

	<u>We Gather before God</u>	
	Worship	Host: Westminster, Calgary
	Call to order and Constitution Land Acknowledgement	Moderator: L. McKay
	Roll & Regrets Consent Agenda	Clerk: C. Persaud
	Adoption of minutes Regular meeting: November 25, 2025 Emergent meeting: November 30, 2025	
	Correspondence Reports on Partnerships	
	Approval of Docket	
	Prayers for the work of the congregations within the Presbytery – Moderator/appointee	
	Interim Moderators' Reports Centennial – Chandra Mannix Knox, Calgary – Chris Joiner	
	Committee Concerns Mission Care and Resource Committee – Mary Jardine & Deirdre Harris Reports on Partnerships: Calgary Council of Churches: <i>Vacant</i> Camp Kannawin Representative: <i>Vacant</i> Chair of Christian Thought Advisory Council: <i>Mary Rozsa de Coquet</i> Calgary Interfaith Council: <i>Mary Rozsa de Coquet</i> Indigenous Gathering Place: <i>Cathy Gale</i> Ecumenical Campus Ministry, Lethbridge: <i>Karen Robbins</i> Ecumenical Campus Ministry, Medicine Hat: <i>Joyce Engel</i> Clergy Care and Resource Committee – Chris Joiner & Daniel Surya Congregation Care and Resource Committee – Jake Van Pernis Presbytery Care and Resource Committee – Sandra Cameron Evans	
	Transition team – Heather Bryant	

	<p>Request for a consultation – Maren McLean Persaud, Christian Persaud or Tom Paasuke The request is for the purpose of seeking information, clarification, or general advice on how to proceed with a matter that concerns the presbyter.</p>
	<p>Clerk’s report – Christian Persaud</p>
	<p>Other Business Voluntary Withdrawal Committee Amalgamation of Knox and St. Giles</p>
	<p>Enthusiasms and Concerns Moderator</p>
	<p>Prayers for the world and our role in it Moderator/Appointee</p>
	<p>Time and place of next meeting Moderator</p> <p>The next regular business meeting of the Presbytery will be Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 7pm by Zoom with St. John’s, Medicine Hat as the worship leader. Reports due January 29 by noon.</p> <p>The next facilitated discussion for future priorities of presbytery is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, February 5, 2026 from 1:30pm – 4:30pm by Zoom.</p> <p>Adjournment Benediction</p>

We Gather before God

Worship

Host: Westminster, Calgary

Adoption of Minutes – Clerk

Regular meeting: November 25, 2025
 Emergent meeting: November 30, 2025

Correspondence – Clerk

Recommendation: that the correspondence be dealt with as indicated below.

Receive for Information

25-139	R. Finley-Schidlowsky, PCM Dec 2 Meeting, distributed
25-140	L. McKay, Voluntary Withdrawal information package, distributed
25-141	Donations PCC, PCC gifts by presbytery, distributed
25-142	T. Purvis, Education and Reception - Information re Candidates, distributed
25-143	S. Edwards, The Collective 2026 website is live!, distributed
25-145	R. Finley-Schidlowsky, PCM Agenda & Discussion Guide, distributed
25-146	R. Lockhart, SAH St. Andrew's Day Appeal, distributed
25-147	G. Smith, Webinar Shared from VAPC, distributed
25-148	G. Smith, Concert at VAPC, distributed
25-149	K. Muir, November changes to the roll, distributed
25-150	T. Purvis, Clery Mental Health Study, distributed
25-151	M. Repchuck, Presbyterian History Newsletter (Fall 2025), distributed
25-152	M. Bennett, New Faculty Position: Knox College, distributed
25-153	D. Finley, PCM Draft notes from Dec 2, 2025, distributed
25-154	Donations PCC, PCC gifts by presbytery, distributed
25-155	K. Plater, Congregations with Affordable Housing Consultation, distributed
25-156	C. McPherson, Intimation of Suspension of Rev. A. MacDonald, distributed

Refer to Presbytery Care

25-144	T. Gaskarth, Request for presbytery support team
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Interim Moderator's Report for Centennial Church – Chandra Mannix

The Health of the Congregation

- The largest ethnic population in Centennial on a weekly basis is Anyuak, with 100-120 people attending afternoon Anyuak language services under the leadership of Okelo Aballa. With the developments in the Gambella, this population within the church is wrestling with the fears for their loved ones still in Ethiopia, and many have been re-triggered and re-traumatized as it relates to their personal past experiences in the Gambella. Efforts are underway at Centennial to support people through fellowship and prayer at the church, and financially support those seeking to escape the Gambella.
- The morning service continues to wrestle with Cameroonian members and adherents flowing to and from the new Presbyterian Church of Cameroon that opened in northeast Calgary in October, however more than had been expected seem to be choosing to remain at Centennial.
- The Elder districts continue to be in a state of flux at Centennial due to challenges with ascertaining an accurate record of adherents and members remaining at Centennial from the Cameroonian community, the recent passing of an active elder on session (Frank Tigley), the need for more connection between session and the afternoon service, and the active call to session for new elders from the Anyuak community.
- There were Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services at Centennial that were very, very well attended, and were appreciated as an opportunity to focus on hope in Christ.

IM Responsibilities

- Pulpit Supply is in place until mid-March
- Session, after significant consultation with the Board of Managers and the congregation over the fall and into Advent, has completed a due diligence process regarding the capacity of Centennial to fulfill employer obligations to sustain a call, and is prepared to offer a maximum starting stipend and allowances (including a housing allowance) of \$95,000 to a qualified minister.
- Pending the approval of presbytery to proceed with the calling of a minister to Centennial, the session would like to name a search committee to develop the Congregational Profile and initiate the process of recruiting candidates

MOTION: That Centennial Presbyterian Church be given permission to proceed with the call process.

Interim Moderator's Report for Knox Church Calgary – Chris Joiner

The following are the Terms of Reference for the Interim Moderator with appropriate updates.

Interim leadership to guide the Session and congregation in moving expediently into an amalgamation with another congregation of the presbytery, ensuring

appropriate stewardship of the congregation and assets.

1. Active guidance and facilitation/coordination and convening of the Transition Team (managing the operational and administrative needs of Knox budget, rentals, etc.), the Conversation Team (discussions with potential congregations for amalgamation, the Session, and the Congregation.
 - a. Transition Team – There has been one team meeting since my last report.
 - b. Session – The Session met twice (one in joint session with St. Giles) since my last report.
 - c. Congregation – I have communicated updates to the congregation regarding the amalgamation decisions and will call a meeting once there is an amalgamation plan to consider. I attended worship at Knox on December 28 and made myself available to answer questions and hear concerns.
2. Work with Session, presbytery and a potential amalgamation partner to continue next steps for the building (at present these steps involve supporting presbytery's due diligence around the future of the building, i.e., reviewing possibilities for development by the Presbytery and/or facilitating the terms of an amalgamation plan where the building would be among assets to be considered. Any sale of the building would require presbytery's approval of a formal request).
See separate Amalgamation Plan Update.
3. Regular written communication to the congregation in conjunction with Session ensuring information is shared and questions and concerns are addressed.
See 1.d above.
4. Moderate Session and Congregational meetings.
See 1.c above.
5. Ensure that pastoral care and pulpit supply are in place (currently being managed by congregational volunteers) and address any potential conflicts of interest in pulpit supply.
The volunteers continue to provide these services and are to be commended for their faithful attention to worship and pastoral care.
6. Ensure that regular communication about the process is continuing with renters, building users and with churches that have expressed interest. I have had ongoing conversations with interested parties and maintained communication with other users of the building. There are two ongoing renters.
7. Report regularly to the Presbytery
These reports will happen at each regular meeting of presbytery.

8. Encourage an awareness that presbytery is responsible for the general oversight and well-being of congregations and has the right, among other options, to “unite or disjoin congregations in pastoral charges, raise or reduce the status of charges as self-supporting...and to dissolve congregations...” (200.9).

This continues to be in front of all involved.

*Respectfully submitted,
Chris Joiner*

Committee Reports

Mission Care and Resource Committee – Deirdre Harris & Mary Jardine (Co-Conveners)

Trinity Fund for Mission and New Ministries:

1. Recommendation re: October 15, 2025 Applications

MOTION: That the grant applications of the Rainbow Family (\$10,000.) and No Longer Strangers (\$30,000.) be fully funded.

Background and Rationale:

- Summaries for each application are attached to this report and include the adjudication summary score and comments.
- Four applications were submitted – totaling \$90,000
- Funding available for current round of applications: \$43,000. Therefore, unable to fund all applications as submitted.
- Decision made to not partially fund applications:
 - Need to respect the integrity of the adjudication process
 - Does not allow projects that are successful to go forward
 - Complicates reporting and subsequent re-application to the Trinity Fund
- Detailed reports and comments from the Adjudication Team will be sent to each applicant following the January Presbytery meeting.
- Unsuccessful applicants are encouraged to re-apply and/or consider applying for national grants. The MCRC will support and assist these applications.

2. Update to Application Process

- The MCRC is working on Standard Operating Procedures for the Trinity Fund that will not be part of the Terms of Reference but will be uploaded to the

Presbytery website.

- The MCRC moved the application deadline date for the next round of applications to April 15, 2026. Call for applications will take place after the January Presbytery meeting.
- MCRC commits to working with applicants and encourages them to reach out to the committee prior to applying.

Partnerships:

Indigenous Gathering Place Society: Cathy Gale, Presbytery Representative to the IGP (*see report below*)

Current Partnerships:

- Indigenous Gathering Place
- Calgary Interfaith Council
- Chair of Christian Thought
- Ecumenical Campus (Lethbridge)
- Ecumenical Campus (Medicine Hat)

Work Plan:

The committee is exploring an opportunity to bring the Mission reps together this year. Many of the churches in the Presbytery are involved in supporting refugees and other churches are interested in being involved in this work. The committee is exploring how we might create an opportunity to gather with “refugees” as the focus of discussion.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Deirdre Harris & Mary Jardine*

Last Meeting:

Next Meeting:

Reports on Partnerships:

Calgary Council of Churches: *Vacant*

Camp Kannawin Representative: *Vacant*

Chair of Christian Thought Advisory Council: *Mary Rozsa de Coquet*

Calgary Interfaith Council: *Mary Rozsa de Coquet*

Indigenous Gathering Place: *Cathy Gale*

On the evening of December 8th, 2025, I attended the Annual General Meeting of the IGP, held at Festival Hall in Inglewood.

After a smudge and prayer was offered by two elders, Co-Chair of the IGP, Buddie Dixon, welcomed the gathering. The Agenda included presentation and approval of: the 2024 AGM Minutes; the Treasurer's financial reports and statements from 2024/2025; bylaw revisions; the slate of directors for the coming year; and a fulsome update on the current status of the project itself. Business was followed by a shared meal of stew and bannock.

Changes made to the bylaws mean they are more closely aligned with the Alberta Societies Act and the Charitable Registration requirements of the CRA. Very importantly, they also now reflect Indigenous protocols (governance, leadership, culture) more effectively. The new Board is now 75% Indigenous (six nations represented) and includes two youth representatives. Wording around membership eligibility in the IGP was discussed at length, with much concern expressed regarding "pretend-ianism", the potential misuse of the self-identification of Indigenous heritage. This is obviously an important issue in these communities.

With business done, updates were given on the gathering place project. History of the project, officially established in 2018, was reviewed. In early 2025 an intentional pause in the relationship with the City of Calgary brought many teachable moments for both parties and resulted in a renewed partnership and focus. As a result of competing priorities in the area of the Confluence, the scope and framework of the project has shifted to a "Hub and Spoke" model. There will be a main IGP "hub", potentially close to the Confluence, with "spokes" of various other places scattered across Mohkinstsis and surrounding areas. Work will now go ahead to assess feasibility of a proposed site and continue with the planning process. Disappointment lingers for some, but the Board is focused on moving forward, in a good way, to make this project a reality. They are working hard to position themselves for advocacy at all governance levels, especially the City, and to gather the volunteers and financial support it will require.

Ongoing financial support from the presbytery is much appreciated. In addition, we can help by learning about the IGP and sharing their dream with others to spread the news wide as a quiet act of reconciliation.

*Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Gale*

Ecumenical Campus Ministry, Lethbridge: *Karen Robbins*

Ecumenical Campus Ministry, Medicine Hat: *Joyce Engel*

Clergy Care and Resource Committee – *Chris Joiner & Daniel Surya (Co-Conveners)*

1. Student Oversight

Okelo Aballa continues to show strong development in both his studies at Vancouver School of Theology and his ministerial work with the Anyuak Community at Centennial.

The Celebration of Recognition for Okelo's ministry took place on November 30 at Centennial, and we commend all who helped make it happen. The committee received an encouraging report from the Student Oversight Committee.

2. Representation on Presbytery Care

The committee continues to review our representation on Presbytery Care, particularly the question of whether it is acceptable for one of the co-conveners to serve as a representative.

3. Study Leave

The study leave request from Rev. Heather Carlson (St. John's, Medicine Hat) was reviewed (see below).

MOTION: MOVED by Chris Joiner, second by Daniel Surya that the study leave request submitted by Rev. Heather Carlson be approved.

A positive report was received from Rev. Laurie McKay (St. Andrew's, Calgary) regarding her study leave, which the Committee was pleased to hear (see below).

The study leave requests of Rev. Christian Persaud and Rev. Maren McLean Persaud (Westminster, Calgary) were reviewed (see below).

MOTION: MOVED by Chris Joiner, seconded by Daniel Surya, that the study leave request submitted by Rev. Christian Persaud and Rev. Maren McLean Persaud be approved and homologated.

Rev. Rod Ferguson agreed to keep the study leave records going forward, and the Committee expressed appreciation for his willingness to take on this responsibility.

4. Endorsement of Layne Kilbreath

The committee met with Layne Kilbreath, an ordained minister of the Christian

Reformed Church, who has expressed a desire to seek reception into The Presbyterian Church in Canada. A smaller subcommittee also met with Layne. The committee has reviewed Layne's theological education, ministerial experience, and sense of call, and is satisfied that he demonstrates a good understanding of, and sympathy with, Presbyterian theology, polity, and worship.

Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod endorse Layne Kilbreath to pursue reception into The Presbyterian Church in Canada via the following motion:

MOTION: MOVED by Chris Joiner, seconded by Daniel Surya, that Layne Kilbreath, an ordained minister of the Christian Reformed Church, be endorsed for reception into The Presbyterian Church in Canada, and that such endorsement be communicated to the Committee on Education and Reception of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

5. Professional Development

The Committee is pleased to announce that Rev. Dr. Richard Topping, President and Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Studies in the Reformed Tradition at Vancouver School of Theology, will present a one-hour ZOOM professional development event for clergy at 6:00 in the evening Mountain Time on March 10, 2026. The theme of the event is The Holy Spirit and Ministry Now. This is the hour preceding the March ZOOM meeting of presbytery, and we hope this will enable the clergy of our presbytery to attend. We will put up a link shortly on the presbytery website with more information and a sign-up.

6. Social Gatherings

The committee continues to explore opportunities for social gatherings for clergy and clergy and families. We welcome input from the presbytery on ideas for such gatherings.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Chris Joiner*

Request for Study Leave – Christian Persaud and Maren McLean Persaud

1. Study leave Date
August 18-24, 2025

2. Study Leave Topic
Reflecting on work and life as a clergy couple
Yoked: Stories of a Clergy Couple in Marriage, Family, and Ministry by Andrew Kort,
Mihee Kim-Kort

3. Highlight how the proposed study leave relates to the work of the church

This study leave relates to the work of ministry as a married couple serving in team ministry in the same congregation. We have been serving at Westminster Presbyterian Church for just over 2 years, sharing in some areas of congregational ministry equally (eg. moderating Session, preaching in worship, etc.), while also attending to respective areas of ministry more closely aligned with our skills, gifts, and interests. This period of time has provided opportunities for each of us to lead in some areas, and co-lead in others. The past two years have also presented changes in employment, and shifts in parenting and family life.

This study leave will provide time and space to reflect and consider how our respective ministries should stay the same in some ways and change in others, in an attempt to cultivate our respective *skills for ministry*, and identify opportunities for *leadership development*, in order to better serve Westminster, and presbytery.

4. Why do you want to do this study at this time?

It is important to do this study now as a second program year (September – June) has been completed, and a third one is about to begin. We've been serving together at Westminster since May 2023, which has given us time to get a better sense of our gifts, to learn about some of the culture at Westminster, and to identify areas where those things come together. With changes in work schedules, and the demands on meaningful family time, it is important to understand how we can best manage a work/life balance while serving at the same congregation.

5. Date discussed with session:

April 14, June 16

6. Presbytery referral date (to be completed by CCRC)

7. What outcomes or key learnings do you anticipate because of your study?

The outcome for this study leave will be for each minister to prepare a work plan for the upcoming program year (Sept. 2025 – June 2026) reflecting key learnings from the book study.

We will also present to Session for discussion any potential changes to our current ministry model, which originally began as an experiment for both Westminster and ourselves.

8. How much study leave time and money will be used for this study?

Time: 1 week

Money: \$46.15 – cost of book, *Yoked: Stories of a Clergy Couple in Marriage, Family, and Ministry* by Andrew Kort, Mihee Kim-Kort

Request for Study Leave – Heather Carlson

Name:	Heather Carlson.
Study Leave Date(s):	TBD - wait list. (1 week study leave).
Study Leave Topic:	Stepping up to Supervision.
Why you want to have this study at this time? (Why is this material important now? How is this area of study relevant to your area of ministry now, or are you identifying new areas of personal development?)	Supervise 5 contract staff, 4 of which are members of the congregation. This course by Luther Seminary (faith+lead) is focused on wisdom of "pastor + boss hats" and "balancing accountability + grace." This is a larger supervisory role that I've had before + best practices + learning would be beneficial to my ministry at St. John's.
Date Discussed with Session:	Sept. 12/25.
Presbytery Referral Date: (to be completed by CCCC)	

Study Leave Report from Laurie McKay – Aug. 29-Sept. 18, 2025

I spent 2 weeks of study leave in Scotland with my friend Rev. Dr. Patricia Dutcher-Walls and 1 week of holiday with my sister Shauna Oakie. The following are my reflections after travelling to Iona, Staffa, Inverness, Perth and Edinburgh.

My travel companions made a difference as to what I saw: Pat is a boat person, Shauna is not– so one boat ride on Loch Ness! Shauna doesn't mind stairs (or does she?) and going underground in the tunnels under Edinburgh, so many thousands of steps were taken with Shauna. An experience in Glencoe with Shauna and Glen Affric with Pat offered 2 different experiences of smallness in these ancient landscapes.

As I think of the architecture, historic sites, and tours that highlight Scotland's rich history, I think of how young Canada is. I also realize that the *Indigenous people of Canada have an equally rich history that is either forgotten, undocumented or*

inaccessible to Canadians, passed along mostly through oral tradition. This land holds many stories of battles and historic sites that have been destroyed or hidden. For example, the medicine wheel outside of Majorville, Alberta, predates the pyramids and has been in continual use as a sacred site. It is only in relationship with Indigenous friends that we are invited to hear stories, visit these sites and experience traditional wisdom and rituals. We have much to learn.

My father's people left Scotland from Inverness and settled northeast of Saskatoon. The highlands were once home to over 80% of Scotland's population. After the clearances, battles, and poverty, only 5.5% currently live there. *The same treatment received by those who left Scotland was inflicted on our Indigenous neighbours in the new land* – denial of culture, language, rituals, and playing drums/pipes. I guess they forgot what it felt like to be treated so poorly, or perhaps they wanted to play the "lords and ladies" because they never had such entitlement before. My grandparents were Protestant and Catholic and came during the clearances. While many people were pushed off their land for the more profitable sheep, today highland farmers burn the wool because the quality of the wool is not as high as other countries and milling it is so expensive, it is not worth it. I was saddened to hear of this as the highlands are indeed full of sheep! Trade agreements, the harsh climate and low labour standards have contributed to limited milling of wool, relatively speaking. The wool is good for carpets and tweed but more fine wool is found in Ireland, Norway and England.

Many of the Scottish churches are experiencing the same decline as Canada. Tourism in those sacred sites has offset the expensive upkeep of the buildings. Iona monastery, St. Giles, Edinburgh and Rosslyn Chapel in Roslin (south of Edinburgh) were three thriving tourist/pilgrimage sites. *The church continues to gather to worship and serve. Their communities are known for their hospitality.* This was mentioned by the tour guides.

We were able to visit cairns and standing stones outside of Inverness. The cairns are rock formations with a tunnel access. When excavated, the remains of a woman was found buried within. Likely this was a tomb for an honoured woman. The full moon would shine directly in the tunnel illuminating the inner chamber. Likely, along with the standing stones, this site was used for rituals and to determine the proper time for planting, and harvesting. I have seen similar sites in Machu Picchu, Peru, temples in Egypt, and the medicine wheels/sacred sites here in Alberta. The ancient peoples had a very high knowledge of the earth, stars, moon and patterns of the land that they inhabited. To think we have more knowledge in this modern era is, I think, arrogant. They also had a highly complex social system that protected and sustained the community. In some ways, their structures were at times both brutal and kind. The same may be said about our communities in Canada today.

Pat and I visited a reconstructed Iron Village (north of Perth) dating around 500 BCE with a Crannog (hut on stilts in the middle of a lake with a dock connecting it to the land). Similar to Fort Langley, Fort Edmonton, etc., there are interpreters clothed in period costume who showed how different aspects of life may have looked with weavers,

blacksmiths, cooks, toys, and harvesting/planting fruits and herbs. We spent all day here as it was fascinating! The following day, we visited the Royal Yacht Britannica (Edinburgh), and it was such a contrast!

What struck me with both of these sites is how many people were required to “run the community”. 241 crew members to run the ship – not counting Her Royal Highness, family, and guests. *I wonder whether a community always has boundaries of command and roles and whether there was much crossover.* There are so many gifts and talents required to feed, house, clothe, defend and survive harsh climates – whether in the highlands or on the sea or in Canada!

Travelling in Scotland – my ancestral home – brought me closer to my roots. I heard disappointment over what might have been if a conflict had a different outcome, many conflicts among the clans, times of hardship and hunger. I also experienced rich worship, a respect for the stories of the past, a pride in being Scottish, even though the Scots are often portrayed as the reprobate by the English in newspapers and literature. There is a desire to laugh and share from the heart. The people were warm and welcoming, except for 2 cranky taxi drivers who were struggling newcomers who couldn't wait to return to their homeland. Canada has these same characters, do we not?

The thriving churches care about their neighbour and justice as well as showing hospitality to strangers. There is a deep sense of Christ's presence, hope and commitment for justice in the remnant church. Christ showed up many times along the journey, in tour guides, in new friends connected to Canadian friends, and my companions. It was a time of needed refreshment and contemplation.

As we travelled, Pat and I reflected on the Narratives of Hope and Possibilities and how challenging change is for the church. We created a Communion liturgy for A Church in the Midst of Change – or perhaps it can be called “The Pilgrim Church” – that picked up our time on the land, on the sea, and in our journey.

I attach it to my report as a gift to the Church.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie McKay*

Communion Liturgy for Change
Rev. Dr. Patricia Dutcher Walls and Rev. Laurie McKay

Call to Worship

One: Come from north, south, east and west

Left side: We come windswept and road worn

Right side: We come eager for the journey ahead

One: Come for respite from the noise and the wind's constant buffeting

Left side: We seek sanctuary from the howling

Right side: We seek to rally for the lap to come

One: Come from the humdrum of everyday to-do lists

Left side: We need the feel of the spray on our faces

Right side: We need the freeing moment of casting off

One: Whether seeking solace from disquieting gales or momentum out of tedious mediocrity, come knowing that God's own breath meets you here.

All: We come to worship God.

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Creator of all that is,

We praise you

For embedding in creation the capacity for growth and change
when you commanded 'Be fruitful and multiply,'

For setting galaxies in motion, the seas to rise and fall,
and the circling dance of the seasons;

For delighting in the surprise of dolphins at play
and the sudden shimmer of rainbows in a lowering sky;

For instilling a common breath into us, your creatures,
marking us as your own and our neighbours as ourselves;

For surrounding us with your presence even when fogs and storms
or our own bleary vision obscure your immanence.

For becoming human in your son,
who redeemed all that is lost and strayed.

So hear us as we confess how it is with us:

We confess before God and each other

**Our resentment when our plans are muddled
by powers beyond ourselves**

**Our fear of the unknown,
diminishing our capacity for generosity and compassion**

**Our inability to adapt, shutting us down,
leaving us rudderless and unable to reset our sails**

**Our oblivion that winds of change blow over everyone,
thinking we're the only one in the boat**

**Our aggressions, large and small, against ourselves and others,
that arise from our fears and resentments**

**Merciful God, you attend to the whirling of the universe
echoed in the vibration of a hummingbird's wing**

**Your care embraces even the smallest buttercup
and the craggy mountain peaks**

Hear us as we join the whispers of the cosmos

**And seek harmony with ourselves, with our neighbours,
and with you
Whose grace encompasses all. Amen**

Assurance of Pardon

Have you heard what you just said? God's grace encompasses all through the new life of Christ. Believe the Good News and live as God's people, reset, renewed, released!

Invitation to the Offering

As part of God's household of grace, and despite our fearful holding on in the midst of change, let us share generously in this morning's offering as an outward sign of our trust in the divine Spirit that sustains us.

Offertory Prayer

Gracious God, accept these offerings and transform them according to your purposes, in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Invitation to the table

Come you who are weary
Come you who have sore feet and tired spirit,
Come refresh at the Lord's table
With bread, wine and a community of faith
That flows with the love of Christ.

Song: Put peace into each other's hands (or other)

Communion Prayer

Holy are you, Power of the Universe.
You spoke words of power and creativity on that first morning,
Calling life to spring forth.
You call us still.
As your Breath hovered over the chaotic waters at creation
As a mother bird hovers over her nest,
You continue to hover over your creation and our chaos.
You nudge us forward through changes.
As Moses brought assurance of your promised life
To those who preferred to return to slavery in Egypt and diminished living,
As Elijah on the mountain could not resist your call
To engage a frightening future;
As Isaiah brought your word of comfort
To a people overwhelmed by change,
You nudge us forward despite our hesitancy to change.
In Jesus, you walk beside us,
Teaching, modeling, and encouraging us to walk the path of genuine love.
He kept moving when the judgment of others tried to shut him down.

He kept raising others up and healing, at inconvenient and surprising times.
He loved beyond borders of respectability and expectations.

Jesus showed us that nothing can overcome your love –
not suffering,
not the cruelty of the cross,
not even death.

Your faithfulness is still reflected in the companions on our journey.
You accompany us to an unclear future.

Through this bread and wine,
we remember Jesus,
and his promise to prepare the way for us.

In this simple, sacred meal,
Hover over us, within us, and around us,
that we might sing the song of faith on the road,
trusting that you will meet us there.

We pray for the world you created:

We bless the light and happy places where it's smooth sailing,
and joy in the spray and freshening winds.

We pray for those in dark, or hidden places,
full of pain, sorrow, and despair.

Where leaders are misguided, straighten them out.

Where nations collide, may your rhythm set them dancing,

Just as you set planets and stars dancing to an ancient song.

Come, Holy Spirit, and do what we cannot.

Pour out your power on this bread, wine, and on your beloved people,

That with the Spirit of the risen Lord,

we might become the Body of Christ once again.

What we can do, we will.

We will seek the Lord at this table and in our living.

We will eat this bread.

We will drink this cup.

We will become the Body of Christ once again.

(Together we say the words Jesus told us, in our heart language:

Our Father...)

Breaking of Bread and Distribution

On the same night on which Jesus was betrayed,

He took bread, and when he had given thanks, He broke it and said,

“Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you;

Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same manner he also took the cup after supper, saying,

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”
For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup,
You proclaim the Lord’s death till he comes.

Distribution

Take, eat. The body of Christ.

Take, drink. The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

Prayer after Communion

Holy One,

You have met us here and strengthened us for the journey.

We have tasted what love is, and our saltiness has been restored.

Whether through tears or with joy, we will follow, trusting we are not alone.

With Jesus, and all the company of heaven and earth we pray.

Amen.

Benediction

One: In the ebb and flow of movement and rest

All: Creator God is hovering, breathing, and making new.

One: From where we are to where God is leading,

All: We trust Christ will accompany us.

One: Whether the way is clear or confusion is our companion,

All: The Spirit will tether us so we can let go and reach out for something new.

One: The Three in One blesses us as we leave this sanctuary,

All: We are reset, renewed, released!

Closing Chorus:

“We are marching”, or “We are walking the path of peace” or other journey song.

Last Meeting: November 17, 2025 via Zoom

Next Meeting: January 26, 2026 via Zoom

Congregation Care and Resource Committee – Jake Van Pernis (*Convener*)

The Congregational Care Committee met on Tuesday, November 4, 2025 from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

In Attendance – Heather Bryant, Heather Carlson, Cathy Gale, Karen Robbins, Jake Van Pernis.

Regrets: Bartholomew Alexander, Maren McLean Persaud, Greg Smith.

The meeting was opened in prayer and the reading of Psalm 145: 1-5 by Jake.

Agenda was agreed upon and no changes to the minutes from the last meeting.

Discussion:

1. Updates from the October Synod Meeting and October Presbytery Meeting

Synod Updates:

- a. The Synod meeting was brief, held to approximately one hour, with very little contentious business.
- b. An important issue voiced at Synod this year is whether Synod continues to have a necessary function, and what recommendations will come from The Hope and Possibility work that The Presbyterian Church in Canada is currently doing.
- c. The finances of Camp Kannawin continue to be of concern.
- d. The presentation by Dale Woods was very well received and is significant for the Presbytery and the Congregational Care Committee, especially the conversation of the Holy and Human, as we move forward.

Presbytery Updates:

- a. A great many celebrations were shared about life in a variety of congregations.
- b. Concerns were expressed about the financial concerns being felt by St. Giles Presbyterian Church.
- c. Keeping in prayer the congregations of Knox and St. Giles and praying for the Spirit's guidance to be with the Presbytery in providing support in this process.
- d. Inviting the Spirit to be at work in the discernment of the Presbytery's Amalgamation Team because this team has a critical role in asking important and meaning-filled questions as a part of their work.

2. Ongoing Business

1. Action Items:

- Review of Visitation Documents
Ongoing work -- Greg.
- Discussion with Maren re: Potential Event with Rev. Jeffery Crawford – Jake ongoing
- Bring to attention of Presbytery Care the need for the list of new members of Presbytery
Ongoing work – Greg.
- Note of appreciation to Marj
Completed
- Bring to the attention of Presbytery Care the question of if the Clerk /Moderator send a note of appreciation to outgoing members of Presbytery
Ongoing work – Greg.
- Name a representative to be a part of the Westminster Visitation Team because of John Chik stepping back from Presbytery responsibilities

Complete.

- St. Giles Team meeting with St. Giles Session
Ongoing work – Jake.

II. *2026 Budget Planning*

- A draft budget for the work of the Congregational Care Committee was shared (see attached document).
- Draft budget will be shared with Phil Gaiser with the caveat that Phil can suggest changes to the budget that reflect costs incurred in previous years for various workshops and expenses.

3. New Business

- The Congregational Care Committee received a request from the Rev. Chandra Mannix asking to be relieved of serving on the Visitation Team for St. Andrew's, Lethbridge. The committee agreed to relieve Rev. Mannix of this responsibility and the Rev. Heather Carlson agreed to serve on the St. Andrew's, Lethbridge Visitation Team.
- Karen Robbins agreed to represent the Congregational Care Committee at the Presbytery Meeting on November 25, 2025.

4. Other Business

- The Congregational Care Committee will continue to consider how we can best respond to the struggles congregations are having by thinking about how to best encourage asking for help at the Presbytery level.
- The Congregational Care Committee will have as a standing item on its agenda proactive actions it can take to help congregations in the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod.
- It was noted that having the meeting materials in advance was very helpful, and a thank you to Jake for preparing the draft budget for discussion as well.
- At a future meeting the Congregational Care Committee will begin to outline what information goes to Presbytery and what information from the Congregational Care Committee reports is shared on the Presbytery's website.
- Future Meeting Dates of Congregational Care Committee

a. *December 2025 – (if needed)*

b. *January 6, 2026 – 1:00 p.m.*

c. *February 3, 2026 – 1:00 p.m.*

d. *March 3, 2026 – 1:00 p.m.*

e. *April 2026 (if needed)*

f. *May 5, 2025 – 1:00 p.m.*

The meeting was closed in prayer by Heather Carlson at 2:00 p.m.

Follow-Up with the Session of St. Giles Presbyterian Church
Regarding Visitation Report and Shared Ministry Initiative

Date: December 2025

Background

The Congregational Care and Resources Committee appointed Dr. Heather Bryant, Rev. Maren McLean Persaud, and Rev. Jake Van Pernis (“the Follow-up Team”) to engage with the Session of St. Giles Presbyterian Church concerning items raised in its visitation report. This team met with the Session on Tuesday, November 18, 2025.

Prior to this meeting, the Follow-up Team was informed of discussions regarding the potential conclusion of the shared ministry initiative between Calgary Korean Presbyterian Church (CKPC) and St. Giles Presbyterian Church. These discussions arose in response to:

- A letter describing the Listening Team, sent by the Clerk of the Presbytery of Calgary Macleod, stating the purpose of this team was to listen to concerns and “strengthen understanding and trust” between the sessions of both congregations in July 2025. (Refer to Document 1)
- The report the Listening Team (which now refers to themselves as the “Discernment Team”) with some specific recommendations shared with the sessions of CKPC and St. Giles Presbyterian Church. (Refer to Document 2)
- The subsequent response from the Session of St. Giles to the Listening Team in October 2025. (Refer to Document 3)

This information significantly shaped the nature of the November 18 conversation, broadening the discussion beyond the items in the visitation report to matters related to the shared ministry initiative.

Actions Taken Following November 18 Meeting

- The Follow-up Team agreed to meet again with the Session of St. Giles in December to continue addressing concerns raised and explore implications of the shared ministry discussions on settling the relationship between St. Giles and CKPC, and to keep St. Giles on a positive track for the future despite the loss of income.
- Concerns expressed by the Session were communicated to the Presbytery’s Transition Team, along with a formal request from the Session to the Clerk of the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod that three individuals from Presbytery serve as The Support Team in navigating issues related to the potential conclusion of the shared ministry initiative.
- The Transition Team instructed the Clerk of Presbytery to contact the three individuals named by the Session of St. Giles. The Clerk completed this task.

Ongoing Support and Communication

- Members of the Follow-up Team connected with Rev. Chandra Mannix and Sandra Cameron Evans, representative elder of St. Giles for Presbytery, to provide support and communicate actions being taken.
- The Follow-Up Team drafted a letter to the Session of St. Giles requesting time to meet at their next scheduled meeting on December 16, 2025. This letter outlined

steps taken since November 18, including updates to the Transition Team and actions requested of the Clerk. It also noted issues and concerns identified during the November meeting that could begin to be addressed to support St. Giles in its immediate future. (Refer to Document 4)

Committee and Team Developments

- Between November 18 and December 16, members of the follow-up team continued to meet with Rev. Chandra Mannix and Sandra Cameron Evans for ongoing support.
- The Presbytery Care and Resources Committee met during this period, suggested three individuals to the proposed Support Team, and developed Draft Terms of Reference for the Support Team.
- The Support Team for St. Giles is: The Rev. Dr. Peter Coutts, Mr. Phil Gaiser, and The Rev. Greg Smith (*pending approval*)
- The Follow-Up Team from the Congregational Care and Resources Committee met with the Session of St. Giles Presbyterian Church on December 16, 2025, where the draft terms of reference for the support team were shared. The members of the St. Giles Session had some friendly amendments to the Terms of Reference and these amendments have been shared with the Presbytery Care and Resources Committee.
- The Follow-Up Team and the St. Giles Session will meet again in January to continue conversation about helping the congregation of St. Giles in 2026 and in this period of transition.

Developments

- CKPC held a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 16 where the congregation decided to “pause the monthly payment while awaiting the outcome of further conversations between the two presbyteries.”
- The Clerk of the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod has received a letter from the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca containing an extract minute sharing that “the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca proceed with the termination of the Shared Ministry between the Calgary Korean Presbyterian Church and St. Giles Presbyterian Church, effective December 31, 2025, in accordance with the Terms of Reference, and in consultation with the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod.” (Refer to Document 6). The Clerk of Calgary-Macleod has acknowledged receiving this letter.

Next Steps

- Sharing the draft of this report with the Congregational Care and Resources Committee, the Transition Team of Presbytery, and the Session of St. Giles Presbyterian Church.
- Sharing this report through the Congregational Care and Resources Committee Report at the January 13, 2025 Meeting of Presbytery.
- Continue conversations with the Session of St. Giles regarding both the concerns raised in the visitation report and the shared ministry initiative.

- The Support Team starting its work regarding matters around the dissolution of the shared ministry between St. Giles Presbyterian Church and CKPC.
- Providing regular updates to the Presbytery from the Follow-Up Team and the Support Team to the Congregational Care and Resources Committee and through the Congregational Care and Resources Committee to the Presbytery.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Jake Van Pernis*

Last Meeting: November 4, 2025

Next Meeting: January 6, 2026

Presbytery Care and Resource Committee – *Sandra Cameron Evans*
(Convener)

Determining Future Presbytery Priorities

The first session with Finley + Assoc. occurred on December 2 with 19 presbyters from 12 congregations participating. There was good input and discussion in preparation for the next session scheduled for February 5 at 1:30 by Zoom.

Amalgamation Support Team

The Congregational Care and Resource Committee is establishing a Team to work with the Interim Moderator in supporting the sessions/congregations of Knox and St. Giles through their discernment on behalf of presbytery.

Correspondence from Dolden Wallace Folick

A letter received from the Dolden Wallace Folick law firm was referred to the Presbytery Care and Resource Committee to be addressed. Presbytery records have been reviewed and Phil Gaiser, on behalf of the committee, had a meeting scheduled with a representative from Gowling.

St. Giles Shared Ministry with Calgary Korean Presbyterian Church

(Rev. Laurie McKay took the chair for this item.)

The Committee discussed the members for a Support Team to be made up of Rev. Dr. Peter Coutts, Phil Gaiser and Rev. Greg Smith. Terms of Reference were drafted and subsequently discussed with the Session of St. Giles.

Draft Terms of Reference

Support Team, St. Giles and CKPC Shared Ministry
December 22, 2025

1. The Support Team will consist of three members, appointed by the Presbytery Care and Resources Committee.

2. The Support Team will report to the Congregational Care Committee and will regularly report to the presbytery through this committee.

3. The Support Team will work supportively with the session of St. Giles Presbyterian Church to ensure that their perspectives are presented, and that they are kept apprised of progress.

4. The Support Team will review and discuss with the Shared Ministry Committee (which includes members from the sessions of St. Giles and Calgary Korean Presbyterian Church (CKPC), the ministers of St. Giles and CKPC) the appropriate commitments (financial and other) still needing to be met should a decision be taken by one of the churches to end the shared ministry initiative before the end of 2026. These should consider the 2025 Terms of Reference as agreed to by the two congregations, the 2023 Memorandum of Understanding as approved by presbytery, or any other relevant documents provided by the congregations in question.

5. The Support Team will liaise with the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca so that recommendations made reflect their comments.

6. The Support Team will connect with the National Office of The Presbyterian Church in Canada to ensure any recommendations made are consistent with policies and polity of the church.

7. The Support Team will develop a document of record to outline the agreed commitments and will collect confirmation of agreement to the said document by both congregations (St. Giles and CKPC). Any final recommendations will need to be approved by the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod.

8. The Support Team will advise if the changes to the Shared Ministry agreement have an impact on the 2024 call of the Rev. Chandra Mannix by St. Giles Presbyterian Church. If so, this matter will be brought to the attention of the session of St. Giles, who will be encouraged to seek the advice of the Clergy Care and Resources Committee and to bring any suggested changes forward to the presbytery.

MOTION: That the Terms of Reference for the Support Team, St. Giles and CKPC Shared Ministry be approved.

MOTION: The Support Team members be: The Rev. Dr. Peter Coutts, Mr. Phil Gaiser, and The Rev. Greg Smith.

MOTION: That the Clerk of Presbytery Calgary-Macleod communicate the Terms of Reference for the Support Team, St. Giles and CKPC Shared Ministry, and the names of the Support Team members, to the Clerk of Presbytery Western Han-Ca.

The representatives of the Congregational Care and Resource Committee will continue to meet with the Session of St. Giles.

Presbytery Mileage Rate for 2026

As presbytery has established, we will follow the PCC practice; it will remain at \$.45/km. The next meeting of the Presbytery Care and Resource Committee is on January 22, 2026 at 9:30AM by Zoom.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Cameron Evans*

Last meeting: December 11, 2025 via Zoom

Next meeting: January 22, 2026 via Zoom

Transition Team – Heather Bryant

The Transition Team met on December 1. In the roundtable discussion of all the committee convenors, they worked together to clarify roles for the presbytery to fill in assisting with the current issues at St. Giles church. There is a more fulsome report in the Congregational Care and Resources committee report.

The search subcommittee, consisting of Heather Bryant, Chris Joiner, and Sandra Cameron Evans reported on the search process for the role of general presbyter, and brought forward a candidate for consideration.

The process has been a long one, with ads placed in Presbyterians Connections, on the PCC website, and mailings sent to the presbytery asking them to suggest candidates. Although some candidates were identified, the Transition Team did not find a candidate to bring forward to the presbytery by June of 2025.

At that time, we began a more directed recruitment strategy, asking a few people with excellent connections in the PCC and the ecumenical community in Calgary to suggest lists of candidates who they felt could fill the role, and were perhaps open to a change in their current career path. Over 20 personalized letters were sent out to invite candidates to apply. Some of these individuals, while declining on their own behalf, suggested other names to approach.

Over the late summer and early fall, conversations were held with two potential candidates, and one moved forward to interview with the search subcommittee. That team presented information on the candidate, the Rev. Terry Fach, to the Transition Team, and recommended that we move forward with his appointment.

Information on the candidate is below. He has had a career that has given him a depth of knowledge of pastoral leadership, and he has worked with ministry colleagues in

transition. We found him to be warm, engaging, and articulate, and he expressed a strong desire to meet with the ministers and congregations throughout the presbytery.

While he does not have experience in the presbyterian tradition, he expressed keenness and indeed demonstrated his willingness to learn more through the Book of Forms and other resources. His references were uniformly enthusiastic about his past work, and his suitability for this role. The Transition Team unanimously supported bringing Rev. Fach's name forward as our next general presbyter.

At the September presbytery meeting, the Transition team reported that they would be open to hearing from candidates on what portion of an FTE they felt the role required, and noted that to bring in a candidate, we'd have to be willing to reimburse at a rate that would include both a stipend and a housing allowance. Rev. Fach has indicated that a 0.6 FTE role would be suitable, and we would like to suggest that to the presbytery.

The remuneration we have discussed is as follows:

Salary base of \$54,000 (\$90K for full time salary; \$54,000 represents 0.6 of that)
Because Rev. Fach is not a minister of the PCC, we would add in the benefits and pension packages offered to non-clergy employees. This would entail an additional \$6248 for benefits and, if Rev. Fach elects to move forward with the pension plan, the presbytery's portion of contribution would be an additional \$6326 at this year's rates. There is not a specific study leave program, but if there is a course that Rev. Fach feels would be especially useful in his role, he would be encouraged to propose it to the convenor (s) of Clergy Care and Resources for consideration.

We are proposing, with Rev. Fach's agreement, a probationary period of nine months. At that time, the position and Rev. Fach's role can be reviewed and any adjustments, if necessary, brought forward to presbytery.

This position would report to the convenors of Clergy Care and Resources and Congregational Care and Resources, and they will bring back any further recommendations at the appropriate time. The proposed starting date is February 1, 2026.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Rev. Terry Fach be offered the position of general presbyter for the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod, effective February 1.

The Transition Team will continue until Rev. Fach is in the role as general presbyter, and following that, at a time mutually agreeable with the general presbyter, will come to presbytery to indicate that we have completed our work.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Bryant
Convenor, Transition Team

CURRICULUM VITÆ
TERRY D. FACH (he/him)

PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

2024 - Transitional Interim Pastor, Trinity Mennonite Church DeWinton, AB, Canada

2023 – 2024 Transitional Interim Pastor, NXT Step Church Services Chilliwack, British Columbia, Canada

2013 - 2023 Campus Chaplain, Ambrose University Calgary, Alberta, Canada

1997 – 2013 Founding and Lead Pastor, Trinity Church of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

EDUCATION

1989 M.Phil. in Philosophical Theology
Oxford University

1987 M.A. in Philosophy
University of Manitoba

1983 B.A. in Philosophy
University of Manitoba;
1983 Bachelor of Theology
Canadian Nazarene College (Winnipeg, Canada)

TEACHING

2013 - Sessional Lecturer, Ambrose University
REL370 Theology and Practice of Worship; REL364/CS662 Prayer
Paths to God; REL261 Issues in Systematic Theology

2010 - Adjunct, M.A. in Pastoral Leadership Program
Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonais IL, USA
PAST 640 Preaching and Worship as Pastoral Leadership

2005 - 2012 Part-time Lecturer in Philosophy and Theology
Ambrose University College, Calgary AB

1992 - 2004 Asst. Professor of Philosophy and Theology
Canadian Nazarene College/Nazarene University College
Winnipeg MB/Calgary AB

CLERGY DEVELOPMENT Activities

I have served in various roles on clergy training and credentialing committees over the past 25 years, including curriculum development and evaluation, teaching, mentoring, and course development. This work included institutional reviews and clergy training

program development for the Church of the Nazarene (54 post-secondary institutions worldwide). I have facilitated many professional development events for pastors over the years in Canada. Most recently (2024) I was the lead developer of a course called “The Moral Shape of Christian Ministry” and recently taught a pilot version of the class online.

Community Leadership

2017 – 2022 Board of Directors, Kings Fold Retreat Centre

2020 – 2023 Calgary Interfaith Council (Ambrose University representative)

2014 – 2020 Calgary Council of Churches

1997 – 2008 Rhodes Scholarship Provincial Selection Committee (Alberta)

Personal

I am an ordained elder (clergy) in The Church of the Nazarene (since 1997). I am married to Ruth, who is a RN, and we are the parents of two adult daughters. Together we enjoy gardening, cooking, walking and cycling. In my spare time I enjoy reading fiction, listening to music, playing hockey, and riding my bikes.

Last meeting: December 1, 2025

Next meeting:

Request for a consultation – *Maren McLean Persaud, Christian Persaud or Tom Paasuke*

The request is for the purpose of seeking information, clarification, or general advice on how to proceed with a matter that concerns the presbyter.

Clerk's report – Christian Persaud

2026 Pulpit Supply Rate

The rate for pulpit supply has increased from \$200 to \$205.

Updates from Grant Applications to the National Church

The Grants Committee met on November 5, 2025. The previous application from Knox, Bassano to the McBain-Barker Fund had been held on file since the spring review in the hope that additional funding would become available. The McBain-Barker Fund provides grants to assist congregations in small communities of The Presbyterian Church in Canada that seek assistance with small capital improvements to church buildings. Knox applied for funding for replacement of a furnace, a water line repair and a damaged heat sensor in the furnace room. The Grants Committee approved a grant of \$8,000 from the Chisholm Fund to support the project at Knox, Bassano. A small amount of funding had become available through the Chisholm Fund, another fund that supports small capital projects, with priority given first to Saskatchewan and then Western Canada.

The Grants Committee also approved a third and final-year grant of \$30,000 from The New and Renewing Ministry Fund to support the Anyuak Worshipping Community at Centennial. With the approval of the final, third-tier yield grant in 2025, the committee confirmed the completion of funding for Centennial's Anyuak outreach ministry through The New and Renewing Ministry Fund.

Various ministries and initiatives within the presbytery of Calgary-Macleod received 179K from funds and grants of the national church. This is just one of the many ways that gifts to Presbyterians Sharing support ministries in our communities.

The deadlines for many national grant applications are April 15 and October 15. Please keep this in mind when considering applying for grants this year as applications need to be prepared and approved by Session, then reviewed by the Presbytery Care and Resource Committee, and then presbytery as a whole.

Citation

A citation was prepared and sent to the Session of Valleyview Community Church, citing the congregation to appear at a meeting on December 14, 2025 at 11:30am for the purpose of holding for first vote as part of the process for Voluntary Withdrawal. The citation was read in public worship on November 30, December 7 and 14.



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

The Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod

Moderator: Rev. Laurie McKay

Clerk: Rev. Christian Persaud
calgarymacleodclerk@gmail.com

November 30, 2025

Grant Gunnink, Minister
Loraine Champion, Clerk of Session

Voluntary Withdrawal

To the Session of Valleyview Community Church, Calgary,

The congregation of Valleyview Community Church, Calgary is hereby cited to appear at a meeting to be held in person at Valleyview on the 14th of December 2025, at 11:30 am to respond to this citation.

The purpose of the meeting is to hold the first vote by the congregation as part of the process for Voluntary Withdrawal. The congregation has received the required information package at least 30 days before the congregational vote, which outlines the process of Voluntary Withdrawal, the reasons, the financial implications and future direction of a new congregation.

If there is sufficient support at the first vote, a second vote will be taken at least 6 months from that date. Sufficient support is:

- A) 80 percent of professing members in attendance at a congregational meeting
- and B) 67 percent of all members on the professing members roll of the congregation as recorded at the time written notification was made to presbytery for voluntary withdrawal.

The Session is hereby required to call and organize such meeting, after the required notice given before the congregation on at least three Sundays prior to the meeting, in order to answer this citation.

Equalizing Elder 2025-26

Westminster has agreed to send Deirdre Harris as an equalizing elder to presbytery.

Congregational Records Check

Please keep congregational records in mind for your upcoming Session meetings.

Leading with Care – Fire Drill Procedures

St. Andrew's, Calgary held its fire drill on July 27, 2025.

St. Giles held its fire drill on September 21, 2025.

Overdue from 2025: St. Andrew's, Lethbridge; St. John's; Knox, Calgary; St. Paul's; Centennial

*Respectfully Submitted,
Christian Persaud*

Other Business

Voluntary Withdrawal Committee

The citation from the presbytery to the congregation of Valleyview Community Church was read on Nov. 30, Dec. 7, and Dec. 14, 2025. The purpose of the meeting on December 14, 2025, was to hold the first vote by the congregation as part of the process for Voluntary Withdrawal from The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

All 28 members were in attendance (one online from Arizona). Ballots were distributed to members on the roll as of May 31, 2024 which was the deadline for congregations to notify presbytery of their intent to proceed with voluntary withdrawal from The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

The presbytery representatives were Rev. Laurie McKay (convenor/IM), Rev. Bruce Clendening, and Rev. Christian Persaud. Rev. Persaud was asked to attend as Rev. Dr. Jean Morris was unable to attend. The clerk of Session (Lorraine Champion) took minutes. Rev. Persaud recorded the vote of the online member.

The Interim Moderator called the meeting to order, introduced Presbytery representatives and opened with prayer.

Upon receiving the required information package at least 30 days before a congregational vote, that outlines the process of Voluntary Withdrawal, the reasons, the financial implications and future direction of a new congregation:

And after the citation of the Presbytery has been read, 2 weeks before the congregational vote;

And that this is the first vote, and a second vote will be taken at least 6 months from today.

*It was MOVED by David Brenton, seconded by Cheryl Gill,
that Valleyview Community Church apply to the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod
for voluntary withdrawal from The Presbyterian Church in Canada due to the
approval of Remits B and C at the General Assembly 2019.*

The ballots were counted twice, and the results were 25 in favour and 3 opposed. It requires 80% approval to carry, and this is 89%, so the motion carried.

- There was time spent before the vote, asking whether there were any questions about the procedure, the financial information or any other comments/concerns. Rev. Persaud updated the congregation as to how funds were to be distributed. Updated figures for distribution of funds when a church is dissolved are:
 - 50% Presbytery
 - 10% National Indigenous Ministries Council (NIMC)
 - 20% New & Renewing Ministry Fund
 - 20% Budget Stabilization Fund

The congregation was asked many times whether there were any questions, comments, or concerns and if everyone was clear on the process. No questions were raised.

Following the vote, the question was asked whether the broader congregation would be consulted. The whole congregation is welcome to attend the meeting, but only those 28 members are permitted to vote based on the membership roll as of May 31, 2024. It is important for the members to consult other congregants. One person also asked if new members could participate in The Second Vote, and the answer was no.

A question was asked about the financial information (to be provided before the next vote), the timing between the next vote, and the date of dissolution. "The Second Vote" takes place no sooner than 6 months from Dec. 14, 2025. It was clarified that after the Second Vote, and if it is in favour of departing from the PCC, the congregation's status is "Departing Fellowship" until a date has been chosen, designated as "date of voluntary withdrawal". This date is when the legal entity of the new fellowship has acquired a Canada Revenue Agency Charitable Status, can receive funds from the PCC, and all legal and financial requirements are met. If the Second Vote fails, the process stops.

Currently, the Session of Valleyview has begun a conversation with their bank about getting a mortgage on the property. We anticipate that the entire process will be completed by Dec.31, 2026, if not sooner.

The Voluntary Withdrawal Committee informs the presbytery of the result of "The First Vote" and will work with Valleyview Community Church to prepare for The Second Vote, no sooner than June 14, 2026.

A note for consideration: Should the Second Vote be approved and the date of dissolution set, the presbytery will need to prepare a mission plan for its portion of the proceeds realized by the voluntary withdrawal, to submit it to the Commission on Assets.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Laurie McKay on behalf of the Voluntary Withdrawal Committee/Interim Moderator

Rev. Bruce Clendening
Rev. Dr. Jean Morris

Amalgamation of Knox and St. Giles

The Amalgamation Team, made up of the elders of both St. Giles and Knox, have continued in their discernment.

Avison Young Analysis

After the approval of the grant from the presbytery, the team engaged Ron Dennison, of Avison Young, to draft a scope-of-work plan. Avison Young submitted to the team a Development Consulting Proposal in December that outlined professional services and development consulting analysis for both Knox and St. Giles properties. The first phase is due to be completed by January 31, 2026, and a report will be presented to the team at that time. The team approved the scope-of-work, and Avison Young began the analysis.

Next Team Meeting

The team is scheduled to meet in the latter part of January to continue its work, including ongoing alignment of the discerned vision of the amalgamated church.

Presbytery Support Team

We are aware that the presbytery is interested in naming a support team to walk alongside the amalgamation team of Knox and St. Giles in this process. It would be helpful to have a person or persons from the presbytery who have interest in and some skills around property concerns, as well as people who have experience in helping congregations align vision and mission.

To date, Cathy Gale has agreed to serve on such a team. Likewise, Diane Hill is an assessor elder (Westminster) currently serving on Knox's Session.

In light of the need to move with some diligence, I propose the following motion.

MOTION: That Cathy Gale and Diane Hill be named as permanent members of the Presbytery Amalgamation Support Team. The team's participation and comments will be reported to presbytery through the IM.

Addendum: Financial Concerns

Knox recently lost one of its long-time renters. That, combined with decreasing givings, makes cash flow an issue. With the amalgamation plan moving forward and an anticipated resolution in the first or second quarter of 2026, I anticipate Knox will need some financial support in 2026 to continue operating until the conclusion of the process. I believe the best way to structure such assistance would be in the form of a line of credit from the presbytery, which Knox can draw upon only as needed.

MOTION: That presbytery extend a line of credit to Knox not to exceed \$3,000 per month, and that the loan, along with other loan indebtedness, be repaid at the conclusion of amalgamation. Further, that Knox access the credit as needed via the presbytery Treasurer.

*Respectfully submitted,
Chris Joiner*

Enthusiasms and Concerns

Prayers for the world and our role in it

Moderator/Appointee

Time and place of next meeting

Moderator

The next regular business meeting of the Presbytery will be Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 7pm by Zoom with St. John's, Medicine Hat as the worship leader. Reports due January 29, 2026 by noon.

Adjournment
Benediction