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**Presbytery of Essex-Kent**  
**The Presbyterian Church in Canada**  
**Regular Meeting,**  
**Tuesday, June 25, 2024**  
**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Amherstburg**  
**5:30pm**

**The Presbytery of Essex-Kent was called to meet in REGULAR SESSION on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, within St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Amherstburg, at 5:30pm, at the call of the Moderator Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal.**

**Worship**      Led by Rev. Shirley Carleton – 5:30pm.

**Call to Order**

**Prayer and Constitution:** Moderator Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal led in 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, Shirley Murdock, Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal, Shirley Carleton, Olwyn Coughlin, Brian McGuffin, and Tim Reddish.

Elders present: Barb Sargent, Jane Lung, Sandra Smith, Bryan Stirling, Kathy Parks, Audrey Bauman, Audrey Landon, and Robert Ivison (Valetta Alternative).

Others present: Bob MacVicar

Rev. Chris Little joined the meeting by iPhone at the Stated Hour of 7:30pm.

**Regrets:** Jayne Broughton, Kathy Dupuis, Lillian Wilton, Nancy Carle, Alison Brown, Kathleen Knott, Mark Labadie, Chuck Congram, and Carolyn Reid.

**Welcome Guests:** St. Andrew's (Amherstburg) choir and Charles Wilson.

**Changes to the Roll**

(a) Rev. Brian McGuffin has been placed on the Appendix of the Roll as of April 23, 2024, since he has finished his courses required by E & R.

(b) Rev. Tim Reddish has been placed on the Constituent Roll as of May 1, 2024, and as an equalizing elder since he is the Interim Moderator of First Presbyterian Chatham.

**Rev. Tim Reddish – Clerk**

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(c) Rev. Mike Maroney, who retires on July 1, 2024, will remain on the Constituent Roll as an equalizing elder since he remains the Interim Moderator of New St. Andrew's Dover.

**MOTION: That the above changes/additions to the Roll be acclaimed/adopted.**  
**MOVED by Cornell and Stirling. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Good News Moments and Prayer Requests**

- Mark Labadie's sister, Darlene Runn, died peacefully last Sunday (June 23); pray for Mark and the whole family.
- As we celebrate Rev. Mike Maroney's retirement, we pray for First Presbyterian Church, Chatham, as the congregation adapts to this significant change, and for its IM, Rev. Tim Reddish.
- St. Andrew's Amherstburg recently celebrated their 196<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- We continue to pray for Rev. Andy Cornell and his wife, Pam, and for her ongoing cancer treatments.

**Examination of Session Records:**

Committee to Examine – Rev. Lisa Aide, Alison Brown, Bob MacVicar.

June 2024: First Presbyterian Church, Chatham. (St. Andrew's, Dresden brought their Session Records to Presbytery to be officially 'stamped'!)

**Reminder of Examination of Session Records' Schedule:**

Sept 2024 – UCC, Valetta, and Ridgetown. (Amherstburg's Session Records need bringing to Presbytery to be officially 'stamped'.)

**6:20pm          DINNER          \$15.00 each          Grace said by Rev. Shirley Carleton.**

**The meeting reconvened at 7:05pm.**

**Adoption of Agenda**

There were two minor (procedural) changes to the agenda to aid the smooth running of the meeting. (The court was also reminded of the Stated Hour at 7:30pm to process the Gospel Call of Rev. Brian McGuffin.)

**MOTION: That the Agenda be adopted as amended.**  
**MOVED by Reddish and Sargent. MOTION CARRIED.**

**MINUTES** – Regular Meeting, April 23, 2024 - pages 4937-4957.

**Rev. Tim Reddish – Clerk**

**MOTION – To adopt as presented (with minor amendments in response to emails).  
MOVED by Reddish and Stirling. MOTION CARRIED.**

## REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

### ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The committee met on-line on June 14, 2024, at 10am. Present were Rev. Andy Cornell (convenor), Rev. Chuck Congram (treasurer), Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal (moderator and assistant treasurer), Rev. Tim Reddish (clerk), and Barb Sargent, (past moderator of presbytery). We opened in prayer.

### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

**MOTION: That the Reports of Standing Committees be received and considered.  
MOVED by Cornell and Sargent. MOTION CARRIED.**

### CORRESPONDENCE

- A grant application was received from St. Andrew's Amherstburg. **Forwarded to Finance and Funding Committee.**
- A letter was received from Audrey Bauman, Clerk of Session for LSA, spelling its position to Presbytery concerning the pension arrears. **Forwarded to members of Presbytery's team shortly to visit LSA, including members of the Pensions and Benefits Board.**
- Recertification of Elders who are Presbytery-approved to officiate Sacraments under the supervision of either their minister or interim moderator. **To be addressed by M & D.**
- Various general correspondence was **forwarded to Presbytery members:**
  - From Spencer Edwards concerning young persons events (including Uplift 2024).
  - From Ian Ross-MacDonald concerning PCC's Safety Policy webpage.
- **FYI:** After passing through the entire roll of congregations, we were unable to find a Rep Elder to serve as a Commissioner for General Assembly for this year.
- **FYI:** Emails were sent by the Clerk to Tim Purvis, Liz Brewer, and Marjorie Copeland (of Wynford Drive) with information requested concerning Brian MacGuffin and Sarah Stockford. **Acknowledgements were received.**

- Marjorie Copeland sent the annual request for any Presbytery details for the memorials section of the A&P 2024. **The Clerk forwarded this request to Knox Wallaceburg, with reference to the death of its former minister: Rev. David Heath.**
- Marjorie Copeland sent the annual request for any Presbytery updates for the Degree Report of the A&P 2024. **The Clerk replied with the appropriate updates.**
- Kathryn Muir sent the annual request for any updates concerning Presbytery/Congregational Information pages and Changes Affecting Ministers for the A&P 2024. **The Clerk replied with the appropriate updates.**
- An email was sent by the Clerk to all Presbyters informing them that the Knox Leamington monies have arrived and its dispersal, as per the mission plan. The thanks of PWS&D were also circulated for our large donation to the PCC's Refugee Program.
- Rev. Shirley Murdock, IM of Valetta Presbyterian Church, sent the response of the Elders to the Visitation Report sent by Rev. Andy Cornell. **To be addressed by Life and Mission.**
- Doug Robinson applied for the General Presbyter position. **Forwarded to Rev. Cornell, Admin Convenor.**
- Two grant applications were received from LSA. **Forwarded to Finance and Funding Committee.**
- Rev. Deborah Wilson-Safa, acting treasurer for Knox Leamington's affairs, communicated to the Clerk that she has shipped off the last of the paperwork to Wynford Drive. **The Clerk thanked her for her service.**
- A letter was received from Audrey Bauman, Clerk of Session for LSA and Rev. Chris Little detailing LSA's plan to pay its pension arrears to the PCC's Pension Board. **Forwarded to the Pensions and Benefits Board for approval; it will be discussed later in the Docket.**

**Recommendation: That the above correspondence be received or referred as indicated.**

**MOTION: That the Correspondence be received as listed and noted.**

**MOVED by Cornell and Sargent. MOTION CARRIED.**

1. **LSA Pension Plan Payment Report.** Members of Presbytery's *ad hoc* committee (Bob MacVicar, Phyllis May, Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal, and Rev. Tim Reddish) visited

LSA on two occasions (May 7<sup>1</sup> and 29<sup>2</sup>, 2024) to discuss LSA's outstanding debt of \$131,570.76 to the Pensions and Benefits Board (PB). The tone of each meeting was respectful; people asked pertinent questions and we genuinely heard each other's responses and perspectives.

On June 14<sup>th</sup> Admin received the *ad hoc* committee's detailed report and its eight recommendations were discussed at length and approved.

Following Admin Committee's instructions, Rev. Tim Reddish then spoke with Rev. Chris Little (LSA's IM) and listed the proposed eight recommendations with the hope that LSA's Session would respond *before* this Presbytery meeting.

On Tuesday June 18, 2024, at 3pm. Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal and Rev. Tim Reddish visited Rev. Brian McGuffin (with Rev. Chris Little present on-line) to inform him of the eight recommendations and provided an opportunity for him to ask questions and seek any clarifications.

LSA's Session met in the evening of Tuesday June 18, 2024, and *passed a motion to pay back the full pension debt arrears along with an initial payment plan.*

Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal then liaised with the Pension and Benefits Board and LSA to reach an acceptable financial agreement. The details of the revised agreement (with the debt repayment spread over 3½ years) are attached to this docket. *LSA's Session has approved this finalized version*, so making the eight provisional recommendations in the *ad hoc* committee mute. In brief: LSA will make an immediate initial payment of \$58,500 followed by monthly amounts of \$1000. In addition, there will be three additional payments of \$10,000 on July 1<sup>st</sup> in 2025, 2026, and 2027 and a larger final payment of \$2,070.76 on 1 December 2027.

**Recommendation 1: That Presbytery approve the proposed LSA pension repayment plan. (See Appendix 1 below.)**

**MOVED by Cornell and Sargent. MOTION CARRIED.**

We thank the members of Presbytery's *ad hoc* committee for their work (Bob MacVicar, Phyllis May, Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal, and Rev. Tim Reddish), along with Rev. Chris Little, Rev. Brian McGuffin, and LSA's Session.

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<sup>1</sup> The May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting was at LSA, in-person, with James Waddell and Liane Maki (both from PB) present on-line. Physically present at the meeting were: Rev. Chris Little (IM), Rev. Brian McGuffin, Audrey Bauman (Clerk of Session), Dave Myers (an Elder and on LSA's Finance Committee), Don Kenney (Chair of LSA's Finance Committee) and representing the Presbytery were: Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal, Bob MacVicar (Elder), Phyllis May (Elder), and Rev. Tim Reddish.

<sup>2</sup> The follow-up May 29<sup>th</sup> zoom meeting had Rev. Brian McGuffin, Rev. Chris Little, Bob MacVicar, Phyllis May, and Rev. Tim Reddish in attendance.

2. **Leamington.** Presbytery previously approved a recommendation that an honorarium be awarded to two people who were critically important in assisting Rev. Reddish with the dissolution of Knox Leamington:

*Recommendation: That Knox Leamington treasurer Debbie Wilson-Safa and the former Clerk of Session Glenna Lane each receive an honorarium of \$400 for their ongoing work towards Dissolution, with proceeds coming from the dissolution of the congregation's assets. (June 21, 2022, minutes, p4645).*

The Treasurer has been informed that Rev. Debbie Wilson-Safa has now finished that task, and so to issue her the honorarium with our sincere thanks. (Glenna Lane has already received hers.)

3. **General Presbyter Position.** The position was posted on at <https://presbyterian.ca/vacancies/> on April 9. We received two inquiries and one application, which has since been withdrawn. The convenor of the Administration Committee will consult with other presbyteries experiences in the search process with the intent of possibly revising the job description and compensation.

4. **Examination of Session Records** (members roll, baptisms, marriage and funeral registers) by Rev. Lisa Aide, Alison Brown, and Bob MacVicar, as mentioned at the beginning of this meeting.

Regarding expectations of what to include in the membership roll (membership method, i.e., transfer, decision of session, profession of faith) plus date: many congregations have not been tracking this. The clerk of presbytery consulted with the clerks of Assembly and received a template in Excel spreadsheet format (included in the Docket documents). The committee refers to this spreadsheet as an indication of what is required and can be used as a template moving forward. Congregations are encouraged to do the best they can to include historic membership method and date, where possible, and be diligent in recording such information from now on.

5. **Website.** Standing orders and recent meeting minutes are to be uploaded. The clerk will provide PDFs of approved minutes and the standing orders for the webmaster (Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal) to upload.
6. **Amendment to Standing Orders** to remove ambiguity over the reporting method in the regular visitation process. This was referred to L&M Committee for recommendation and will be addressed later in their report.

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**New Admin Business:**

1. Suggestion from the minister of St. Andrew's Amherstburg that the congregation hosts a *Leading With Care* (LWC) training session for Essex-Kent congregations. Rev. Shirley Carleton emailed: "It is time for St. Andrew's to update our 'Leading with Care' training. I contacted the PCC head office and spoke with David Phillips, the administrator of Leading with Care. He mentioned that ideally offering training to a number of churches in the Presbytery is the direction the PCC prefers, however, he is more than happy to come to Amherstburg and offer training to accommodate a smaller group. The end of September early October is the time frame we have in mind. Could an invitation be extended to the other churches in our Presbytery at the next meeting? St. Andrew's would like to be the host church."

The administration committee commends the minister of St. Andrew's Amherstburg for bring this to the attention of presbytery. We acknowledge that some congregations have LWC in order, while others might require assistance. We wonder if any training can be done via an online meeting. We will ask for a show of hands at the presbytery meeting.

**Recommendation 2: That congregations be encouraged to participate in an online LWC workshop even if their documents are in order.**

**MOVED by Cornell and Sargent. MOTION CARRIED.**

Rev. Chuck Congram's Reports were presented verbally to the Court by Bob MacVicar.

**Treasurer's Report: Financial report-January 1, 2024-May 31, 2024.**

**Note:** Figures in brackets represent budgeted amounts for 2024.

**Budgeted Income.**

Synod and presbytery dues-\$21,721.42 ( \$33,998).

**Unbudgeted Income.**

Paulin mortgage repayment-\$3036.72. **Note 1.**

Induction offering-Amherstburg (2023) \$461.00. **Note 2.**

Investment fund interest-\$6977.13.

Leamington monies-\$298,801.11. **Note 3.**

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**Budgeted Expenses.**

Synod dues-\$15,000 (\$17,123).  
Travel expenses-\$1475.50 (\$6000).  
Honorarium-clerk-\$1250 (\$5000).  
Honorarium-Treas.-\$250 (\$1000).  
Clerk expenses-\$225.60 (\$1000).  
Treas. expenses-\$103.96 (\$150).  
Police checks-\$123 (\$400).

**Unbudgeted Expenses.**

Admin committee expenses-\$689.29.  
Bursary expenses-\$8050.00.  
Transfer to the bursary fund-\$37,959. **Note 4.**

**Notes:**

1. Paulin Memorial Church has now completed the repayment of mortgage monies loaned by the Paulin Memorial Fund which, with the closure of St. Andrew's, Windsor, were designated to be given to the Bursary Fund.
2. The offering from the induction service at St. Andrew's, Amherstburg in the fall of 2023 were designated to be used for fire relief efforts in British Columbia and were given to the Salvation Army for this purpose.
3. Proceeds from the sale of Knox, Leamington have now been received and are designated for the Emergent Fund.
4. Payments for the mortgage responsibilities of Paulin Church have previously been retained in the general fund but are now transferred to the bursary account.

**Presbytery-Synod Dues Outstanding.**

St. Andrew's, Dresden	\$1314.82	Synod	\$1291.55	Presbytery-Total	\$2606.37.
Lakeshore St. Andrew's	\$1155.77	Synod	\$6543.18	Presbytery-Total	\$7678.95.
Ridgetown	\$528.25	Synod	\$518.90	Presbytery-Total	\$1047.15.
Knox, Wallaceburg	\$866.94	Synod	\$851.59	Presbytery-total	\$1718.05.
UCC	\$1560.52	Presbytery.			

**Chuck Congram, Treasurer, June 2024.**



## Finance and Funding Committee Report

**Membership:** Chuck Congram, Acting Chair and Treasurer; Robert (Bob) MacVicar (Paulin); Andrew Templer (UCC); Shalini Sankarlal (Assistant Treasurer); Rev. Mike Maroney.

Recently 3 members of the committee met online with Rev. John Borthwick to reflect on future possibilities for the use of Presbytery funds. We will be meeting further to discuss feedback from this time and will report to the September meeting with further clarification of the mandate we have been given.

In the meantime consideration was given to four requests. They are as follows:

1. St. Andrew's, Dresden's request for their gospel ads program. **It is recommended that \$1500 be granted from the Emergent Fund and that it be noted that this will be the last grant for this purpose.**

**MOVED by Aide and Lung.**

There followed a discussion of an amendment (**Moved by Sargent and Smith, and CARRIED**) to the above recommendation so that it simply reads:

**It is recommended that \$1500 be granted from the Emergent Fund.**

**The MOTION was passed as amended.**

(It was noted that this decision is non-binding to the Finance and Funding Committee should any similar future request come from St. Andrew's, Dresden.)

***Admin Report then paused as it was now the Stated Hour.***

## Ministry and Doctrine Report

The Ministry and Doctrine Committee met by Zoom on Friday, June 7, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. Present were Rev. M. Maroney and Jane Lung. Regrets were received from M. Labadie.

**1. Call to Rev. Brian McGuffin from St. Andrew's Lakeshore Presbyterian Church.**

Documents for Rev. Brian McGuffin were received from Interim Moderator, Rev. Chris Little. They were reviewed by M & D and found to be in order.

**MOTION: That LSA guests be granted permission to speak and correspond.**

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

## **Processing the Gospel Call of Rev. Brian McGuffin**

**REPORT OF THE INTERIM MODERATOR – Rev. Chris Little, Interim Moderator Report for Lakeshore St. Andrew's, Tecumseh, Ontario.**

### *Report on fulfillment of Duties and Narration of Steps*

On Sept. 16, 2018, the former LSA minister Rev. Brad Watson announced to the congregation his intent to resign, along with eight of the nine members of Session.

On Sept. 18, 2018, the Presbytery of Essex Kent appointed Rev. Andy Cornell as Interim Moderator and Barb Sargent and Rev. Lisa Aide as Assessor Elders in an advisory capacity. They assumed their roles on Nov. 1, 2018.

In the spring of 2019, eight new ruling elders were ordained. Shortly afterwards, a Minister Search Committee was formed. During the summer, the committee developed a congregation profile, job description, and initiated the search.

In the fall of 2019 and early into 2020, the committee received and considered 24 applications in response to job postings within the PCC and other websites. In addition, the interim moderator personally approached 18 current PCC ministers and shared the profile with them. In early 2020, the committee, with the agreement of session, decided to consider applicants from outside the denomination who would be willing to undergo the process of seeking reception into the PCC, while remaining open to someone eligible to be called immediately.

During the summer of 2020, Rev. Brian McGuffin was interviewed online and invited to an in-person interview. After significant prayer and deliberation, the search committee recommended that Brian be offered the position of Lead Pastor. Session undertook its own prayerful discernment and decided to seek presbytery's agreement to have Brian McGuffin assume the position of Lead Pastor.

An employment agreement for Lay Missionary with Special Training was drafted. It included the following:

“It is understood between the parties that this agreement is for the purpose of facilitating an early hire date prior to the Pastor's ordination in The Presbyterian Church in Canada, which requires completion of courses in the Education and Reception (“E&R”) process, after which the Pastor shall be eligible for call to the Congregation under a call document which will supersede the terms and conditions of this Agreement.”

At an emergent meeting of Presbytery on Aug. 11, 2020, Presbytery approved the following motion: “That the Court approve the appointment of Rev. Brian McGuffin as

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'Lay Missionary with Special Training' to Lakeshore St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, in the Presbytery of Essex-Kent, with the Presbyterian Church."

On September 22, 2020, Presbytery approved the following motion: "That Presbytery endorses the application to Education and Reception Committee for Rev. Brian McGuffin, Lay Missionary with special training for Lakeshore St. Andrew's."

On April 29, 2021, the Committee on Education and Reception recommended: That Rev. Brian McGuffin be declared eligible for reception as a minister of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, subject to no competent objections being raised by a presbytery of this Church by June 29, 2021, and subject to satisfactory completion of 10 semester courses of theological study at one of the colleges of this church. General Assembly approved this recommendation in June 2021.

From 2021 to 2024, Brian gradually completed his courses via The Vancouver School of Theology. (These courses were officially completed on April 23, 2024.)

In the Spring of 2022, Rev. Andy Cornell announced his intention to step down as Interim Moderator as soon as a replacement could be found.

On January 1, 2023, Rev. Chris Little became Interim Moderator.

On May 26, 2024, a duly called congregational meeting was held to consider a Call to Rev. Brian McGuffin. The congregation unanimously voted in favour of Brian to become their inducted Minister of Word and Sacraments. Members and Adherents signed the Call which brings us to today where the Call is being presented to this presbytery.

Rev. Chris Little,

Interim Moderator of LSA

- 1. MOTION: That the actions of the Interim Moderator be approved.  
MOVED Maroney and Lung. MOTION CARRIED.**

**PRESENTATION OF THE CALL – Rev. Chris Little, Interim Moderator**

**Call to a Minister of Word and Sacraments  
and Guarantee to Presbytery of Stipend**

(Appendix A-29)

We, the professing members of Lakeshore St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Lakeshore, being well satisfied with your faithfulness to the Gospel and your qualifications for the ministry of Word and Sacraments and confident that the Holy Spirit has led us to you, earnestly and solemnly call you, The Rev. Brian Stevens McGuffin, to become the Lead Minister of this congregation. In calling you we promise you all due respect, encouragement, and allegiance in the Lord as, together, we seek to use our gifts in the church and in the world to the glory of God.

In order that you, The Rev. Brian McGuffin, may be free to devote yourself to ministry of Word and Sacraments among us, we the congregation of Lakeshore St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church hereby guarantee to the Presbytery of Essex-Kent, of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, that out of our estimated annual revenue of \$788,559 we promise and obligate ourselves to provide you, as a first charge thereon, the following annually:

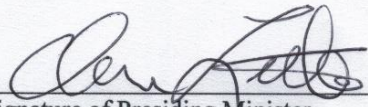
Annual Stipend (inclusive of travel allowance)	\$56,000
Housing Allowance	\$25,000
Total	\$81,000
Cost of utilities	\$6,000

We agree to make payments of the above amounts twice a month and agree to adjust the stipend and allowances annually in view of any changes in the cost of living or the needs of our minister.

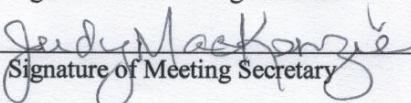
We agree further:

1. To provide two weeks for continuing education annually and at least the minimum allowance as set by the General Assembly.
2. That the benefits of number 1 above shall be cumulative up to five years.
3. To provide five weeks vacation annually, which shall be used in the year they are given.
4. To pay supply during the periods of continuing education and holidays.
5. In case of disability or extended illness, to continue to provide stipend, accommodation and allowances for a period not less than that set by the General Assembly, and to pay the cost of pulpit supply.
6. To pay for Medical and Dental Insurance as provided through the Pensions and Benefits Board of the General Assembly and to make contributions to the Pension Plan in compliance with the terms of the plan.

PARRY SOUND, JUNE 14, 2024  
Place and date

  
Signature of Presiding Minister

JSA Church May 26, 2024  
Place and date

  
Signature of Meeting Secretary



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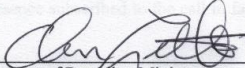
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**Attestation of call by officiating minister**

(Appendix A-35)

I hereby certify that in pursuance of appointment of the Presbytery of Essex-Kent, this call has been moderated in, and that out of a total number of 178 professing members, 95 have themselves subscribed and 55 have requested an elder to subscribe to same.

PARRY SOUND, JUNE 14, 2024  
Place and date

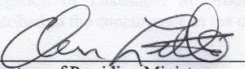
  
Signature of Presiding Minister

**Attestation of concurrence by officiating minister**

(Appendix A-39)

I hereby certify that 92 adherents of the congregation of Lakeshore St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Lakeshore, have this day signed this concurrence to the call in favour of The Rev. Brian McGuffin.

PARRY SOUND, JUNE 14, 2024  
Place and date

  
Signature of Presiding Minister

**Summary of attestation of call signatures and concurrence to call**

**Members**

**Attestation by elder re members who signed the call**

(Appendix A-37)

I hereby certify that 95 professing members belonging to the congregation of Lakeshore St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Lakeshore, have in my presence subscribed to the call in favour of The Rev. Brian McGuffin.

**Attestation by elder re members who requested him/her to sign call on their behalf**

(Appendix A-38)

I hereby certify that 55 professing members belonging to the congregation of Lakeshore St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Lakeshore, have requested me to subscribe their names to the call in favour of The Rev. Brian McGuffin.

**Adherents**

**Attestation by elder re signatures of adherents concurring to call**

(Appendix A-40)

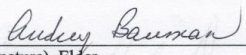
I hereby certify that 63 adherents of the congregation of Lakeshore St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Lakeshore, have in my presence subscribed to the concurrence in the call in favour of The Rev. Brian McGuffin.

**Attestation by elder re adherents who requested him/her to sign indicating their concurrence to the call**

(Appendix A-41)

I hereby certify that 29 adherents of the congregation of Lakeshore St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Lakeshore, have requested me to subscribe their names to the concurrence in the call in favour of The Rev. Brian McGuffin.

hSA June 3, 2024  
(Place and date)

  
(Signature), Elder

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- 1. MOTION: That the Call to Brian McGuffin be received and considered and that representatives from Lakeshore St. Andrew's, Tecumseh be heard.  
MOVED Maroney and Lung. MOTION CARRIED.**

Connie Hale, Cathy Innocenti, David Myers, and Audrey Bauman then spoke in favour of the Call:

Connie Hale related how Rev. Brian McGuffin came to LSA when it was in turmoil: after a church split, after COVID, after staff conflicts and departures, and he led the congregation at a time when there was a spirit of division over the LGBTQ remits, and through difficult financial times. Brian has brought strong leadership, stability, Holy Spirit-inspired teaching on how to live as Christians. Adapting Psalm 23, Connie says through Brian 'our souls have been restored' and we have experienced 'the still waters.' And now LSA is growing spiritually and numerically. She therefore believes that God brought Brian to LSA.

Cathy Innocente regards Brian as one of the next generation of leaders.

David Myers, speaking for LSA men, regards Brian as "our man."

Audrey Bauman (Clerk of Session) passed on a message from Wendy Skreptak (former Rep Elder) saying that "Rev. Brian should be our minister because he talks from the Bible." Audrey then passed on LSA's thanks to Revs. Andy Cornell and Chris Little for helping LSA as IMs.

- 2. MOTION: That the guarantee of stipend be deemed acceptable.  
MOVED Maroney and Lung. MOTION CARRIED.**
- 3. MOTION: That the Call be sustained as a Gospel Call.  
MOVED Maroney and Lung. MOTION CARRIED.**
- 4. MOTION: That the Service of Induction be conducted by the Presbytery of Essex-Kent on Sunday July 14, 2024, at 4pm within Lakeshore St. Andrew's, Tecumseh with Presbytery meeting at 3:30pm and a reception to follow the service prepared by the congregation of Lakeshore St. Andrew's.  
MOVED Maroney and Lung. MOTION CARRIED.**

The court noted the IM's request that Presbytery respect LSA's ethos and dress casually for the service.

- 5. MOTION: That Admin Committee are approved to appoint the preacher for the Service of Induction, and that Rev. Chris Little (as Interim Moderator) offers the Charge to the candidate and the congregation.  
MOVED Maroney and Lung. MOTION CARRIED.**

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6. **MOTION: That Admin Committee is approved to designate the recipient(s) of the offering received at the induction service.  
MOVED Maroney and Lung. MOTION CARRIED.**
  
7. **MOTION: That the remaining details of the Service of Induction be arranged by the Moderator and Clerk of Presbytery, and the Interim Moderator, in consultation with the Clerk of Session and LSA's music director.  
MOVED Maroney and Lung. MOTION CARRIED.**
  
8. **MOTION: That the Edict of Induction be read from the pulpit two consecutive Sundays prior to the date of induction (i.e., June 30<sup>th</sup> and July 7<sup>th</sup>), signed and returned to the Clerk of Presbytery on the day of induction.  
MOVED Maroney and Lung. MOTION CARRIED.**

***Stated Hour Ends the Finance and Funding Committee Report Continues:***

2. St. Andrew's, Amherstburg-request for assistance upgrading their A/V systems. **It is recommended that they be given \$8600 from the Congregational Support Fund.**

**MOVED by Aide and Lung. MOTION CARRIED**

3. Two requests from Lakeshore St. Andrew's. It was noted that these were received after a timeline for consideration and will be reviewed with recommendations made for the September Presbytery meeting.

4. First Church, Chatham's request was also received too late for appropriate consideration and will be reviewed with recommendations made to the September presbytery meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chuck Congram, acting chair.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andy Cornell, Admin Convenor

**MOTION: ADMIN Report as a whole  
MOVED by Cornell and Sargent. MOTION CARRIED**

## Ministry and Doctrine Report *Continues*

### 2. Elders certified to officiate the sacraments:

It is M&D's intention to create a master list of all elders certified to officiate the sacraments and recertify them at the same time. They can be recertified in two years time.

Current (known) certified Elders:

Robert Ivison (Valetta)  
Bryan Stirling (Mount Zion), ...  
Margaret Ellis, Sue Easun, Barb Sargent (FPC, Chatham)  
Mary Pat Elliott, Jane Lung (Knox, Wallaceburg)  
Elaine Ross (New St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church)  
Caroline Schleier Cutler (UCC)  
Kathleen Knott (Amherstburg)  
LSA (TBD)

**Recommendation No. 2. That all the above elders certified to officiate the sacraments be recertified at this meeting of Presbytery. Recertification to follow in two years time.**

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

### 3. Study Leave Reports

#### a) Rev. Andy Cornell

*In mid May, we received news that my wife's cancer had returned. Until we knew the extent of it and the plan for treatment, I thought it best to drop my two summer courses (Trauma-Informed Psycho-Spiritual Therapy and Wrestling with Addiction). Thankfully, her condition is treatable with new therapies and the prognosis is encouraging. At this point, I plan to resume studies in September in the Knox College Master of Psychospiritual Studies/Psychotherapy program. Completion may now be delayed for one year, to December 2025.*

*Presbytery may note that I received bursaries for the two summer courses. My suggestion is to use that towards two future courses, although I can reimburse the court in the short term if you desire. (UofT does not issue refunds on tuition unless specifically requested; my account shows a credit for the two courses.)*



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The committee was saddened to learn that Rev. Cornell's wife, Pam, is facing a cancer diagnosis. We are encouraged that this illness can be mitigated with new treatments, and we pray for healing, strength and comfort for the entire Cornell family.

Understandably, Rev. Cornell is not able to pursue his studies this summer. He reports that his bursaries can be held for further studies or can be refunded to the court.

**Recommendation No. 3: That Rev. Cornell retains his Presbytery Bursaries for the time being, with the expectation he will return to his studies in the near future.**

**MOVED by Maroney and Lung. MOTION CARRIED**

**b) Rev. Lisa Aide**

*My Study Leave was focused on reading what is being written about church growth throughout North America. I believed that it would benefit Paulin as we are working through the New Beginning program.*

*The books that I read came from a wide variety of writers, one being a presbyterian in Canada, but the majority come from the United States, both evangelical and reform writers. The book that I received the most out of was the one that was recommended by our New Beginning coach called "When Churches Stop Working" by Andrew Root and Blair D. Bertrand. It not only challenges us to change the way in which we look at church growth but also offers us up several helpful hints that we can use on the journey to church growth. I plan on using several examples presented in the book during our session educational time, as I believe that they are important for our session to not only learn from them but to also put them into practice.*

*Several of the books that I read came from a more evangelical background, and in them they stressed two main things that we need to be focused on if we want to see true spiritual growth. The main one is that we need to stop worrying so much about the numbers of people in the pew. Which I know is harder than it sounds, it is from the people in the pews donations that allow us to keep our church up and running, but instead they suggest that we focus on making sure that our church is a place where the grace of God is on tap. The authors suggested that far too many churches are too worried about their political power (remember this comes from the States) and their financial power, rather than focusing on making sure that the grace of God flows freely from their church, through mission, through acceptances, through welcoming everyone one in no matter what. There is no other place in the world where a person can find grace, it can only be found through Jesus Christ, and we, as his church, should be the place where it can be found in abundance.*

*The second main point of the books was that we need to focus a little bit less on the lower level of the church that represents the building, the personality of the minister, the friends that we have that go to the church and the programs that we offer. These are all great tools*

*that we have to welcome people into our church family, but if people are not encouraged to focus more on the deeper element of our faith, which the author calls the upper level of the church. Things like personal prayer, serving in the community in Jesus' name, seeking to have a deeper love for God and his people, disciple making rather than member making. We are going to run into trouble because the lower level of the church is always subject to change, ministers leave, the building is not always going to be the same, your friends might move away or a program that you love is getting shut down. If a person is not invested in the upper church as well as the lower church you are most likely going to lose them, so the author suggests that we should seek to invite people to dive deeper than just surface level at worship, and to seek to move towards the upper level of life with Christ.*

*The last main topic that I want to touch on in this report was the way that one of the books challenged me to think about worship. The author presented the idea that we need to think about and treat each and every Sunday as if they are of equal importances. I know that all of us believe that it is important for us to come and worship, if not we would not be here tonight. But if we're honest to ourselves there are some Sundays that seem more important than others, things like advent and Easter Sunday, tend to get more energy put into them than a random Sunday in August. And so this author is inviting us to seek to make each Sunday worship special as you never know when someone new might come through your door. He had many suggestions about how to celebrate the Christian year and I look forward to putting some of them into practice as we seek to put our all into each week that we have been given to praise the Lord.*

*I would like to remind everyone that the books that I have in my office can be borrowed if you are interested in learning more about what I have reported on.*

**Recommendation No. 4: That the above Study Leave Report be received by Presbytery.**

**MOVED by Maroney and Lung. MOTION CARRIED**

**4. Exit Interview:**

Rev. Mike Maroney had an exit interview on Wednesday, June 5, 2024. The interview was conducted by Rev. T. Reddish.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. M. Maroney  
Convener, Ministry and Doctrine Committee.

**MOTION: M & D Report as a whole.**

**MOVED by Maroney and Lung. MOTION CARRIED**

At that time a card (signed by presbyters) wishing Rev. Mike Maroney a "Happy Retirement" was given to him by the Moderator.

## LIFE and MISSION COMMITTEE

The Life and Mission Committee met on June 10, 2024, via Zoom.

The Life and Mission Committee has received the report from the Visitation Team to Valetta Presbyterian Church:

**To: The Life & Mission Committee of the Presbytery of Essex-Kent**

**From: Visitation team to Valetta Presbyterian Church (Rev. Andy Cornell, Jane Lung, Sanda Smith)**

**Date: April 30, 2024.**

**Background:**

At the direction of Presbytery, the team wrote to the Session of the congregation on January 23, 2024, to inform them of the upcoming routine visitation, its goals and the process. Questionnaires were distributed to the congregation by the Clerk of Session. They were collected by the Clerk and delivered to the team, which reviewed them prior to meeting with session, the board of managers and members of the congregation on the morning of March 23.

**Purpose (from Presbytery's Standing Orders):**

1. Visitations seek the general sense of the health of the congregation, its leadership, its pastor and the relationships of the three.
2. Visitations are pastoral in nature, inviting honesty, truth telling and seeking to celebrate successes, share empathy and where possible counsel, {keeping in mind that the team is not a counselor} for their struggles. Their role is to provide recommendation to Presbytery and for Presbytery to offer counsel.
3. Visits will focus on the Ministry of Congregation in five key areas: worship, discipleship, fellowship, service, evangelism.
4. If necessary, the visitation highlights any concerns or potential issues that may impact the Congregation, so Presbytery may be aware in advance or propose aid.
5. A visitation team will also highlight the successes of a congregation and its efforts to impact the local community with the gospel of Christ.

**Findings:**

Sunday worship attendance is fairly consistent with 17 regular members plus two Sunday School-aged children. The Lord's Supper is celebrated four times per year. The congregation has not used the sanctuary regularly since 2017 primarily because there are too many stairs for those with mobility and other health issues. Using the lower level for worship and gatherings has worked very well as it allows them to remain together and worship God in person. Valetta has a very active Women's Missionary Society chapter which participates in the Essex-Kent Presbyterial.

A total of 12 questionnaires were completed anonymously and returned to the team. Answers were consistent. Every respondent said they were glad to be part of the congregation and 11 of the 12 actively participated in a group or committee. Eight are "always satisfied with the quality of pastoral care and the frequency of contacts and visits" while four said "usually." Eight said "God always speaks to me through the sermons" while four said "usually."

Asked what they gained the most satisfaction from by being part of the congregation:

- "Like Sarah's sermons"
- "To be able to say this is my church."
- "Community. We have grown up together . . . and still have that connection."
- "Friendship - we are family."
- "Sermons and friendship."

Asked to identify any wish or dream for the congregation:

- "Sarah does a fabulous job and I wish more young people would come to hear her."
- "To keep going as long as possible."
- "That we may stay together as a congregation and continue to have the support of each other."
- "To do more mission projects."
- "More people attending church. Hope we can stay active and have Sarah with us."
- "I pray that former members who have our church will come back and that our congregation would grow."
- "I would like to see more young families."
- "I wish to stay together as long as possible."

**Session:** On the visitation morning, we were warmly welcomed. We first met with the four ruling elders on session – all serve as elders for life. They are dedicated and work

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hard. They are very supportive of Interim Moderator Shirley Murdock and student pastor Sarah Stockford. The court meets five times a year and consults with one another regularly as needed. They feel the number of elders on session is adequate. Each elder has a district. Session described their congregation as "family." It was a word that was repeated often during our visit. Of the 17 members of the congregation, all attend worship regularly and with only one exception, Valletta has been their lifetime church. They have been there for the long haul. Only one young family attends; their mom was raised in the congregation and they actually live almost one hour's drive from the church. The main strength of the congregation is the sense of caring everyone has from one another.

Much of our conversation centred on the future of the congregation, which is uncertain given its declining numbers. With smaller families, they don't see any growth on the horizon. "We're here until we die," said one elder. Added another: "We'd like to know if you (presbytery) have a solution?" An annual highlight is the spring plant sale, which attracts a good crowd: "the community knows we're here," said one elder. Another positive is the weekly worship, led primarily by student Sarah. The elders had praise for the dedication of interim moderator Shirley.

When asked what the purpose of church is, one of them recited from the Westminster Catechism and Psalm 145: "to glorify God and enjoy Him forever." Other reasons were to carry on the same traditions passed down from their ancestors, for spiritual well being and for social life. Evangelism takes place by maintaining a strong social setting and doing outreach through the plant sale.

**Board:** We then met with three of the four members of the board of managers. They report no issues with maintenance of the church building. Indeed, it's an impressive property. Finances are healthy, with surpluses being carried forward in recent years. Presbytery dues are paid and the congregation exceeds its recommended Presbyterians Sharing allocation. Leadership transitions appear to be handled well; the current treasurer (who is a member of the board) took over from the previous treasurer who did the job for 30 years. They pointed out that energy costs have lowered since they worship in the lower hall.

**Congregation:** We met with seven members of the congregation. They see themselves as a welcoming community. "We are a family," said one of them, while others nodded in agreement. A stable family, to be sure: "We're not going anywhere." The "problem", in the words of one, "is getting them through the door." Another issue is the challenges with aging: they simply don't have the human resources to hold church suppers anymore. While they would love to see a return to the days of multi-generational worship and activities, they recognize that rural homes are fewer, families are smaller and farms are

larger. But they look down the road to Tilbury and see a town filled with unchurched people. They are quite aware of the issue of sustainability, and they admit that their days may be numbered. When asked 'what if the congregation would close?' most would find another church home nearby. Their hope is to remain together as a church family as long as they can support themselves.

Altogether, 12 of the 17 members of the congregation were present for the visitation – an impressive turnout. All feel excited about God's presence in their lives and they support the extended programs of the Presbytery and the national church.

**Interim Moderator and Student Pastor:** After lunch, we met with Shirley and Sarah. They shared that the session has had conversations about the possibility of closing. A few significant financial contributors have passed away in recent years. They accept that they are not able to afford a full-time or part-time minister. The congregation finds peace and strength in its traditional Presbyterian style of worship but is also flexible and welcomes new approaches. They are especially proud of the fact that one of their younger congregants brings her two children and Sunday School is provided. Sarah observed that some urban congregations could learn from Valetta's experience in general. Shirley pointed to the congregation's self sufficiency, determination and faith. Especially noteworthy is how closely they listen to the sermons and are willing to discuss scripture and the messages.

**Discussion:**

It is unsettling that the spirit, soul, and commitment of these early established churches – which were the backbone of their communities when there was no one else to support them – are vanishing and that is sad. Can they be given a new lease on life?

We see many strengths at Valetta: wise and capable lay leadership, caring and gifted pastoral oversight, a functional building, geographic visibility. There are indications of health and strength in four of the five key areas: worship, discipleship, fellowship, service. However, evangelism remains a challenge. (As it is in most congregations.) But that may also provide an opportunity for hope. The definition (as approved by presbytery in April) is simple: "Evangelism is spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ." There is no guaranteed process to follow. (If there was, our churches might be full.) Each congregation and community is unique and the approach needs to be tailor made. In that light, we wonder if Valetta might be able to simply spread the gospel by building on its primary strength: a congregation that's like a family. There's an old saying: "You can choose your friends, but you can't choose your family." Would Valetta be willing to allow God to choose for them? It's an increasingly lonely world. What if Valetta was to brand itself as a safe place for people who need unconditional acceptance of others and a glimpse of God's unlimited

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love? Or something like that. Get that message out using a variety of advertising: mailbox flyers, weekly newspaper ads, coffee shop placemats and Facebook. And when people check you out, show them the love of Christ. This approach to evangelism does not require a lot of legwork. But it needs some thought, some form of marketing know-how and an advertising budget. Presbytery has funds available.

**Recommendations:**

1. That Interim Moderator Shirley Murdock and Student Pastor Sarah Stockford be commended for the work they are doing at Valetta.
2. That the Session, Board of Managers and the entire congregation be commended for their robust faith.
3. That the congregation actively discern whether they are willing to unconditionally accept new members to the family and whether they would be willing to use creative methods to put out the welcome mat.
4. That The Presbytery of Essex-Kent works with the congregation and its leadership to develop this outreach and find the necessary financial resources.

***Following is the response from Valetta***

**VALETTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Rev. Shirley F. Murdock**  
**Interim Moderator**

**Mr. Robert G. Ivison**  
**Clerk of Session**

Life and Mission Committee  
Presbytery of Essex-Kent

**RE: PRESBYTERY VISITATION TO VALETTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARCH 23, 2024**

The following is the response of the Elders of Valetta Presbyterian Church to the Report of the Visitation Team.

The original report had one error. It stated that the Interim Moderator distributed, collected, and forward the questionnaires from the congregation to Rev. Andy Cornell as Team Leader. It was actually the Clerk of Session, Mr. Robert Ivison, who fulfilled that task.

The general comments of the Elders were accepting of the reporting, feeling the team had captured the essence of the congregation and did not state anything they were not already aware of. There was one point of concern for which they would like some clarity. Under **Congregation** - the report states:

**Rev. Tim Reddish – Clerk**

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“They see themselves as a welcoming community. We are family.”

Then *Recommendation 3* asks them to:

“Discern whether they are willing to unconditionally accept new members to the family and whether they would be willing to use creative methods to put out the welcome mat.”

*Recommendation 4* suggests that Presbytery work with the congregation to develop this outreach. Valetta are indeed open to suggestions as to how they can “advertise” themselves more efficiently, but they do believe they are welcoming of anyone who enters, so they found these statements in conflict. Otherwise, they were content for the report to be presented to Presbytery as written.

Elders met following morning worship on Sunday, May 5 for this discussion. This response will be sustained in the minutes of their next regular meeting scheduled for June 27, 2024. Thank you to the team members for their diligence.

Rev. Shirley Murdock  
Interim Moderator – Valetta Presbyterian Church

cc – Rev. Andrew Cornell – Team Leader, Rev. Tim Reddish, Clerk of Presbytery.

The following are the recommendations we, as a L & M Committee put forth to Presbytery.

**Recommendations:**

- 1. That Interim Moderator Rev. Shirley Murdock and Candidate for Ministry, Sarah Stockford, be commended for the work they are doing at Valetta.**
- 2. That the Session, Board of Managers and the entire congregation be commended for their robust faith.**
- 3. That the Presbytery of Essex-Kent (Life and Mission Committee) work with the Valetta Congregation and leadership to develop an outreach to the community in order to build and sustain their presence in the community.**
- 4. That any necessary financial resources to assist in this endeavour be referred to the Finance and Funding Committee.**
- 5. That Rev. Andy Cornell, Jane Lung, Sanda Smith be thanked for their work on the Visitation Committee.**

**All the above MOTIONS were MOVED (individually) by Sargent and Aide. ALL MOTIONS CARRIED.**

**Rev. Tim Reddish – Clerk**



### L & M Committee Discussion

There is a discrepancy/ambiguity in the Standing orders as to who *first* receives the final report of a regular visitation team. There are two sections which address the process:

In section 5 (Standing Orders, p19) it states: **“The Visitation teams report will be submitted to the Minister and Session before being circulated to the presbytery through the Life and Mission Committee. Reports are to be submitted to Presbytery no later than the first meeting following the congregational visitation. i.e.) a visit occurs in June then the report is presented no later than the September Presbytery meeting, a visit in October, no later than the November meeting etc.”**

In the later standard ‘Letter to the Clerk of Session’ (Standing Orders, p21) it states: **“Following the visit, the Visitation Team will forward a report to the Life and Mission Committee for review and then forward the report to the Presbytery meeting closest to the date of the visitation. You will receive the report first to be allowed to comment before it is presented to the Presbytery.”**

### Recommendations:

6. That the final report of a Visitation Committee be sent *simultaneously* to the Life and Mission Committee and to the Session of the visited congregation.

**MOTION MOVED by Sargent and Aide. MOTION CARRIED.**

7. That Presbytery’s standing orders be amended as follows:

- a. Amend Section 5 in the Visiting Process to the following:

**“The Visitation teams report will be submitted simultaneously to both the Life and Mission Convenor and the Session. The Life and Mission Committee, after review, will then present the report to Presbytery.”**

- b. Delete the following:

**Following the visit, the Visitation Team will forward a report to the Life and Mission Committee for review and then forward the report to the Presbytery meeting closest to the date of the visitation. You [Session] will receive the report...**

**MOTION MOVED by Sargent and Aide. MOTION CARRIED.**

The Committee then had a further time of discussion concerning the lack of Ministerial Candidates entering full time ministry. This was also discussed on the floor of Presbytery.

**Recommendation 8: That Congregations prayerfully encourage and support individuals within their Congregations who might be interested in Ministry.**

**MOTION MOVED by Sargent and Aide. MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Sargent, Convenor.

**MOTION: Report as a whole  
MOVED by Sargent and Aide. MOTION CARRIED.**

### INTERIM MODERATOR REPORTS

#### **Mt. Zion, Ridgetown – Rev. Andrew Cornell**

The congregation had a memorable anniversary Sunday on May 26 with guest preacher Rev. Paul Shaw, who provided pastoral leadership in the mid 2000s and early 10s. While the mood was upbeat, there remains a tinge of melancholy due to the fact that the congregation consists almost entirely of senior citizens. Summer is soon to be upon us and the tradition of sharing resources and worship space with Erie Street United Church will continue. Biblical preaching continues to be provided by Rev. Colin Paterson, Rev. Lillian Wilton, Rev. Doug and Cathi Cameron, Mary Pat Elliot and members of session. We are blessed with the leadership of ruling elders Phyllis May (Clerk), Bryan Stirling (Rep Elder) and Renee Geluk (Board Rep) and a capable board of managers and a part-time administrator. To God be the glory.

#### **New St. Andrew's, Dover – Rev. Mike Maroney**

NSA Session met on Tuesday, May 28th. Good news that Rev Mike will remain our IM for the near future. We have a new member joining our church family on Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>: Julia Strevel. We will be serving communion also that Sunday.

Pulpit Supply is covered until the summer break. Our last service will be July 28th and then we will start back on September 8, 2024. Sunday Services are steady, with an average of 15-20 attending each week. Session discussed and agreed that we start each worship service with "This is the Day" and the congregation is very receptive. Coffee hour runs on the first Sunday of each month following the service, and it is enjoyed by everyone.

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A Church picnic will be held on Sunday, June 23rd with games and barbeque. NSA Session are very involved with the members of NSA and our close community tries to keep everyone informed of any events.

**Knox, Wallaceburg – Rev. Lisa Aide**

Things are going well at Knox. The congregation has been strong in their support of Jason as he underwent treatment for cancer. His surgery was successful, and he has been able to join the Knox family for worship. However, he is still being told to rest his voice as he recovers, so he has not been able to take up his role in leading worship. Knox is looking forward to him once again being able to preach and teach but until he is able many people have stepped up to support both Jason and his family.

Knox has been busy these past few months in both their mission and their outreach. Once again they were able to raise enough money from their Lenten offerings to support three children in Hattie, and they are preparing for their second annual Dad fest celebration and fishing tournament. The community is invited to take part and join in, there is also a BBQ in the evening. Knox is continuing to grow, and I feel blessed that in July I will be able to join them for worship and help to ordain their newest elders. It is a great blessing to see what God is doing in Wallaceburg as the members of Knox continue to worship and serve the Lord Almighty.

**Valetta – Rev. Shirley Murdock**

Valetta has been busy recently.

On May 12 we gathered in the Sanctuary for morning worship and to welcome our newest Covenant Members, Adalynn and Eloise Broughton into the church family.

On May 18 the Annual Bake and Plant Sale and Lunch was held in the lower hall with a lovely response from surrounding communities.

On June 2 we gathered to celebrate the 178<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ministry, mission and Presbyterian Presence.

That was also the day we recognized the graduation of our student, Sarah Stockford, with her MDiv from the University of Toronto and Diploma from Knox College. She was presented (virtually) with a green preaching stole and a donation was made in her honour to Camp Kintail. A most beautiful graduation Cake was presented.

Session met in regular session on Thursday, June 20 at 10am. After being Constituted as a Court of the Church, the Session dealt with the business of the day.

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Elders had met previously to review to report of the Visitation Team. Comments were sent to the team leader Rev. Andrew Cornell, Convenor of the Life and Mission Committee Barbara Sargent and Clerk of Presbytery, Rev. Tim Reddish. Those comments were sustained at this meeting of Session and were recorded in the Minutes. Next meeting will be September.

The next event in the life of the congregation will be their barbeque and picnic planned for July 28 on the church property.

**LSA – Rev. Chris Little**

The church hosted a concert for well known singer/song writer Brian Doerksen as a means of community outreach and worship for the congregation.

A new part-time person has been hired in Children and Youth ministry. She will give leadership in the area of Children's Ministry.

Plans for the Summer Kid's Camp are well underway, focusing on blessing Children and Junior Youth. The new part time staff member will give leadership to this ministry. This camp will serve the kids of the congregation, but also to reach to the community at large with the love and truth of Jesus.

The congregation is considering expanding its React ministry, which is a faith-based ministry to help those struggling with addiction. Two groups presently meet with each group serving 8-10 participants.

The Session is currently considering a ministry of teaching English to Ukrainian Russian speaking immigrants. This form of ministry has proved effective elsewhere in both language training and evangelism.

Discussion is ongoing with the Presbytery's *ad hoc* committee regarding the outstanding debt to the Pension Board.

**2024 General Assembly Report**

Clergy Commissioner - Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal

(See also: <https://presbyterian.ca/category/general-assembly/>.)

Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal gave a brief verbal report of her positive impressions of this year's GA. She encouraged Presbyters to examine the PCC's website link (above) for a detailed summary. She also noted that we were not the only Presbytery to not have a Rep Elder present.

**Rev. Tim Reddish – Clerk**

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE SESSION RECORDS

**MOTION:** That records and registers for First Presbyterian Church, Chatham, be attested as neatly and correctly kept.

**MOVED** by Aide and Landon. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION:** That records and registers for St. Andrew's, Dresden, be attested as neatly and correctly kept.

**MOVED** by Aide and Landon. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION:** That Presbytery approve that Burial and Funeral records can also be kept electronically (say, on Excel), along with the Congregation's Roll.

**MOVED** by Sargent and Aide. **MOTION CARRIED.**

### Schedule for Future Presbytery Meetings:

**July 14, 2024 – LSA for the Induction Service of Rev. Brian McGuffin.**

(Next Regular Meeting of Admin: Sept. 10 at UCC, 10:30am; other committees to meet prior to that date.)

**Sept 24, 2024 – Paulin Memorial** (One week later than usual due to the fact that many congregations remain in summer mode right up to Labour Day.)

**Nov 19 -2024 – UCC**

### OTHER BUSINESS

#### MOTION TO ADJOURN

**MOVED** by Sargent and Aide. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**THE PRESBYTERY OF ESSEX-KENT STANDS ADJOURNED, TO NEXT MEET IN SPECIAL SESSION ON SUNDAY, JULY 14, 2024, WITHIN LAKESHORE ST. ANDREW'S, TECUMSEH, AT 3:30PM, FOR THE INDUCTION OF REV. BRIAN MCGUFFIN.**


**PRESBYTERY'S NEXT REGULAR SESSION IS ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2024, WITHIN PAULIN MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WINDSOR, BEGINNING AT 5:30PM WITH WORSHIP.**

**DISMISSAL PRAYER AND BENEDICTION – THE MODERATOR - 8:40PM.**

Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal, Moderator

Rev. Tim Reddish, Clerk

### APPENDIX 1: LSA Pension Repayment Plan



Lakeshore St Andrews Church  
235 Amy Croft Drive  
Windsor, On N9K 1C8  
(519) 979-8082

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June 20, 2024

Lakeshore St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church agrees to pay the full amount owed to the PCC Pension and Benefits Board beginning on July 1st, 2024 in the following way:

**2024:**

- July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024: \$58,500 and \$1,000
- August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024: \$1,000
- Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024: \$1,000
- October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024: \$1,000
- November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024: \$1,000
- December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024: \$1,000

**Total: \$64,500**

**2025:**

- January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025: \$1,000
- February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025: \$1,000
- March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025: \$1,000
- April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025: \$1,000
- May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025: \$1,000
- June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025: \$1,000
- July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025: \$10,000 and \$1,000
- August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025: \$1,000
- Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025: \$1,000
- October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025: \$1,000
- November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025: \$1,000
- December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025: \$1,000

**Total: \$22,000**

Rev. Tim Reddish – Clerk

**APPENDIX 1: LSA Pension Repayment Plan (Continued)**



Lakeshore St Andrews Church  
 235 Amy Croft Drive  
 Windsor, On N9K 1C8  
 (519) 979-8082

<b>2026:</b>	<b>2027:</b>
January 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026: \$1,000	January 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2027: \$1,000
February 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026: \$1,000	February 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2027: \$1,000
March 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026: \$1,000	March 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2027: \$1,000
April 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026: \$1,000	April 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2027: \$1,000
May 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026: \$1,000	May 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2027: \$1,000
June 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026: \$1,000	June 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026: \$1,000
July 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026: \$10,000 and \$1,000	July 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2027: \$10,000 & \$1,000
August 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026: \$1,000	August 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2027: \$1,000
Sept 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026: \$1,000	Sept 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2027: \$1,000
October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026: \$1,000	October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2027: \$1,000
November 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026: \$1,000	November 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2027: \$1,000
December 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026: \$1,000	December 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2027: \$2,070.76 (\$1,070.76 & \$1,000)
<b>Total: \$22,000</b>	<b>Total: \$23,070.76</b>

**Total: \$131,570.76**

Audrey Bauman  
 LSA Clerk of Session

June 20, 2024  
 Date

Chris Little  
 Moderator Rev. Chris Little

June 20, 2024  
 Date