

# CANADIAN PRESBYTERY

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches in Canada,

## **Stated Spring Meeting Minutes**

April 2, 2020

Teleconference Call (ZOOM)



**Mr. John Rood**  
Moderator

**Mr. Bill McKay**  
Stated Clerk

**OFFICERS OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY**

**MODERATOR**

(1 yr. term expires June 30, 2020)

Mr. John Rood  
Grace Presbyterian Church  
Woodstock, ON

**VICE MODERATOR**

(1 yr. term expires June 30, 2020)

Rev. John Shearouse  
Covenant Reformed Presbyterian  
Halifax, NS

**STATED CLERK**

(Term expires June 30, 2022)

Mr. Bill McKay  
Grace Presbyterian Church  
Woodstock, ON

**READING CLERK**

(Term expires June 30, 2022)

Rev. Brian Murray  
Grace Presbyterian Church  
Woodstock, ON

**TREASURER**

(Term expires June 30, 2022)

Mr. Gary Armstrong  
Grace Presbyterian Church  
Woodstock, ON

**CHURCHES OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY**

**MARITIMES REGION**

Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church

Covenanters ARP Church

Mt. Zion ARP Church

Trinity Presbyterian Mission

**ONTARIO REGION**

Grace Presbyterian Church

Riverside ARP Church

Trinity ARP Church

Faith ARP Mission

Hope ARP Mission

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**MINUTES OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY,  
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN CANADA,  
2020 STATED SPRING MEETING – April 2, 2020  
Zoom Teleconference Call**

**Thursday – April 2, 2020**

The 2020 Stated Spring Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery was held on April 2, 2020 and was conducted by teleconference (Zoom Video Communications) due to government restrictions on travel and gatherings of large groups. These restrictions are in place because of the Covid-19 pandemic. 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.

**Presbytery Convenes for 2020 Stated Spring Meeting**

Mr. John Rood, the Moderator of the Canadian Presbytery (2019/20), called the presbyters to order at 1:00 p.m. and convened the 2020 Stated Spring Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery. Mr. Rood constituted the meeting of the Canadian Presbytery as a court of the church of Jesus Christ, with scripture (Psalm 2), a short devotion and prayer.

**Calling of the Roll**

<b><u>CHURCH</u></b>	<b><u>MINISTERS</u></b>	<b><u>RULING ELDERS</u></b>
<b><u>Maritime Region</u></b>		
Grace Fellowship ARP	VACANT	ABSENT
Covenant Reformed Presbyterian	Rev. John Shearouse	Ray Silver
Covenanters ARP	Rev. Martin Dendekker	Albert Gerrits
Mt. Zion ARP	Rev. Michael Jaatinen	Russell Lutes
Trinity Presbyterian Mission	VACANT	Bryant Flanagan
<b><u>Ontario Region</u></b>		
Riverside ARP	Rev. Jerry Hamstra	Simon Oosterhof
Grace Presbyterian	Rev. Jeff Kingswood	Ken Turner
	Rev. Brian Murray	
	Rev. Robert Widdowson	
Trinity ARP	Rev. Henry Bartsch	Henry Van Til
	Rev. Jonathan Cowan	
Faith ARP	ABSENT	Aaron Koning
Hope ARP Mission	Rev. Kevin Carter	Wil Mijnders
<b><u>Other Ministers of Presbytery</u></b>		
	<b><u>Licentiates/Students</u></b>	<b><u>Officers of the Court</u></b>
Rev. Rudy deVries	David Chi	Bill McKay
Dr. Frank Kovacs	Tim Collins	
Rev. Richard Vander Vaart	Randy Lieuwen	
Dr. Bill VanDoodewaard	John Nymann	
Rev. Tom Van Maanen		

- Rev. Steve Richardson and Rev. Rick Barnes were absent.

- Grace Fellowship ARP (Sydney Mines, NS) was not represented with an Elder representative at this meeting.
- A quorum for this stated meeting was declared to be present with **twenty-four (24)** presbyters in attendance.

### **Mission Congregations**

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

### **Introduction of Visitors**

The following visitors were noted to be in attendance:

Neal Mynders

Jordan VanAmerongen

Brian Schouwstra

Joelle de Vries

### **Report of the Moderator**

1. **Presentation and Approval of the Docket**
  - **Motion:** To adopt the docket as presented. **M/S/C**
2. **Report on Rev. Jonathan Cowan's Installation Service (SEE APPENDIX 1)**  
Rev. Jerry Hamstra presented the report of the Installation Service of Rev. Jonathan Cowan.
  - **Motion:** To dissolve the commission with thanks. **M/S/C**
3. **Report on the Organizing Service of Faith ARP (Tillsonburg, ON) (SEE APPENDIX 2)**  
Rev. Jeff Kingswood presented the report on the Organizing Service of Faith ARP Church and the installation of Rev. Stephen Richardson as the Minister of Faith ARP Church in Tillsonburg, ON.
  - **Motion:** To dissolve the commission with thanks. **M/S/C**
4. **Report from the Grace Fellowship ARP Commission**  
The commission met with the congregation of Grace Fellowship ARP over two evenings and then finishing on February 19, 2020 for their congregational meeting to vote on their proposed withdrawal from the Canadian Presbytery. There were 38 ballots cast and counted, out of 43 registered members on the church roll (some ballots were received by email which was allowed by the chair of the commission under terms of the FoG 3.25.F, FN28). The results were five votes to remain in the Canadian Presbytery and thirty-three votes to withdraw.
  - **Motion:** To approve the request from Grace Fellowship ARP Church (Sydney Mines, NS) to withdraw their congregation from the fellowship of the Canadian Presbytery. **M/S/C**
  - **Motion:** To dissolve the commission with thanks. **M/S/C**

### **Report of the Stated Clerk**

1. **Approval of the Minutes**
  - **Motion:** To approve the minutes from the February 15, 2020 Called Meeting of the presbytery as circulated. **M/S/C**

2. Report of the ARP General Synod Executive Board  
Bill McKay presented the report of the General Synod Executive Board of the ARP which met last week on March 26, 2020. Due to the coronavirus Covid-19, the ARP General Synod Executive Committee decided to postpone the 2020 Meeting of the ARP General Synod (originally scheduled for June 9-11, 2020) to be held instead, August 18-20, 2020 at the ARP Conference Center at Bonclarken (Flat Rock, SC).
3. Report of the Canadian Presbytery Executive Council Meeting (SEE APPENDIX 3)  
Bill McKay presented a report from the Canadian Presbytery Executive Council Meeting held on March 16, 2020.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Canadian Presbyterian Missions Committee (Rev. Henry Bartsch)**

#### **1. General Report**

The committee is continuing its work for the presbytery with their oversight of missionaries involved with foreign mission works that are associated with the Canadian Presbytery. At present, there are missionaries involved with Christian Hospital Sahiwal, Pakistan and with teaching in Llongwe, Malawi. Bill and Janet McKay are working as volunteers at Christian Hospital Sahiwal. Rev. Tom and Sandra Van Maanen are assisting with teaching church leaders in Lilongwe, Malawi.

As a result of confusion and questions as to what is allowed under Canadian tax laws regarding receiving donations and the distribution of donations to a charitable organization, the committee has developed a paper on "Charitable Giving in Canada" in order to help the Canadian churches better understand their legal responsibilities in the dispersal of any donations (both receipted and unreceipted donations) under CRA and Canadian government guidelines. This is an aid for the churches to better understand their ability to receive contributions/donations and how to disperse those funds. The committee has also developed a "waiver form" for contributors to sign that will allow the committee to be able to better use "specified" funds they receive. This is to be able to access those "specified" funds when those mission works close or are no longer viable. As a result of the limitations (imposed by the CRA) of using "specified" contributions, the committee is taking the step of refusing to accept any "specified" donations that are not accompanied by a signed "waiver". The committee will be asking donors to "advise" the committee as to where their donation should be directed. This will be noted on the "waiver" document. Any donations that are non-specific will not be affected. It was suggested that each church should adapt this policy and waiver for their own use in their individual congregations.

#### **2. Revision to the CPM Policy Manual (SEE APPENDIX 4)**

In order to be able to properly use donated funds in an efficient manner, the committee is requesting that the presbytery approve a revision to the CPM Policy Manual regarding the collection and use of donations for missionaries. The committee is recommending the addition of a clause to 8.1.c) and to revise the wording of 8.1.d) as noted:

*8.1.c) A charitable tax receipt will be issued for donations of \$25.00 or more. Once donations are deposited, they cannot legally be returned to the donor. If the gift cannot*

*be used as advised by the donor, it will be redirected according to the CPM designated giving policy (as noted in 8.1.d below).*

8.1.d) In the event there is a situation where the mission endeavour is discontinued and/or the missionary leaves the mission field or excess support funds have been raised, any financial support that has been previously donated will remain under the direction and control of the Canadian Presbytery (through the Canadian Presbyterian Missions Committee) ~~to~~ *and may* be redirected to the CPM general operating fund for other mission opportunities *at the discretion of the Canadian Presbytery*. This will be noted on all support raising literature so donors are made aware of this policy before contributing to the mission endeavour.

- **Motion:** To approve the use of the proposed revision to the Canadian Presbyterian Missions Committee Policy Manual. **M/S/C**

The committee is also presenting a proposal to implement the use of a “waiver” form. This form allows donors to “advise” the committee where they would like their donations to be used. This gives the committee permission to be able to use those donations elsewhere if situations change and certain missions are no longer viable.

- **Motion:** To approve the use of the proposed “waiver” form for the Canadian Presbyterian Missions Committee. **M/S/C**

### 3. Financial Report (SEE APPENDIX 5)

The CPM Financial Report was presented for information only. It was noted that there is currently \$80,129.14 in the account designated for support of the Malawi mission and \$8,832.59 in the account designated for support of the Pakistan mission. There is also \$45,254.05 in undesignated funds that the committee has discretion to use where needed.

### 4. Missionary Update

#### b) Christian Hospital Sahiwal (SEE APPENDIX 6)

Bill and Janet McKay are currently serving as Volunteer Missionaries in Sahiwal, Pakistan on behalf of the committee. They have been working with Christian Hospital Sahiwal (a mission work of World Witness) since 2014. They last travelled there in November of 2019. They had received their visas and were preparing to return in February, 2020 when they decided against travel to Pakistan due to the Covid-19 coronavirus outbreak. In a report on the current situation at CHS from Dr. Ackerman, it was noted that CHS is hard at work preparing for the inevitable when they will be actively dealing with the disease. But, a side benefit from the concerns with Covid-19 is seen in the response of the Christian community. Family worship is evidently increasing in the evenings. It is common to hear families singing and praying together as they seek God’s help and protection. People are truly seeking God and recognizing his sovereign majesty and power over creation.

#### c) Malawi, Africa (SEE APPENDIX 7)

Rev. Tom Van Maanen and His wife Sandra are currently serving in Malawi, Africa, having arrived there in early January 2020. Their plan is to return home in June 2020. The committee has been in contact with them during this pandemic and had explored the possibility of them returning home to Canada early. But, with the speed that the

situation has changed world-wide, it was felt that they may be safer to stay in Malawi at this time, rather than having to travel through countries that are very active with Covid-19. They have registered with the Canadian consulate and the committee is taking measures to insure they do not run out of funds. Tom has reported that they are well with no reports of Covid-19 yet.

- Rev. Jonathan Cowan offered prayer for the work of CPM, Bill and Janet McKay and their work in Pakistan and Tom and Sandra Van Maanen and their work in Malawi.

#### 5. Mission Conferences

At this time, the committee is planning to continue with the Mission Conferences during the year. Grace Presbyterian Church will be hosting a conference on June 6 – 7, 2020 (D.V.). Bill and Janet McKay will be speaking about their experiences with Christian Hospital Sahiwal. A report on the work of Rev. Tom and Sandra Van Maanen in Lilongwe, Malawi, Africa will also be presented. Covenanters ARP is hoping to host a fall conference (D.V.).

### **B. Stewardship/Congregational Life/Nominations (Mr. Simon Oosterhof)**

#### 1. Treasurer's Report (SEE APPENDIX 8)

The Treasurer's Report for 2019 (year-end) and 2020 (year to date) were presented for information only.

#### 2. Standing Committee Appointments (2020/21) (SEE APPENDIX 9)

The Standing Committees of presbytery for 2020/21 were presented.

- **Motion:** To approve the new assignments of the presbytery Standing Committees as presented. **M/S/C**

#### 3. Election of Moderator (2020/21)

The Nominations Committee nominates Rev. Jonathan Cowan to serve as Moderator of the Canadian Presbytery for 2020/21. His term of office will run from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

- **Motion:** To close the nominations for Moderator 2020/21. **M/S/C**
- **Motion:** That Rev. Jonathan Cowan is accepted by acclamation to the office of Moderator of the Canadian Presbytery for 2020/21. **M/S/C**

#### 4. Election of Vice-moderator (2020/21)

Mr. Ray Silver is nominated to serve as Vice-Moderator of the Canadian Presbytery for 2020/21. His term of office will run from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

- **Motion:** To close the nominations for Vice-Moderator 2020/21. **M/S/C**
- **Motion:** That Mr. Ray Silver is accepted by acclamation to the office of Vice-Moderator of the Canadian Presbytery for 2020/21. **M/S/C**
- Thanks were expressed to Mr. John Rood and Rev. John Shearouse for their service over the past year.

#### 5. Women's Ministry (SEE APPENDIX 10)

A report from Jennifer Hovestadt primarily regarding the "Adopt a Family" program was presented as information only for the presbytery.



## **E. Minister and His Work Committee (Rev. Kevin Carter)**

### **1. Students Under Care and Licentiates**

#### **a. Students Under Care**

##### **i. Tim Collins**

Tim is in the second year of his studies at Gillespie Divinity School and is doing well. His estimated completion date for his studies is Spring 2021 and hopes to be examined by the presbytery in Fall 2021. His mentor is Rev. Jerry Hamstra. Rev. Brian Murray offered prayer for Tim, his family and his studies.

##### **ii. John Nymann**

John has begun his studies at Gillespie Divinity School. He has an estimated completion date for studies for December 2021. He hopes to be examined by the presbytery for licensure and ordination in Spring 2022. His mentor is Rev. Richard Vander Vaart. Dr. Frank Kovacs offered prayer for John, his family and his studies.

##### **iii. David Chi**

David is finishing his 3rd year of studies at GPTS and is doing very well with an estimated completion date of Spring 2021. He was recently married and has begun the process of applying for his Green Card in the United States which inhibits his ability to return to Canada and will not be able to complete a summer internship at Riverside ARP. He has currently not preached any sermons towards licensure or ordination. His mentor is Rev. Brian Murray. Albert Gerrits offered prayer for David and his wife Jennifer and his studies.

##### **iv. Randy Lieuwen**

Randy is in the first year of his seminary studies at Gillespie Divinity School. His studies are going well with an estimated completion date of December 2021. He hopes to be examined by the presbytery for licensure and ordination in Spring 2022. Ray Silver offered prayer for Randy, his wife Allison and his studies.

- **Motion:** To appoint Rev. Michael Jaatinen as the presbytery-appointed mentor for Randy Lieuwen for his remaining time as a student under care; and further, this would be in place of Rev. Steve Richardson who is currently on a sabbatical leave. **M/S/C**

#### **b. Student Preaching Requirements**

With a number of students preparing for examinations, they will need to preach before the presbytery as part of their licensure requirements. The committee reported that they plan to try and “squeeze” student preaching into our regular presbytery meetings with the possibility of asking Presbytery to appoint a commission as necessary. The committee is planning to have David Chi and John Nymann preach their first sermons at the presbytery meeting to be held at General Synod in August, 2020. Tim Collins and Randy Lieuwen will prepare to preach at the 2020 Stated Fall Meeting.

### **3. Reception of a New Student Under Care**

#### **a) Jordan VanAmerongen**

A letter was received from Grace Presbyterian Church (Woodstock, ON) requesting Mr. Jordan VanAmerongen be received as a Student Under Care of the Canadian Presbytery.

Jordan is beginning his seminary studies at Gillespie Divinity School

- **Motion:** To receive Mr. Jordan VanAmerongen as a Student Under Care of the Canadian Presbytery. M/S/C
- **Motion:** To appoint Dr. William VanDoodewaard as the mentor for Mr. VanAmerongen. M/S/C
- John Rood offered prayer for Jordan, his family and his future studies.

b) Brian Schouwstra

Mr. Schouwstra is a former Minister of the Word and Sacrament who was previously ordained and serving in the URC. Several years ago, he resigned from his duties as an active minister. He is currently employed as a Christian counsellor and is a member in good standing at Grace Presbyterian Church (Woodstock, ON). He had applied to the presbytery to transfer into the Canadian Presbytery and to become a member of the Canadian Presbytery in order to be under the care of the presbytery.

He is now officially withdrawing his request to the presbytery as he now sees his calling is in the area of pastoral counselling and not pastoral ministry as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament. He wants to be a help to the church and her ministers and wants to devote his full focus on this ministry as a pastoral counsellor.

- Aaron Koning offered prayer for Brian, his family and his calling as a pastoral counsellor.

4. Other Presbytery Ministers

a. Dr. Frank Kovacs

Dr. Kovacs continues to teach New Testament courses at Tyndale Seminary and also at Knox College, Toronto. He reports that his teaching schedule has become more regularized at both seminaries. He has begun to be able to teach more online courses.

b. Dr. William VanDoodewaard

He is doing well in his teaching position as Professor of Church History at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary. With the situation surrounding Covid-19, studies have transitioned entirely to online studies. This transition has gone very smoothly.

- Rev. Henry Bartsch offered prayer for Dr. VanDoodewaard, Dr. Kovacs and their families.

c. Rev. Steve Richardson

John Vander Deen has presented a report to the committee on behalf of the Faith ARP Session regarding Rev. Richardson and his situation to date (this was not presented to the presbytery as a whole).

- **Motion:** The Faith ARP Session consults with M&HW before any decisions are made regarding Rev. Richardson's return to his ministry at Faith ARP. M/S/C
- Rev. Jerry Hamstra offered prayer for Rev. Steve Richardson, his family in this time of rest and sabbatical and for the providential hope for the future to come.

## **C. OUTREACH CANADA (Rev. John Shearouse)**

### **1. Canadian Presbytery Mission Congregations**

#### **a) Trinity Presbyterian Mission (SEE APPENDIX 11)**

Rev. Michael Jaatinen presented a brief update on the current situation with Trinity Presbyterian Mission in Woodstock, NB. Services are continuing at the church once per Sunday in the afternoon. The Covid-19 state of emergency has, of course, created issues with the consistency that the mission congregations receive steady preaching.

The provisional session has decided to go back to an 11 a.m. service to bring it back in line with a more traditional meeting time. Rev. Jaatinen leads services there one Sunday a month and conducts communion at that time. Rev. VanderVaart leads services twice per month and an elder is present twice per month. The church rolls have been “cleaned”. The membership roll now basically reflects those who are in attendance. Attendance has been stable with roughly 15 – 18 persons in attendance. One member has moved away and there was one death. There are new people starting to show up now and that is encouraging. Rev. Jaatinen has also spoken with Bob Waller about the possibility of his becoming an elder in the congregation and those discussions are ongoing. Finances are stable and there continues to be a good spirit of unity and fellowship in the congregation. The situation seems to be stable.

#### **b) Hope ARP Mission (Kingston, ON) (SEE APPENDIX 12)**

Rev. Kevin Carter gave an update on the ongoing work of Hope ARP Mission in Kingston. Hope ARP is now into its 5<sup>th</sup> year in Kingston and will celebrate their 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the Fall of 2020. They are seeing many encouraging signs. It was noted that the current lease agreement expires on August 31, 2021, but they will probably need to look for another location as the current facility (in usable floor space area) will not be suitable for future growth. The congregation would like to remain in that area of the city though. They will begin negotiations with the landlord in September of 2020 for a shorter-term lease (year to year or month to month) but will also begin looking for other possible sites for relocation. As of January 1, 2020, there are 14 communicant members and 3 non-communicant members. The congregation was delighted to have closed 2019 with the baptism of a young man in the last service in December.

- Dr. William VanDoodewaard led the presbytery in prayer for the mission works of Trinity Presbyterian Mission (Woodstock, NB) and Hope ARP Mission (Kingston).

### **2. Evangelism Ministry Reports**

#### **a) Rev. Rudy de Vries**

Rev. de Vries gave a verbal report to the committee and presbytery on his ongoing work with Redemption Prison Ministry in the Canadian federal penitentiaries in Ontario. He noted that with the Covid-19 pandemic, he has not been able to visit the prisons. He expressed a need for us to pray for inmates as they are extremely isolated and lonely now due to Covid-19 restrictions. His family is doing well on the whole.

#### **b) Rev. Richard Vander Vaart**

Rev. Vander Vaart gave a written report to the committee and a verbal report to the presbytery regarding his ongoing work with Redemption Prison Ministry in the Canadian

federal penitentiaries in the Maritime provinces. He has been visiting Harvest House in the community on a more regular basis about three times per week. He gave a breakdown of his visiting during the week as well as explaining that he is taking French lessons in order to be able to converse with the French speaking prisoners that he contacts. He noted that with the Covid-19 pandemic, he also has not been able to visit the prisons in his area.

- Rev. Robert Widdowson offered prayer for Rev. de Vries and Rev. Vander Vaart – their health, their families and their ministries.

### 3. Canada for Christ 2030

#### a) Truro (Glenholme), NS - Erskine ARP (SEE APPENDIX 13)

Erskine ARP has been meeting as a daughter church of Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church (Halifax, NS) for just over one year. They have been acting more as a preaching station. Services are held typically on the second and fourth Sunday of the month with a full evening worship service (including the celebration of the Lord's Supper). Attendance has typically averaged around twenty-five. They are attracting people from the local community to attend but also have several families who are members of CRPC who either live in the area or travel from Halifax. They are hopeful of eventually seeing God raise up an associate pastor for them so they can have more consistent services in both Halifax and Glenholme.

#### b) Windsor, ON (SEE APPENDIX 14)

The Trinity ARP (Chatham, ON) congregation has taken steps to begin the work in Windsor. Before Rev. Jonathan Cowan had been installed last fall, a Bible study had begun with the Nymann family leading and acting as the hosts. It attracted several neighbours from various backgrounds including the children of a Muslim family for a time. When it resumes after the Covid-19 restrictions, it is hoped that Rev. Bartsch and Rev. Cowan will also take turns in hosting it once a month. Once a month, the Nymann family are also hosting a prayer meeting with Rev. Bartsch leading it on the last Wednesday of every month. Due to the issues surrounding Covid-19, everything is on hold at this time.

The session has decided to focus attention on the East Windsor/Fountainbleu area of the city. They have made contact with a Chinese Missionary Alliance Church which is encouraging them to use their chapel for worship services. It seats 120 people. Rent would be \$150/ Sunday for a 3-hour period for the facility. The original goal was to see about beginning a small service on April 12, 2020 but that has now been pushed back. They have the potential of 3 families to begin growing the work around.

- Ken Turner offered prayer for both of the works in Windsor, ON and Glenholme, NS.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business to report.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### 1. Recognition of New Elders

- Mr. Neal Mynders was recognized as the newly ordained and installed elder at Grace

Presbyterian Church in Woodstock, ON with thanksgiving to God for His faithful providence and answer to prayer for new elders.

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

- **September 24-25, 2020:** Covenanters ARP Church, Cambridge, NS
- **April 8-9, 2021:** Hope ARP Mission, Kingston, ON

**ADJOURNMENT/ ANNOUNCEMENTS – CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION**

Rev. John Shearouse prayed and presented the closing benediction.

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

The court adjourned at 4:09 p.m. with the reading of Psalm 133.

These minutes are respectfully submitted and attested by:

**John Rood**  
**Moderator**

**Bill McKay**  
**Stated Clerk**

## **APPENDIX 1 (April/20)**

### **Report on the Installation Service of Rev. Jonathan Cowan as Associate Pastor of Trinity Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Chatham, ON.**

On the evening of November 29, 2019, the presbytery commission for the installation of Rev. Jonathan Cowan met in the pastor's study at Living Hope Free Reformed Church in Chatham.

Present: Rev's – Stephen Richardson, Jeff Kingswood, and Jerry Hamstra. Elders – John Rood and Aaron Koning

A quorum was declared.

The meeting was opened in prayer and it was agreed that the meeting would be adjourned with the final benediction of the service.

The service was conducted by Rev. Jerry Hamstra. Rev. Jeff Kingswood brought the sermon and Rev. Stephen Richardson the charges to the minister and congregation.

Rev. Jonathan Cowan responded in the affirmative to the vows for ordination (reaffirmation) and installation and the congregation to the question for installation and Rev. Cowan was duly installed as Associate Pastor of Trinity Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, Chatham, ON.

#### **Order of Worship**

Installation Service of Rev. Jonathan Cowan

Rev. Jerry Hamstra presiding

Welcome & announcements

Call to Worship

Song of Adoration: # 405 (vv. 1,3,4,6,7)

Prayer of Adoration

Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed

Song of Response # 166 (vv. 1,2,3,6)

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-3:15

Sermon: "Our Calling" (Rev. Jeff Kingswood, Grace Presbyterian Church)

Prayer of Application

Song of Response # 81

Overview of Process of Installation (Rev. Jerry Hamstra, Riverside ARP Church)

Formulation of Questions for Ordination

Question to Congregation

Declaration of Installation

Charge to the minister & Charge to the congregation

(Rev. Steve Richardson, Faith ARP Church)

Prayer for Blessing

Closing Song # 134

Benediction: Rev. Cowan

Doxology # 196

The Right Hand of Fellowship

**APPENDIX 2 (April/20)**

**Service of Organization for Faith ARP**  
**January 24, 2020 @ 7:30 PM**

Rev. Brian Murray

Pre-service song:

Call to Worship

Invocation Prayer

Hymn:

Organization of the congregation

Prayer for congregation

Ordination of Ruling Elders

Installation of Rev. Steve Richardson as Minister

Rev. Henry Bartsch

Charge to the Minister, Elders, and Congregation

Prayer for Minister and Elders

Rev. Robert Widdowson

Scripture Reading:

Sermon: Rev. Robert Widdowson

1 Peter 2: 1-12 "Living Stones"

Prayer of application

Hymn:

John Rood

Address to the congregation

Rev. Steve Richardson

Benediction

Closing Hymn

**APPENDIX 3 (April/20)**

**Canadian Presbytery Executive Meeting Agenda**  
**March 16, 2020 @ 4:00 p.m. EDT**  
**via Skype**

**ROLL**

John Rood, Bill McKay, Simon Oosterhof, Kevin Carter, John Shearouse, Henry Bartsch, Brian Murray, Gary Armstrong

**DEVOTION & PRAYER**

Colossians 1: 15-20

John Rood opened the meeting with prayer.

**AGENDA**

- **Motion:** To approve the agenda as presented. **M/S/C**

**BUSINESS**

1. 2020 Stated Spring Presbytery – Apr. 2-3, 2020

In light of the outbreak of the Covid-19 corona virus and the reaction of the Canadian government in an attempt to deal with the issues surrounding virus, the Executive Council of the Canadian Presbytery met to discuss what to do about the upcoming 2020 Stated Spring Presbytery Meeting scheduled for April 2-3, 2020 and hosted by the congregation of Hope ARP Mission in Kingston, ON. The government has requested that all unnecessary travel should be curtailed and that people should remain home for the foreseeable future.

This has raised the question of what we, as a presbytery, should be doing in this situation. The following options were discussed:

- a) Do we postpone presbytery until May or June and what are the financial implications for travel reservations?

The future is unknown so we cannot make a definite decision. It was suggested that we could hold an abbreviated 1-day meeting at Grace Presbyterian Church without representatives from the Maritime churches. We would be able to have a quorum but there would be no voice or vote from the Maritime ministers and elders. The presbytery committees would then meet by Skype prior to April 2 and make their reports to the abbreviated quorum.

- b) Do we hold an abbreviated meeting via teleconference on April 2?

We could use the conference room facilities at Grace as the base using Zoom Teleconference technology they have at the church.

- **Motion:** To change the venue of the 2020 Stated Spring meeting from Kingston, ON to a teleconference meeting with Grace Presbyterian Church as the base. **M/S/C**

The meeting will now be an abbreviated and condensed meeting to be held on Apr. 2 beginning at 1 p.m. (EDT). Bill McKay will work with Tim Collins and Brian Murray to arrange for the meeting to take place and make sure the required connection information is sent out to the Canadian churches. The presbytery committees will meet via Skype before April 2 or on their own in the morning before Presbytery begins. Reports from individuals will be encouraged to help speed up the process so the presbytery can still see what is happening in the life of the presbytery. Bill McKay will send out a revised call to meeting tonight.

In order to help alleviate with the number of sermons that need to be preached before presbytery, John Nymann will preach his 1<sup>st</sup> sermon (Junior) at a worship service at Trinity ARP under the auspices of the M&HW committee (date to be determined). It was decided to allow Hope ARP Mission to host the 2021 Stated Spring Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery next spring

2. Rev. Tom & Sandra Van Maanen

The question was raised that in light of the call of the Canadian government for all Canadians to return home now because of the Covid-19 virus, should Rev. Tom and Sandra Van Maanen be instructed to return home from Malawi as soon as possible.

Rev. Henry Bartsch has been in contact with the Van Maanens and discussed this matter. Both tom and Sandra



expressed that they do not desire to leave Malawi at this time. They do not feel that they are in any perceived danger at this time, although access to good medical treatment would be difficult. There will also be difficulties in getting them home with questions around whether they can even get flights from Malawi and make connections through Europe. They may actually be safer to stay there.

It was decided that they contact the Canadian consulate in Malawi (or closest Canadian diplomatic outpost) for information and to also explore flights that may be available to return home if necessary. Rev. Bartsch will follow-up with them on this matter.

3. General Synod – June 9-11, 2020?

- While waiting for information from Central Services, it is unknown at this time as to what effects the Covid-19 coronavirus will have on the scheduling of the General Synod Meeting in June.

Adjournment & Prayer

- Rev. John Shearouse closed the meeting with prayer at 4:40 pm
- Motion: To adjourn the meeting. M/S/C

**APPENDIX 4 (April/20)****CPM Policy Manual Revision (April 2020)**

(revised change is noted in **underlined & italics**)

**Section 8: Financial Support****8.1: Fundamentals**

Financial Support comes through the gifts of the Body of Christ via churches and individuals (both within and outside the ARP community) who are committed to supporting people as a Canadian Presbyterian Missions missionary. The Canadian Presbytery is dependent upon God for all financial support, and all funds received by Canadian Presbyterian Missions for missionary support ultimately belongs to Him.

- a) The missionary/candidate will work with the Canadian Presbyterian Missions Committee to develop a budget for the proposed mission work. Prior to departure for the mission field, the candidate must meet all conditions of appointment including building their pledge support level to approximately 100% (including the first year's travel and allowances) or at a level as determined by Canadian Presbyterian Missions Committee.
- b) When raising financial support (either through direct contributions or pledges), the missionary/candidate and the Canadian Presbyterian Missions Committee must make it clear to donors that the gift is for the work of the Canadian Presbytery acting through the Canadian Presbyterian Missions Committee (not the missionary/candidate) and that the Canadian Presbytery has full control, direction and ultimate discretion as to the use of these funds (even though the purpose of the gift may be "directed" for a particular project or mission field). All gifts and donations towards the missionary endeavour are intended to support the charitable work as carried out by the Canadian Presbyterian Missions Committee and not the individual missionary/ candidate. It is more accurate for a gift or donation to be directed to a particular mission field or endeavour rather than to a particular missionary/candidate.
- c) *A charitable tax receipt will be issued for donations of \$25.00 or more. Once donations are deposited, they cannot legally be returned to the donor. If the gift cannot be used as advised by the donor, it will be redirected according to the CPM designated giving policy (as noted in 8.1.d below).*
- d) In the event there is a situation where the mission endeavour is discontinued and/or the missionary leaves the mission field or excess support funds have been raised, any financial support that has been previously donated will remain under the direction and control of the Canadian Presbytery (through the Canadian Presbyterian Missions Committee) ~~to~~ *and may* be redirected to the CPM general operating fund for other mission opportunities *at the discretion of the Canadian Presbytery.* This will be noted on all support raising literature so donors are made aware of this policy before contributing to the mission endeavour.
- e) Canadian Presbyterian Missions builds its budget in three levels:
  - **Missionary Direct Support**

Personal support is funded first. This covers salary, allowances, insurance, pension, housing, transportation, and other expenses directly related to maintaining the work on the field. The mission support level is set to maintain a reasonable standard of living in the assigned country and does not reflect the value of a missionary's worth, education, or training. The Committee (in conjunction with the missionary) has the stewardship responsibility of establishing a budget for support, guaranteeing a full salary and benefits whether or not monthly donations rise above or fall below budgeted expenses.

- **Program Ministry**

Core ministry programs are budgeted next. The Committee (with major input from the field) designates this work as essential to the ministry. The funding for the program must be sustainable for it to remain within this category.

- **Project Work**

Project work is funded if and when additional funds are available. Generally, this level involves ministry opportunities that would enhance the Lord's work, but the Committee is not yet confident that the funding will be available or sustainable. Projects are generally limited in scope and duration.

- e) The desire to pursue any specific line of ministry starts with the missionaries on the field and flows through the Canadian Presbyterian Missions office to the Presbytery. A missionary is the critical start for this process since they have the firsthand knowledge of the field. However, the Presbytery has the final decision after it balances the various needs with the current support levels.
- f) The Presbytery reserves the right to redirect any surplus funds to under-supported missionaries.

**APPENDIX 5 (April/20)**

**Canadian Presbyterian Missions  
Treasurer's Report  
for the period ending  
February 12, 2020**

	General Fund (General Expenses)		General Fund (Malawi)		General Fund (Pakistan)		Total All Funds	Total All Funds
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	2020	2019
<b>RECEIPTS</b>								
Covenant Reformed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Covenanters	788.20	-	60.00	-	-	-	848.20	7,665.00
Faith Presbyterian	839.85	-	-	-	-	-	839.85	27,580.57
Grace Fellowship, NS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grace Presbyterian, ON	-	-	37,307.00	-	500.00	-	37,807.00	24,830.00
Hope Presbyterian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,700.00
Mount Zion	4,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	4,000.00	3,000.00
Riverside ARP	3,505.45	-	-	-	-	-	3,505.45	4,625.54
Trinity Chatham, ON	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other churches	-	-	10,671.25	-	-	-	10,671.25	7,205.82
Individuals	-	-	1,000.00	-	-	-	1,000.00	13,829.14
Interest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>9,133.50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,038.25</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>58,671.75</b>	<b>90,436.07</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>								
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget		
<b>Missionary</b>								
Salary & withholding taxes	-	-	-	33,268.00	-	-	33,268.00	-
Evangelism	-	-	-	1,000.00	-	100.00	1,100.00	120.52
Hospitality & Meals	-	-	-	500.00	-	700.00	1,200.00	152.46
Housing & utilities	-	-	-	250.00	-	1,600.00	1,850.00	1,235.47
Medical Insurance	-	-	-	1,500.00	503.50	600.00	2,603.50	380.87
Travel Expenses	-	-	-	5,700.00	36.00	6,300.00	12,036.00	41,236.31
Vehicle expenses	-	-	-	5,000.00	-	-	5,000.00	230.10
Emergency Evacuation	-	-	-	6,000.00	-	5,000.00	-	-
Venue Rental	-	-	-	5,000.00	-	-	5,000.00	-
Visas	-	-	-	1,200.00	160.88	400.00	1,760.88	194.24
<b>Administration</b>								
Bank Fees	-	100.00	-	-	-	-	100.00	-
Promotion	-	700.00	-	-	-	-	700.00	898.82
Office Supplies	41.29	250.00	-	-	-	-	291.29	179.23
Travel Expenses	-	4,000.00	-	1,500.00	-	300.00	5,800.00	1,870.79
Miscellaneous	-	100.00	-	-	-	-	100.00	-
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>41.29</b>	<b>5,150.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>60,918.00</b>	<b>700.38</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>	<b>70,809.67</b>	<b>46,498.81</b>
Excess - Receipts over Disbursements	9,092.21	(5,150.00)	49,038.25	(60,918.00)	(200.38)	(15,000.00)	(12,137.92)	43,937.26
Bank and Investments - January 1	36,161.84	-	31,090.89	-	9,032.97	-	76,285.70	32,348.44
Bank and Investments - Current	45,254.05	-	80,129.14	-	8,832.59	-	64,147.78	76,285.70

**APPENDIX 6 (April/20)****Pakistan Report to Canadian Presbytery – April, 2020**

Janet and I would like to thank God and everyone for the continuing support we have received from the churches of the Canadian Presbytery and from CPM. We would not be able to undertake this mission work without that support. This year, we had planned on travelling to Pakistan in February for four weeks. We had applied for and received our visas but had not yet purchased our air fare for the trip. We then received a call from Dr. Ackerman in late January who strongly advised us not to travel to Pakistan due to the increasingly disturbing news reports coming from China regarding a new threat to our safety as individuals and as a society in general. Due to God's glorious providence, there are currently no ARP missionaries in harm's way in Pakistan. Janet and I have been in self-isolation for two weeks after travelling to the World Witness Board of Directors meeting in mid-March. Keith and Rhoda Ackerman are safely at home in the United States where Keith is now recovering from back surgery. Mike Yarman is also safely at home since he was between trips to Pakistan when the "dam broke" two weeks ago.

Talk of Covid-19 is consuming almost all of our attention these days. News broadcasts are almost totally consumed with 24-hour coverage of Covid-19 as concern over this coronavirus has overtaken the world. It is like there is nothing else happening in the anywhere. Pakistan is also not immune from the ramifications of Covid-19. CHS has taken several steps to prepare for the pandemic as follows:

- 500,000 surgical masks are stockpiled;
- extra medications and supplies have been stockpiled;
- increased staff training and teaching on blood borne pathogens, hand washing, and infection control has been conducted;
- daily monitoring of all patients to guard that there is no Covid-19 in the facility;
- senior staff have been assigned to triage areas where every patient is screened;
- all staff in contact with the public are wearing n95 masks;
- all hospital employees are working to maintain a safe buffer area around themselves but this is problematic in a country like Pakistan;
- only one visitor per patient is allowed;
- the nursing school has been closed and the students have been sent home to their villages;
- all Covid-19 patients are to be referred to larger government health facilities for proper isolation and treatment (per government directives).

From a human perspective, this situation will likely get far worse before it gets better. Life in Pakistan centers around the family as they share everything in their lives with one another. In a third world country, sanitation is very limited so there is great concern over hygiene and contamination. There is no back-up for the economy. If someone doesn't work, their family does not eat. It is literally a day-to-day existence for survival in many situations especially in the villages. Almost all of the Covid-19 cases in Pakistan are due to people returning from Mecca on their pilgrimage (hadj) with many of these travelers coming through Dubai or other central hubs.

For the rest of us, any idea of travel from our homes in the west is severely restricted. With world-wide travel restrictions in place, there is currently little to no ability to travel anywhere in the world.

On other items of interest at CHS, the following items are ongoing:

1. CHS has been approved for an ASHA Grant of \$500,000 and is waiting on the final approval of a major government grant through the Bureau of Environmental Management. CHS had been promised a response by March 6, 2020, but has heard nothing so far.
2. The BScN program of study is moving forward with one final step still needing to be accomplished. The last piece of paperwork is the final approval by the Syndicate of the University in Pakistan that CHS is hoping to affiliate with. All of the paperwork has been completed and CHS is simply waiting on this final approval to move forward with classes. The nursing school is hesitant to accept a class of students without something in writing from the university to protect the school and the students from potential lawsuits CHS has asked for assistance from their contacts in the government to provide some assistance

to this process in an attempt to motivate the University to speed up the process and accommodate the BScN program of study.

3. The size of the roof top solar electrical system has been tripled (from 20 kw to 60 kw) and it is now fully on line. The staff of CHS were able to completely install and get ready to commission the system without any need for input or assistance from outside of the hospital. This continues to show the capacity building that CHS has focused on and highlights what the CHS maintenance personnel is capable of. The installation is very well done and has a very professional, engineered look to the complete installation. An inspector noted that he would like to bring someone in and show them how an installation should look. There is still ample room on the roof of the hospital for further expansion of the system.

In spite of the world-wide concerns and fears due to the spread of Covid-19, the CHS staff are showing a complete and total dependence on the mercy and grace of their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We can train, teach, practice, pray and then when we have done all that we are able to, we recognize that we simply must trust in the one who has appointed us to this work. We recognize that we are all completely and totally dependent on an unseen hand over us to manage the affairs of our daily lives. Every day, the hospital staff recognizes the importance of the chapel time as they gather together each morning to seek the face of God and ask for His protection. With the absence of the nursing students, there is more room for the staff to practice "social distancing" in the chapel. They find their chapel time is a time to call upon God and to find comfort and peace at His throne of mercy and grace. There is no sense of determinism or fatalism in this practise, but rather, there is a quiet calm assurance that God is in control and we are His humble servants working under His covenant promise of mercy and grace.

Pray for the administration and the general staff of CHS through these trying times. They are on the front lines of a battle involving physical ailments but also are on the "point of the spear" of ministry in the spiritual battle with Satan. We pray and trust that God is in control and allowing CHS to continue the work and ministry of CHS in Pakistan.

In Christ's glorious service,  
Bill & Janet McKay

**APPENDIX 7 (April/20)****Malawi 2020 Report for Presbytery/CPM**

March 2020

Dear Brothers

Here is a summary of what has thus transpired on our latest trip to Malawi, Africa. We are thankful for God's mercies in preserving us in our long flights here, and His provision in a comfortable apartment. We were also thankful to see that the bible study group which we have been tracking and staying in touch with while in Canada was still going strong. Although we lost two key members as far as promising young men to studies afield, we are glad to see a core group still persevering each Lord's day. Of this number we get 10-15 on a regular basis, and 25 if all attend.

There are many factors which hinder consistent attendance and travel in Malawi. Such as the heavy rains, family functions, funeral obligations, and lack of money to pay for travel. We have started a diaconate of sorts to help any who cannot come due to lack of funds to pay for transport. The other factor is rooted more in African culture. For Africans if you only have a 'bible study' you are considered a 'fellowship' and not taken that seriously. Once you have established a church service and secured a place of worship, they begin to be a little more diligent in their efforts to attend. However, our core group has been quite faithful considering all the factors, for which we are thankful and continue to press on in faith. Part of the work of the steering committee has been to find and secure a piece of land to begin building a church. We have found a temporary one and are working on completing it to the point it can be used for a worship service by mid- summer the Lord willing

While I was away Bentry had begun a series on the book of Acts. When I arrived back, they had reached the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts, and we decided to look more closely at what the Apostles did with the churches they planted. One significant thing we noticed was, they took the time to ground them in the faith and "*strengthen their souls.*" (Acts 14:22-23) In light of this and realizing many people in Africa equate 'being born again' to church membership, we (Bentry and I) decided to switch our studies to the Apostles creed and break down each phrase as a focused study on the principles of faith, which many confess with their mouth and yet don't understand with their heart. It has been going well, and is well received.

Further since the Pastor's Training Institute where I was last year is on hold, (the students are sent out to their respective villages for practical outreach programs) I have begun a discipleship program with 4 young men from our bible study group. One is in the intern program with MRN, and is working on trying to pass his English exams for entrance to Puritan Seminary in Grand Rapids. We are going through the book of 1 Timothy at the moment. Part of this study is to vet these young men as far as their preparation and interest in furthering their desires to serve the Lord in some capacity in the church, and principally as future church planters. Our goal is to further these studies to include a more intensive course load, and broaden the curriculum to Seminary/Bible college level. Bentry is of course a valuable colleague, in that he has been part of 4 church plants in the past, working closely with O. Palmer Robertson, and is currently academic dean and head of chaplaincy at ABC Bible college.

I have also met with Confex Makhallira who is a Puritan grad, a missionary now with MTW, and working on church planting in the city of Blantyre. (a city 5 hrs south of Lilongwe where we are stationed) There is a concerted effort begun through MTW, and we hope together with World Witness in planting Reformed Confessional Presbyterian churches throughout sub-Sahara Africa. This work is slowly developing, and we are working on plans as to how we can work together here in Malawi to see this as a reality (the Lord willing). Church planting in whatever context is long arduous labour, and much patience, perseverance and faithful obedience is required. Trusting in God alone to give the increase. We are much encouraged by the progress made to date and pray for one another as we press on in this work.

As far as Sandra my wife is concerned. She continues to volunteer one day a week with Nyenyezi ministries (when weather and roads permit) and has also added one day a week to helping at a church-based pre-school with the Presbyterian church where I was teaching. She often helps with curriculum and advice at both locations and enjoys working with the children. She also had begun a women's bible study together with Bentry's wife, with the women who attend the bible study. Part of that time will be geared towards teaching the younger women practical skills such as cooking, and knitting.

We continue to be encouraged by God's goodness in His sustaining grace regarding our health and safety. The country was in disarray and turmoil regarding the past elections which happened when we left last year and still were not settled due to corruption. The Highest court of the land decided the elections must be redone which brought a measure of relief to the nation, except for the current government's supporters. Part of the fruit of corruption is anger towards a very incompetent police force (often the perpetrators of violence and theft themselves) There has been numerous cases of mob justice with thieves being burned to death, old people killed with violence being

suspected of witchcraft, shops and trucks of product destroyed, and general borderline anarchy because of mis-trust and hatred for the police. If the villagers catch you in some crime you may never need or get a trial. Due to government corruption there has arisen a 'human rights' advocacy group which has been defending the 'rights' of the people, but also demanding accountability due to an obviously botched/rigged election. Calling for the heads of those who were behind the deceit. So far, the president who of course is fighting for his political life (and pocket book) has resisted every effort to bring the law to bear on the new elections. This of course has increased tensions again and large demonstrations, till the elections can be settled. When demonstrations are held, we stay indoors, because they are unpredictable and often lead to violence. The one bright spot has been the role of the military which refused to follow the president's wishes in retaliation against the people, but took the side of protecting the protestors from government thugs and the police themselves. Because the police are incompetent and full of government cronies, they often shoot first, and ask questions later.

We pray that the Lord will be gracious and raise up a new government which will lead this country again with some measure of moral leadership. Continue to pray above all for the effectual work and preaching of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. He alone is our peace and our salvation, and that we may see a wholesale reformation of both the church and land of Malawi to His glory. Thank you for your continued prayers on our behalf, as they are a great encouragement to us as we serve our Lord here, on behalf of the Canadian Presbytery and the ARP church.



**APPENDIX 8 (April/20)**

<b>Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches in Canada</b>					
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>					
<b>for the period ending December 31, 2019</b>					
Expense Fund	Denominational Ministry Fund (Canadian Presbyterian Mission)		Canadian Church Development Trust (Outreach Canada)	Total All Funds	Total All Funds
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Covenant Reformed	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,996.10	\$ 2,196.10	\$ 717.00
Covenanters	3,066.30	-	892.35	3,958.65	4,757.05
Faith Presbyterian	-	-	-	-	2,710.00
Grace Fellowship, NS	1,500.00	2,700.00	-	4,200.00	5,700.00
Grace Presbyterian, ON	-	-	24,492.30	24,492.30	42,770.37
Mount Zion	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	2,000.00	-
Reformed Hungarian	-	-	-	-	-
Riverside	2,500.00	500.00	17,331.54	20,331.54	5,554.00
Trinity Chatham, ON	2,000.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	7,000.00	2,500.00
Trinity Woodstock, NB	-	-	-	-	-
Interest	1,288.50	-	-	1,288.50	357.32
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>11,454.80</b>	<b>5,800.00</b>	<b>48,212.29</b>	<b>65,467.09</b>	<b>65,065.74</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Church plants - Kingston	-	-	62,000.00	62,000.00	40,000.00
Church plants - Tillsonburg	-	-	-	-	18,000.00
Church plants - Windsor	-	-	19,000.00	33,000.00	19,000.00
CPM Mission Committee & Pakistan	-	3,453.70	10,000.00	-	3,453.70
Computer	-	-	-	-	4,378.30
Travel	6,601.56	3,000.00	-	-	6,601.56
Moderator/Clerk/Treasurer Travel	1,941.04	2,000.00	-	-	4,984.32
Telephone, teleconference calls	668.49	1,200.00	-	-	639.07
Treasurer's Work, Postage, Bank Chgs, Office	-	500.00	-	-	818.88
Student Bursaries & Expenses	9,000.00	6,000.00	-	-	9,000.00
Professional fees	-	1,000.00	-	-	-
Miscellaneous (Including moving costs)	250.28	8,000.00	-	-	250.28
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>18,461.37</b>	<b>21,700.00</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>75,000.00</b>	<b>102,915.07</b>
<b>Excess - Receipts over Disbursements</b>	<b>(7,006.57)</b>	<b>\$ (21,700.00)</b>	<b>2,346.30</b>	<b>\$ (10,000.00)</b>	<b>(32,787.71)</b>
Bank and Investments - January 1	24,246.28	24,495.20	107,108.32	155,849.80	162,104.63
Bank and Investments - Current	<b>\$ 17,239.71</b>	<b>\$ 26,841.50</b>	<b>\$ 74,320.61</b>	<b>\$ 118,401.82</b>	<b>\$ 155,849.80</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>				<b>\$ 18,050.54</b>	<b>\$ 56,792.02</b>
Bank Balance				100,351.28	99,057.78
Investment Certificates				<b>\$ 118,401.82</b>	<b>\$ 155,849.80</b>
Total Funds					

<b>Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches in Canada</b>					
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>					
<b>for the period ending December 31, 2019</b>					
Expense Fund	Denominational Ministry Fund (Canadian Presbyterian Mission)		Canadian Church Development Trust (Outreach Canada)	Total All Funds	Total All Funds
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Covenant Reformed	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,996.10	\$ 2,196.10	\$ 717.00
Covenanters	3,066.30	-	892.35	3,958.65	4,757.05
Faith Presbyterian	-	-	-	-	2,710.00
Grace Fellowship, NS	1,500.00	2,700.00	-	4,200.00	5,700.00
Grace Presbyterian, ON	-	-	24,492.30	24,492.30	42,770.37
Mount Zion	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	2,000.00	-
Reformed Hungarian	-	-	-	-	-
Riverside	2,500.00	500.00	17,331.54	20,331.54	5,554.00
Trinity Chatham, ON	2,000.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	7,000.00	2,500.00
Trinity Woodstock, NB	-	-	-	-	-
Interest	1,288.50	-	-	1,288.50	357.32
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>11,454.80</b>	<b>5,800.00</b>	<b>48,212.29</b>	<b>65,467.09</b>	<b>65,065.74</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Church plants - Kingston	-	-	62,000.00	62,000.00	40,000.00
Church plants - Tillsonburg	-	-	-	-	18,000.00
Church plants - Windsor	-	-	19,000.00	33,000.00	19,000.00
CPM Mission Committee & Pakistan	-	3,453.70	10,000.00	-	3,453.70
Computer	-	-	-	-	4,378.30
Travel	6,601.56	3,000.00	-	-	6,601.56
Moderator/Clerk/Treasurer Travel	1,941.04	2,000.00	-	-	4,984.32
Telephone, teleconference calls	668.49	1,200.00	-	-	639.07
Treasurer's Work, Postage, Bank Chgs, Office	-	500.00	-	-	818.88
Student Bursaries & Expenses	9,000.00	6,000.00	-	-	9,000.00
Professional fees	-	1,000.00	-	-	-
Miscellaneous (Including moving costs)	250.28	8,000.00	-	-	250.28
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>18,461.37</b>	<b>21,700.00</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>75,000.00</b>	<b>102,915.07</b>
<b>Excess - Receipts over Disbursements</b>	<b>(7,006.57)</b>	<b>\$ (21,700.00)</b>	<b>2,346.30</b>	<b>\$ (10,000.00)</b>	<b>(32,787.71)</b>
Bank and Investments - January 1	24,246.28	24,495.20	107,108.32	155,849.80	162,104.63
Bank and Investments - Current	<b>\$ 17,239.71</b>	<b>\$ 26,841.50</b>	<b>\$ 74,320.61</b>	<b>\$ 118,401.82</b>	<b>\$ 155,849.80</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>				<b>\$ 18,050.54</b>	<b>\$ 56,792.02</b>
Bank Balance				100,351.28	99,057.78
Investment Certificates				<b>\$ 118,401.82</b>	<b>\$ 155,849.80</b>
Total Funds					

**APPENDIX 9 (April/20)****Standing Committees (2020-2021)****Outreach Canada**

2021  
 Rev. John Shearouse  
 Rev. Michael Jaatinen  
 Wil Mijnders

2022  
 Jon VanDyk  
 Rev. Tom Van Maanen

2023  
 Peter Lindsay  
 Dave Alexander

2024  
 Rev. Jeff Kingswood  
 John Moerman

**Congregational Life, Stewardship and Nominations**

2021  
 Russell Lutes  
 Rev. John Cowan  
 Rev. Jerry Hamstra

2022  
 Aaron Koning  
 Ray Silver  
 Rev. Brian Murray

2023  
 Paul Hodgson  
 Dr. Frank Kovacs

2024  
 Simon Oosterhof  
 Ken Turner

**Minister and His Work**

2021  
 Bryant Flanagan  
 Rev. Kevin Carter  
 Rev. Rudy deVries

2022  
 Alex Beard  
 Rev. Richard VanderVaart

2023  
 Henry Hogeterp  
 John Vander Deen  
 Rev. Martin Den Dekker

2024  
 Albert Gerrits  
 Neal Mynders  
 Dr. Bill VanDoodewaard

**Canadian Presbytery Missions**

2022  
 Rev. Stephen Richardson  
 John Rood  
 Ray Silver

2023  
 Bill McKay  
 Rev. Robert Widdowson  
 Henry Van Til  
 Rev. Henry Bartsch

**Notes:**

1. CPM committee was split to begin the process of bringing it to a four-year rotation. It will be further split for 2024 and then be ready in 2025 for two additional elders to be appointed for that year.

2. Dennis Nenadov has not be included because he and his family are moving to the Windsor area and he will need to be installed in Chatham to continue as an elder.

**APPENDIX 10 (April/20)**

Congregational Life Committee Report  
Spring Presbytery Meeting  
April 2, 2020

This past year we have used the Family of the Month version of encouragement for those in a unique calling in the Canadian Presbytery. Over the last few weeks I have been talking with those who are participants and from the churches to get some feedback and see how we can best encourage these men and their families going forward.

- 1a. I have spoken with the recipients of the FOM and some received emails/cards from the churches, but not as many as expected.
- b. They would prefer to have on church for a whole year. While it was nice to have some emails from across the churches, they missed that closeness that comes from being with one congregation and a whole year as opposed to one month.
  
- 2a. I have spoken to some of the ladies from the Ontario churches and there were a few things happening here as well.
  - a. They did not get the information that was sent to the churches in August with the details of FOM or the information to contact the families.
  - b. They have not been receiving the month prayer requests from the FOM (which is being sent by Simon to the churches).
- b. They would prefer to have one (or two families if that was required) per year instead of the one per month. While it was good to see the different families, that closeness wasn't felt as when having a family for a whole year.

Based on this, there are a few recommendations:

1. That we go back to the Adopt a Family and each congregation takes on one (or two as may be required) families for the entire year.
2. As there seems to be a disconnect of communication between the information (including monthly prayer requests) being sent from the committee to the pastors and then on to the congregation, it is proposed to have a contact person from each congregation to take care of setting up a schedule, forwarding emails etc.

At the recent 1Accord Conference, information sheets were handed out to the ladies from the Ontario churches who will be passing the information on to their congregations. At the conference, I was able to talk a bit about FOM/Adopt a Family and why we are doing this and some ideas of how to organize it. I emphasized the importance that this is not just a few families in the church, but that it is a ministry of the entire congregation. Once I have a contact I can go into more details about how to organize it.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Hovestadt  
Women's Ministry Representative.

**APPENDIX 11 (April/20)****Spring 2020 Trinity Presbyterian Mission Report**

*Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for wholeness and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.*

As I write this report I am once again reminded that the Lord is always working out His plans for His people. Even when the church struggles and faces many challenges, the Lord is still directing His plans and purpose which are for our wholeness and not evil to give us a future and a hope.

Over the past six months since our fall meeting of Presbytery, the Lord continues to sustain and bless Trinity ARP Mission Church. As stated in the past, the church continues to have one worship service every Sunday. In January the weather was so bad in NB that the services had to be suspended, but since that time leading up to last week, the church has been able to meet together without any issues. Rev Michael Jaatinen continues to preach and celebrate the Lord's Supper with the congregation once a month. Rev Richard Vander Vaart has continued to preach twice a month, and an elder is there twice a month. On the Sundays that an elder is present in the service, the congregation also continues to use a recorded sermon from Rev. Michael Jaatinen. The congregation was meeting at 3 PM in the afternoon, but the Provision Session decided it would be good to change the time to 11 AM beginning in March in order to have a more traditional meeting time on Sundays. The hope is that this change would encourage visitors and others to come to the church. The Trinity has now closed due to COVID-19, but since the time of the time change things had been going well with the services.

Presbytery had given us the mandate to *properly clean up the congregational rolls*, for Trinity. We have been working through this process and are happy to report that the majority of the work has been completed. At this point, there is one family still deciding whether to continue with their membership or seek membership somewhere else. The current membership roll more or less reflects those who are attending the church regularly.

Worship attendance continues to be stable. Average attendance continues to be roughly eight to fifteen. Since the last meeting of Presbytery, Kathy Miskelly has moved away and Ruth Durling has passed away. These losses have been difficult for the church as both ladies were long time members. However, there also have been those who have started to attend as well. Those are: Andrew and Suzanne Bernard and three children, Ron Stanley, and John Dunlop. The Bernard's are seriously considering joining the church which is a great encouragement. Also, the Provisional Session is considering the potential for Bob Waller for being an elder in the church. Bob has taken a strong leading role for looking after the affairs of the church at the local level and has had many discussions with Rev. Jaatinen concerning what it would take to become an elder. This consideration and process is ongoing. There continues to be a good spirit of unity and fellowship in the congregation.

Finances also continue to be stable. The Lord provides what is needed every month and the members do give generously to the church. The overall Bank balance is lower, but this is due to the extra pulpit supply expense of having someone travel up from Moncton every week to conduct a service. Still, there remains no present concern of being financially unable to continue as a Mission church.

Like all of our churches, the present challenge is that all services at Trinity are now suspended due to COVID-19. The congregation has been invited to watch the live stream of the services from Mount Zion until things get back to normal again. The members of Trinity certainly desire to continue as a Mission Church of the ARP. The Lord has been truly faithful to this congregation and Provision Session from Mount Zion is happy to continue supporting Trinity in whatever way we can. Our desire is the same as the members of Trinity, to continue this work as it is at present to see if it is a viable ARP church. We look to the Lord for wisdom, direction, and grace for this church to continue as a witness for Christ in the Woodstock, NB area.

In Christ,  
Rev. Michael Jaatinen (Interim Moderator)

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**APPENDIX 12 (April/20)**

# HOPE Presbyterian Church

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## Report for the Spring 2020 stated meeting of the Canadian Presbytery

March 27, 2020

To the Outreach Canada Committee and the Canadian Presbytery,

HOPE Presbyterian Church Mission is now 4 ½ years into its time here in Kingston, ON; and we seem to ever be in flux concerning the people who attend, other than our actual membership. If there is one thing encouraging about the last few months since our September meeting, has been the testimony of a few students who have moved on due to finishing their degrees. One student came from a Seventh Day Adventist background, and spent from September – December coming to both services, and declared at his leaving, “There is no way I can return to my old church.” He has begun attending an evangelical conservative church in Australia. Another student stated, “This past year at HOPE has been the most significant life changing year I’ve experienced.” He too is leaving his Baptist setting to find a Reformed and Presbyterian Church to attend in Toronto. September 20 will be our fifth anniversary for beginning worship services; January 17, 2021 will be our fifth anniversary of being an official mission church in Kingston. **NOTE:** our current lease agreement for the property where we meet expires August 31, 2021. If we have plans to remain at this location, we will begin negotiations in September of this year.

**Attendance & membership:** our membership roll as of January 1, 2020 was 14 communicants and 3 non-communicants. We closed the year with a baptism of a young man. Average attendance at our services has declined since January with a few students returning to their hometowns, and illness. Since COVID-19, we have had very diminished numbers. Our core households of both members and committed attendees stands at 17 with 10 being single member household. From Feb.18-March 22 we had 12 new first time visitors to church services, 6 because COVID-19 closed their churches. I still have about a dozen people in various stages of progress toward membership. We are taking it slow with a number.

**Outreach & mercy:** It was with joy, we baptized Brayden who came to faith in November. He had been attending for almost a year, and came under conviction when his aunt passed away. HOPE congregation held an informal meeting to strategize about an outreach into Kingston. We laid out plans for our own version of APLHA and Christianity Explored, utilizing the tract “Ultimate Questions” and hosting an evening mealtime discussion over the course of 8 meetings from March-June. We were only able to host one of these meetings and then COVID-19 stopped them. Our plan is to pick this up again in the fall. Yet through personal evangelism, and the ministry of God’s Word on Sunday evenings, a student named Paul has come to faith in Christ at this time too. I was able to meet with him just before classes were cancelled, but he was headed home to share with his family. Roger has been coming to our evening services since December; he is a Roman Catholic who has been appreciating the series on Romans and the clarity of the gospel. From January to date, we have help a few people with mercy needs. We continue to interact with people on a weekly basis, but these last three months has been really slow meeting people.

**Worship & Teaching Ministry:** In the Sunday morning worship services, From September – March we went through John 13-17 and Jesus’ Upper-room Ministry. This series was a most blessed one to my own soul in preparation, perhaps the most blessed series I have ever done; and it appeared the congregation felt the same. I also began in October the Letter to the Romans for our evening worship. As one person stated, “We are being blessed with lots of spiritual food.” We finished the mid-week bible study on the Westminster Confession of Faith, and picked up a study of Revelation for this year. The Ladies Bible Study

and Fellowship meet twice a month, and they have just completed a study of Jerry Bridges' *Transforming Grace*. Once a month, one service is set solely for the singing of Psalms. I have since January, selected 200 hymns, psalms and contemporary songs to focus on, as I could see many of the church were not accustomed to the praise of the church. I felt it important to focus on a selection of songs that would be repeated often throughout the year to help our singing improve, and this seems to be working. I Spent from October-March counselling a young man who is a son of one of HIOE's family's – Andrew who struggles with substance addictions. We were making initial progress, but this counselling has ended by his neglect.

We still have two great needs: (1) men who can be elders and deacons; (2) musical accompaniment. We have a couple of young ladies developing their skills, but their abilities are still limited. Michelle Korvemaker continues to be a generous help with our music.

**Financial statement:** attached is December's year-end financial statement, and budget for 2020. Congregational giving is still strong. We are currently set for funding until summer apart from any gifts we would receive, which is helpful concerning this influenza crisis. We have a new treasurer who took over in January; my wife, Joanne, remains as the assistant treasurer doing teller and deposit duties. Having a professional accountant on site would be very helpful. We do have a matter the new treasurer is checking. He is trying to reconcile bank statements with book balance, and it appears a clerical error of \$4000 has happened in the reporting.

**Personal:** after a busy, but blessed fall season with foreign exchange students, our home has settled back into a normal routine. I have been busy renovating our upstairs bathroom, which has taken most every Monday since January 12. It is near completion. Joanne's season of migraines has come with March, so she has been struggling a fair bit these last several weeks. Michelle is our settled daughter, who is a great source of help and faithfulness. Her faith, hope, and love in the Lord are very evident. Our other two daughters have been a huge burden for our souls: Liz still remains outside of our family by choice. I have made the effort to seek her out several times, but she hasn't responded in any noteworthy way. She was excommunicated in January for her continued impenitence. Sadly, her son was just recently baptized by the Roman Catholic church her boyfriend's mother attends. A ritual, not covenantal, baptism took place, as neither she nor her boyfriend attend church at all. Sabrina is now going through a somewhat messy divorce. She has been separated since September. My personal development has been focused in three main areas: I regularly listen to two sermons a week mainly by Sinclair Ferguson, Derek Thomas, R.C. Sproul, and Alistair Begg, for personal growth and feeding from God's Word. I also have focused again on pastoral care in my reading – Thomas Murphy's *Pastoral Theology*, and Calvin's sermons on 1Timothy. I am conducting a wedding in July in Edmonton, for a man who attended our church before transferring to Quebec City. Overall, I believe things are in a good state with our household, and my personal life with the Lord.

**Prayer:**

1. Give thanks for those whom the Lord has brought to salvation; and for the spiritual growth that has been evident in others.
2. Pray for the specific people:
  - Christine - a widow who is struggling with assurance, and casting off much Roman Catholic doctrine.
  - An inmate who hasn't been able to attend worship because his pass has been bureaucratically delayed.
  - Anthony - a young man who come faithfully every week, but has not professed faith in Christ.
  - Roger – that he may comprehend the grace of the gospel and profess faith in Christ.

3. Pray for godly men who can be officers in our church. In our current situation, we are still about three years away from have qualified men. Pray the Lord to bring forth such gifts.
4. Pray this influenza crisis enables us opportunity to serve the Lord Jesus and bring a faithful testimony of his gospel and mercy to people.
5. Pray for “Ultimate Questions at HOPE”, that we may return to this outreach ministry in the fall unhindered.
6. Do pray for Elizabeth and Sabrina – that they would not be lost eternally, but that the Lord would seek them for salvation.
7. Pray that this year would be a season of growth and reception of membership for several who attend.

With grateful thanks to all for your support and confidence,

In Christ

Kevin Carter

**Hope Presbyterian Church Budget & Financial Statement 2019**

	<b>December 2019</b>	<b>YTD Actual [including this month]</b>	<b>BUDGET 2019</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
General Offerings	6,525.44	54,103.29	43,000.00
Outreach Canada CCDT	0	42,000.00	42,000.00
Gifts / Support	4,689.86	22,809.73	40,000.00
Mercy / Missions	215.18	3,966.13	4,300.00
US Exchange / Interest/ Other (Prop Tax Ref)	0	4,082.62	4,700.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>11,430.48</b>	<b>123,281.77</b>	<b>134,000.00</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Pastor's Salary Call	5,501.17	66,014.04	66,014.00
Employer CRA Expenses	280.89	3,370.68	3,400.00
Rental Facilities	3,957.99	46,009.72	46,086.00
Stationary / Supplies	134.99	761.55	1,000.00
Missions	0	2,400.00	2,150.00
Mercy	0	2,421.20	2,150.00
Telephone / internet	105.85	1,121.04	1,000.00
Advertising	0	219.32	500.00
Christian Education Material	0	392.09	1,500.00
Evangelism / Outreach	0	506.13	1,500.00
Presbytery / Synod travel	0	1,148.83	1,500.00
Pastoral Training	0	863.52	1,000.00
Equipment / Furniture	361.60	2,175.31	1,000.00
Utilities	211.17	2,576.85	2,600.00
Miscellaneous [bank, fees, penalties, cheques, adjustments, nsf]	215.80	481.51	500.00
Supply Preaching	0	1,549.10	1,000.00
Presbytery Expense Fund	0	500.00	500.00
Insurance	0	570.24	600.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>10,768.66</b>	<b>133,262.19</b>	<b>134,000.00</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>(+)661.82</b>	<b>(-)9,980.42</b>	
<b>Bank account balance December 31, 2019</b>		<b>25,915.61</b>	
<b>Mercy/Missions fund balance December 31, 2019</b>		<b>4,776.68</b>	



**HOPE Presbyterian Church Budget 2020**

	YTD October 2019	BUDGET 2019	BUDGET 2020	
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
General Offerings	44,095.27	43,000.00	52,000.00	
Outreach Canada CCDT	42,000.00	42,000.00	40,000.00	
Gifts / Support	17,925.15	40,000.00	35,000.00	
Mercy / Missions	3,402.31	4,300.00	5,200.00	
US Exchange / Interest/ Other (Prop Tax Ref)	4,082.62	4,700.00	4000.00	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>107,825.35</b>	<b>134,000.00</b>	<b>136,200.00</b>	
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>				Call Breakdown
Pastor's Salary Call	55,011.70	66,014.00	67,234.00	Salary 35,330.00
Employer CRA Expenses	2,808.90	3,400.00	3,400.00	Housing 16,561.00
Rental Facilities	38,093.74	46,086.00	47,886.00	Vehicle 5,520.00
Stationary / Supplies	591.55	1,000.00	580.00	RRSP 4,823.00
Missions	2,400.00	2,150.00	2,600.00	Health 5,000.00
Mercy	2,421.20	2,150.00	2,600.00	Increase \$1,220.00
Telephone / internet	933.83	1,000.00	1,000.00	2% inflation
Advertising	219.32	500.00	500.00	
Christian Education Material	191.29	1,500.00	1,000.00	
Evangelism / Outreach	506.13	1,500.00	1,000.00	
Presbytery / Synod travel	1,148.83	1,500.00	1,500.00	
Pastoral Training	863.52	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Equipment / Furniture	1,813.71	1,000.00	500.00	
Utilities	2,197.54	2,600.00	2,600.00	
Miscellaneous [bank, fees, penalties, cheques, adjustments, nsf]	260.67	500.00	500.00	
Supply Preaching	1,549.10	1,000.00	1,200.00	
Presbytery Expense Fund	500.00	500.00	500.00	
Insurance	570.24	600.00	600.00	
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>112,263.93</b>	<b>134,000.00</b>	<b>136,200.00</b>	

**APPENDIX 13 (April/20)**Erskine ARP Church Report  
Glenholme, NS

## REPORT TO OUTREACH CANADA

Erskine ARP Church has been meeting as a daughter church of Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church Halifax for just over a year now. We hold services typically on the second and fourth Sunday of the month in the beautiful building that was provided for us. We have full worship services at 6:15 pm on Sunday evening complete with the Lord's Supper.

Attendance has been typically averaged around twenty-five—a little less in the winter months. Those attending include Lester Settle, a former United Church minister who remains very active at 89, inviting others to attend and visiting folks in the hospital and otherwise; a wonderful Scottish couple who lives down the street from the church; and a lady name Jean who comes in the summer, but goes south for the winter; and some random visitors from the community who have visited a time or two. And then there are the members of CRPC who reside in the area: The Bigney family of eight (except for those who at Gillespie), Jason and Christina Lindsay (Jason is a deacon in Halifax and his wife is infirm and unable to travel to Halifax), and the elderly Edna Bigney who is also unable to make the journey to Halifax. And then we have those members of CRPC who reside in Halifax and travel up including Elder Ray Silver and the Shearouse family who always go, several who often go, and some who have been few times.

We have had some good opportunities to share the gospel with visitors, and Jason Lindsay has led the way in doing evangelistic visitation in the community, handing out material about the gospel and the church, and getting to know people. We have allowed him to set up an office in the church basement for his work, so he is often there during the week. He has taken some of the Bigneys along on his visits. Ray Silver and I have also been able to visit in the area some, though our interaction in this way is fairly limited. We did a free BBQ in the church parking lot one Saturday and had a lot of people drop by. About a dozen said they would attend services the following day, but only a couple of them followed through. We are still in contact with some of these, as well as with others who visited our opening services, however most of these are looking for an older version of the United Church or are already involved in other churches. We had a visit from a couple from the US who grew up in the area and had come to visit their relatives. They brought a sister and continue to encourage other relatives to attend.

Now with Covid-19, we are unable to meet, but we are staying in touch with our contacts at Erskine via email and are inviting them to join us by livestream (now they can join our 10:30 and 2:00 services in Halifax). Please pray that the Lord will use this to perhaps open up even more engagement with some who might be hesitant to attend in person, but willing to livestream.

Overall, it has been slow progress, as we rather anticipated, but we are thankful for the opportunity the Lord has given us to preach the gospel in another city. We have been praying that the Lord will raise up an associate minister for us in Halifax (similar to Chatham). This would allow us to have regular services on Sunday mornings in Truro with more personal involvement. All in all, we are very thankful to be in the Lord's service and even more thankful to be in His hands. Thank you for your prayers for us.

Psalm 52:8-9: "But I *am* like a green olive tree in the house of God; I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever. I will praise You forever, Because You have done *it*; And in the presence of Your saints I will wait on Your name, for *it is* good."

Yours in Christ,  
Rev. John R. Shearouse

**APPENDIX 14 (April/20)****Windsor, ON Report – April 2, 2020**

Dear Fathers and Brothers;

With the recent upheaval in our daily lives much has changed, therefore so has our report. We have much for which to praise God. Now we are naturally in a holding pattern. Below is what the Lord has done up to the shutdown.

Everything below has, of course, been put on hold.

**Bible study**

Before Jonathan began in December there was already a Bible study being led and hosted by the Nymanns. Several of their neighbors have been attending from various backgrounds. There were even children from a Muslim neighbor attending regularly for a time. When we resume, the Nymanns will continue to host it, with Henry and Jonathan each leading once a month.

The number of children attending has resulted in a separate children's study occurring at the same time as the adult study. Coralie and Tammy are taking turns leading it. We are delighted that the numbers warrant two separate studies.

Once a month the Nymanns host a prayer meeting specifically for the outreach to Windsor. Henry leads this on the last Wednesday of every month while Jonathan leads the prayer meeting in Chatham.

We are glad at the faithful attenders and hope that God will continue to grow the study not only in numbers but in faith. Most who are attending have little to no understanding of reformed doctrine. Most have little exposure to the gospel and any exposure is from a liberal perspective.

**Planned area:**

When Jonathan began at Trinity the first focus was on planning and contacting local churches in Windsor. A letter was sent out to several churches informing them of our desire to plant a church in the Windsor area. Those that responded to the letter were positive. Henry and Jonathan were able to meet with two ministers who both expressed the need for gospel witness in Windsor. Our goal has been to avoid stepping on toes as much as possible. As we explored Windsor, we discovered that certain areas had a plethora of church while others seemed to have few.

Therefore, we decided to target the areas of East Windsor/ Fountainbleu. East Windsor/ Fountainbleu have churches that appear focused mainly on specific ethnicities.

**Facility:**

It was through Henry and Jonathan looking at these areas that contact was made with the Windsor Chinese Missionary Alliance church (WCMA). We were looking for possible locations to start a preaching station and contacting local churches to see if we could use their facilities (many only have one morning service). We had explored store front leases but the prices in Windsor were not conducive for that option. The WCMA warmly invited us to explore renting their facility. Their congregations commute into East Windsor; therefore we would not be competing with their congregations (they have 3 mornings services [Mandarin, Cantonese, English]) They offered a newly renovated chapel (seats 120), plus fellowship Hall and kitchen for \$150 for 3 hours.

The church is on a main thoroughfare in East Windsor. It has a large parking lot in the back and the church does not use any of its facilities Sunday evenings. Trinity's session has agreed to begin a preaching station meeting twice a month in the evening. Henry and Jonathan will take turns leading the service once a month. Our goal was to begin April 12, this of course has been postponed to a later date.

**Preparation:**

Our goal is to reach 1000 homes with invitations (door hangers) before the first service of the preaching station. We had scheduled 3 Saturdays to do this, beginning March 21, but again all of this has been postponed. We have also worked on a website that will be begin running in conjunction with the promotional material.

**Families participating:**

Outside of the Nymanns, who relocated to Windsor last winter, God is in the process of moving 2 other families into the area. The Rotarus moved at the end of February. This young family comes from Kitchener and had recently join New Creation Reformed Presbyterian Church. Work has moved them to Windsor, though this has ended due to Covid 19. Another family who will be moving to Windsor this summer are the Nenadovs. This means we have the potential of 3 willing families to begin a core group. Our hope is that through the preaching station God will draw other families/individuals in to form a core group early 2021.

**Prayer request:**

- The first is the one most churches are dealing with, that Covid-19 and the response to it would not greatly hinder what has begun.
- Pray for the Rotarus, Paul has become unemployed due to the shutdown.

- Pray for contentment and faithfulness amid what we are facing. There was great excitement about the preaching station and most were shocked as to how fast things changed.
- Pray that God would use the current event to soften the hearts of men and women in Windsor towards the gospel.
- Pray that we would be well received when we do get the opportunity to do door to door in East Windsor. At this time, we have postponed this as session was concerned that strangers coming to the door during a time of social distancing would not be received as loving.
- Pray that the Chinese Alliance church would remain willing to host our preaching station once they reopen their facilities.

In Christ;  
Henry Bartsch  
Jonathan Cowan

## **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

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Gary Armstrong

### **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

**2018-19**

Moderator: Rev. Jeff Kingswood

Vice-moderator: Russell Lutes

Stated Clerk: Bill McKay

Treasurer: Gary Armstrong