sacraments in a pastoral capacity and under the supervision of their respective ministers or Interim Moderators for a further period of two years.**

**MOVED BY Reddish and Maroney**

**MOTION CARRIED**

4. Brian McGuffin (LSA) was approved to administer the sacraments following a special online meeting following September 2020's Presbytery meeting (power to issue). In discussing his renewal, it was noted that ministers ordained in another denomination (and recognized as such by Presbytery), such as Jason Cartier and Mark Aarssen, were permitted to administer the sacraments. And other retired ministers from other denominations have done so on an occasional basis - for we are short of ministers in this Presbytery. The training session discussion above was specifically for elders, and so M & D feels Presbytery needs to discuss the issue of those ordained in another congregation, so as to be consistent with past practice and transparent moving forward. Let's so discuss!

**Recommendation: That ministers ordained in another denomination (and recognized by Presbytery) are permitted to administer the sacraments under the supervision of their respective Interim Moderators and that such persons participate in the Sacramental Seminar offered by Rev. Mike Maroney prior to being granted permission to administer the sacraments within our Congregations.**

If approved, this would immediately apply to Brian McGuffin and Deb Toth, both at LSA.2

**MOVED BY Reddish and Maroney. MOTION CARRIED**

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This means that Deb Toth and other ordained persons at LSA would need to take the course.

1 Their respective Sessions have approved this request, as required.

2 Deb Toth was ordained with CCFCC The Community Christian Fellowship Church of Canada May 26th 2018.

5. Paulin Memorial

Paulin Memorial were expected to provide a joint written report (co-authored by the Minister, Clerk of Session, and Chairperson of the Board) outlining the progress in working together for the good of Paulin no later than February 1st, 2022. They have been reminded of this fact and it is in process . . .

Report to be presented to M&D asap

Submitted by: Rev. Dr. Tim Reddish, Convener of Ministry and Doctrine Committee.

**REPORT AS A WHOLE (With amendments)**

**MOVED BY Reddish and Maroney**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**LIFE and MISSION COMMITTEE – No Report**  
**Committee is in need of a Convener**

**CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT TEAM**  
**PRESENTED BY Mike Maroney**

*Membership*

Andrew Templer: (UCC): Convener  
Mike Maroney: (First Church): Clergy member  
Wendy Skreptak (LSA)  
Robert (Bob) MacVicar (Paulin)

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*Funding Requests from St Andrews Lakeshore and First Church Chatham*

The Congregational Support Team (CST) has received a funding request from Lakeshore St Andrews for a new podcast ministry and from First Church Chatham to cover already incurred costs for their online ministry during the Covid lockdown periods.

Both requests are for some similar web design, software support and hardware requirements for the ministries proposed. We were encouraged by the valuable emphasis on communication and transparency in the LSA proposal and very much aware that we have previously funded the type of support requested by First Church in previous requests from other churches.

Amounts requested: LSA: \$6,839.89                      First Church: \$6,110.16

*CST Deliberation*

The CST met (via emails) under some time pressure on the 13<sup>th</sup> April to enable a report to the April Presbytery meeting.

In keeping with our previous decisions we do expect some congregational funding of amounts requested and try to take into account the reasonability of the requests made.

We noted that the LSA request includes three video cameras at \$1,700 each which they admit are not absolutely essential; and that the First Choice request is retro-active as all expenses have already been paid by the church. Normally the CST prefers not to support retro-active requests, but there is some precedent for generosity in this regard during the pandemic.

The CST approved two motions to bring the following recommendations forward:

*Recommendation #1:*

***That Presbytery grant the sum of \$4,500 from the Congregational Support Fund to Lakeshore St. Andrew's Church to assist in the implementation of their new podcast project as outlined in their attached request.***

**Moved: Mike Maroney and Bob MacVicar-MOTION CARRIED**

*Recommendation #2:*

***That Presbytery grant the sum of \$4,500 from the Congregational Support Fund to First Church Chatham to cover the costs of their online ministries already incurred during the pandemic as outlined in their attached request.***

**Moved: Wendy Skreptak and Bob MacVicar. MOTION CARRIED**

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Andrew Templer  
Convenor: CST

**Lakeshore St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church – request for funding**

To the Congregational Support Fund committee,

At its meeting on this date, the Session of Lakeshore St. Andrew’s enthusiastically endorsed a proposal from our Next Gen/Production Pastor Shane Davis. The details are attached and speak for themselves.

MOTION (C. Hale-Duncan, W. Berdan) that session endorse staff’s podcast proposal and seek funds from presbytery. Carried.

The congregation is blessed with faithful and gifted staff who bring a wealth of forward-thinking ideas. They have the know-how – all we need is help with the finances. We are prayerfully requesting a grant of \$6,000 towards the cost.

Please reach out to Shane directly at 289-244-2552 with any technical questions. In Christ

April 6th, 2022

**Session**

Lakeshore St Andrews Presbyterian Church 235 Amy Croft Drive  
Lakeshore, Ontario

Attention Session,

Communication is something that we know is critical for the success and health of any organization. Feedback shows that it is often something that most organizations don’t do well or value in the sense of allocating resources in those related areas. So far we have moved in the direction of valuing our communication as a whole, with upgrading cameras and broadcast equipment, renewing our “Brand” and website and better utilization of our social media platforms. We have an opportunity now to take our communication and expand into a new area of ministry through podcasts. Podcasts are the preferred source of consumed content among multiple age demographics. My proposal is that we start with 4 different podcasts, 3 are

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content that we are already producing and 1 would be a new form of content as I will lay out in the attached document (Images are examples only). There are also costs associated with podcasting which I am hoping to apply for from Presbytery as per my email with Andy Cornell. I will attach an itemized list of suggested equipment and software needed. Thank you for taking the time to consider my request.

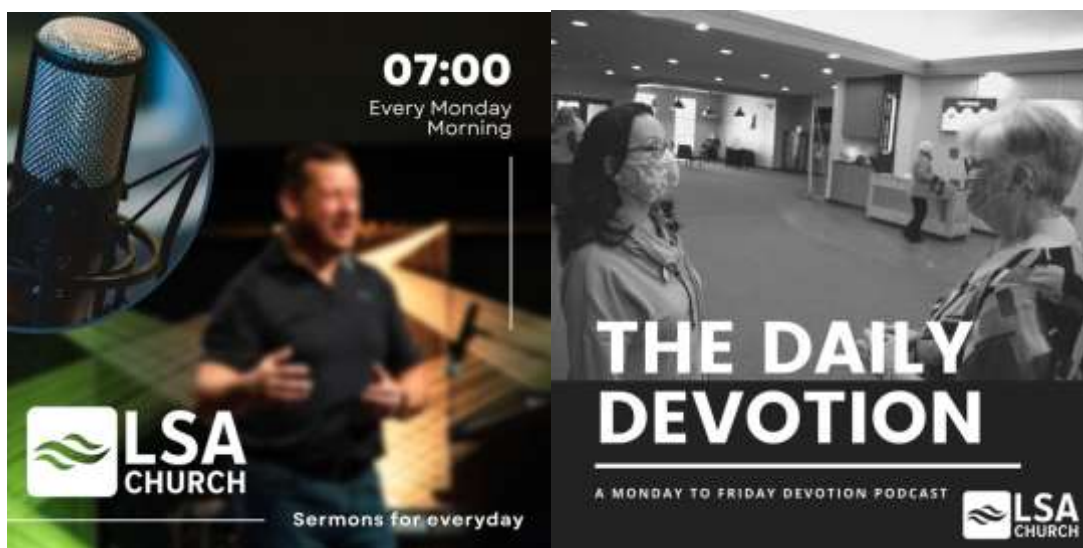
Sincerely, **Shane Davis**

## Content of Podcasts Podcast 1 - LSA Sermon Podcast

This podcast will be the easiest for us to start up. We are already recording the content and just need to convert it over to audio files to upload and distribute. It will be the full clip of the sermon content with none of the worship music or other elements. This content will be available on Mondays at 7am every week.

### Podcast 2 - LSA Daily Devotional

This podcast will be the second easiest for us to start as this is content that again we are already producing, it will be just a matter of recording someone reading the devotions. Next to the Sunday morning sermons, our daily devotions are the second highest consumed content we produce. So offering it as a podcast would only make it more accessible to more people.



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### **Podcast 3 - Young Adults Podcast**



This Podcast would require us to start recording the interviews that we have been having at young adults. Many of the young adults and leaders have requested that we start recording this content as sometimes they miss a night but value these interviews. This would probably be twice a month and although will be geared to young adults, we would have it available for everyone.

### **Podcast 4 - Behind the What**

This Podcast would be the most work but potentially have the greatest return. This would be a once a month podcast to start going over why we do the things we do at LSA. These podcasts will be interview style with pastor Brian and will give us an opportunity to explain the reason behind everything we do, things such as the LGBTQ letter, the logo change, even our stance on things like COVID. People are always asking us why, and this is a great way for us to answer those questions.

**Rev. Shirley F. Murdock – Clerk**



## Costs

Tech equipment: preamp midi interface allows me to connect multiple mics and balance sound levels

**1 X Tascam US-4x4HR midi Interface**

**\$299.00**

Podcast Mics are built to isolate background sounds and create consistent vocal levels

**4 X XLR Condenser Microphone, MAONO PM320S Cardioid Vocal Studio Recording Mic for Streaming, Voice Over, Home-Studio, Broadcasting**

**\$87.99**

Sound proofing is for reducing echo and other distracting background sounds

**4 X Donner 50-Pack Acoustic Foam Panels Wedges, Fireproof Soundproofing Foam Noise Cancelling Foam for Studios, Recording Studios, Offices, Home Studios 1'' x 12'' x 12''**

**\$74.99**

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Our Podcasts need to have a place that hosts our content and then distributes it to other services such as Apple Podcast, Spotify, or our website. The best program for this out there is buzzsprout which has a monthly fee of:

**\$24 a month or \$288 a year.**

Although not necessary it would be nice to be able to have dedicated video recording equipment for this which ideally I would like 3 Video cameras. The camera that I would use are the sony HXR-MC88 HD Handheld Camcorder, which is the same camera that we use for our video announcements and we also use for our live drum cam.

**\$1699.99 each**

The only other potential costs are setting up a staging area for the video podcasts. Some furniture or miscellaneous items like cables and connectors.

**\$800**

**Total: \$6839.89**

I would like to ask Presbytery for \$6000 and we would cover the rest and taxes as a capital expense, as well as any monthly subscription costs after the first year.

**FIRST CHURCH, CHATHAM - REQUEST:** To the Congregational Support Team:

During the Covid-19 Pandemic, First Presbyterian Church worked to revamp its audiovisual infrastructure to deal with the need for videoing our worship services during the shutdowns mandated by our provincial government. The demands of posting our worship services online strained our existing website which we had served us well for almost twenty years. As well, we knew from the start that we would not be able to livestream our services without creating a brand-new website built on a current software platform. We contacted several web developers, and settled on Design39Media, a local company, which offered to create our website for \$1000 less than its usual price.

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We knew that the Presbytery was giving grants to churches who were updating their AV equipment due to the need to provide alternatives to in-sanctuary worship, but had asked for the money before they began their project. We never asked for a grant, because we had already started the work to revamp our AV equipment and website.

We are aware that Presbytery does not routinely fund projects retroactively, but I am asking you to consider providing us a grant, of whatever amount, to help us recoup some of the cost of the work we have done since 2020. I ask, because it is precisely the same type of project that other churches have successfully received support from the Presbytery.

Below is the list of purchases we made to update our AV equipment and create our new website. Again, any financial support we can receive from the Presbytery would be greatly appreciated. We are quite happy with the results of our work, both in equipment and our new website. You can check out our new website, if you wish, at [www.firstchatham.org](http://www.firstchatham.org).

9/15/2020	Best Buy Video Camera for services		1,870.92
9/18/2020	Tonys Audio Interface for camera		135.11
9/28/2020	Tony's Interface cable for camera		15.58
10/2/2020	Best Buy Memory Card for Camera		62.36
10/7/2020	Henry's Tripod for camera		228.66
10/12/2021	Design39Media	Deposit on Web Design	
			1,299.26
11/25/2021	Tony's One Stop Music Shoppe	Streaming supplies	197.85
12/3/2021	Tony's One Stop Music Shoppe	Streaming supplies	186.03
12/9/2021	Frank's Music Centre	Focusrite Scarlett USB Audio Interface	248.42
12/9/2021	Best Buy Elgato Cam Link 4K		155.89
12/16/2021	Tony's One Stop Music Shoppe	Streaming supplies	45.72
12/31/2021	Final payment Design39Media	Final payment for web design	1,299.26
1/6/2022	MicroAge For Streaming purposes		236.98
1/15/2022	Best Buy Streaming supplies		72.74
1/15/2022	Best Buy Streaming supplies		26.29
3/1/2022	58168 Tony's One Stop Music Shoppe	Headphones	29.09
Total:			\$6110.16

Respectfully submitted,  
 Rev. Mike Maroney  
 Minister, First Presbyterian Church, Chatham  
 April 12, 2022

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**St. Andrew’s “On-Line” Ministry Proposal – Final Report (Amherstburg)  
Received for Information**

We begin by thanking Presbytery and the Congregation Support Fund for their financial assistance in instigating this new ministry. The fact that many other churches in our Presbytery followed us with similar proposals shows how important an on-line presence has become during this pandemic. Since September 2020 we have been live-streaming our worship services and posting the videos on YouTube(1) with links to our Facebook and Web pages.

The details of our expenditure are given below:

Video Camera	\$2,806.43
Computer	\$1,931.00
License	\$. 467.42
Bus. Fibre Internet Install	\$. 240.45
Business Internet Services	\$. 211.83
Ipad Case/Screen Protector	\$. 107.99
Cable/Switch Internet	\$. 96.05
Microphones	\$. 88.14
Cable	\$. 86.44
Camera Cable	\$. 16.94
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,052.69</b>
<b>PRESBYTERY GRANT</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>
<b>NET PAID BY ST. ANDREWS</b>	<b>\$2,052.69</b>

In the original proposal, St. Andrew’s agreed to contribute \$1,752.29 to the Presbytery Grant of \$4,000.00, as well as (a) to install high-speed fiber-optic internet to the building and (b) install a TV monitor in the nursery. (2) The high-speed fiber-optic internet and the two Wi-Fi booster pods have proved essential to have the bandwidth for live-streaming. The ongoing costs of those internet services are now part of the general budget, as stipulated in the original proposal. We have been fully satisfied with the equipment purchased, especially the PTZ (“pan, tilt and zoom”) camera.

We have also been blessed with having capable people install and run the system, especially Terry Ridsdale (weekly operator/producer) and Spencer Hawkins (software).

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We are now in a position to live-stream to the Church Hall, which can act as an overflow facility. We have not had the need to use this option during COVID, in that congregants prefer to watch on-line rather than be in the Hall. One of the recognized on-going advantages of live-streaming and posting the service on-line, is the access it gives to people who are unable to attend church for whatever reason, including being a resident at Richmond Terrace (3) – our local nursing home. We see this as an important ongoing aspect of this ministry, even when COVID eventually subsides.

Thank you for your support.

Rev. Tim Reddish, Minister

Kathleen Knott, Clerk of Session

On behalf of Session, St. Andrew's, Amherstburg.

1. St. Andrew's YouTube Channel – <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2PWMD138-IVn41iFS2TBgw>
2. This latter outstanding item has been delayed by COVID but session has approved the prompt purchase of the TV
3. In the past, St. Andrew's did a monthly worship service at Richmond Terrace. (We have not been able to do this since COVID began.). One resident is a member of St. Andrew's and watches the service every week.

**From: Session of Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church, Ridgetown**

**Date: March 29, 2022**

**Re: Presbytery grant for worship technology**

**Received for information -**

In March 2021, Presbytery approved a grant of \$ 6205 for the purchase and installation of new livestream technology. As requested, here is our 12-month progress report.

The equipment was purchased and installed by Musical Strings 'n Things in Chatham. While setting up the livestream equipment, the installer noticed that the chimes in our church were no longer working. He fixed the wiring problem causing the trouble free of charge. We now have working chimes in addition to livestream equipment. He then held two training sessions with three members of the congregation.

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We had some difficulties at first but were eventually successful at livestreaming services. The first service that was livestreamed was August 1, 2021. We are using FaceBook as our livestream platform. The first two weeks had 40 to 50 views but that quickly settled down to 7 to 10 views per week.

Currently we do not routinely have people watching the livestream – most of our views are using the recorded service. We have been discussing expanding the platforms we use. Several members of the congregation have requested a presence on YouTube. Some members have commented that our website needs to have clearer instructions for accessing FaceBook. The Session has been investigating options.

The new laptop computer and livestreaming equipment are HD quality. Our old projector for the PowerPoint we use during the service did not interface well and we have ordered a new projector. Our congregation has been very generous. A notice was placed in the bulletin at the time of the livestream equipment installation requesting donations to cover 20% of the cost not covered by the grant. Those costs and the cost of the new projector were covered by donations received.

We are pleased that our congregation can access the Sunday service when they are unable to attend in person. We hope it is a blessing to them and to anyone searching for the Good News of the gospel. Thank you for the grant that has given us the opportunity to reach out to others on social media.

Respectfully submitted by the Session of Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church

Mt. Zion's pipe organ is a draw. On April 23, it will be one stop on an informal tour of churches with pipe organs. The invitation-only event is being organized by Ian Mason, former curator of the Presbyterian Museum. Another blast from the past – Rev. Paul Shaw, who provided steady pastoral and preaching leadership for about a decade until 2015, will be guest speaker at the anniversary service on May 29. Worship continues in person with a livestream option. We are blessed

**RECOMMENDATION: Report as a Whole**  
**Moved by Maroney and MacVicar**  
**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Rev. Shirley F. Murdock – Clerk**

**Interim Moderator Reports**

**Ridgetown Mt. Zion – Rev. Andy Cornell**

Session meets approximately one every six weeks or as needed. The congregation is well managed with faithful elders and a capable administrator on staff. The annual meeting was held Feb. 13 with approximately 20 congregants in attendance.

In this day of virtual worship, it's good to know that with faithful, Biblical messages from Rev. Lillian Wilton, Rev. Doug Cameron, Knox Wallaceburg Elder Mary Pat Elliott and Rev. Colin Paterson. Rev. Merv Tubb is our backup. Music is provided on rotation by Gabby Martin and Liz Brown on piano.

**Lakeshore St. Andrew's – Rev. Andy Cornell**

Lots of new things going on at LSA.

Check out the new website design – <https://lsa.church> – which shows off the new branding and vision. The rollout coincided with the lifting of pandemic regulations – how's that for God's timing! – on a Sunday morning in which we combined both services into one. The vibe was so good that session is reverting to a single service starting April 3. This will be reviewed in late summer.

The congregation voted recently to approve two new elders, who will be ordained on April 20. Lead Pastor Brian McGuffin has started his work on required courses to prepare for reception into the PCC – this is sooner than the original plan.

The new director of operations hit the ground running – working with session to draft new mandate for its property & finance committee, new HR policies and overseeing initiatives to transform the building into a community hub. Professional counselling and therapy will soon be offered on site – it's a revenue-generating service with costs covered by clients – LSA's We Care fund will assist those with financial needs who need access to the services. Once the board room receives a facelift and tech upgrade it will be available for community rentals. As well, there's been an increase in gym rentals.

On the pension fund issue, the congregation has restored full payments of its monthly assessments. We had a productive meeting with Pension & Benefits board representatives and will be developing a plan to pay the accumulated arrears. (Presbytery will recall its support of a petition asking General Assembly for a one-time forgiveness of assessments due to

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extraordinary circumstances after the congregation split along with a formal request for the pension assessment formula to be recalculated out of fairness to larger congregations who have few ministers enrolled in the plan. Both attempts were not successful.)  
Session is meeting twice a month on average. The annual meeting is scheduled for May 1.

**New St. Andrew's Dover: Rev. Mike Maroney**

New St Andrew's continues Sunday morning Services with an average of 12 – 16 attending. Pulpit Supply is booked for the next two months and our congregation is pleased with the different speakers. Our Pianist continues to complete our Worship Services and provide soloists occasionally. We are hoping in the near future to plan events that will bring the children back after Covid lockdown. Our Session works together each week to keep in touch with the congregation.

**Knox Wallaceburg: Rev. Mike Maroney**

Knox Wallaceburg has continued to meet in person and on Zoom. The present attendance averages around 30 people. We are still not seeing our children and young people return which is a concern for us. After over two years of providing takeout meals the Soup Cellar is opening on April 6 for dining in, no takeout. We're asking that masks be worn when not seated in the dining room and volunteers serving will wear masks. The total for takeout lunch was 144 this week and 583 for the month. The Merry Mingle of CK Health Group served 140 meals.

The Pantry has never closed during the Pandemic, but we had to move our operations to the First Baptist Church because of accessibility. We are opening at Knox once again on April 7. We are asking that masks be worn. Bev Speirs is now the coordinator for the Pantry. The numbers continue to rise with new people coming every week. So far this month of March we've helped 542 people with one week to go. We have never been over 400 before.

A membership class is being held on April 2, 2022, with 6 people considering membership and/or baptism.

**Valetta – Rev. Shirley F. Murdock**

Valetta Presbyterian Church has returned to in-person worship as of March 13, 2022. Most members have gathered regularly and attendance is steady.

On March 20, the congregation met student Sarah Stockford in person! She has been conducting Zoom worship since January 2022. The congregation presented her with a bouquet of flowers and have warmly welcomed her (and her family) into the Valetta family.

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Sarah has agreed to remain with Valetta through the end of July. She conducted worship on Easter Sunday. She is working on her summer course schedule and has requested that Valetta become her student placement. That will enable her to remain with Valetta for the foreseeable future. This is a work in progress to confirm her placement.

Rev. Shirley conducted the Palm Sunday Service and provided the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

2021 Statistical Report has been filed with the national office.

Valetta has accepted an allocation of \$3,500.00 for 2022 with the vision to increase that amount by the end of the year. Presbytery and Synod dues have been paid in full.

Representative Elders were reappointed for 2022 – Jayne Broughton, Kathy Dupuis and adding Robert Ivison as the second alternate.

Session will meet Wednesday, April 27 at 10:00am in the church basement

**Knox Presbyterian Church Leamington – Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal**

Received under Ministry and Doctrine Committee Report

**MOTION: That the above IM reports be received for information**

**MOVED BY Maroney and Streptak**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1) COVID RESTRICTIONS**

**MOTION: That the current Covid Restrictions be relaxed, in accordance with Provincial Guidelines, to state that proof of vaccination is no longer required, but masks and social distancing will remain in effect until further notice.**

**Reddish and Broughton**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Rev. Shirley F. Murdock – Clerk**

**2) UCC Request for Support in Seeking Funding for Dinner Bell Project**

**Received from Rev. Shalini Sankarlal –  
Presented by Alisin Brown**

UCC is seeking to apply for the Avondbloem Experimental Fund from National Office  
The Avondbloem Experimental Fund makes grants available to individuals or groups within the  
Presbyterian Church in Canada to support experimental projects which will help to spread the  
message of Jesus Christ and further the Kingdom of God.

The Fund is administered by the Life and Mission Agency (Canadian Ministries)

UCC is seeking these funds to host dinners for students, recognizing that many international  
students do not have family connections in Windsor. UCC hopes to encourage open dialogue  
and foster relationships with students during these dinners which will eventually become sit-  
down dinners with live music and interactions with UCC members.

**The person in charge of the application highlighted that the fund requests approval from  
Presbytery.**

**Paul Appler [appler.distribution@gmail.com](mailto:appler.distribution@gmail.com)**

Submitter

Submission Date Applicant's Name Email  
Phone Number Address

Date Submitted Project Name Location of Project Congregation Name Presbytery Name

Synod Name

Sponsoring Ministry Name

Cheque Payable to

Charitable Status/BN Registration Number

Proposed Start Date of Project

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Proposed End Date of Project

Please outline the purpose or goal of the project

**Paul Appler**

Apr 14, 2022 12:30 PM

Paul Appler [appler.distribution@gmail.com](mailto:appler.distribution@gmail.com) (519) 982-3803

5840 - 114 Newman Blvd Windsor, Ontario, N9J0E3

Apr 15, 2022

Dinner Bell

University Community Church / Windsor University Community Church

**Essex-Kent Southwestern Ontario**

Avondbloem Experimental Fund University Community Church 118985787RR0001

Apr 11, 2022 May 31, 2023

The purpose of the Dinner Bell project is to reach out to students in an act of kindness and servitude by offering a safe place to congregate, converse and eat together with University Community Church going forward using the acronym "UCC" members.

Through the act of giving unconditionally it is our hope that we can

Please provide a description of the project

begin bridging relationships in trust and commonalities removing the stigma of the church, the building and the institution restoring what has been damaged or lost. This regenerative action we believe will provide an opportunity to talk about Jesus Christ as living messengers of his good news.

Background :

After conducting several trial dinner events over the past few months all indicators point to an abundant need for a food program which will address students at the University of Windsor and St. Clair College located in Windsor Ontario.

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Findings indicate the majority of undergraduates are overseas students who have limited nancial resources and who do not have family connections nearby. We are strategically located right beside the University of Windsor making it an ideal location for this mission project outreach.

It is important to understand that project "Dinner Bell" is mostly active during the school year when most of the students are in class. During the summer months the program will still reach out to students who do not return home.

Dinner Bell project

- 1) Every second Sunday we will have meals prepared for takeout or dine in at UCC.
- 2) UCC members will take part in the setup, tables, chairs, cutlery, cleanup and serving.
- 3) We will source individuals from within our church, as well as the local church body including the University of Windsor and St Clair College students in the Arts and Music programs. Some of which already attend and participate in our Church worship to entertain during the dinner event.

We also intend to occasionally invite professors and others to give talks during the dinners

- 4) Establish an environment which will foster an open forum of discussions between students and UCC members during the course of the dinner.

- 5) Nurture a relationship with the students exhibiting UCCs vision to be a safe space for all.

It should ne noted that we are currently providing meals through another organization: Feeding Windsor Essex. We pay them to provide healthy well balanced meals and in turn support them in their mission to feed others.

Dinner Bell's sole construction is designed to be a synthesis between church and academia. Where once the church was the foundation and architects of education now has been built over and inundated with cultural modernization through science and technology. And yet in this secularism there is a carry over of biblical ideologies, terminologies and references in literature, politics and sciences. It is latent to many while providing opportunity's for Christians to manifest and enlighten furthering the kingdom of God.

Please explain the uniqueness of the project and why it is considered experimental

How will this project further the Christian faith of the people involved?

To what aspect of the church's life does this project have specific relevance?

What specific achievements do you envision as the result of the project?

Please expand upon your strategy for making the results of this project known to the wider church

How is the project to be evaluated?

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Total Project Budget

Upload Project Budget: including all revenue, expenses, sources, etc.

Financial Contribution from Sponsoring Body

With the great influx of overseas students attending our University and College here in Windsor they bring along with them a rich diversity of economies, religion, beliefs and cultures. By offering this invitation to these young people our congregation will be enriched and empowered given now a purpose. The coming together of young and old will renew spirits in both, make us vulnerable shedding our piety and replacing it with Christlike humbleness. We see it as highly beneficial for those who get involved with the project and encouraging for those who are watching.

We determined that we would expand upon our strength of stirring, helpful worship and the build another. We are seeking to build our mission with our direct community It was surroundings, which is the University students. Although we have held one or two events for the students in the past and do have student groups we wanted to do something more ongoing that could relate to the multi faith demographic the students represent. It was congregationally unanimous that we were meant to engage in an outreach to the University. And through a series of events and God happenings we birthed the idea "Dinner Bell".

Through determination focusing on the purpose which is to spread the good news through kind action first and second word we believe that our persistence in prayer along with action will sound out to other Christians and converts who share the vision and value of being ambassadors for the kingdom. Ultimately we see this as congregational growth in numbers attending UCC.

The project will encompass written documentation reporting on all stages of the project, evolving additions and changes to necessitate including photographic and video clips. At the conclusion of the first year of operation we will submit a news report article detailing the project event for distribution to the PCC.

We hope to see the numbers grow in attendance to these dinners. From our trial runs we have already seen that the student have come to expect the dinners. We will evaluate it based on the return number, how conversation develops and trust builds. Eventually we hope to see the students come to worship, inform 1st year students about us and how we are a safe, welcoming space. A safe home away from home.

\$10,000

[Project Dinner Bell Budget \(1\).docx](#)

\$8,000

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Financial Contribution from 0 Other Sources (govt. grants, other funds, etc.)

Total Estimated Income 0 Amount Requested \$8,000 Extract of Minutes

Acknowledgment & Signature

### Project Dinner Bell Budget

Staffing/Project Oversight

Volunteers for setup and serving

**Direct Expenses:**

Food costs per event -

\$280.00 @ 26 weeks= \$7,280.00

Printing and advertising \$ 500.00

**Other Expenses:**

Guest speakers (\$175 @ 10 weeks) \$1,750.00

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Total expenses \$9,530.00

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Other Income: Donations \$ 350.00

**MOTION: THAT PRESBYTERY of Essex-Kent sustain, uphold and SUPPORT UCC'S APPLICATION FOR FUNDING by the Avondbloem Experimental Fund of the PCC to assist with their Dinner Bell Project.**

**MOVED BY A. Brown and MacVicar.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3) REMINDER – Statistical Reports were due April 15, 2022**

The Clerk has received notice that only three congregations have completed and submitted reports – Valetta, UCC and Dresden.

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- 4) NEXT MEETING** - Tuesday June 21, 2022 – LSA  
Administration Committee – Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
All other Committees – week prior to Admin. Co.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**  
**MOVED BY Maroney and Streptak**  
**MOTION CARRIED.**

**CLOSING PRAYER** - Moderator Barbara Sargent

Court dismissed 8:30pm

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**Barbara Sargent, Moderator**

**Rev. Shirley F. Murdock, Clerk**