

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES of meeting held November 8, 2016, at 2:00 p.m.
at Burton Avenue United Church, Barrie, ON

The Living Waters Presbytery Spiritual Development Commission was called to meet on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at Burton Avenue United Church, Barrie, ON. Co-Chairperson Ted Grady presided. Barbara Hendren acted as Secretary.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Executive Members:

Order of Ministry: Ted Grady, Pat MacDonald, Andrea Wheaton,
Laity: Leona Appleby, Barbara Hendren, Elizabeth McDonald, Linda Severson-Winson,
Gay Van Caeyzeele,

Corresponding Members:

The corresponding members to the Commission had been invited to attend by the Chair
Order of Ministry: Monica Moore
Laity: Barbara Moore
Staff: Ruth McDonald

REGRETS: Ross Carson, Kirsty Hunter

QUORUM:

Total voting members Present: 8
Quorum required: 1/3 of 18 or 6 voting members.
The Chair declared that quorum was achieved.

Ted Grady opened our meeting with devotions.

MOTION: That the minutes of the September 13, 2016 Commission meeting be accepted as distributed.

Moved by: Barbara Hendren

Seconded by: Leona Appleby

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

Youth Ministry Position

An extensive discussion on the proposed Youth Ministry position between Living Waters Presbytery and Grace United Church, Barrie, ON, took place. Barbara Moore, from Grace UC, was present and joined in the discussion regarding Grace's part of the proposed position. The position will be a three-year term, with experience with youth ministry a priority. The new youth ministry leader would be at Grace UC for two

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Sundays each month and in other locations in Living Waters Presbytery for the other two Sundays. The youth of the Presbytery will lead the direction of the group so that they feel that “their ideas are being listened to.” The new ministry leader would have direct access to the Presbytery Office personnel, particularly Jody Maltby and Jane Sullivan. Within the first year, the new ministry leader would meet with every pastoral charge and find out the geographical layout of the presbytery in order to envision the big picture. The new youth ministry leader should be an “ideas” person, able to start in January 2017 or very shortly afterwards. Both Living Waters Presbytery and Grace UC have job descriptions in draft form. Ted Grady will need support during the upcoming interviews.

Camp Awesome

Ruth McDonald is promoting Camp Awesome leadership positions for summer 2017, receiving applications and setting up interview dates in Jody Maltby’s absence. Last summer, 2016, six staff positions were covered by a grant from Canada Summer Jobs program.

Moderator’s Visit

Ted Grady has received excellent feedback from the Moderator’s visit held on October 27, 2016. A thank you letter has been sent to Grace United Church for their hospitality and leadership during the workshop, choir, and worship. Jacob Charles was paid an honorarium for his part in the worship service.

Affirming Ministry

We still need to meet with the Community Connections and Right Relations Commission.

Some time was spent amending the Presbytery Vision Statement to include the affirming ministry. (Appendix A attached) The wording of the revised statement will be reviewed by Affirm, the Presbytery Executive and finally voted on by the Presbytery in the new year, it is hoped at the March Presbytery meeting.

Inter-Presbytery Confirmation Program

Pat MacDonald reported that planning for the confirmation program will take place on November 23, 2016. It will be a weekend event in March.

Ted Grady closed our meeting with a blessing on our work and we joined the plenary session of Presbytery at 3:30 p.m.

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Appendix A

Living Waters Presbytery Mission Statement

The mission of Living Waters Presbytery is to be in life-giving relationship with pastoral charges, missions, camps, outreach ministries, ministry personnel, youth and others in our presbytery, with the wider church and with community partners.

To fulfill that mission, Living Waters Presbytery will work so that:

- we engage in dialogue with pastoral charges as a priority so that ministry personnel and congregants feel heard
- we seek justice
- we celebrate God's presence
- we encourage stewardship of time, talents, gifts and assets
- we act as a resource and we share resources and learnings
- we are transparent, consultative and accountable
- we nurture the spiritual life of ministry personnel and lay people in our presbytery
- we include and engage youth in shaping the church
- **we declare Living Waters Presbytery to an affirming ministry that is fully inclusive of all sexual orientations (gay, lesbian, heterosexual, and 2 spirit) and transgender people**