

# Welcome to Kent Presbytery

*Now what?*

## **Your responsibilities as Presbytery Representative:**

- 1) Attend all Presbytery meetings (as possible)
- 2) Report information back to your Pastoral Charge
- 3) Participate in a committee

*\* The purpose of this information flyer is to help inform you of the work of each Presbytery committee.*

***“Find one that interests you and have fun!”***

## **Divisions and Committees of Kent Presbytery**

- a) **Ministry, Personnel and Education:**
  - i) Pastoral Relations
  - ii) Pastoral Charge Oversight
  - iii) Education and Students
- b) **Finance and Administration:**
  - i) The Treasurer
  - ii) Property and Manse
  - iii) Extra appeals
  - iv) Budget
  - v) Trust Funds (includes the SEED Fund)
  - vi) Mission Support
  - vii) Archives
  - viii) Resolutions and Petitions
- c) **Stewardship**
- d) **Mission in Canada:**
  - i) Christian Development
  - ii) Youth
  - iii) New Church Development
  - iv) Rural Life
- d) **World Outreach and Church in Society:**
  - i) Mission Education
  - ii) World Development and Relief
  - iii) International/Interchurch Affairs
  - iv) Interfaith Dialogue
  - v) Social Justice Concerns
- e) **Communication:**
  - i) AVEL (audio-visual educational library)
  - ii) Observer
  - iii) Presbytery Resource Centre
  - iv) Presbytery Newsletter and communication

*For detailed information on any committee - check with the Chair.*

## **Division of Ministry, Personnel and Education:**

### **Pastoral Relations:**

The main focus of this committee is to maintain a close relationship between the Presbytery and all Pastoral Charges within its boundaries. Most commonly this committee deals with all changes in Pastoral Relations through Joint Needs Assessment Committees, Joint Search Committees, and by recommending calls and appointments to Presbytery. However, it is also available for advice on any Pastoral Relations issue with members of the Pastoral Charge and its Ministry Personnel.

The Committee generally meets on the last Tuesday of every month and then again during the division/committee meeting time on Presbytery night. There is usually much work to do by this committee, but most often it is rewarding to see positive results because of its prayerful efforts.

### **Pastoral Charge Oversight:**

The committee is composed of lay and ministry Presbytery members. Committee teams of two or more members visit each Pastoral Charge every three years on a rotational basis. This visit gives the members of the Pastoral Charge a chance to reflect and review their church's strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities in a supervised environment. A summary report is shared with the charge and a copy is filed with Presbytery as required by the Manual.

## **Education and Students:**

This committee interviews, recommends, and oversees students preparing for Ordered or Lay Ministry. Serving on this committee can be both challenging and rewarding.

## **Division of Finance and Administration:**

### **Property and Manse:**

This committee is concerned with church and manse properties.

### **Trust Funds:**

This committee looks after the Presbytery's "Restricted Funds", which are restricted to specific purposes, such as; Student Education, Equipment, Youth Ministry and Lay Worship Leaders, and a visionary outreach program fund known as "The SEED Fund".

### **Mission Support:**

This committee is concerned with the mission of the church; charges that are receiving aid from the Mission and Service Fund, special grants (like technology grants) that are available to charges.

### **Archives:**

It is the responsibility of the Archives Committee to review the record books of each of the Pastoral Charges in Kent Presbytery on a three (3) year rotational schedule. The books are usually brought to the Presbytery meeting and then the committee meets within the next week or two to go over them. Comments are

made in the individual books and a written report is prepared for the Pastoral Charge and an oral report given at the next Presbytery Meeting.

The chairperson (or a representative) is expected to attend the yearly London Conference Archive Committee Meeting. The tri-yearly schedule (and which books need to be reviewed) can be found on the Kent Presbytery Web Site.

### **Resolution and Petitions:**

Formulates and presents resolutions to Conference and petitions to General Council for their actions.

### **Division of Stewardship:**

Christian stewardship is a conviction that all life is a trust from God lived out through a joyful approach to life, sharing our resources with others, systematic and proportionate giving. This committee is responsible for encouraging education for stewardship, coordinating and communicating the work of the Mission and Service Fund to all in Kent Presbytery.

### **Division of Mission in Canada:**

#### **Christian Development:**

This committee seeks to promote their ministry by:

- Supporting and encouraging ministry with youth in the Presbytery through the Presbytery Youth Council and the Director of Camping and Youth Ministry.
- Supporting and encouraging the camping ministry at Kenesserie Camp.
- Developing workshops and programs to meet

perceived needs in the Presbytery (ie, Sunday School Teacher's Workshops, Labyrinth, Confirmation Retreat, etc.).

- Promoting workshops of an educational or spiritual development nature that are available in the area and assist participants to attend (when applicable) with Leadership Development Funds.
- Supporting and encouraging the work of the U.C.W. Presbyterial and A.O.T.S.
- Maintaining connection with the Conference Christian Development network.
- Being aware of current needs and trends in Christian Development and communicating these to the Presbytery when appropriate.
- Responding to special needs as they arise.

### **Division of World Outreach and Church in Society:**

The **purpose** of the Division of World Outreach and Church in Society in Kent Presbytery is to help congregations to relate to **Social Justice** concerns and issues of The United Church of Canada and its global (world wide) and local (North American) partners.

Our **goal** is to help people in the congregations learn about and become involved in God's mission of wholeness of life through the sharing of resources with the church's global and local partners who work on behalf of those who suffer from systems of injustice.

We will use the meeting times of Presbytery to:

- Highlight and study particular global and local social

justice issues (often these overlap ie; water, housing) and to encourage action by members and congregations.

- Promote opportunities for local congregations to be in partnership with overseas personnel and partners through Mutuality in Mission, Face to Face, Twinning, Exchanges and hosting overseas personnel. This also includes projects such as “A Night of 1,000 Dinners” for land mine removal.
- Share how the Church, and its partners, are involved in the distribution of resources, peace, human rights, gender justice and ecumenical relations.
- Promote opportunities for local congregations to be active in examining, and responding to, many social justice issues that affect Chatham-Kent and North American life, such as awareness of mental health concerns, refuges and gambling, etc.

### **Division of Communication:**

- To act as the Board of Directors for the Kent Presbytery Resource Centre.
- Monthly publishing of the Presbytery Newsletter.
- Publish yearly the updated Kent Presbytery Directory
- Pass along to Presbytery, information received from the Observer, Spirit Connection, National and/or Conference Communication Division.
- Share computer information to the church.