

THE MINUTES OF THE **CANADIAN PRESBYTERY**

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches in Canada,
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Synod

2018 Stated Fall Meeting

September 26-28, 2018

Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church
Halifax, NS



Rev. Jeff Kingswood
Moderator

Mr. Bill McKay
Stated Clerk

OFFICERS OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY

MODERATOR

(1 yr. term expires June 30, 2019)

Rev. Jeff Kingswood
Grace Presbyterian Church
Woodstock, ON

VICE MODERATOR

(1 yr. term expires June 30, 2019)

Mr. Russell Lutes
Mt. Zion ARP Church
Moncton, NB

STATED CLERK

(3 yr. term expires June 30, 2019)

Mr. Bill McKay
Grace Presbyterian Church
Woodstock, ON

READING CLERK

(3 yr. term expires June 30, 2019)

Rev. Brian Murray
Grace Presbyterian Church
Woodstock, ON

TREASURER

(3 yr. term expires June 30, 2019)

Mr. Gary Armstrong
Grace Presbyterian Church
Woodstock, ON

CHURCHES OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY **ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN CANADA**

MARITIMES REGION

Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church

Covenanters ARP Church

Grace Fellowship Church, ARPC

Mt. Zion ARP Church

Trinity Presbyterian Mission

ONTARIO REGION

Grace Presbyterian Church

Riverside ARP Church

Trinity ARP Church

Faith ARP Mission

Hope ARP Mission

TABLE OF CONTENTS

REPORT OF THE MODERATOR.....	5
REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK.....	5
REPORT OF THE MODERATOR'S COMMITTEES.....	6, 11, 17
REPORT OF CANADIAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONS.....	8
REPORT OF THE OUTREACH CANADA COMMITTEE.....	10
REPORT OF STEWARDSHIP/CONGREGATIONAL LIFE.....	12
REPORT OF THE MINISTER & HIS WORK COMMITTEE.....	14
APPENDIX 1.....	19
APPENDIX 2.....	20
APPENDIX 3.....	22
APPENDIX 4.....	27
APPENDIX 5.....	29
APPENDIX 6.....	32
APPENDIX 6.....	36
APPENDIX 6.....	37
APPENDIX 6.....	38
PAST OFFICERS OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY.....	39

**MINUTES OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY,
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN CANADA,
2018 STATED FALL MEETING – September 26-28, 2018
Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church (Halifax, NS)
convened at Grace Baptist Church (Dartmouth, NS)**

Wednesday – September 26, 2018

The 2018 Stated Fall Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery was held on September 26 - 28, 2018 and hosted by the Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church congregation (Halifax, NS) and convened at Grace Baptist Church (Dartmouth, NS). It is by God’s grace and under His blessing that we gather as a court of His church. We give praise and thanks to God from whom all blessings flow.

Presbytery Convenes for 2018 Stated Fall Meeting

Rev. Jeff Kingswood, the Moderator of the Canadian Presbytery (2018/19), called the presbyters to order at 2:30 p.m. and convened the 2018 Stated Fall Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery. Rev. Kingswood constituted the meeting of the Canadian Presbytery as a court of the church of Jesus Christ, with a scripture reading from 1 Corinthians 3:10ff and prayer.

Greetings from the Host Congregation

On behalf of the congregation of Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church, Rev. John Shearouse extended warm greetings and salutations to the presbyters and guests of the Canadian Presbytery.

Calling of the Roll

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>MINISTER</u>	<u>RULING ELDER</u>
<u>Maritime Region</u>		
Grace Fellowship ARP	VACANT	ABSENT
Covenant Reformed Presbyterian	Rev. John Shearouse	Dave Alexander
Covenanters ARP	Rev. Martin Dendekker	Albert Gerrits
Mt. Zion ARP	Rev. Michael Jaatinen	Russell Lutes
Trinity Presbyterian Mission	Rev. Jonathan Cowan	ABSENT
<u>Ontario Region</u>		
Riverside ARP	Rev. Jerry Hamstra	Simon Oosterhof
Grace Presbyterian	Rev. Jeff Kingswood (Senior) Rev. Brian Murray (Associate)	Bill McKay
Trinity ARP Church	Rev. Henry Bartsch	John Moerman
Faith ARP Mission	Rev. Stephen Richardson	Aaron Koning
Hope ARP Mission	Rev. Kevin Carter	ABSENT
<u>Other Ministers of the Canadian Presbytery</u>		<u>Licentiates/Students Under Care</u>
Rev. Rudy de Vries	Tom Van Maanen	Tim Collins
Dr. William VanDoodewaard	Robert Widdowson	
	Richard Vander Vaart	

- Dr. Frank Kovacs and Rev. Rick Barnes were absent with permission.
- Grace Fellowship ARP (Sydney Mines, NS), Trinity Presbyterian Mission (Woodstock, NB) and Hope ARP Mission (Kingston, ON) were not represented with Ruling Elders at this meeting.
- A quorum for this stated meeting was declared to be present with nineteen (19) presbyters in attendance.

Mission Congregations

- **Motion:** It is moved by Outreach Canada to allow Ruling Elders from the Mission congregations of the Canadian Presbytery to fully participate in this meeting. **M/S/C**

Introduction of Guests and Fraternal Delegates

The following guests were noted to be in attendance:

Eileen Moerman
Tini Oosterhof
Jason Lindsay
Rev. Lester Settle
Ray Silver

Report of the Moderator (Rev. Jeff Kingswood)

1. Presentation and Approval of the Docket
 - **Motion:** To adopt the docket as presented. **M/S/C**
2. Appointment of the Moderator's Committees

Bill VanDoodewaard and Russell Lutes were appointed to serve on the Moderator's Committee for Excuses and Resolutions.

Report of the Stated Clerk (Bill McKay)

1. Approval of the Minutes
 - **Motion:** To approve the minutes from the June 5, 2018 Called Meeting of the presbytery as circulated. **M/S/C**
2. Property Purchase Request From Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church

The congregation of Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church has been presented with an opportunity to purchase the Erskine United Church property located in Glenholme, NS. It is their desire to take ownership of this property with the intention of establishing a future "daughter church" in that location.

 - **Motion:** To refer this request to both Congregational Life and Outreach Canada for their deliberations and to return jointly with a recommendation. **M/S/C**
3. Early General Synod Registration

The 2019 ARP General Synod is planning to meet concurrently with the RPCNA General Synod at Geneva College in Beaver Falls, PA (June 11-13, 2019). Central Services (ARP) is requesting that any presbytery delegates planning to attend the 2019 General Synod, register earlier than normal so that the staff will be able to better determine quorum numbers and the use of the facilities at Geneva College. On-line registration on the ARP website has been open since September 21, 2018.
4. Memorial on Freemasonry from Faith ARP (See Appendix 1)

The presbytery has received a memorial from Faith ARP (Tillsonburg, ON) to have a special committee formed to study and compile the scriptural teaching on "secret societies" so that the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church can create a policy and draft a public statement regarding membership in such societies.

 - **Motion:** To refer the memorial to Stewardship/Congregational Life for their deliberations and

to return with a recommendation. **M/S/C**

➤ **The presbytery recessed at 2:45 p.m. for the day for Standing Committee Meetings**

Thursday, September 27, 2018

At 8:00 a.m., the Presbytery assembled for a time of prayer.

Presbytery Re-Convenes

At 9:00 a.m., following the worship service, Rev. Kingswood called the presbytery to order and re-convened the 2018 Stated Fall Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery with prayer.

Calling of the Roll

A quorum was declared to be present.

Henry Hogeterp is now serving as the elder representative for Covenanters ARP in place of Albert Gerrits.

Introduction of Visitors

The following were introduced as new visitors to the proceedings:

Ray Silver

Andy Kubik

Jason Lindsay

Nathan Shearouse

Noah Shearouse

Ken Drouillard (Sr.)

Ken Drouillard

Ken Quick

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Moderator's Committees/Commissions

1. **Mt. Zion ARPC Ordination and Installation**

The presbytery heard a verbal report from the Moderator's Commission (Rev. John Shearouse) on the ordination and installation of Rev. Michael Jaatinen as the pastor of Mt. Zion ARPC (Moncton, NB) on July 6, 2018.

2. **Covenanters ARPC Ordination and Installation (See Appendix 2)**

The presbytery heard a report from Rev. John Shearouse on the ordination and installation of Rev. Martin Dendekker as the pastor of Covenanters ARPC (Cambridge, NS) on August 24, 2018.

3. **Trinity Presbyterian Mission (Woodstock, NB) (See Appendix 3)**

Rev. Kevin Carter presented the report from the committee that was tasked with investigating the situation with Trinity Presbyterian Mission in Woodstock, NB. The committee met with the congregation on Saturday, May 26, 2018. They discussed the many changes the congregation has undergone over the past 6 years since David Els left and the individual and congregational issues that followed in that time. Since that time, there are many in the congregation, who expressed their concerns about their perceived changes at the church, especially with the leadership. The committee presented the following nine recommendations:

- 1) That Trinity Presbyterian Mission Church be given full support to continue in Woodstock as a congregation of the Canadian Presbytery. That this message be communicated to Trinity as well. [The committee saw that, though Trinity is undergoing trials and refining fires, she is still viable financially at the present time; and has a committed group of members, though not all were in agreement of the general direction of the provisional Session.]
- 2) That the Provisional Session be restructured with RE Bill McKay and Rev. Brian Murray dismissed with thanksgiving for their hard labours during a trying time at Trinity, and two other Presbyters be added to the provisional session. [For whatever reasons and perceptions, it is evident that there is a caustic sentiment against the current men *{perhaps because they're the ones involved with the major censures/disciplines against former members}* as well as Bill and Brian wanting to be removed. This corrective is needed for the provisional session to move forward.]
- 3) That the Presbytery Commission which was responsible for reinstating Mike Flewelling as a ruling elder at Trinity, write a letter to Trinity explaining why he was not recommended for reinstatement. This communiqué should be read by a representative of the Presbytery, and not a member of the provisional session. [Mike has expressed his side of the matter, and that is all the congregation has heard thus far. This matter is yet unsettled in the church's mind. This action needs to be seen as coming from Presbytery and not the provisional session]
- 4) That the provisional session write a communiqué to the congregation on how the sixth vow of membership is applied in the process of receiving new members. Included in this, it needs to be expressed that no session has the privilege or right of removing any vow for new members.
- 5) That a statement be written by the Congregational Life Committee for all our churches in the Canadian Presbytery as to why membership in a local church is a biblical and necessary point for the worthy participation in the Lord's Supper, as is stated in The Directory of Public Worship V.B.8.c(5d).
- 6) That Presbytery provide funding for the Rev. Jonathan Cowan and RE Kurt Kafferlin to receive professional training to help the congregation and/or other persons connected to Trinity, in the healing process respecting the consequences of the systemic sexual offences, should the provisional session deem this necessary. [There is still a lot of hurt, and suffering from Owen's sins, and people need counselling. Jonathan and Kurt need to be prepared for this.].
- 7) That particular counselling be given to Jonathan & Coralie Cowan, and Kurt & Erin Kafferlin. We recommend that a time of refreshing and follow-up counselling be offered to them jointly from another seasoned Minister and wife team. [These two officers and their families have born much of the trial, and it was evident to the committee during the meeting and subsequent visitation, that these couples were clearly hurting, frustrated and burned out.]

- 8) That the congregation of Trinity be admonished to realize that change and reform are ever a part of being a church, especially when significant leadership changes are effected; and in light of scandalous sin, a congregation must humbly petition the mercies of the Lord Jesus in repentance, seeking even more a spirit of unity and perseverance in holiness and zeal for the Lord's glory, and not man's.
 - 9) That Presbytery sends a pastoral letter to Trinity advising them of the actions being taken from the committee's report. The Rev. Rudy de Vries is recommended to write this letter.
- **Motion:** To table this item until the Outreach Canada report on Trinity Presbyterian Mission. M/S/C

4. Canadian ARP General Synod

There was no report on the work towards the formation of an independent Canadian ARP General Synod. It is noted that the RPCNA churches in Ontario are moving towards forming their own separate synod.

B. Canadian Presbyterian Missions Committee (Rev. Henry Bartsch)

1. Committee Operation to Date

The committee is now almost fully operational. The committee has opened a bank account with TD Canada Trust. Money for the Pakistan and Malawi missions that has been held in trust with Grace Presbyterian Church has been transferred over to the committee's care. The committee has also made application for Charitable Status from the Canada Revenue Agency and is waiting on that decision.

2. Mission Conferences

The committee is recommending that the committee begin a series of "Mission Conferences" throughout the Canadian churches to help motivate the Canadian congregations to engage in local evangelism and missions. These conferences will help raise awareness of the mission programs and the personnel of CPM. The conferences will consist of talks on missions, prayer times, an information session on the work of the presbytery through CPM, and presentations from the current missionaries of the presbytery. The committee is suggesting three different "models" of conferences that could be used. Each church can choose the model they would like to see used in their particular locale.

- Model #1 would see the conference begin on a Friday evening, run all Saturday and close with worship on the Sunday.
- Model #2 would see the conference begin on Saturday and close with worship on the Sunday.
- Model #3 would see the conference exclusively on Sunday with a small presentation time before or after worship during the congregation's Sunday School times.
- **Motion:** To approve the implementation of the CPM Conferences on a schedule to be arranged with the churches of the Canadian Presbytery and CPM. M/S/C

3. World Witness
2-2-20 Initiative

World Witness has introduced an initiative to help identify future potential missionaries from within the denomination. They are asking the denomination to pray daily for God to call a new generation of missionaries. They are also requesting each ARP church to submit two names of two potential missionaries by the year 2020 (hence 2-2-20). There is more information on the World Witness website.

4. Missions Updates

a. Pakistan

Bill and Janet McKay are currently preparing to leave for their next trip to Sahiwal, Pakistan next week. This is Janet's 10th trip and Bill's 9th since 2013. They will be serving again at CHS from October 1 – 26, 2018. It has been a year since they were last there as they did not go in the Spring due to visa issues. Janet will continue teaching nursing skills with the staff and students and Bill will continue with his work in training the Spiritual Services team to better improve their ability to share the gospel with the patients as well as conducting training for the pastors and elders serving on the hospital staff.

The following items are to be noted:

- The renovation of the Esther John Memorial Chapel is still underway but quickly nearing completion as they begin to pour the main floor area of the chapel. Generous donations have been received to make new furnishings for the chapel (such as pews and a communion table).
- The hospital has recently been approved to begin classes for a BScN degree program so the whole school setup needs to be revised, as there are still 4 classes involved with the old RN certificate program.
- Some area pastors have inquired about using the Basic Catechism program that was originally developed for the nursing school students, the hospital staff and their families.
- The children of the hospital staff who reside on the hospital campus are responding well to the teaching from Pastor Sohail (who is the minister for the CHS staff) and are excited about learning more of the catechism.

b. Malawi

The committee has developed the plan of working with the "Mission to the World" (MTW) missions committee of the PCA through their mission candidate (Rev. Confex Makhallira) who is a Malawi national. Mr. Makhallira is currently finishing his pastoral studies in the U.S.A. and is planning on returning to Malawi in 2019 to begin church planting with two other colleagues. The plan is to have Mr. Makhallira and his colleagues begin a study center for the purpose of training men for ministry and service as church elders. Mr. Van Maanen will assist in this training. Tom and Sandra are hopeful and excited with the prospect of returning to Malawi possibly in November 2018 to continue their work in that country. The plan is for them to serve there for 4 – 5 months each year at this time.

The following items are to be noted:

- Pray for patience as Tom and Sandra wait for financial support to be raised to help send them to Malawi.
- Pray for wisdom to make good and correct decisions in working with the Malawian church.
- Pray that God will bless this mission work that the Canadian ARP undertook with Tom and Sandra.
- Pray for the leaders of the Malawian church as they work to build Malawian churches that are faithful in their doctrinal teaching and Reformed in their polity as Presbyterians.
- Rev. Jonathan Cowan offered prayer for Bill and Janet McKay and their work in Pakistan and for Tom and Sandra Van Maanen and their work in Malawi.

C. **OUTREACH CANADA (Rev. Brian Murray)**

1. Rev. Rudy de Vries

A report was given by Rev. de Vries regarding his ongoing work with Redemption Prison Ministry in the Canadian federal penitentiaries in Eastern Canada and mostly in eastern Ontario. In the report, he shared both his joys and his struggles in this ministry.

- Henry Hogeterp offered prayer for Rev. de Vries, his family and his work with Redemption Prison Ministry.

2. Canadian Presbytery Mission Congregations

a. Faith ARP Mission (See Appendix 4)

Rev. Stephen Richardson presented a brief update on what is happening at Faith ARP Mission in Tillsonburg, ON. It is encouraging to see the growth of the congregation. They are getting very close to possibly being able to be organized as a particular church. They recently ordained another elder (Aaron Koning) to serve on the Provisional Session.

b. Hope ARP Mission (Kingston, ON) (See Appendix 5)

Rev. Kevin Carter gave an update on the ongoing work of Hope ARP Mission in Kingston. It is very encouraging with the contacts they have made. They are seeing some growth in the numbers who have been attending recently. It is both humbling and amazing to see God's providence in His supply for their needs as they have dealt with some unforeseen financial setbacks this year.

Rev. Martin Dendekker offered prayer for Hope ARP Mission and the work of Rev. Kevin Carter and his family.

3. Canada for Christ 2030 – Windsor, ON

Since Windsor, ON has been identified in the past by Outreach Canada as a target city for church planting, Trinity ARP (Chatham, ON) is presenting a preliminary proposal to the presbytery to establish a "daughter church/plant" in Windsor jointly with the presbytery. There is currently one family who is participating in a weekly bible study with Rev. Bartsch. The plan they are proposing is to call an Associate Pastor to help oversee a combination of this work and/or serving pastorally at Trinity in Chatham. This plan is pending congregational

approval for all aspects of the proposed church-planting endeavour.

- **Motion:** To grant approval for Trinity ARP (Chatham, ON) to work to establish a proposed church plant in Windsor, ON to be reassessed by Presbytery and Trinity in two years after the start date. **M/S/C**
- **Motion:** For the proposed church plant (pending congregational approval of all aspects of the proposed work), presbytery will commit to \$33,000 per year for 2 years while Trinity will commit equally another \$33,000 on a 50/50 split of pastoral duties in Chatham and church planting efforts in Windsor; and further, the ongoing work in Windsor will be reassessed at the 2021 Stated Spring Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery as to its viability and progress. **M/S/C**

3. Canadian Presbytery Mission Congregations (cont'd.)

a) Trinity Presbyterian Mission (Woodstock, NB) (See Appendix 6)

The Provisional Session has been functioning as well as could be expected with Kurt Kafferlin, Bill McKay and Rev. Brian Murray working with Rev. Jonathan Cowan as the moderator of the provisional session. There are ongoing struggles between the provisional session and the congregation as well as within the congregation, as they work to try to settle past issues involving grievous sins of sexual immorality, discipline issues, church membership and the perception about the leadership and direction of the church. Rev. Cowan has noted the decline in membership and attendance numbers as well as the financial support for the church. The budget deficit for 2018 was proposed to be \$12,000 and is in a deficit position (year to date) by about \$13,000 with 4 months still to go in the year.

- Dr. Bill VanDoodewaard led the presbytery in prayer for Jonathan, his family, the Provisional Session and Trinity Presbyterian Mission.
 - **Motion:** That Rev. Jonathan Cowan be retained as the pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Mission (Woodstock, NB) until December 31, 2018 at which time his Pastoral Relationship with that congregation will be dissolved. **M/S/C**
 - **Motion:** As of January 1, 2019, the Rev. Michael Jaatinen will be appointed to serve as the Interim Moderator of Trinity Presbyterian Mission. **M/S/C**
 - **Motion:** To restructure the Provisional Session to consist of Kurt Kafferlin and, if possible, one other elder from a Maritime Region church as of January 1, 2019. **M/S/C**
 - **Motion:** Beginning January 1, 2019, to have Trinity Presbyterian Mission move to one Sunday service only with Kurt Kafferlin preaching one Sunday per month, Rev. Michael Jaatinen preaching one Sunday per month (plus administering the Lord's Supper) and the remaining Sunday morning services to be live streamed from Mt. Zion ARP (Moncton, NB) or if other pulpit supply is available. **M/S/C**
- **RECESS FOR LUNCH**
At 12:00 p.m. Rev. Kingswood declared a recess for this session of presbytery for lunch.

b) Trinity Presbyterian Mission Commission (Cont'd.)

- 1) **Motion:** To adopt Recommendation "1". **M/S/Withdrawn**
- 2) **Motion:** To adopt Recommendation "2" with the removal of the stipulation of adding two other elders to the Provisional Session. **M/S/C**
- 3) **Motion:** To adopt Recommendation "3". **M/S/C**
- 4) **Motion:** To adopt Recommendation "4". **M/S/C**
- 5) **Motion:** To adopt Recommendation "5". **M/S/C**
- 6) **Motion:** To adopt Recommendation "6". **M/S/C**
- 7) **Motion:** To adopt Recommendation "7". **M/S/C**
 - Rev. Jerry Hamstra will undertake this task.
- 8) **Motion:** To adopt Recommendation "8". **M/S/C**
 - Rev. Kevin Carte will draft this letter.
- 9) **Motion:** To adopt Recommendation "9". **M/S/C**
- 10) **Motion:** To dismiss the committee with thanks giving to God for their labours. **M/S/C**

C. **STEWARDSHIP/CONGREGATIONAL (Simon Oosterhof)**

1. 2018 Treasurer's Report (See Appendix 7)

The Treasurer's Report for 2018 (to date) was presented for information only.

2. Budget 2019 (See Appendix 8)

- **Motion:** To add a line item to the 2019 budget of \$8,000 for the expense a relocation of Rev. Cowan and his family to Ontario. **M/S/C**
- **Motion:** To approve the proposed budget for fiscal year 2019 as amended. **M/S/C**

3. Treasurer

- **Motion:** To express gratitude to Gary Armstrong for his excellent work as our Presbytery Treasurer. **M/S/C**

4. Students

The committee is reminding M&HW that their committee needs to assess the financial need of the students under care and advise Stewardship of that need.

- **Motion:** To pay the bursary money from the presbytery that is owed to David Chi. **M/S/C**

5. Reimbursements

- **Motion:** To exceed the \$400 reimbursement limit as stated in our policy and reimburse Richard Vander Vaart for the full amount of his travel costs on this trip. **M/S/C**
- **Motion:** To amend the section of the policy under the reimbursement of student travel to presbytery to read "*Travel assistance for Presbytery will be provided up to a value of \$400 per year.*" The policy will be amended to add "*If the student is required to be at a specific Presbytery meeting the full cost of their travel/stay will be reimbursed.*" **M/S/C**

6. Congregational Life Report

a) Report on Vacant Churches – Grace Fellowship ARP (Sydney Mines, NS)

The committee heard a report from Rev. Rudy de Vries and a report from Mr. Dave

MacKenna on the situation regarding the leadership issue of Grace Fellowship ARPC, (Sydney Mines, NS) and how they are dealing with their pulpit supply and other issues and how they intend to deal with those issues (moving forward) since the retirement of Rev. Rick Barnes in July of 2018. Rev. de Vries discovered that about 6 years ago, a “Congregational Council” was formed to help advise the session. Since that time, this “council” has now completely taken over the function of the session and is operating in place of the session as the minutes of their meetings are now considered to be the official record of the church. The 3 elders of record serve on this committee but Mr. Dave MacKenna, who is not currently a serving elder, chairs the committee. This type of church leadership is in opposition to the polity of the church as described in the ARP Form of Government. Mr. MacKenna informed the committee that there are two groups within the congregation – one would like to stay in the ARP and the other would like to leave the ARP. He also noted that there would be a great resistance to any moves the presbytery made to have them change back to a Presbyterian model. They have also had women preaching since the retirement of Rev. Barnes. As it now stands, the presbytery does not have enough information on the current congregation situation as to whether there is support for the council or not and how much support there may be within the congregation for remaining an ARP church. In light of these discussions, the committee is recommending that a Moderator’s Committee be established to investigate the situation and to return with recommendations on how to proceed at the 2019 Stated Spring Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery.

- **Motion:** To appoint Rev. John Shearouse, Rev. Martin Dendekker, Rev. Michael Jaatinen, Rev. Rudy de Vries, Mr. Russell Lutes and Mr. Peter Lindsay to serve on a Moderator’s Committee to investigate the current situation with the leadership issue and the congregation of Grace Fellowship ARPC (Sydney Mines, NS); and further, to return with a report and recommendations no later than the 2019 Stated Spring Meeting. **M/S/C**
- **Rev. Rudy de Vries will chair this committee.**

Rev. Jerry Hamstra offered prayer for Grace Fellowship ARPC at this time.

b) Session Minutes

- **Motion:** To approve the session minutes from the Maritime Region churches as examined and approved by the committee according to the Form of Government guidelines with corrections noted. **M/S/C**

7. Property Purchase for Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church

Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church (Halifax, NS) is requesting approval from the presbytery for their congregation to pursue the purchase of the Erskine United Church building located in Glenholme, NS (just outside of Truro, NS). They have been offered the opportunity to purchase the building for \$10.00 plus closing costs, which will amount to approximately \$15,000. They have presented a challenge to the congregation to raise \$25,000 (\$15,000 purchase price plus an additional \$10,000 to cover maintenance for two years) by December 31, 2018. If the money has not been raised by that date, the offer to

purchase will be withdrawn and the plan will not proceed. The plan is for their congregation to establish an outreach program in the Truro area where they would possibly have an evening service at that location once or twice per month.

The Truro, NS area was one of the areas that Outreach Canada has identified as a possible location for a future church plant at some time in the future although it is noted that Glenholme is about 25 kms. away from Truro.

- **Motion:** To approve the request from Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church (Halifax, NS) to proceed with their plan to acquire the Erskine United Church property in Glenholme, NS, with the understanding that the CRPC Halifax will fundraise \$25,000 by December 31, 2018. **M/S/C**

8. Memorial on Freemasonry

- **Motion:** The Canadian Presbytery will transmit this memorial to the General Synod to be directed the Theological and Social Concerns Committee for General Synod 2019. **M/S/C**

9. Women's Ministry

There was no report at this time.

D. Minister and His Work Committee (Rev. Jeff Kingswood)

1. Licensure Examinations

a) Richard Vander Vaart

Richard Vander Vaart was examined on the floor of presbytery for licensure at this time. He was examined in the areas of:

- English Bible: John Moerman
 - **Motion:** To suspend this part of the examination. **M/S/C**
- Theology: Dr. Bill VanDoodewaard
 - **Motion:** To suspend this part of the examination. **M/S/C**
- Church History: Rev. Kevin Carter
 - **Motion:** To suspend this part of the examination. **M/S/C**
- **Motion:** To move into Executive Session. **M/S/C**
- **Motion:** To sustain this floor examination of Richard Vander Vaart towards his licensure. **M/S/C**
- **Motion:** That Rev. Brian Murray continues to mentor Richard. **M/S/C**
- Rev. Jeff Kingswood offered prayer for Richard and his future ministry at this time.

2. Students Under Care and Licentiates

a) Students Under Care

i. David Chi

David is beginning his 2nd year of studies at GPTS and is doing very well with improvement in his English skills.

- ii. Randy Lieuwen
Randy is planning to complete his undergrad degree in December and begin his seminary studies in January 2019 at Gillespie Divinity School in Woodstock, ON.
 - iii. Tim Collins
Tim has begun his 1st year of studies at Gillespie Divinity School in Woodstock, ON.
3. Ministers Serving Out of Bounds & Ministers without Pastoral Charge
 - a) Dr. William VanDoodewaard
Dr. VanDoodewaard and his family are continuing to worship at Harvest OPC in Grand Rapids. He is doing well in his teaching position as Professor of Church History at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary.
4. Manual of Procedure Revision
 - **Motion:** That MoP Article 2 (3) be renamed Article 2 (3a) and that the following be added: “(3b) The committee shall oversee the labours of ministers who are labouring "out of bounds" (ie. called to serve at a seminary, Christian college, or other organization). Such ministers shall be required to make an annual report of their work to the committee by January 31 of each year. The committee shall encourage such ministers to maintain regular communication regarding needs or difficulties in their calling.” **M/S/C**
5. Presbytery Pulpit Supply List (See Appendix 9)

A pulpit supply list has been produced and was presented to the presbytery for information.
6. Tom Van Maanen

Tom Van Maanen’s extension for his Licensure is expiring this fall. His plan is to continue in ministry working with the Canadian Presbyterian Missions committee of the Presbytery. The CPM committee is proposing to have a Pastoral Call from the presbytery extended to Mr. Van Maanen so he can work as an ordained minister of the Word and Sacrament in serving as a volunteer missionary in Malawi, Africa. It is proposed that he will work alongside Rev. Confex Makhaira (PCA) in training and teaching indigenous Malawian pastors and elders.

The Pastoral Call from the Canadian Presbytery to Mr. Thomas Bruce Van Maanen was presented and reviewed.

 - **Motion:** That the Canadian Presbytery approves the terms of the Pastoral Call to Mr. Thomas Van Maanen. **M/S/C**
 - **Motion:** That the Canadian Presbytery extends the Pastoral Call to Mr. Thomas Van Maanen to serve as a missionary in Malawi, Africa. **M/S/C**
 - **Mr. Van Maanen agreed to the terms of the call.**
 - **Motion:** That a commission of the presbytery is appointed to oversee the ordination of Mr. Thomas Van Maanen as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament; and further to oversee the commissioning of Mr. Van Maanen as a missionary to Malawi under the care of the Canadian Presbyterian Missions Committee on a date to be determined.

M/S/C

- Rev. Jeff Kingswood will develop the commission roster and inform the presbytery. Rev. Henry Bartsch will chair the commission.
- **DINNER**
At 5:00 p.m. the presbytery met for dinner.
- **Service of Worship & Communion**
The presbyters and friends of the Canadian Presbytery gathered together again at 7:00 p.m. (September 28, 2017) in the sanctuary of Covenanters ARP Church, for a communion/worship service. Rev. Jerry Hamstra presided over this communion service and Rev. Steve Richardson presented God's Word from Revelation 3: 1-13 (focus on vv. 7-13) to the congregation. A time of fellowship followed the worship service.

Friday, September 28, 2017

WORSHIP

At 9:00 a.m., the Presbytery gathered in the sanctuary for worship. Rev. Michael Jaatinen presided and brought the Word of God to the presbytery as he preached from 1Peter 1: 3-5.

Presbytery Re-Convenes

At 9:45 a.m., following the worship service, Rev. Kingswood called the presbytery to order and re-convened the 2018 Stated Fall Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery with prayer.

Calling of the Roll

A quorum was declared to be present.

Introduction of Visitors

The following visitors were noted to be in attendance:

Ray Silver
Lester Settle
Eileen Moerman
Tini Oosterhof
Jason Lindsay
Emily Bolhuis

D. Minister and His Work Committee (Rev. Jeff Kingswood) (cont'd.)

1. Licensure Examinations (cont'd.)

b) Robert Widdowson

Robert Widdowson was examined on the floor of presbytery for licensure at this time. He was examined in the areas of:

- English Bible: John Moerman
 - **Motion**: To suspend this part of the examination. **M/S/C**
- Theology: Dr. Bill VanDoodewaard
 - **Motion**: To suspend this part of the examination. **M/S/C**

- Church History: Rev. Kevin Carter
 - **Motion**: To suspend this part of the examination. M/S/C
- Polity and Pastoral Care: Rev. Henry Bartsch
 - **Motion**: To suspend this part of the examination. M/S/C
- **Motion**: To move into Executive Session. M/S/C
- **Motion**: To sustain this floor examination of Robert Widdowson towards his licensure. M/S/

7. Service of Licensure

Robert Ernest Widdowson and Richard Theodore Vander Vaart were called forward and presented with their obligations for licensure in the prescribed formula of questions.

- **Motion**: That the trials of licensure for Mr. Robert Ernest Widdowson and Mr. Richard Theodore Vander Vaart are now hereby sustained; and further, that they present themselves before the presbytery and answer the questions in the prescribed formula of questions for licensure. M/S/C

A Service of Licensure was conducted for Robert Ernest Widdowson and Richard Theodore Vander Vaart. The Moderator, Rev. Jeff Kingswood, presented them with a Certificate of Licensure.

Rev. Brian Murray offered prayer for Robert, Richard, their families and future ministries at this time.

E. **Moderator's Committees**

1. Excuses and Absences

Excuses were received and approved from Dr. Frank Kovacs, Rev. Rick Barnes as well as Students David Chi and Randy Lieuwen.

Tim Collins requested to be excused early from the proceedings of presbytery.

- **Motion**: To accept the excuses as presented. M/S/C

2. Resolutions

The following motion from the Excuses and Resolutions Committee:

- **Motion**: "The presbytery is thankful for the warm hospitality and fellowship received from Covenant ARP as our host congregation. We wish you the Lord's blessings as you continue to labour for His glory in the greater Halifax area." M/S/C

And furthermore, that this note of gratitude be printed in the bulletin of Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to conduct at this time.

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

- **April 4-5, 2019:** Faith ARP Mission, Tillsonburg, ON
- **September 26-27, 2019** : Mt. Zion ARP, Moncton, NB

ADJOURNMENT/ ANNOUNCEMENTS – CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Jeff Kingswood prayed and presented the benediction.

The court adjourned at 11:30 a.m. with the singing of Psalm 133.

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

These minutes are respectfully submitted and attested by:

Rev. Jeff Kingswood
Moderator

Bill McKay
Stated Clerk

Memorial on Freemasonry

Whereas the General Assembly of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church has concluded that Freemasonry is a religious institution and therefore anti-Christian;¹

Whereas the Presbyterian Church of America and the Free Church of Scotland have made similar statements;²

Whereas our current position on Freemasonry in the ARP has proven a hindrance to ecumenical relations with other confessional denominations;³

Whereas candidates for Freemasonry are “said to be in darkness, an allegory of Masonry that signifies that everyone outside of Masonry is in darkness and that only Masons have the true knowledge that will bring light to the world,” and whereas candidates are required to bow before the “The Worshipful Master” and confess that they are “seeking the light of Freemasonry;”⁴

We memorialize Presbytery to form a committee to study and compile the scriptural teaching on “secret societies” so that the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church can create a policy and draft a public statement regarding membership in such societies.

1 <http://opc.org/GA/masonry.html>

2 https://jubileeresources.org/?page_id=584

3 <https://www.iclnet.org/pub/resources/text/reformed/archive97/nr97-108.txt>

4 Carlson, Ron and Decker, Ed. Fast Facts on False Teachings. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1994

**Minutes of the Commission to Ordain and Install Martin Dendekker
at Covenanters ARP Church August 24, 2018 at 6:30 P.M.**

1. **Roll:** The commission to ordain and install Martin Dendekker at Covenanters ARP Church convened at 6:30 P.M. (Atlantic Time) in the meeting room at Covenanters ARP in Cambridge, Nova Scotia. Members present were Rev. John Shearouse (Chair), Rev. Jeff Kingswood, Rev. Jonathan Cowan, Mr. Kurt Kafferlin (Secretary), Mr. David Alexander, and Mr. John Rood. A quorum was established. Also present were Rev. Michael Jaatinen (alternate member), Mr. Martin Dendekker, and Mr. Neil Dendekker.
2. **Constituting Prayer:** Rev. Cowan offered a constituting prayer to open the meeting of the commission.
3. **Commission Mandate:** The mandate of the commission was reviewed from the minutes of the June 5, 2018 meeting of the Canadian Presbytery.
4. **Approval of the Agenda and Order of Service:** The commission agenda and order of service were circulated in advance by Rev. Shearouse. Discussion was held regarding the timing of delivering greetings from other churches. All approved of this being done following the extension of the right hand of fellowship to Mr. Martin Dendekker. A motion was made to accept the agenda and order of service as present. The motion was seconded and carried.
5. **Prayer for the Service:** A time of prayer was held in preparation for the service of ordination and installation.
6. **Adjournment:** A motion was made to formally adjourn the meeting of the commission upon pronouncement of the benediction following the service. The motion was seconded and carried.
7. **Service of Ordination and Installation:** The service of ordination and installation was held with participation as follows:
 - a. *Welcome and Greetings:* Rev. Shearouse delivered welcome and greetings to those present, stated the purpose of the commission, and called all to worship.
 - b. *Scripture Reading and Sermon:* Rev. Kingswood read from Acts 20:17-38 and preached a sermon entitled “The Character of Christian Ministry”.
 - c. *Vows of Ordination and Installation:* Rev. Shearouse administered the vows of ordination and installation to Mr. Martin Dendekker. Mr. Dendekker answered affirmatively to all vows.
 - d. *Question for the Congregation:* Rev. Shearouse also administered the question of installation to the congregation to which all present audibly answered in the affirmative.
 - e. *Prayer for Ordination:* Mr. John Rood offered the prayer of ordination. The laying on of hands was conducted with all teaching and ruling elders present participating.
 - f. *Declaration:* Rev. Shearouse gave declaration of the ordination of Rev. Martin

Dendekker.

- g. *Charge to the Pastor*: Rev. Cowan gave charge to Rev. Dendekker exhorting him that “you are not the Christ”.
 - h. *Charge to the Congregation*: Mr. Alexander gave charge to the congregation to offer Rev. Dendekker the respect and honour due his office.
 - i. *Prayer for the Pastor and the Congregation*: Mr. Neil Dendekker offered prayer for Rev. Dendekker and the Covenanters ARP Church.
 - j. *Benediction*: Rev. Dendekker deliver the benediction at which time the meeting of the commission formally adjourned. Following the benediction the congregation extended the right hand of fellowship to Rev. Dendekker and elders from other churches offered welcome from their congregations.
8. **Adjournment**: As per previously carried motion, the commission was concluded following the delivery of the benediction by Rev. Dendekker.

Mr. Kurt A. Kafferlin
Trinity Presbyterian Church Secretary

Rev. John Shearouse
Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church Chair



APPENDIX 3 (September/18)

Report of Moderator's Committee to Trinity Presbyterian Mission Woodstock, NB.

This Committee consists of Rev. Rudy de Vries, Rev. Kevin Carter, Bryant Flanagan and Henry Hogeterp. Our mandate was to meet with the congregation of Trinity Presbyterian Mission (Woodstock, NB) to assess the congregation's commitment and viability to continue as a mission of the Canadian Presbytery; and further, to report back to the Presbytery no later than the 2018 Stated Fall Meeting (September, 2018). The congregational meeting was set for Saturday, May 26, 2018 to begin at 9:30am with a breakfast social.

The committee held a meeting on May 24, 2018 via teleconference to discuss how the meeting would proceed. A couple matters were decided: 1) we would meet with any members seeking a private audience with the committee; 2) we would not permit members under discipline the floor to speak at the meeting, but we would allow non-members who are regular attendees of Trinity the opportunity to speak. We reviewed the financial status of Trinity, which currently appears stable for 2018; as well as the membership status in relation to attendance at both Sunday services, which is perhaps the greater concern. Morning worship services see on average 35 people [inclusive of children], and evening 22. About 25% of these are not members. Coupled with this, 50% of those attending are not from the Woodstock area, but from Maine and Fredericton [this does show the commitment of those who travel both great distances and across the border to Trinity]. As well, there are several very elderly and widows who make up the faithful attenders. There have been three excommunications from the membership in the last four years.

The congregational meeting of Saturday May 26, 2018:

We began with a breakfast social at the church at 9:30am so the committee could get to know a few people prior to the actual meeting. About a dozen people plus the committee were present. At 10:15 we drew together for a brief devotional from 1Corinthians 12:12-27 stressing how this passage was relating not simply to the universal church, but to the particular church at Corinth, and relating this to membership of the one body at Trinity. We then had a time of prayer with a few of the congregation and each committee member praying. A total of 17 people besides the committee were present.

A sheet was handed out to each person containing: the committee's mandate; the vows of membership from the F.o.G.4.5; the vows of Church Officers from the F.o.G.8.17,18; and who may partake of the Lord's Supper from the Directory of Public Worship V.B.8.c(5a-d). the purpose of this sheet was to have reference information pertinent to congregational concerns available to all.

The Chairman of the committee (Kevin Carter) began by expressing the positive intention of the committee's mandate. Kevin defined the words "**commitment**" – being more than just a congregation that is surviving through difficult times, but collectively seeking the kingdom of God, the Lord's glory and righteousness, and about the work of the church; and "**viability**" – understanding the church's needs of members committed to the work, having men able to fill the roles of officers, financial sustainability. Members are needed for these two points.

Kevin then gave a brief history of the several changes that have taken place since June 2012, beginning with the departure of Rev. David Els to Australia; RE Reg Lindsay's death; RE David Drake moving away [now deceased]; Jonathan Cowan called as pastor; the grievous issues of sexual immorality coming to light, which have affected the whole body; the discipline and censuring of members, which have seen the loss of a few households; the placing of RE Mike Flewelling on sabbatical and installation of a commission/provisional session, which was of necessity due to the disciplinary issues. What was stressed was that, though the congregation has mounting concerns about "How things have changed at

Trinity”, they needed to see that God’s providence effected precipitated these changes in leadership. The people were urged to see these changes in respect of Romans 8:28.

Kevin stressed that the committee came because Presbytery is concerned for Trinity; because Trinity has an important place in the Presbytery; because you are Christ’s body in need of special care – this is what being Presbyterian is about.

He also noted that Presbytery is aware of several concerns being raised within the congregation:

- a Change in philosophy of ministry
- influence of Ontario provisional elders in the changes at Trinity
- membership vows that stress being more “presbyterian” than “Christian”
- restrictions in who can participate in the Lord’s Supper
- church discipline actions
- Mike Flewelling no longer a Ruling Elder

Rudy deVries then asked an opening question of everyone present: “What is it that you like, and is good, about Trinity?” Responses [couples were often represented by one voice, but each one spoke]:

- serious care for worship and church life
- a church concerned about the Word of God
- the stability and authority of Scripture guiding life and worship
- feel cared for at Trinity
- the Gospel is always preached; worship is centred on God’s Word
- being accepted, excellent preaching
- quality of preaching and people
- bonds and relationships; the Word is presented clearly in the preaching
- commitment to God’s Word; people serious about loving one another even when hurt happens
- I know my Bible now, and love it here; ive learned about a real God
- solid serious worship grounded in the Word of God; agree with Presbyterian Government
- worship & Scripture based study; really nowhere else to go
- God is here

Rudy summarized these comments with four words: Word, Worship, Warmth, Winsome defined Trinity.

Congregational Struggles:

- 1) The Sixth Vow of membership – concern for those who want to participate in the life of the church but are not Reformed in doctrine nor Presbyterian. How does the Presbytery handle this? It used to be a church by church determination. [It was noted that no church had the right to remove any vow when receiving members into the body; as well, how this vow was more pertinent to believers coming in from other churches and pertains to who Trinity is as a Reformed and Presbyterian Church.]
- 2) The transition of Trinity into a mission congregation happened without any input from the congregation. [It was mentioned that this was a first to see a Presbytery impose a provisional and make such a move, but the chair reminded the meeting of Presbytery’s actions with Mount Zion, Moncton NB where the same action was done.]
- 3) Concern about how pharisaical the church feels with the push to be Presbyterian in philosophy of ministry.
- 4) In becoming a mission church, control of the congregation has shifted to Presbytery with a provisional session making all the decisions. [It was noted that, ideally, men would have served as provisional elders from closer congregations, but due to the nature of sin issues at Trinity, and the lack of available elders in the east, men were chosen from Ontario to serve.]
- 5) No communication given to the congregation as to why Mike Flewelling was not reinstated as a ruling

elder. [Mike gave a brief perspective of what happened with the commission.]

6) Trinity is still hurting from the deep and overshadowing issues of sexual immorality, as this has been before the church going on four years – prayer is still needed.

7) A lack of communication to the congregation about changes and new directions is disconcerting.

8) Participation at the Lord's Table has become restrictive, where before it was far more open. [it was noted that the Directory of Worship has a specific mention of the need of being a member of the visible church, and with that a lengthy explanation of biblical perspective of membership and the Lord's Supper. There was considerable disagreement from people on this. It was also noted that these changes were begun by Kevin Carter when he was interim-Moderator, before the provisional session came in.]

Assessment: There was a visible divide between those who supported the Reformed and Presbyterian position, and those who wanted the old ways back. At times the discussion was sobering and emotional, with a few expressing their frustration of having no input into the apparent changes at Trinity. It would appear from those present that eight persons [three of which were not members] were for the past ways of the church and nine for the new direction. The "old" congregation attributed Trinity's survival and continuance between ministers to the hard labour of Mike Flewelling. The phrase "Mike held the church together during Trinity's rough times." was heard a few times.

This part of the meeting closed at 2:00pm.

Other meetings:

The committee met privately with Erik & Amelia Waller. They expressed frustration with their meetings with the provisional session, and with Jonathan & Kurt. At one point in one meeting it became quite heated. Their main points of concern:

1) Communication is lacking. They initiate a meeting and then do not hear feedback afterward. They perceive their concerns are being ignored.

2) They believe their intentions are being misrepresented. They agreed that Session had to act in discipline against Owen; they are questioning and struggling with the way the sixth vow has been applied where it prevented a family from becoming members of Trinity. [Rudy expressed the point that Sessions are not always able to communicate reasons for their actions; that a level of trust must be exercised.]

3) Pastoral care for Aimee Flewelling appears lacking; all of Sessions actions were about Owen's sins and not Aimee's needs – child support, counselling; were apparently told the congregation is responsible to care for her, not the Session. [Again, how things were communicated between them and the Session may have been misunderstood; they were told that, to our understanding, help was refused by Aimee and Owen.]

4) Jonathan's preaching seems to be lacking the joy of grace and victory of Christ. He seems to treat the whole congregation as though they were unbelievers, and not Christians in need of encouragement and assurance. [Kevin mentioned he was tasked to listen to Jonathan's sermons, randomly picking a dozen to listen for the clear presentation of the gospel and God's grace in Christ because of the view of legalism taking over preaching. His assessment was that Jonathan's preaching was sound, though the emphasis Erik & Amelia mentioned were not in his focus.]

Kevin met privately with Maureen Friel. She expressed love and appreciation for Jonathan. She was concerned for his mental health and saw that his preaching seemed dark and lacking assurance. She also reiterated how she felt that the provisional session had changed the character of feeling of the church from one of a family to one of an organization.

Kevin met privately with Marian Lindsay. She did not attend the main committee meeting because it would have been too stressful for her. She spoke of her concern about creeping legalism into the church

with the emphasis being placed on form and polity, and not the people. She did not agree with the changes made to the Lord's Supper participation.

Correspondence received:

- 1) Ruth Durling wrote a brief letter to the committee as she was unable to attend the meeting. In it she expresses her concern of how discipline has impacted attendance at Trinity; how much Mike Flewelling held the church together and is greatly missed as an Elder; how compassion for the people has been lost by a lot of judging of people.
- 2) Kathy Miskelly wrote an email [3 pages] to the committee. In it she affirms the present ministry of the Church, how it has helped her grow in the Lord, in particular how Jonathan and Coralie have been a great encouragement. She also expresses her concern how Mike Flewelling is regarded by the old guard, and how his present actions work against the fellowship.
- 3) Maureen Friel has written three subsequent emails to Kevin Carter. She felt the meeting did not end well, was unable to attend church the following day because of it; and has asked to have her membership removed from Trinity.

Recommendations: note commentary in the brackets are not part of the motion, but for information.

- 1) That Trinity Presbyterian Mission Church be given full support to continue in Woodstock as a congregation of the Canadian Presbytery. That this message be communicated to Trinity as well. [The committee saw that, though Trinity is undergoing trials and refining fires, she is still viable financially at the present time; and has a committed group of members, though not all were in agreement of the general direction of the provisional Session.]
- 2) That the Provisional Session be restructured with RE Bill McKay and Rev. Brian Murray dismissed with thanks giving for their hard labours during a trying time at Trinity, and two other Presbyters be added to the provisional session. [For whatever reasons and perceptions, it is evident that there is a caustic sentiment against the current men *{perhaps because they're the ones involved with the major censures/disciplines against former members}* as well as Bill and Brian wanting to be removed. This corrective is needed for the provisional session to move forward.]
- 3) That the Presbytery Commission which was responsible for reinstating Mike Flewelling as a ruling elder at Trinity, write a letter to Trinity explaining why he was not recommended for reinstatement. This communiqué should be read by a representative of the Presbytery, and not a member of the provisional session. [Mike has expressed his side of the matter, and that is all the congregation has heard thus far. This matter is yet unsettled in the church's mind. This action needs to be seen as coming from Presbytery and not the provisional session]
- 4) That the provisional session write a communiqué to the congregation on how the sixth vow of membership is applied in the process of receiving new members. Included in this, it needs to be expressed that no session has the privilege or right of removing any vow for new members.
- 5) That a statement be written by the Congregational Life Committee for all our churches in the Canadian Presbytery as to why membership in a local church is a biblical and necessary point for the worthy participation in the Lord's Supper, as is stated in The Directory of Public Worship V.B.8.c(5d).
- 6) That Presbytery provide funding for the Rev. Jonathan Cowan and RE Kurt Kafferlin to receive professional training to help the congregation and/or other persons connected to Trinity, in the healing process respecting the consequences of the systemic sexual offences, should the provisional session deem this necessary. [There is still a lot of hurt, and suffering from Owen's sins, and people need counselling. Jonathan and Kurt need to be prepared for this.].

7) That particular counselling be given to Jonathan & Coralie Cowan, and Kurt & Erin Kafferlin. We recommend that a time of refreshing and follow-up counselling be offered to them jointly from another seasoned Minister and wife team. [These two officers and their families have born much of the trial, and it was evident to the committee during the meeting and subsequent visitation, that these couples were clearly hurting, frustrated and burned out.]

8) That the congregation of Trinity be admonished to realize that change and reform are ever a part of being a church, especially when significant leadership changes are effected; and in light of scandalous sin, a congregation must humbly petition the mercies of the Lord Jesus in repentance, seeking even more a spirit of unity and perseverance in holiness and zeal for the Lord's glory, and not man's.

9) That Presbytery send a pastoral letter to Trinity advising them of the actions being taken from the committee's report. The Rev. Rudy deVries is recommended to write this letter.

APPENDIX 4 (September/18)

Faith Presbyterian Church

Rev. Stephen Richardson
14 Glendale Drive.
Tillsonburg, ON.
N4G 1J2
W. (519) 688-5111
faithpresbyteriantillsonburg@gmail.com

September 2018

To the fathers and brothers of the Canadian Presbytery
Re: Report from Faith Mission (Tillsonburg, ON)

I am grateful for the opportunity to share again how the Lord has been working here in Tillsonburg, these past few months.

Membership: Since our spring Presbytery meetings we have received four new communicant members, three by profession of faith and one by transfer. We are also grateful for the safe arrival of two babies, with four more expectant mothers.

Preaching: In our morning service I have been preaching through 1 Corinthians. In the afternoon, I am preaching through Ephesians.

The Provisional Session: We continue to meet once a month. During the summer the Session nominated Mr. Aaron Koning to serve as an elder. The congregation met in July and supported the nomination, and on September 9, Aaron Koning was ordained as an elder. We are thankful to have him on our Session. Mr. Alex Beard continues his two-year sabbatical from his duties.

Diaconate: Mr. Aaron Koning is no longer serving as a deacon but we have one man that we are planning to examine and another who is prayerfully considering the work.

Treasurer: Rita Ferguson continues to serve as the treasurer.

Missions: The congregation has allocated \$1000 in the 2018 budget toward missions.

Finances: As of August 31 we have a balance of \$44,455.00. This year we will not be requesting funds from Presbytery.

Venue: We continue to meet for worship in Tillsonburg at 14 Glendale Drive.

Evangelism: Our Open Doors outreach program continues. I am thankful that more members from the congregation are getting involved in this work.

Please pray:

- That we might have opportunity to reach many more with the message of the gospel.
- For our elders that they may remain faithful and persevering in their labours.
- That God would soften hearts among those with whom we have contact. Pray in particular for Joseph.
- That the Lord would raise up elders and deacons.
- For Alex Beard that his sabbatical would be a time of refreshing for him.
- That through the work of Faith believers would be added to the Lord.
- For two couples that have not been faithful in church attendance, that they would be

brought to repentance and joyfully keep the Sabbath day holy.

- For me that I would faithfully preach Jesus; and that I would be a faithful husband and father to my family.

Yours in the service our great King,
Stephen Richardson

APPENDIX 5 (September/18)

Hope ARP Mission Report for Presbytery Meeting September 27-28, 2018

September 19, 2018

To the Outreach Canada Committee and the Canadian Presbytery,

It is always a joy to be serving the Lord and labouring for his kingdom, but I must confess 2018 has been a challenging year. My focus has been more divided this year between family and ministry at HOPE, and it has been tiresome. Most of you are aware that Joanne came through her cancer treatment very well, excepting great fatigue these last several months. The Lord's mercies were great toward us. Our eldest daughter Elizabeth, continues to be estranged from us. We hear reports of her conduct and status from a few people, but she still refuses to contact us, though I have reached out several times through social media. Our middle daughter, Sabrina, was married this summer, but due to her obfuscation over her relationship with her now husband, our family was unable to attend; we did not know about it until too late. Relationship with her is a bit strained. The bright light is seeing our youngest, Michelle, growing spiritually and being more independent. We also spent 9 weeks caring for grandchildren as our second son and his family moved from Cold Lake AB, to St. Jean, QC.

Attendance & membership: we have had highlights and joys, and low-points and discouragements these past six months. Our membership stands at 15 communicant members – we had 2 adult professions of faith, one being baptized, and a removal by discipline; and 8 non-communicants. Our morning service sees between 30-40, and our evening between 20-30 people. We are pleased to see a few more students attending this fall. We continue to see new people coming to our services, but for various reasons many do not continue [i.e. fencing the Lord's Table from non-members, lack of musical accompaniment, lack of peers, disinterest, personal complicated lives]. Nonetheless, we are still growing. Pastoral visitation of families suffered a bit in the first six-months of the year, but is picking up again.

Outreach & mercy: our doors are open to the public approximately 24hrs a week. We put out a table with tracts and water, and continue to have people come in for conversation, to ask questions, or even to get in from the heat. We have started an Open House Street Witness Saturday once a month between 11-3pm, where we have greeted people, and handed out water, tracts & brochures. Refreshments are served inside, and we have engaged on average 8-10 people in conversation and gospel witness. The last event held on September 22 saw street conversations with over 15 people. The tract, "Who is God?", based on Shorter Catechism #4 was produced, we've given out a few hundred tracts, brochures, and booklets in these four months. As well, we have ministered in mercy to people on a personal level: a couple whose husband was recently paroled, a homeless woman who has significant mental issues, and more recently a mother and her daughter who has cerebral-palsy. I have the material for Christianity Explored, and am considering a winter-time effort with this program. The congregation has responded quite well in participating in these efforts too. In October we are hosting, with First Baptist Church, a Creation Ministries event covering two evenings.

Worship & Teaching Ministry: our worship services follow a common pattern of most of our Canadian Presbytery. While we lack regular musicians to aid in accompaniment, we have a Bose

system and Michelle Korvemaker has been very gracious to record music for us. We have begun a monthly Psalm service, which is focused exclusively upon the singing and preaching of the Psalms. Our services with the Lord's Supper included can be a challenge. While the fencing is done both in the bulletin, and at the serving of the elements, many people who are new to our church have never heard such details concerning the Table. Some stop coming because of it. We continue with Thursday evening for our mid-week service night; rotating between a prayer meeting and a *Foundations of Faith* bible study on the Westminster Confession of Faith. Both are usually well attended. I am considering how to engage the students and young adults in some sort of fellowship time.

Financial statement: attached is the most recent financial statement. Overall, congregational giving is up 33% over last year at this same time [\$7,000 increase in giving]. Congregational giving will make up about 1/3 of the budget. I will be making an appeal for \$40,000 for 2019 to all my contacts, and thus hope that between the congregation and contacts we can raise at least 67-70% of our 2019 budget.

Personal: our home continues to be an open house for hospitality. We have had some busy weekends. Overall, I try to maintain a reading program apart from devotional time and sermon prep. Currently I am reading Sinclair Ferguson's *Some Pastors and Teachers*, Rosaria Butterfield's *The Gospel Comes with a House Key*, and Charles Ross' *The Inner Sanctuary*. I attended the Banner of Truth Pastor's Conference also. In Kingston, I meet each week with a small group of men from other churches for a time of prayer for Kingston, and fellowship. Our home life is peaceful, and I believe we are growing in God's grace.

Prayer:

1. Do pray for Elizabeth that she would be humbled and repentant and return to the Lord. May she be kept from deep sin, and have the Spirit convicting work upon her.
2. Give thanks for the seed of God's Word and Gospel that has been sown. Pray for the Spirit to regenerate souls, and draw them unto the Lord for salvation. To borrow a saying, we have found the Lord blessing, not necessarily where we sow, but the sowing itself.
3. Pray for godly men who can be officers in our church. As we complete our third year of ministry, the need of men for elders and deacons grows. Pray the Lord to bring forth such gifts. We are grateful for the provisional elders, and the time and effort they give to HOPE.
4. Pray for the city of Kingston. The evangelical community is small, but the Lord is great. Pray that as we are salt and light in this city, the Lord is pleased to open the wells of salvation and build his church in this dark city.
5. Pray for wisdom as we meet with and welcome people into our church. May they see the genuineness of faith and love of Christ in us.
6. Give thanks for the Lord's faithfulness in meeting our needs this year. We are seeking his kingdom and righteousness, and his provisions have been great.
7. Pray that in my busy-ness, I give the time necessary for the ministry of God's Word and preaching.

With grateful thanks to all for your support and confidence,

In Christ

Kevin Carter

	BUDGET 2018	YTD Actual [including current month]	AUGUST
RECEIPTS			
General Offerings	35,000.00	28,713.0	3,142.11
Outreach Canada CCDT	40,000.00	40,000.00	0
ONA support	0	0	0
Gifts / Support	45,000.00	43,439.14	191.00
Mercy / Missions	3,500.00	1,424.10	179.00
US Exchange / Interest/ Other (April - Prop Tax Ref)		4,129.11	25.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	123,500.00	117,730.42	3,537.11
DISBURSEMENTS			
Pastor's Salary Call (March- \$8,727.00 1x adjustment)	62,400.00	50,327.00	5,200.00
Employer CRA Expenses	3,000.00	6,033.60	254.20
Rental Facilities	42,000.00	28,114.72	3,514.34
Stationary / Supplies	1,000.00	635.99	101.64
Missions	1,750.00	0	0
Mercy	1,750.00	662.00	25.00
Telephone / internet	1,000.00	818.15	73.45
Advertising	500.00	425.17	42.82
Christian Education Material	1,000.00	867.28	0
Evangelism / Outreach	1,000.00	310.19	0
Presbytery / Synod travel	1,000.00	271.79	0
Pastoral Training	1,000.00	886.12	33.54
Equipment / Furniture	1,000.00	334.42	0
Utilities	2,500.00	1,853.08	162.21
Miscellaneous [bank, fees, penalties, cheques, adjustments, nsf]	500.00	594.54	212.96
Supply Preaching	1,000.00	600.00	100.00
Presbytery Expense Fund	500.00	0	0
Insurance	600.00	570.24	0
Gift to Pastor		16,355.00	0
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	123,500.00	110,031.02	9,720.16
Closing Balance		(+)7,699.40	(-)6,183.05
Bank account balance August 31, 2018		47,036.42	
Mercy/Missions fund balance August 31, 2018		4,818.45	

APPENDIX 6 (September/18)**Report of Trinity Presbyterian Mission (Woodstock, NB), Fall 2018**

Dear Brothers and Fathers;

Thank you for your continued prayers. I have been greatly touched and encouraged by how many have expressed concern over our church over these difficult years. Please find my report below.

1. Ministry of the Word
 - a. Public worship:
 - i. In the morning services we are walking through a series based on WCF Chapter 25- The church. In the evening service we have finished 1 Timothy and have begun working through 2 Timothy
 - ii. Our attendance has continued to decline since the committee came. We are now averaging 19 attenders in the morning and 12-15 attenders in the evening. (The Kafferlins and Cowans combined are 11)
 - iii. August communion was the lowest since I have been installed with 13 participating.
 - b. Bible Study:
 - i. We continue to have a Tuesday afternoon Bible Study hosted by Marion Lindsay.
 - ii. My family and three other individuals attend.
 - iii. We are currently working through 1 Corinthians.
 - c. Sunday school:
 - i. Sunday School has not yet resumed.
2. Prayer
 - a. We continue with a mid-week prayer meeting. Aside from the Kafferlins and my family we have one other member attending. The Saturday morning prayer breakfast has drawn two other families occasionally. The Saturday prayer breakfast did not meet during July or August.
3. Fellowship-
 - a. In order to facilitate more fellowship beginning in May we opened up our home on the first Sunday of every month and invite any willing to join us for lunch.
 - i. Our regular attenders usually participate so we can have up to 20 in our home.
 - b. In July while I was away Kurt invited the congregation to his house for a cook-out.
4. Outreach-
 - a. In May we did a community pig roast.
 - i. The congregation was encouraged to invite friends and family.
 1. We had 55 individuals participate. Most were associated with other churches in the area.
 - ii. The members who participated gave good feedback and expressed a desire to host another one.
 - b. Outreach is one of our biggest struggles in the congregation.
 - i. I believe several factors contribute to this:
 1. The distance between members and the Town of Woodstock.
 2. The lack of evangelism training and encouragement.
 3. The reputation of our congregation.
 4. Woodstock appears to be very hard ground.
5. Committee meeting-
 - a. The committee from Outreach Canada came at the end of May.
 - b. They listened to the congregation, challenged, and encouraged them.
 - c. Results:
 - i. It appears the results were mixed.
 1. Those who disagree with the ARP Standards remain unconvinced.

- a. Some have asked if there is a way to separate from the ARP
 - b. Others have continued to distant themselves.
 - c. Three members withdrew this summer due to disagreeing with our Standards (one in relation to issues discussed with the committee).
 - 2. Those who viewed it positively stated the committee caused them to think through some underlying issues.
 - ii. I think the committee's evaluation was correct.
 - iii. The big challenge is with the last question asked: "Do you want to be a church?"
 - 1. All associated with Trinity desire a church, but not all desire to be ARP or even Presbyterian.
 - 2. Our membership is divided on this (see below in Challenges).
6. Finances
 - a. We are not meeting budget.
 - i. We presented a budget that forecasted a deficit close to \$12,000. We are on track to be close to this.
 - ii. To meet budget we need \$6131.73 per month and we have not met that during any month.
 - b. We have enough in the bank to cover this deficit for 2018. If giving remains the same our reserves could cover 2019 and into 2020 barring any major building maintenance.
 - c. We lost our current treasurer this August due to the family becoming Roman Catholic
 - i. As a stop gap measure my wife, Coralie, is filling this role for the rest of 2018.
7. Elders
 - a. Kurt Kafferlin is our one elder serving on site.
 - b. Looking at future leadership the challenge, as has been previously stated, is agreement on doctrine.
8. Membership
 - a. This summer we lost 2 family units (3 communicants and 6 non communicants)
 - i. Both withdrew over the standards.
 - b. We have also expelled a member this month.
9. Challenges
 - a. The largest challenge is sustainability or viability of Trinity as an ARP congregation.
 - i. In our August provisional session meeting we discussed if Trinity could continue to function as an ARP church. We began with attendance.
 - ii. We have a total of nine family units attending (7 on a weekly basis, 2 occasionally). We can add one family if we include semimonthly. (Family units indicate at least one communicant member).
 - 1. In this group 3 family units are committed to our Standards, the rest are struggling.
 - 2. We do have some committed attenders who do not desire to be members.
 - iii. Can leadership be developed out of this group?
 - 1. In the group above committed to the standards, (9.a.i.1) the only male communicant member is our serving elder.
 - 2. In order to add more leadership, current male members must become convinced of the Standards.
 - iv. Can this group financially support the upkeep of the building and minister?
 - 1. The church has run a deficit since 2015; however, the past two years have been the most notable.
 - a. When I came it was recognized without the reserves (built up since the departure of Rev. Els) the church could not support a minister. The

hope was growth in membership would allow Trinity to fully support its minister.

- i. Growth has not occurred, membership has decreased and the reserves are dwindling faster than anticipated.
 1. We have had members move away who gave substantially.
 2. Other members have ceased giving for several years.
2. Can presbytery support Trinity when funds run out, and for how long?
- b. The second big challenge is the continuation of my ministry at Trinity.
 - i. I was asked once by a member of presbytery if the congregation received my preaching.
 1. I believe the faithful amongst the congregation would soak up the Word even if it is poorly delivered and prepared.
 - ii. I and the current provisional session have become a stumbling block to some in the congregation.
 1. In my spring report I stated: *"Looking forward I believe presbytery must also consider if I am the right match for this congregation...My views may be detrimental to the ministry here."* I believe this all the more.
 - a. As such this summer during my vacation I explored the possibility of helping Rev. Bartch start a church plant in Windsor, Ontario.
 - i. It is my desire to pursue this if Outreach Canada is willing to move forward on the plan presented by Trinity (Chatham).

10. Prayer requests:

- a. Pray for clear direction for Trinity
- b. Pray for God to encourage the faithful
- c. Pray that God would draw back those who have withdrawn from fellowship
- d. Pray for those God has removed from His church, that He would save their souls.
- e. Pray for clear direction for how I may serve within our Presbytery.

Financial charts

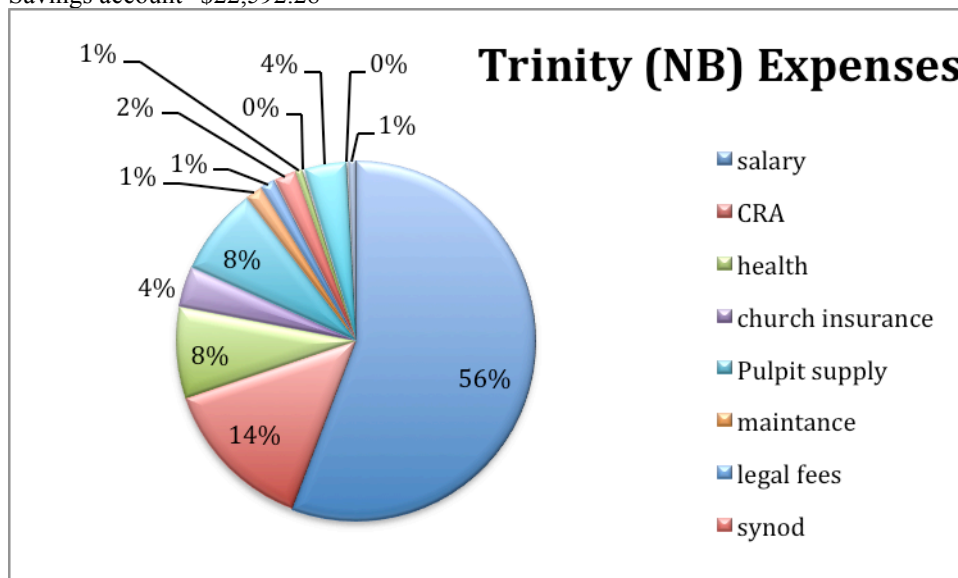
Breakdown of Years 2014- 2018

Year	Giving	Expenditures	Proposed Budget
2014	\$67,313.24	\$61,993.43	\$65,450.00
2015	\$66,852.76	\$74,013.05	\$70,013.05
2016	\$66,568.40	\$68,509.74	\$74,114.00
2017	\$64,249.99	\$68,529.60	\$72,674.68
2018	\$40,535.81 (YTD)	\$53,129.88 (YTD)	\$73,580.78

	Income 2017	Income 2018	Expenses 2018
Jan	\$5,811.60	\$5,416.60	\$5,172.92
Feb	\$7,880.51	\$5,806.25	\$5,131.89
Mar	\$4,647.15	\$5,542.03	\$4,522.71
Apr	\$5,069.59	\$5,696.72	\$4,762.60
May	\$3,498.51	\$4,976.78	\$8,596.77
Jun	\$4,629.19	\$ 2,958.29	\$5,704.05
Jul	\$8,954.34	\$ 3,421.77	\$7,036.85
Aug	\$4,514.38	\$3,823.82	\$7,342.24
Sep	\$3,514.84	\$2,893.55 *	\$4,859.85 *
Oct	\$5,319.75		
Nov	\$5,878.04		
Dec	\$4,532.09		
Total	\$64,249.99	\$37,642.26	\$53,129.88

*September data through September 20.

General Fund- \$14,162.92
Savings account- \$22,592.28



APPENDIX 8 (September/18)

Stewardship Committee

Proposed Budget for 2019

	2016 Budget	2017 Budget	2018 Budget	2019 Budget
Outreach Canada (CCDT)				
Hope Church - Kingston	\$35,000	\$42,000	\$40,000	\$42,000
Tillsonburg	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$8,000	\$0
Windsor				\$33,000
Overseas Missions (DMF now CPM)				
Mission (Pakistan & Committee)	\$7,500	\$6,600	\$10,000	\$10,000
Presbytery Expense Fund				
Presbytery Travel	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Moderator/Clerk/Treasurer				
Travel	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Telephone &				
Teleconference	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Treasurers Work, Bank, Audit,				
Post	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Student Bursaries and Expenses	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$6,000
Professional Fees	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$1,000
Cowan Family - Moving Costs				\$8,000
	\$78,700	\$69,800	\$69,200	\$106,700
				-\$37,500

APPENDIX 9 (SEPTEMBER /18)

Current Pulpit Supply List for the Canadian Presbytery – as of April 2018

Fred Carr - fredscarr@atonementlife.org - retired pastor, ARPC, Maryland

Don Codling - dcodling@hfx.eastlink.ca – retired PCA minister, Bedford, NS

Bruce Cossar – bcossar@kos.net – retired PCC minister, Kingston, ON

Rick Dickinson – xyz.rmd@gmail – presbytery evangelist, OPC, Maine

Frank Kovacs – reformedkov@sympatico.ca – minister without a call, Canadian Presbytery, ARPC – Southern Ontario

David Lauten – dlauten@firstprescolumbia.org - Pastor of Family Ministries, First Presbyterian Church (ARP), Columbia, South Carolina

Breno Macedo – brenopm@gmail.com – working on a PhD at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary, Michigan

Confex Makhalira – conmakhalira@yahoo.com - Student at PRTS (Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary), Michigan

Ben Short – linnfield2000@yahoo.com – retired OCRC minister, teaches at Gillespie, Southern Ontario

Richard Vander Vaart – rvandervaart@sympatico.ca – under care in the Canadian Presbytery, Southern Ontario

William Van Hal – williamvanhal@rogers.com – retired URC minister, Southern Ontario

Tom Van Maanen – tnsvanmaan@gmail.com – licentiate, Canadian Presbytery, ARPC, Southern Ontario

Robert Widdowson – roberternestwiddowson@gmail.com – under care in the Canadian Presbytery, Southern Ontario

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

2006-07

Moderator: Rev. David Els

Vice-moderator: John Moerman

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Henry Brunsveld/
Gary Armstrong

2008-09

Moderator: Mike Flewelling

Vice-moderator: Rev. Jeff Kingswood

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Gary Armstrong

2010-11

Moderator: Rev. Frank Z. Kovacs

Vice-moderator: Rev. David Els

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Gary Armstrong

2012-13

Moderator: Rev. Kevin Carter

Vice-moderator: John Moerman

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Gary Armstrong

2014-15

Moderator: Rev. Henry Bartsch

Vice-moderator: Ken Turner

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Gary Armstrong

2016-17

Moderator: Rev. Jerry Hamstra

Vice-moderator: Peter Lindsay

2005-06

Moderator: Ken Turner

Vice-moderator: Rev. Frank Kovacs

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Henry Brunsveld

2007-08

Moderator: Rev. John van Eyk

Vice-moderator: Rev. Brian Murray

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Gary Armstrong

2009-10

Moderator: Rev. Brian Murray

Vice-moderator: Rev. Kevin Carter

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Gary Armstrong

2011-12

Moderator: Kevin Bigney

Vice-moderator: Rev. John Shearouse

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Gary Armstrong

2013-14

Moderator: Rev. John Shearouse

Vice-moderator: Dave Alexander

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Gary Armstrong

2015-16

Moderator: Rev. Rudy de Vries

Vice-moderator: Albert Gerrits

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Gary Armstrong

2017-18

Moderator: John Moerman

Vice-moderator: Rev. Steve Richardson

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay
Treasurer: Gary Armstrong

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay
Treasurer: Gary Armstrong