

Minutes of WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERY MEETING

February 1, 2011 from 5:30
Trinity United Church, Port Coquitlam

Order of Ministry Present: Charles Ahn, Jan Bihl, Brian Burke, Kathleen Edmunds, Kevin Hesgeth, Julie Lebrun, Ian Macdonald, Mary Nichol, Shannon Tennant, Doug Throop, Barb Tunnicliffe, Scott Turnbrook, Nathan Wright, Ria Van Holten

Lay Members Present: Leanne Mill, Ralph Johnston, Marilyn McCutcheon, Carol, Cox, Brenda Phillips, Lois Brown, Gil Kim, Angela Stevens, Sue Kellas, Kathy Young, Roger Nelson, Janet Babey, Jo Shearer, Georgia Runcie, Bruce Cowburn, Donna Dawson

Corresponding Members:

Students: Kimiko Karpoff, Leenane Shiels

Visitors: Cheryl Blake

Regrets: Richard Bott, Rick Newbury, David Vervaet, Eileen Karyula, Carole Finch, Michael Yoon, Bruce Cameron, Dave Anderson

The meeting was opened with prayer.

1 Call to Order :

The meeting of Westminster Presbytery of the United Church of Canada was convened at the call of the Chair, Scott Turnbrook, at Trinity United Church, Port Coquitlam, B.C. who declared that there was a quorum.

2 Adoption of the Agenda:

Motion 08/2011: It was moved by Nathan Wright, seconded by Marilyn McCutcheon, that the agenda be accepted, with the addition of correspondence. **Carried.**

3 Corresponding Privileges:

Motion 09/2011: It was moved by Doug Throop, seconded by Donna Dawson, that corresponding privileges be extended to visitors to the court. **Carried.**

4 Introduction of New Members and Visitors to Court:

Donna Dawson introduced Cheryl Blake, the in-coming president of the UCW Presbyterial.

5 Correspondence

5.1 *from* BC Conference: flyer about Youth at Conference – received.

5.2 *from* United Church of Canada: 2 extra copies of the statistics forms – received, available upon request.

6 Joys, Sorrows and Announcements:

a request to continue to hold Rick Newbury in prayer following the death of his partner, Bryce; Ian MacDonald will be retiring at the end of June 11; Kimiko wondered if there would be interest in having two overseas ministry personnel (Chris & Susan Ferguson) who have been working in Israel/Palestine come to BC; Kimiko also informed that court that she will graduate in two months and will be commissioned at this year's Annual Meeting of BC Conference; Doug Throop let people know about an upcoming art exhibit ("Seven Deadly Sins") and a green fashion show at Ellesmere United Church; Donna Dawson announced the Presbyterial annual meeting at St. Andrew's United Church in Maple Ridge with Bob Burrows of First United Church as guest speaker (February 14); Jan Bihl extended an invitation to "To Keep God's Flock from Being Fleeced" (God's Fraud Squad) at Como Lake United Church on February 19; Kathleen Edmunds let the court know that Tineke Rijzinga (retired clergy) has been diagnosed with a cancerous tumour in her stomach (prayers); Shannon announced the up-coming Universal Gospel Choir benefit concert for the Hospitality Project at Shiloh-Sixth Avenue United Church on March 12.

7 Adoption of Minutes

Motion 10/2011: It was moved by Jo Shearer, seconded by Lois Brown, that the minutes of the October 5, 2010 Presbytery Meeting at Willingdon Heights United Church be accepted as distributed. **Carried.**

Motion 11/2011: It was moved by Brian Burke, seconded by Doug Throop that the of the November 18-20, 2010 Presbytery Meeting at Chehalis minutes be accepted as distributed. **Carried.**

8 Reception for Information of Executive Minutes

Motion 12/2011: It was moved by Sue Kellas, seconded by Ralph Johnston, that the minutes of the Westminster Presbytery Executive meetings of September 8, November 10 and December 8 be received for information. **Carried.**

9 Update on Queens Avenue United Church: Nathan Wright brought presbytery up-to-date about the work being done on the church building.10 Divisional Reports:10.1 *Pastoral Relations:*

Motion 13/2011: It was moved by Sue Kellas, seconded by Nathan Wright, that Westminster Presbytery request that BC Conference renew the marriage licenses of the following: Byani Baybay at West Burnaby United Church, Carole Finch at St. Andrew's Haney United Church, Judy Dixon at Shiloh-Sixth Avenue United Church, and George Stegan and Audrey Lans at Deer Lake United Church. **Carried.**

Motion 14/2011: (Sue Kellas/Leanne Mill) That Westminster Presbytery transfer the membership of Rev Graham Dickie (retired) to Fraser Presbytery. **Carried.**

Sue Kellas informed the court that: Rev. Doug Throop and Kathy Young have been appointed as presbytery's representatives on the JNAC for South Burnaby United Church following the request of Rev. Ian Macdonald for a change in pastoral relations in order to retire June 30, 2011.

10.2 *Treasurer's Report* (distributed)

10.2.1 There has been a good response to the request for congregations to go on PAR.

10.2.2 Funds for church modernization and building grants are close to being empty.

10.3 Oversight

10.3.1 Dave Anderson and Jan Bihl are working on developing a list of consultants to help work with congregations in the areas of conflict resolution, vision development, governance and staff/team development.

10.3.2 There are three congregations that will be visited this year.

10.4 Congregational Support

10.4.1 Some of the churches of Burnaby (Willingdon Heights United Church, South Burnaby United Church and West Burnaby United Church) are discerning the possibilities for amalgamated ministry in Burnaby and asking for prayer as they consider the future of ministry in Burnaby together.

10.4.2 Congregations of the Loughheed corridor are also discerning possibilities for the future.

10.5 Education and Students

10.5.1 Carol Cox reported that our students are all great.

10.6 Spiritual Care

10.6.1 no report

10.7 Youth Ministry Advisory

10.7.1 Mary Nichol described the many exciting events for youth in the next few months: a confirmation event in January with 3 Westminster Presbytery youth attending; Rendez Vous for youth and young adults (Toronto, August 11-14th), leadership opportunities for youth and young adults at the children's retreat; at the end of February; tubing at Cypress on Feb 13; a "walking the talk" event for junior and senior youth; future date for pizza & swimming at the Coquitlam aquatic centre; the youth retreat: "Colour Outside the Lines"; in May a group of youth will be leading worship at St. Andrews, in June at Eagle Ridge, in the fall at Shiloh-Sixth, and this group will be available for worship leadership throughout the presbytery. Youth (grades 7-12) and Children (grades 3-6) at Conference programs will be available.

11 Ongoing Business

11.1 *October Retreat discussion:* It is the fourth year of having a residential presbytery meeting and it is time to evaluate its effectiveness. Opinions regarding preferences are fairly evenly divided. Some comments were received and the need to keep this conversation going so that we can be the best Presbytery we can be was reiterated.

11.2 *Presbyter Involvement in Divisional Work:* It is critical for *everyone* who is part of presbytery to be involved in divisional work. Presbyters who need help getting connected to a division are asked to talk to Scott or someone else on the executive.

12 New Business

12.1 *Refugee Sponsorship:* Julie Lebrun presented information about sponsoring refugees, originally from Palestine and now from a displaced persons camp in Syria that will be closing at the end of March. It would cost \$25000 for a one year commitment.

12.2 *General Council mandated requirements for clergy (racial justice training & healthy boundaries workshop) and congregations (ADP enrolment):* These things are mandatory. Clergy and congregations need to do them. The Presbytery will not approve new calls or appointments unless the ministry personnel have completed the racial justice and healthy boundaries training and the congregations are enrolled with ADP.

12.3 *Upcoming Presbytery Meetings:* April 5 (tentatively scheduled to be at Ellesmere United Church), May 26th-29th (in Penticton during the Conference Annual Meeting), June 7th (at a location to be determined).

13 Adjournment

Motion 15/2011: It was moved by Carol Cox, seconded by Ria Van Holten that the meeting be adjourned.
Carried.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Chair

Secretary