

THE MINUTES OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY

*Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches in Canada,
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Synod*

Stated Spring Meeting

April 23-24, 2009
Trinity ARP Church
Chatham, Ontario



Mr. Bill McKay
Stated Clerk

Mr. Mike Flewelling
Moderator

OFFICERS OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY

MODERATOR

(1 yr. Term expires June 30, 2009)

Mr. Mike Flewelling
443 Weston Rd.
Weston, NB, Canada
E7K 1B1

VICE MODERATOR

(1 yr. Term expires June 30, 2009)

Rev. Jeff Kingswood
172 Light St.
Woodstock, ON, Canada
N4S 6H4

STATED CLERK

(3 yr. Term expires June 30, 2010)

Mr. Bill McKay
1124 Tupper Gardens
Woodstock, ON, Canada
N4S 8K2

READING CLERK

(3 yr. Term expires June 30, 2010)

Rev. Jeff Kingswood
172 Light St.
Woodstock, ON, Canada
N4S 6H4

TREASURER

(3 yr. Term expires June 30, 2010)

Mr. Gary Armstrong
7 Kipling Dr.
Woodstock, ON, Canada
N4S 3C8

CHURCHES OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY

MARITIMES REGION

Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church

Covenanters ARP Church

Grace Fellowship Church, ARPC

Mt. Zion ARP Church

Trinity Presbyterian Church

ONTARIO REGION

Grace Presbyterian Church

Reformed Hungarian Church

Riverside ARP Church

Trinity ARP Mission

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**ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN CANADA,
ARP GENERAL SYNOD
STATED SPRING MEETING – April 23-24, 2009
Trinity ARP Mission
Chatham, Ontario**

The 2009 Stated Spring Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery was held on April 23 and 24, 2009 and hosted by the Trinity ARP Mission Congregation (Chatham, Ontario). The meeting was held at the Free Reformed Church in Chatham, ON. Sixteen (16) presbyters were in attendance for this meeting of presbytery.

Thursday – April 23, 2009

The delegates for presbytery gathered for a time of Christian fellowship, refreshments and prayer prior to the 2009 Stated Spring Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery. It is by God’s grace and under His blessing that we gather as a court of His church. We give praise to God from whom all blessings flow.

Theological Discussion

The Canadian Presbytery began this year’s stated meeting with a “Theological Discussion” which was presented by Rev. Kevin Carter. The topic for discussion was “*The Emerging Church – The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*”.

Presbytery Convenes for 2009 Stated Spring Meeting

The Moderator of the Canadian Presbytery (2008/09), Mr. Mike Flewelling, called the presbyters to order at 11:15 a.m. and convened the 2009 Stated Spring Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery. After reading from Scripture (Isaiah 55), Mr. Flewelling constituted the meeting of the Canadian Presbytery as a court of the church of Jesus Christ, with prayer.

Greetings from the Host Congregation

On behalf of the congregation of the Trinity ARP Mission congregation, Rev. Henry Bartsch extended warmest greetings and salutations to the presbyters and guests of the Canadian Presbytery.

Calling of the Roll

The Stated Clerk, Bill McKay, called the roll of presbyters for this stated meeting. The following brothers were in attendance.

Ministers

Rick Barnes	Henry Bartsch	William Campbell
Kevin Carter	Rudy deVries	David Els
Jeff Kingswood	Brian Murray	John Shearouse

b) Roll Call of Licentiates and Students of Theology

Bill VanDoodewaard (Student of Theology)

c) Roll Call of Ruling Elders (as delegates to presbytery)

Albert Gerrits (Covenanters ARPC)

John Rood (Grace Presbyterian Church)

Greig Park (Riverside ARPC)

Kevin Bigney (Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church)

Henry Van Til (Trinity ARP Mission – Chatham, ON)

d) Officers of the Court

Mike Flewelling (Moderator)

Bill McKay (Stated Clerk)

Rev. Frank Kovacs and Dr. Jack Whytock were late as they arrived after lunch.

Rev. Fariborz Khandani was excused from Thursday's sessions.

Trinity Presbyterian Church, Grace Fellowship Church, Mt. Zion Church and Reformed Hungarian Church were not represented by any Ruling Elders at this meeting.

Mike Flewelling noted that he would not be in attendance on Friday due to a prior commitment. Rev. Jeff Kingswood will serve as the Moderator on Friday. The Stated Clerk declared a quorum was present.

Introduction of Guests and Visitors

A warm welcome was extended by the moderator to the guests and visitors who were in attendance. Rev. Bartsch introduced the Anderson family (Dale and Elizabeth and their children) and Jeff Timmermans. Rev. Kingswood introduced Mr. Gordon Query (Moderator of the ARP General Synod), and Dr. Russell Kosits.

Motion for Trinity ARP Mission Congregation to be a full participant in these meetings

- **Motion:** That the right of full participation is extended to the ruling elder representative from the Trinity ARP Mission congregation. **M/S/C**

Report of the Moderator (Mr. Mike Flewelling)

1. Presentation and Approval of the Docket

Mr. Flewelling presented the proposed docket. It was requested to have the issue of the Teleconference Call (January Meeting) placed under New Business.

- **Motion:** to adopt the docket as amended. **M/S/C**

2. Appointment of the Moderator's Committees

Mr. Flewelling appointed Rev. David Els and John Rood to serve on the Moderator's Committee for Resolutions and Excuses.

Report of the Stated Clerk (Bill McKay)

- 1. Approval of the Minutes of Presbytery**

- **Motion:** To approve the Minutes of Presbytery for the January 31, 2009 Teleconference Meeting. **M/S/C**

2. Report of Correspondence Received

a) The Stated Clerk received a letter from a member of the Grace Presbyterian Church congregation (Woodstock, ON) and has passed that on to the Congregational Life Committee for their study. Correspondence had also been sent to the Principal Clerk (Rev. Ron Beard) of the General Synod, who in turn forwarded it to the presbytery, with the note that this correspondence concerns a matter under the jurisdiction of the presbytery and therefore was not a synod matter. Rev. Beard requested that we pass that information on to the individual.

b) The presbytery received correspondence from Outreach North America which requested that the presbyteries try not to schedule our Stated Spring and Fall Meetings at the same time as one another as there is conflict of dates whenever Outreach North America tries to set up meetings with the presbyteries. In looking at the dates for meetings as noted in the 2009 Plan Book, our meeting dates are not in conflict with any of the other presbyteries, so there does not appear to be any need to take action.

- **Motion:** To adopt the report as a whole. **M/S/C**

Guest Speakers

- **Motion:** to grant Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Gordon Query, in order that he may be allowed to address the presbytery. **M/S/C**

1. Mr. Gordon Query (Moderator of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church General Synod) addressed the presbytery. Mr. Query brought greetings from the 204th Annual Meeting of the General Synod of the ARP. He noted that he had fulfilled his goal of visiting all ten presbyteries during the past year. Mr. Flewelling led the presbytery in prayer for the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church and for the faithful work and service of Mr. Query.

The presbytery recessed for lunch at this time.

Upon reconvening after lunch, the moderator (at the request of the stated clerk) reminded the presbyters that the elder attestation forms and written excuses needed to be filled in properly and given to the clerk prior to the beginning of the meetings.

Nominations Committee (Henry Bartsch)

Rev. Bartsch brought forward the nomination for moderator for 2009/10. **(See Appendix 1)**

1. Moderator

- **Motion:** That Rev. Brian Murray is accepted by acclamation to the office of Moderator of the Canadian Presbytery for 2009/10. **M/S/C**

2. Vice-moderator

Rev. Murray presented the name of Rev. Kevin Carter (Covenanters ARP Church – Kentville, NS) to serve as Vice-Moderator of the Canadian Presbytery for 2009/10.

- **Motion:** To confirm Rev. Kevin Carter as Vice-Moderator of the Canadian Presbytery for 2009/10. M/S/C

3. Standing Committees

- **Motion:** To approve the following men to serve on the various Standing Committees of the Canadian Presbytery as presented. M/S/C

Outreach Canada

Mr. Albert Gerrits (2013)

Mr. Lloyd Johnstone (2013)

Mr. Tibor Lacko (2013)

Congregational Life

Mr. Jon Van Dyk (2013)

Mr. Rick Whyte (2013)

Minister & His Work

Mr. Mike Flewelling (2013)

Nominations

Mr. Sean Panjer (2013)

Stewardship

Mr. Frank Kovacs Sr. (2013)

- Rev. Rick Barnes noted that Mr. Frank Masters was no longer a member of the Grace Fellowship congregation and that his name needed to be removed from the Standing Committee list. Mr. Masters served on the M&HW Committee.
- **Motion:** To adopt the report as a whole. M/S/C

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE (Rev. David Els)

1. Report of Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Women's Ministry

- **Motion:** to grant Privilege of the Floor to Miss Jennifer Hovestadt for her presentation on the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Women's Ministry. M/S/C

Jennifer made a presentation on behalf of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Women's Ministry. **(See Appendix 2)**

Rev. Kingswood offered prayer for Jennifer and her work with the Women's Ministry in the Canadian Presbytery and also Cornerstone Bible Institute.

OUTREACH CANADA (Rev. Brian Murray)

1. Trinity ARP Mission Congregation

Rev. Murray invited Rev. Bartsch to bring a verbal report from Trinity ARP (Chatham). Rev. Bartsch reported that the congregation was very encouraged with many blessings seen throughout the congregation with new people attending and a new family received as members. They have been busy preparing for the Organizational Service to be held this evening.

2. Cornerstone Bible Institute

Rev. Rudy de Vries presented a verbal report for his work with Cornerstone Bible Institute. He noted that they have over seventy (70) new contacts in the prison system with a large number located in the Kingston prisons. He has been working to be proactive in pursuing new contacts amongst the inmates. He has been having success in being able to get access to areas of the prisons that he has not been able to access in the past. He has had an opportunity to preach at the Women's Prison in Kitchener, ON. Cornerstone has been approved to access any federal prison in Canada. Rev. de Vries requested prayer for wisdom for the inmates and that they would keep Christ central in their lives. He wants to publish a newsletter a little more often during the year.

3. ONA

ONA has reported that they have partnered a new relationship with Great Commission Publications where Mission Congregations will receive a 1 year subscription to their Sunday School materials and also reduced pricing on the Trinity Hymnals.

Rev. John Shearouse led the presbytery in prayer for the work of Rudy de Vries and Cornerstone Bible Institute.

MINISTER AND HIS WORK (Rev. Rick Barnes)

1. Reception of Dr. Russ Kosits

Dr. Russell Kosits was presented to the presbytery requesting to be taken under care as a Student of Theology. Dr. Kosits is supported by his session (Riverside ARP) and has been examined by the Minister and His Work Committee. Dr. Kosits gave a brief testimony of his faith in Jesus Christ.

- **Motion:** To accept Dr. Russell Kosits as a Student of Theology under the care of the Canadian Presbytery; and further to enter his name on the roll of the Canadian Presbytery as a Candidate for the Ministry. **M/S/C**

Mr. Flewelling read the form to accept Dr. Kosits as a Candidate for the Ministry and presented him with a bible for his use and studies.

Rev. Rudy de Vries offered prayer for Dr. Kosits and his future studies.

Rev. Jeff Kingswood was appointed to serve as the Mentor to Dr. Kosits.

2. Presentation of Pastoral Call

The Pastoral Call for Henry Bartsch from Trinity ARP Mission Congregation was presented.

The call has been examined and approved by the committee.

- **Motion:** To approve of the terms of the Pastoral Call from Trinity ARP Mission that is being extended to Rev. Henry Bartsch. M/S/C

John Rood offered prayer for Rev. Bartsch, his family and the work of the church in Chatham.

STEWARDSHIP (Rev. John Shearouse)

1. 2009 Financial Report

The Financial Report for 2009 (year to date) was presented for information only.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Rev. Kevin Carter)

Rev. Carter noted that under Government of Canada guidelines you require approval from the government when you are entering into a building program, you can only keep a building fund active for 10 years and that the churches are required to have certain pertinent information on income tax receipts to continue to qualify for Charitable Donations.

RECESS

At 3:00 p.m. Mr. Flewelling declared a recess for this session of presbytery to give the various Standing Committees an opportunity to meet and form their reports to the Presbytery for tomorrow's sederunt.

Service of Organization and Worship (See Appendix 3)

The presbyters and friends of the Canadian Presbytery gathered together again at 7:00 p.m. (April 23, 2009) in the sanctuary of the Free Reformed Church, for a special service of Organization, worship and communion. The presbytery celebrated the organization of Trinity Associate Reformed Presbyterian Mission as a Particular Congregation of the Canadian Presbytery. Rev. Kevin Carter presided over the service and Rev. Jeff Kingswood presented God's Word to the congregation. Rev. John Shearouse brought the charge to the Minister, Elders, and Congregation. The congregation numbers fifty-one (51) Communicant Members. Rev. Henry Bartsch was installed as the Pastor of the congregation. Mr. John Moerman and Mr. Henry Van Til were installed as the Ruling Elders. Mr. John Timmermans was installed as a deacon and Mr. Dale Anderson was ordained and installed as a deacon. Rev. Henry Bartsch presided over the celebration of the Lord's Supper. A time of fellowship followed the worship service.

Friday, April 24, 2009

At 8:20 a.m., the presbytery assembled for a time of prayer.

At 8:40 a.m., the presbytery gathered in the sanctuary for a worship service. Rev. Brian Murray presided over the proceedings and led the presbytery in prayer and in the singing of hymn #261 from the Psalter. Dr. Russell Kosits (Student of Theology) brought the Word of God to the presbytery as he preached from 1Peter 1:1-9. The worship service closed with the singing of hymn #362 from the Psalter Hymnbook.

Presbytery Re-Convenes

At 9:30 a.m., following the worship service, Rev. Kingswood (Vice-moderator) called the presbytery to order and re-convened the 2009 Stated Spring Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery with prayer.

Calling of the Roll by the Stated Clerk

The clerk declared a quorum was present.

Introduction of Guests and Visitors

There were no new guests or visitors noted at this time.

MINISTER AND HIS WORK COMMITTEE (Rev. Rick Barnes)

1. Review of Dr. Russell Kosits' Sermon

The committee has reviewed his exegetical paper and was pleased with the results. The presbytery proceeded to conduct a public review of Dr. Kosits' sermon from earlier this morning.

- **Motion:** To receive this sermon as the first of three sermons that Dr. Kosits is required to present to the presbytery for his licensure. M/S/C

2. Report on Licentiate Bill Van Doodewaard

The committee reported that Mr. Van Doodewaard is completing his internship with Sycamore Reformed Presbyterian Church (RPCNA) in Komoka, Indiana. The committee will be sending a letter of thanks to the congregation and session for their assistance with Bill's education over the past couple of years. He is next looking at travelling to Scotland in May to defend his doctoral thesis in order to complete his Ph.D. After that he will be deciding on whether to pursue a teaching position as an associate professor in European and church history at Patrick Henry College in Virginia or a position at Puritan Theological Seminary in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

3. Report on Ministers Serving Out of Bounds

Rev. Barnes reported that Dr. Jack Whytock, Brian Murray and Fariborz Khandani presented reports to the committee on the works they were undertaking Out of Bounds of the presbytery. **(See Appendices 4 & 5)**

4. Report on Mt. Zion ARP and Riverside ARP

The committee reported they have received reports on the current situations at Mt. Zion ARP Church (Moncton, NB) and Riverside ARP Church (Cambridge, ON) as they are presently vacant.

5. Review of Annual Statistical Reports

The committee noted they had examined the Annual Statistical Reports for 2008 and were satisfied with the reports.

- **Motion:** To adopt the report as a whole. M/S/C

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE (Rev. David Els)

1. Women's Ministry

Jennifer Hovestadt gave a brief report to the committee on her work with the Women's Ministry over the past year.

2. Mt. Zion

A question was raised to the committee over whether Mt. Zion's status as a Particular Church within the presbytery should be changed to Mission Congregation status. The committee could find no legal, practical or justifiable reason for the good of the congregation to change the status. The Provisional Session should continue to work toward establishing a Ruling Elder on site but that there was concern over the amount of time this may take. Everyone needs to continue to work together.

3. Correspondence

The committee received a letter from a member of the congregation of Grace Presbyterian Church, Woodstock, ON. A response has been drafted and will be sent.

- **Motion:** To authorize the Congregational Life Committee to act in this matter on behalf of the presbytery. **M/S/C**

4. Annual Reports

The Annual Reports to the Synod and presbytery were examined. It was discovered that some of the information that was requested on the reports was not adequately supplied or missing altogether. The forms should be filled out properly and sent to the synod office and the stated clerk in a timely manner.

5. Examination of Session Minutes

The 2008 Session Minutes from Grace Presbyterian Church, Trinity Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, Reformed Hungarian Presbyterian Church and Riverside Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church were received and examined according to the Form of Government.

- **Motion:** To receive and approve the minutes from Grace Presbyterian Church, Trinity Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, Reformed Hungarian Presbyterian Church and Riverside Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. **M/S/C**
- **Motion:** To adopt the report as a whole. **M/S/C**

ORDER OF THE DAY

OUTREACH CANADA (Rev. Brian Murray) – (See Appendix 10)

1. Trinity ARP Church (Chatham, ON)

- **Motion:** To remove from the Table, the previous motion from January 31, 2009 that states, *“That a representative from the Congregational Life Committee meet with the Session of Trinity ARP within the time frame of six – twelve months after their organization as an aid to Trinity in making sure the transition from mission congregation*

to an organized congregation in progressing smoothly.” M/S/C

- **Motion:** That a representative from the Congregational Life Committee meet with the Session of Trinity ARP within the time frame of six – twelve months after their organization as an aid to Trinity in making sure the transition from mission congregation to an organized congregation in progressing smoothly. M/S/D

2. Fariborz Khandani

a) Fariborz gave a brief verbal report on the possibility of his beginning to work with a small group of young Iranian Christians in Toronto. He is working at establishing a working relationship with them so that he can ascertain whether there is a serious possibility of the start of a future work within this community.

b) He also noted that in 2008, the presbytery gave him \$2,000 towards the purchase of Bibles written in Farsi. He has given away most of the bibles and sold some of them also. He currently has \$300 from the sales of the bibles. He is requesting more money to go with the \$300 he currently has in order that he may purchase more of these bibles.

- **Motion:** That the Canadian Presbytery extend \$1,000 (USD) (with the current \$300 he has) from the Canadian Church Development Fund to Rev. Khandani to be used towards the purchase of N.T. Bibles written in Farsi for the Iranian ministry in Toronto. M/S/C

3. Church Planting in Scotland

ONA is exploring the possibility of establishing church plants in Scotland.

4. ONA Request

ONA is requesting help in having some of their representatives come to our presbytery meetings.

- **Motion:** To invite Ken Priddy from the ONA to attend a future Stated Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery. M/S/C

5. Potential Church Plants

a) Kingston, ON

Rudy de Vries has presented a proposal to the committee to establish a church plant in the Kingston area. He would move to the area with his family to explore the feasibility of establishing informal contacts for a work there.

- **Motion:** That a committee be established to do exploratory church plant work in Kingston and that it allocate up to \$2500.00 towards that effort and report back to Presbytery. M/S/C

b) London, ON

Grace Presbyterian Church in Woodstock will have three (3) families living in the city of

London by this summer. They have already established a prayer meeting in the southern end of Oxford County for the members of their congregation who reside there. They are interested in doing the same with their members who reside in the London area with the hope that it could eventually grow into something larger in the future. This report is for information only at this time as nothing has been established as of this date.

- **Motion:** To adopt the report as a whole. **M/S/C**

Rev. David Els led the presbytery in prayer for the work of Rev. Khandani in his work through Outreach Canada towards the group in Toronto. Rev. Els gave thanks to God for the ministry to the Iranian church in Toronto that Fariborz is undertaking and asked for a blessing on that ministry so that it may bear fruit in the future.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE (Rev. John Shearouse)

The Stewardship Committee had nothing further to report.

- **Motion:** To adopt the report as a whole. **M/S/C**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business to report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. January Teleconference Call

The discussion of the need for a January Teleconference Call for the presbytery came to the floor. The discussion noted that past meetings of this nature have not been very fruitful and are difficult in nature without the face to face aspect of our relationship with one another. It was further noted that these meetings could still be held if necessary in emergencies but that they did not need to be scheduled. The point was also made that to remove the January Teleconference Meeting from our rotation of meetings would necessitate a change to the Manual of Procedure.

- **Motion:** To remove the Annual January Teleconference Meeting from the rotation of meetings for the Canadian Presbytery. **M/S/C**

REPORTS OF MODERATOR COMMITTEE(S)

1. Excuses and Absences

There were no excuses to report.

2. Resolutions

The following motion from the Excuses and Resolutions Committee was presented by Rev. David Els.

- **Motion:** “Be it resolved that the Canadian Presbytery of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches in Canada, extend their sincere thanks to Trinity Associate Reformed Presbyterian Mission (Chatham) for their warm hospitality and care for us over the past two days.” **M/S/C**

This resolution will be conveyed to the congregation of Trinity ARP Church (Chatham, ON) as well as the thanks of the presbytery to the congregation of the Free Reformed Church for graciously allowing us the use of their facilities for our meetings. Thanks will also be extended to the session of Grace Presbyterian Church for their work as the Provisional Session of Trinity over the past eight years. This will also be conveyed to their congregation in Woodstock.

- **Motion:** To adopt the report as a whole. **M/S/C**

DATES & LOCATIONS OF FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY (D.V.)

September 24-25/09: Trinity Presbyterian Church, Woodstock, NB

April 22-23/10: Reformed Hungarian Church ARP, Toronto, ON

ADJOURNMENT/ ANNOUNCEMENTS – CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Kingswood prayed and gave the benediction. The court adjourned at 11:10 a.m. with the singing of Psalm 133.

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting. **M/S/C**

Respectfully submitted and attested by:

Mr. Bill McKay
Stated Clerk

Mr. Mike Flewelling
Moderator

APPENDIX 1 (April/09)

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE CANADIAN
PRESBYTERY (April 23, 2009)**

The Nominations Committee met via teleconference on Tuesday April 7, 2009. Rev Henry Bartsch, Rev Kevin Carter, Mr. Albert Gerrits, and Mr. John Moerman were in attendance. Absent: Mr. Dave MacKenna.

1. **MODERATOR**

The committee is recommending to the presbytery that Rev. Brian Murray be presented to the Canadian Presbytery to serve as the Moderator for the year 2009/10.

Rev. Murray was honored to receive this nomination but asked the committee to communicate to the Presbytery the possibility that a pastoral call or some other opportunity might arise within the next year making him unable to fulfill the moderator's duties. The committee did discuss this, but noted if that were to happen the vice-moderator would fulfill the duties.

2. **VICE-MODERATOR**

Rev. Murray presents the name of Rev. Kevin Carter to serve as the Vice-moderator for 2009/10.

3. **STANDING COMMITTEES**

We discussed the changes and additions needing to be made to the standing committees. See **Appendix A**. The names in shaded areas were nominated to serve a 4 year term commencing with the 2009/2010 year.

4. **NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF GENERAL SYNOD**

The presbytery is requested to supply a member to sit on the Nominating Committee of the General Synod. This responsibility usually falls on the chairman of the respective presbytery committee. The Nominations Committee is Rev. Henry Bartsch; he will continue to be the Canadian Presbytery representative to the Nominations Committee of General Synod.

5. **COMMITTEE ABSENTEEISM**

The Committee would like to make Presbytery, and in particular the chairmen of the standing committees aware of our Manual of Procedure Part E, Article 2, paragraph c. It states...

"In the event of a resignation or inability of a committee member to serve as demonstrated by missing two (2) consecutive meetings, the Nominating Committee shall present a replacement's name to the next Stated Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery to fill the unexpired term."

The Nominations Committee is thus asking the chairmen of standing committees to communicate with the Committee if and when unexpired terms need to be filled due to resignation or absenteeism.

Recommendations of the Nominations Committee to the 2009 Stated Spring Meeting

R#1: To present Rev. Brian Murray as the nomination for Moderator of the Canadian Presbytery for 2009/10.

R#2: To confirm Rev. Kevin Carter as the Vice-moderator of the Canadian Presbytery for 2009/10.

R#3: To approve of the changes and additions to the Standing Committees of the Canadian Presbytery for 2009/10 as presented. See **Appendix A**.

Appendix “A”
STANDING COMMITTEES
OF THE
CANADIAN PRESBYTERY (2009/10)*

Outreach Canada

Rev. Brian Murray (2011) – **CHAIR**
 Mr. Mr. Albert Gerrits (2013)
 Mr. Lloyd Johnstone (2013)
 Mr. Greig Park (2010)
 Mr. Henry Van Til (2010)
 Mr. Reg Lindsay (2011)
 Rev. Rudy de Vries (2012)
 Mr. Tibor Lacko (2013)

Congregational Life

Rev David Els (2012) - **CHAIR**
 Mr. Jon Van Dyk (2013)
 Mr. Rick Whyte (2013)
 Mr. Ken Turner (2010)
 Mr. Henry Hogeterp (2010)
 Dr. Jack C. Whytock (2011)
 Mr. Dave Alexander (2011)
 Mr. Bill McKay (2012)

Minister and His Work

Rev. Rick Barnes (2010) – **CHAIR**
 Mr. Mike Flewelling (2013)
 Rev. Frank Kovacs (2010)
 Mr. John Rood (2011)
 Mr. Frank Masters (2012)
 Rev Jeff Kingswood (2012)

Nominations

Rev. Henry Bartsch (2011) - **CHAIR**
 Mr. Sean Panjer (2013)
 Mr. Dave MacKenna (2010)
 Rev Kevin Carter (2012)
 Mr. John Moerman (2012)

Stewardship

Rev John Shearouse (2012)– **CHAIR**
 Mr. Frank Kovacs Sr. (2013)
 Mr. Simon Oosterhof (2010)
 Mr. Kevin Bigney (2011)
 Rev. Fariborz Khandani (2012)

Board of Directors

Rev. Kevin Carter (2013) - **CHAIR**
 Mr. John Rood (2010)
 Mr. Dave Alexander (2011)
 Rev. Jeff Kingswood (2012)
 Rev. Frank Kovacs (2014)

Moderator

Rev. Brian Murray (2010)

Vice-moderator

TBA

*Terms of service commence July 1/09 through to June 30/10

Grey shaded areas indicate new appointments.

**Presbytery Report
April 23, 2009**

Last July I attended the Annual Meeting at Bon Clarken. Ligon Duncan, Sinclair Ferguson and Susan Hunt were the speakers for the meeting and the Family Bible Conference. Ligon & Susan spent some of our sessions going through their book "Women's Ministry in the Local Church". I did not attend the October or the March board meetings but I am currently looking into attending the Annual Meeting/Family Bible Conference in July.

The 3rd Annual Ontario Ladies' Retreat was hosted this year by Grace, Woodstock. Mrs. Ruby Taylor (a member at Riverside) was our speaker for the two day conference. She spoke to us on the theme "Sanctification Through Relationships" and using scripture pointed us to how we are sanctified in our personal relationship with the Lord and through our families and church. Ruby brought a number of books (on consignment from Sola Scriptura) that she mentioned in her talks and had them available to purchase there. It was a wonderful idea to have a book table available so that we could start reading and adding on to what we'd learned.

There were 60 ladies in attendance (the number keeps growing) and we were able to get to know different people as we did all our discussion groups with the same people after each session. We enjoyed the tranquility of the Elmhurst Inn and a large number even ventured out on the grounds in the rain. At the end of the retreat the ladies from Grace handed out a survey and one of the main things that was mentioned was that they would like to have a 1 day conference in the fall where we could invite women from other churches – so that we could get a bigger named speaker (like Susan Hunt) and then have our 2 day retreat in the spring for just the ARP ladies. It was suggested that the Grace ladies host the 1 day event (as they are the most central) and the Trinity & Riverside ladies take turns hosting the spring events. Riverside will be hosting the 4th Annual Retreat for 2010 and the ladies will have their first informal planning session this Saturday.

It has taken a bit longer than expected, but the first issue of the ARP Encouragers Newsletter is ready. I have an envelope for each of the churches to take back with them and if you could please pass these on the ladies in your congregations that would be greatly appreciated. Because this is the first issue, I thought it would be better to have printed copies, but in the future (for cost savings) I hope to be able to send it by email. I hope to have the next issue out for the fall, (about the time of the presbytery meeting) so please encourage your ladies to participate. Future issues will depend on whether or not there are any contributions or interest from the ladies.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Hovestadt
ARP Women's Ministry
Canadian Representative.

APPENDIX 3 (April/09)

*Trinity Associate Reformed
Presbyterian Church*



Rev. Henry G. Bartsch – Pastor

405 Riverview Dr Unit L02D
Chatham ON N7M 5J5

(519) 354 3240

trinityarpchurch3@bellnet.ca

www.trinityarp.org

Organizational Service
April 23, 2009

Service of Organization 7:00^{PM}

Rev. Kevin Carter presiding

Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn: Praise Ye the Father

Confession of Faith - Apostles' Creed

Scripture Reading: Acts 20:17-38

Sermon: "The Word of His Grace" - Rev. Jeff Kingswood

Prayer of Application

Hymn: Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Organization of the congregation - Rev. Kevin Carter

Prayer for congregation - John Rood (Ruling Elder from Grace)

Installation of Ruling Elders

Prayer for new elders - Rev. Rudy De Vries

Installation of Rev. Henry Bartsch as Minister

Prayer for Rev. Bartsch - Rev. Frank Kovacs

Charge to the congregation, elders, and minister - Rev. John Shearouse

Prayer of consecration - Rev. Brian Murray

Ordination and Installation of Deacons - Rev. Henry Bartsch

The Lord's Supper

Rev. Henry Bartsch presiding

Hymn: Arise My Soul Arise

Exhortation / Invitation

Prayer of Confession/Consecration/Institution

Receiving Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Closing Hymn: My Song Forever Shall Record

Benediction

Doxology: Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah, O My Soul

Welcome to this service of organization whereby Trinity Presbyterian is constituted as a Particular Church within the Canadian Presbytery of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian denomination. Trinity becomes the ninth organized church in the Canadian Presbytery - spanning Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Further, as of this evening, she will be one of over 260 organized churches in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America. It is our prayer that our Reformed (theological) and Presbyterian (government) roots will bear much fruit in our contemporary culture. Pray with us for the glory of God to be advanced as the Kingdom of Light drives out the darkness.

The congregation is, first and foremost, grateful to our Saviour who has led and directed the mission efforts here in the Chatham region. What began with an inconsequential group of families has become a living and growing church in the Kingdom of God. The congregation is also grateful to Grace Presbyterian (Woodstock) for 'lending' their elders to provide capable supervision during the formative years. And, of course, to the broader family of the Canadian Presbytery and the ARP denomination for supporting us in this

work.

Sunday Services:

Morning service 10:00 AM

Afternoon service 5:00 PM

(Nursery provided for both services)

Service Location:

Chatham Christian Schools

475 Keil Drive South

Chatham

Introduction to Trinity Presbyterian Church

"In Him (Christ) was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:4,5)

As a new century dawned, a few families within Chatham-Kent sensed the leading of God to begin the research necessary to assess the potential of a new church plant. Part of that process involved an invitation to the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church to meet with these families. Responding to that invitation were Dr. Jack Whytock, Rev. John van Eyk, Rev. Bill Campbell - representatives of the North East Presbytery's outreach committee, and Mr. Brian Murray as an observer. This took place at an informal barbeque meeting in August of 2000.

The idea took root, a local steering committee was struck, a Bible Study was begun and the process gained momentum. One of the requirements of the Presbytery Committee was for the group to solidify their understanding of covenant baptism. In the due course of that study (under the capable teaching of Rev John van Eyk), some Christians from Essex County joined the ranks and the numbers swelled.

Finally, in April of 2001, the North East Presbytery of the ARP Church received Trinity Presbyterian as a mission work. A Provisional Session, consisting of the elders of Woodstock Grace Presbyterian, was established by the Presbytery. April 29th of the same year marked the occasion of the first Lord's Day services for Trinity - with over 70 in attendance!

The framework of ministry having been established, the Provisional Session interviewed those wishing to become members, a local elder was added to the Session and a local deacon began the work of the diaconate. Following two years of quality pulpit supply by visiting preachers, the Canadian Presbytery (having been formed within the ARP in the interim) ordained and installed Mr. Henry Bartsch as the Mission Developer in Chatham-Kent. His local work in the Gospel ministry began in May of 2003.

Today, April 23, 2009, is not the end of a process - but a new beginning... that Christ may increasingly be the light and life of men.

APPENDIX 4 (April/09)



HADDINGTON HOUSE TRUST
*for the Advancement of
Evangelical Presbyterian Theological Training*



Haddington House – Operations
c/o Penny Ching, Bookkeeper
99 North River Road
Charlottetown, PE C1A 3K6
Email: haddingtonhouse@eastlink.ca

Haddington House – MT3
c/o Christina Lehmann, Treasurer
99 North River Road
Charlottetown, PE C1A 3K6
Email: haddingtonhouse@eastlink.ca

6 March, 2009

RE: 2008 Report of Ministry

Dear Brothers in the Lord,

Warm greetings in the name of Jesus Christ.

The year 2008 has been a blessed year with many opportunities for ministry as Director of Haddington House and as Team Leader and Theological Missionary with MT3 (Mobile Theological Training Team) of World Witness.

Work for MT3 included eighteen formal presentations in 2008 and conducting four missions conferences, including World Focus at Bonclarken and speaking at two presbyteries. Administrative work as Team Leader with MT3 in 2008 continued, and I also led the Team Retreat. Travel and teaching overseas in 2008 was at three different intervals for a total of twelve weeks. The chief duties were teaching courses, leadership conferences and consultation.

On the home front, I tutored throughout the year, cared for the necessary administration labours for Haddington House and MT3, prepared courses, preached, and participated in two committees for General Synod.

I give thanks to the Lord for His sustaining grace to me and my family throughout 2008. I continue to thank the Lord for all who continue to pray for the matters found on our Prayer Cards.

Yours in Gospel bonds,

Rev. Jack C. Whytock, Ph.D.
Director of Haddington House and Team Leader, MT3

"Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household.... And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit."

APPENDIX 5 (April/09)

Greetings Fathers and Brethren ,

March 20, 2009

Please find below my "minister without a call" report for the period dating from June 15th, 2008 - March 20, 2009.

I have been enjoying work on my Master of Theology degree from Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary. I am at various stages of completion of 4 of my mandatory 8 courses (John Knox and the Scottish Reformation, Theology of Puritan New England, Scottish Presbyterianism, Theology of John Calvin). I anticipate taking two more courses in May (Reformation in Holland, Westminster Assembly and Standards) and the final two sometime during the summer of 2009. This will leave me with only my thesis to complete.

In regards to my ministerial work, I have had a full plate since arriving back in Ontario. I have preached 30 of 38 Lord's Days (sometimes three services a Sunday), had the privilege of administering the Lord's Supper to congregations in the ARP and the OPC, administered the sacrament of Baptism in one of our ARP congregations, conducted a wedding and a funeral and have had opportunities to participate in pre-marital counselling as well as teaching at Grace ARP's annual Vacation Bible School.

As a family, we are doing well and can attest to the Lord's blessings on our lives together. We are still awaiting clarity as to what our future will hold when my studies are complete. We covet your prayers in this regard and thank the Lord for the help and support of the Canadian Presbytery.

Yours in the service of our King,

Brian Murray

Past Officers of the Canadian Presbytery

2004-05

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Jack C. Whytock

Vice-moderator: Rev. Rick Barnes

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Henry Brunsveld

2005-06

Moderator: Ken Turner

Vice-moderator: Rev. Frank Kovacs

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Henry Brunsveld

2006-07

Moderator: Rev. David Els

Vice-moderator: John Moerman

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Henry Brunsveld/
Gary Armstrong

2007-08

Moderator: Rev. John van Eyk

Vice-moderator: Rev. Brian Murray

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Gary Armstrong

2008-09

Moderator: Mike Flewelling

Vice-moderator: Rev. Jeff Kingswood

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Gary Armstrong