

*Synodical of
Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda
Women's Missionary Society*



71st Annual Meeting

April 20 & 21, 2018

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
130 Clergy Street, Kingston, Ontario
Church number: 1-613-546-6316

Guest Speakers:

Senator Guy Mandeville, C.D.
Janet Brewer, The Rev. Sarah Kim, & Joan Smith



Theme:
Forgiveness and Hope

Theme Scripture:

Colossians 3:12-14 (NRSV)
"Above all, clothe yourself with love" (v.14a)

We acknowledge that we meet on traditional Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee territory.

Traditional Territories

Queen's University is situated on traditional Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Territory.

This 'acknowledgement of territory' statement is an institutional recognition of the traditional inhabitants of the land on which Queen's University is located. This statement can be used as part of words of welcome at campus events, and as part of written documents, including websites and emails. Instructors may wish to use it during their first class of a semester.

To acknowledge this traditional territory is to recognize its longer history, one predating the establishment of the earliest European colonies. It is also to acknowledge this territory's significance for the Indigenous peoples who lived, and continue to live, upon it and whose practices and spiritualties were tied to the land and continue to develop in relationship to the territory and its other inhabitants today.

When the first Europeans began to arrive in Southern Ontario in the early 1600s, the north shore of Lake Ontario and the area originally known as Katarokwi (Kingston) were a shifting home to both the Huron-Wendat Peoples and the Haudenosaunee (pronounced: Hoe-den-oh-show-nee) people of the Five Nations/Iroquois confederacy. These peoples spoke related Iroquoian languages.

Alongside these peoples, in a broad band running from modern-day Quebec, along the St. Lawrence, around the Great Lakes and into what is now Northern Ontario, Michigan, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Minnesota, lived the Anishinaabek (pronounced: A-nish-in-'a-beg). This name means Original People or Good People in the Anishinaabemowin language.

The Anishinaabek comprise the Ojibwe, Potawatomi, Odawa (Ottawa), Chippewa, Mississauga, Saulteaux, Nipissing and Algonquin people. This area specifically was inhabited by the Mississauga and Algonquin peoples. These peoples all speak the Anishinaabemowin language, which is a member of the Algonquian language family.

After the British established a more permanent colony along the north shore of Lake Ontario in 1758, in particular in the Katarokwi area, the Mississauga (who had established a community in the region in the early 1700s) ceded Kingston and the surrounding territory to the British Crown in 1783 with the signing of the Crawford Purchase. Trading between the Iroquois Confederacy and Anishinaabe peoples continued in Katarokwi, however, even after the American-based United Empire Loyalists, sympathizers with the British during the American Revolution of 1776, moved peacefully into what the British called Upper Canada in the late 1700s and early 1800s.

The Iroquois (Six Nations) Confederacy, known widely by the Cayuga word Haudenosaunee, meaning the People of the Longhouse, today have five communities ranging across southern Ontario, eastern Quebec and south into New York State. The Tyendinaga Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte is Kingston's closest First Peoples reserve community, and the only government-recognized territory within the Kingston region. The Kingston Indigenous community continues to represent the area's Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee roots. There is also a significant Métis community and there are First Peoples from other Nations across Turtle Island present here today.

This brief summary of the local history of the land is based on a document from the Cultural Services Department of the City of Kingston, with edits/additions contributed by faculty members from the Queen's community. Updated: November 2015 - Ed

Cover Photo: The moccasins work as a symbol of walking together, the road to reconciliation. Moccasin vamps or baps (the top piece which is usually the beaded part on traditional moccassins) have become a symbol for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (as has the red dress).

See <http://walkingwithoursisters.ca/about/> for more and for examples of beadwork. Colourful beadwork conjures up many different First Nation communities as well as the Metis – so beadwork imagery in an Indigenous style.

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WMS Purpose



The Women's Missionary Society is a community of Christians whose purpose, in response to the love of God in Jesus Christ, is to encourage one another and all the people of the church to be involved in local and world mission through prayer, study, service and fellowship.



***71stth Annual Meeting
of the Synodical of Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda
Women's Missionary Society***

April 21 & 22, 2018

Theme: Forgiveness and Hope

Theme Scripture: Colossians 3:12-14 (NRSV)
"Above all, clothe yourself with love" (v.14a)

Agenda

***We acknowledge that we meet on traditional Anishinaabe and
Haudenosaunee territory.***

Friday, April 20, 2018

1:30 p.m. - 4p.m.	Kingston Presbyterial
➤ Registration	Foyer
➤ Refreshments	St. Andrew's Hall
➤ Ten Thousand Villages	Nursery School
The Church Book Room (local Christian Book store)	Nursery School
2:30 p.m. CNOB Synodical Executive Meeting	Chapel
2:45 p.m. Gord Downie's Secret Path in Concert (1 hr.)	St. Andrew's Hall
<i>The Chapel, located front/left in the Sanctuary will be open for quiet time today and tomorrow.</i>	
4:00 p.m. Gathering Music	Sanctuary
Music leader: Olive Brinson and Accompanist: John Hall	
4:15 p.m. Welcome	Mary Veale-Parker, President, Synodical of CNOB
Kingston Presbyterial WMS	Sue Down, President
St. Andrew's WMS, Kingston	Louise Axford, President
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church	Alberta Saunders, Clerk of Session
'The Cloud of Witnesses'	Rev. Dr. Andrew Johnston, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Opening Worship	Lindsay Presbyterial
<i>'Forgiveness' Colossians 3:12-14</i>	
Hymn # 774 God forgave my sin /Freely, freely	
Introduction	Eileen Smith, Past President Lindsay Presbyterial
"Sharing Good News"	Janet Brewer, National WMS President
Thanks	Janice Terry, President Barrie Presbyterial

Memorial Service Elaine Steele, Historian & Publicity

Introduction Joyce Wagg, Member without Portfolio # 2
Book Review Dr. Tori Smit, Synod Regional Minister for Faith Formation
Thanks Joan Smith, President Peterborough Presbyterial

5:45 p.m. Break

6:10 p.m. Dinner St. Andrew's Hall
Grace Rev. Dr. Andrew Johnston,
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Introduction of Guests & Greeting Mary Veale Parker, President

7:30 p.m. Entertainment Sanctuary

Introduction Sue Down, President Kingston Presbyterial
Rev. Curtis Wilson, Rev. Dr. Morley Mitchell & Luke Norton

Thanks Marie Glover, Treasurer

8:30 p.m. Closing Prayer Rev. Dr. John-Peter Smit,
Synod Congregational Development Consultant



Pastoral Care will be available in the Chapel on Saturday from 11:15 a.m. to noon. The Executive of the Synodical of Central, Northeastern Ontario & Bermuda of the Women's Missionary Society thanks the Rev. Dr. John-Peter Smit for providing this support.



**We acknowledge that we meet on traditional Anishinaabe and
Haudenosaunee territory.**

Saturday, April 21, 2018

8:30 a.m. Registration and refreshments St. Andrew's Hall

20th Anniversary of the Confession – documentary

The Chapel, located front/left in the Sanctuary
will be open for quiet time today.

*Pastoral Care will be available in the Chapel
from 11:15 a.m. to noon.*

9:15 a.m. Gathering Music Sanctuary
Music leader: Olive Brinson and Accompanist: John Hall

9:30 a.m. Welcome Mary Veale-Parker, President

Opening Prayer for Others West Toronto Presbyterial

Synodical Business: Mary Veale-Parker, President

- WMS Purpose
- Constitution & Prayer
- Recognition of Guests
- Roll Call Katherine Allen, Recording Secretary
- Minutes of 2017 Annual Meeting

Business Arising:

- Correspondence Irene Camp, Corresponding/Glad Tidings Secretary
- Campership Report Peterborough Presbyterial

New Business:

WMS Council

Annual Reports ~ Report highlights

Synod Regional Minister for Faith Formation Dr. Tori Smit

➤ Treasurers Report Marie Glover, Treasurer
Financial Report 2017

Presbyterial Offerings for 2017

Presbyterial Objectives 2018

Report from Financial Examiner for 2017

Appointment of Financial Examiner for 2018

➤ Nominating Committee Report Joyce Wagg, Member without Portfolio #2

➤ Invitation to 2019 Annual Meeting Joan Smith, President,
Peterborough Presbyterial

➤ Campership Offering Waterloo-Wellington
OFFERING FOR CAMPERS 2018 ~ Please make cheques payable to
Waterloo-Wellington Presbyterial. Donation of \$10.00 and over will receive an income
tax receipt.

Prayer Lizz Hoyle, President Lindsay Presbyterial

10:45 a.m. Introduction Doreen Dath, Member without Portfolio #1
Guest Speaker Senator Guy Mandeville C.D.

Thanks Elaine Steele, Historian & Publicity

Grace Sue Down, President Kingston Presbyterial

12:00 p.m. Lunch St. Andrew's Hall
Thanks Katherine Allen, President East Toronto Presbyterial

1:00 p.m. Gathering Music Sanctuary
Music leader: Olive Brinson and Accompanist: John Hall

1:20 p.m. Relocation St. Andrew's Hall

Introduction	Janice Terry, President Barrie Presbyterial
Presbyterian Church in Canada Reconciliation Tour & Reflection	
Guest Speakers Janet Brewer, Joan Smith, Rev. Sarah Kim	
Thanks	Irene Camp, 1 st Vice President
2:30 p.m. Relocation	Sanctuary
Closing Worship	Barrie Presbyterial
	<i>'Hope'</i> Colossians 3:12-14
Hymn #471 - We are One in the Spirit	
#399 - Spirit of Gentleness	
Installation of Officers:	Rev. Sarah Kim, Executive Director, WMS
Communion	Rev. Dr. Andrew Johnston, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Thanks	Mary Veale-Parker, President
3:30 p.m. Benediction	Rev. Dr. Andrew Johnston, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church



Please take time during breaks and after meals to visit the Presbyterial displays at the back of the Sanctuary. Please support Ten Thousand Villages and The Church Book Room, (local Christian Book store), located in the Nursery School.

We would appreciate you completing and returning your evaluation forms to the box provided near the registration area.

The Executive of the Synodical of Central, Northeastern Ontario & Bermuda of the Women's Missionary Society thanks the Session of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and Kingston Presbyterial for their hospitality while hosting the 71st Annual Meeting. To Dr. Tori Smit, we appreciate all, of your help.

The support we have received from the Presbyterian Church in Canada Justice Ministry and Archives has been greatly appreciated.

We want to acknowledge Mike Downie for granting permission to present,
'Gord Downie's Secret Path in Concert'.

Thank you, to all who shared fellowship and kindness with friends and strangers alike.
Travelling blessings as you journey home.

CNOB Synodical President's Report For 2017

The theme for our 70th Annual Meeting
"Rejoice"

Theme verse: Philippians: 4:4-9

Our 70th Synodical Annual Meeting was held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Lindsay with Lindsay Presbyterial as our host. We met on Friday, March 31st and Saturday, April 1st, 2017. Our guest speaker from PWS&D was Rob Shropshire and Bible Study was prepared by the Rev. Dr. Lynda Reid and presented by the Rev. Priscilla Anderson and Katherine Allen from East Toronto Presbyterial. Our closing worship included Communion which was led by the Rev. Linda Park of St. Andrew's Church. This event had over eighty in attendance. At this time, President Joy Randall completed her three-year term (2014–2017) and President Mary Veale-Parker began her term.

Our Synodical has eight Presbyterials and three Affiliated Presbyterials -Algoma, Brampton, and Oakridges. We appreciate everyone's faithfulness, dedication and continuing to support the WMS in their churches, presbyterials, synodical and nationally.

WMS Council Executive met on May 17th and I became the Corresponding Secretary. I send cards and emails for birthday, anniversaries and special occasions to active missionaries and their children under the age of 18. As Corresponding Secretary, I am a member of the Council Planning Committee and Council Sub-Executive Committee. The Council Executive meets in November each year and has a conference call in February or March to carry on the business of the society. Representatives from across Canada meet to report and discuss the many areas of their ministry and its future. January 1, 2018 *The Hub* was closed, and everyone is encouraged to use the Presbyterian Women's Gathering Facebook page.

WMS Council met on May 18th, 2017, prior to the National Presbyterian Women's Gathering. Council will now meet with synodical delegates for the annual meeting on even years starting in 2018. The WMS Council meeting will be held May 1 – 3 at Crieff Hills.

Our WMS groups and churches continued to support the two "*Together We Can Projects*", international project was *Maya-man Women of Guatemala* and national project was *Hope Lives Here-The ARISE Ministry* in East Toronto Presbytery. At WMS Council on May 19th, 2017 the new projects were decided for the upcoming three years. The international project is *Haiti: Reducing Gender-based Violence* and our national project is the *Kenora Fellowship Centre* in Kenora, Ontario.

The National Presbyterian Women's Gathering was May 19th – 22nd in Richmond Hill. Its theme was "*Rooted in Love*". Several members from our Synodical were on the Planning Committee. This is a wonderful experience, as it gives us the opportunity to meet new friends, renewing old friendships with sisters in Christ. National Presbyterian Women's Gathering is an outreach ministry of the WMS.

Synodical of CNOB Women's Missionary Society executive continued to meet at Willowdale Presbyterian Church, Toronto in June where reports and business were considered together. In October we joined the Synod of CNOB at Willowdale Presbyterian Church to hear guest speaker, Rev. Dr. Dale Woods. We separated for our business meeting. Synod and Synodical joined for lunch and the workshops and to be a part of the closing worship.

In February we had our first conference call to deal with business matters and I am pleased to report the meeting was a success.

I have attended the Spring Rally of Lindsay Presbyterial in Glenarm. In September, I was fortunate to hear the Rev. Gordon Timbers share some of his experiences as a participant in the Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel hosted by East & West Toronto. In October, I was at the Day Apart hosted by Barrie Presbyterial and the Fall Rally of the Waterloo-Wellington Presbyterial. In May, I will attend the annual meeting of Kingston Presbyterial and the Peterborough Presbyterial and the Affiliated Presbyterial of Brampton. In June, I will be meeting with the Algoma Presbyterial in Sault Ste. Marie.

Our Synodical WMS groups are fewer and smaller, and many members are older. We find it challenging to carry on as we did in the past. We try to help and encourage groups to try new ways of enjoying their times of fellowship, study and prayer and not be too concerned over the organizational aspect of it. We are thankful that we have the WMS magazine, the *Glad Tidings* (since 1925), which includes our mission study.

The Synod of CNOB Regional Consultative Committee review the work of our synod personnel, the Rev. Dr. John Peter Smit and Dr. Tori Smit, and the needs of our synod. The three WMS representatives are Joy Randall, Chair and Doreen Dath, Secretary and Mary Veale-Parker, President of Synodical.

Synodical of CNOB WMS is most appreciative of our synod resource staff, Dr. Tori Smit, Minister for Faith Formation, and the Rev. Dr. John-Peter Smit, Minister for Congregational Health. Their guidance and direction give our synodical and presbyterials through their presence and leadership. We are thankful to the synod for their insight and encouragement in these areas and sharing them with us. The CNOB Synod website and the various resources are a great help to our synodical to assist in keeping in touch with our WMS groups. Presbyterials and groups can share their news and special activities with everyone.

I appreciate all the hard work of our synodical executive, presbyterials and thankful for all the things we have shared together. May God continue to bless each of us as we serve Him, as dedicated and committed members of the WMS.

May we look forward to the future and ways to serve in God's ministry in our groups, our church, and our world.

In faith,
Mary Veale-Parker
President, CNOB WMS Synodical

Regional Consultative Committee Annual Report to Synodical for 2017

Regional Consultative Committee Annual Report Synod 2017 The Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) is a standing committee of the Synod of Central and Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda. The committee acts on behalf of the Synod in oversight of our two-regional staff in terms of hiring, supervision, remuneration, promotion, support, regular performance and termination.

RCC Members:

This past year we expressed our sincere gratitude to members who had served faithfully for many years. The chair Rev. Jonathan Dennis, Mrs. Linda Grace of WMS and David Brakenridge all served both as chair and member and Rev. B. Bynum. We welcomed new representatives from Synod, the Rev. Gale Macdonald, and Rev. Bethany McCaffrey and from Synodical WMS President Mary Veale-Parker. Continuing members are the Rev. Barney Grace, Doreen Dath (Secretary) and Joy Randall (Convener) and George Myers (Treasurer, ex-officio member).

Meetings: April 2017 September 12, 2017 Next meeting Feb.2018

Our meeting in September 2017 was to do our Annual Staff Interviews and their reports can be found in their reports. We also prepared necessary information to apply for the Presbyterian Church in Canada Grant for 2019. We are pleased to recognize the importance of the ministry Rev. Dr. John Peter Smit does as Minister of Congregational Health, His most urgent ministry includes working with congregations to help them decide about their future, working with ministers who are facing closing of their current congregation or its inability to continue with a fulltime minister; and working with presbyteries as they consider how to best serve their congregations in the future.

Dr. Tori Smit, Regional Minister for Faith Formation, has been busy with visits to churches and presbyteries of our synod through workshops and congregational conversations. They continue to be focused on maintaining and growing the youngest generations in their churches. This includes teaching regarding intergenerational gatherings especially at Advent/ Christmas, Lent/Easter, Leading with care training in most of our presbyteries. She works closely and in various ways to support ministers and congregations. She is greatly appreciated by the Synodical WMS Executive and the Presbyterials according to their various needs. She assists us with our programme and worship and WMS workshops as requested. Tori looks after our Synod website which includes our WMS reports and important announcements.

RCC highly commends our staff for their great value in their ministry as it reaches out to many in our Synod-Synodical. They share many of the same concerns and approach the need/concerns in a loving caring manner. They use their continuing education opportunities in-order-to assist the church in many avenues. Our Committee hopes that members of Synod will be more aware of what our regional staff has, to offer and contact them if they need some help, direction and assist them with their ministries. John Peter and Tori both spend some time with new candidates in the ministry and those in transition. WMS is most appreciative of their help and support in so many ways.

Submitted by Joy Randall, Convener, February 2018

Minutes

**70th Annual Meeting
of the Synodical of Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda
Women's Missionary Society, The Presbyterian Church in Canada**
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 40 William Street, Lindsay, Ontario
March 31 to April 1st, 2017
Theme: Rejoice!
Theme Scripture: Philippians 4:4-9

Friday, March 31, 2017

GATHERING MUSIC was led by Helen Torrey, and accompanied by Shirley Robertson on the piano.

WELCOME:

CNOB President: Joy Randall, CNOB President, welcomed everyone to the Synodical Annual Meeting.

Lindsay Presbyterial: Eileen Smith, President, welcomed everyone on behalf of Lindsay Presbyterial.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church: Joan Snider, President of WMS group, brought greetings and welcomed everyone on behalf of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

OPENING WORSHIP: The opening worship was presented by members of Barrie Presbyterial.

MEMORIAL SERVICE: Elaine Steele, Historian, led the memorial service. This is when presbyterials have the opportunity to recognize members who have passed away during 2016.

WMS UPDATE:

Joy Randall, President, introduced Susan McLennan, National WMS President. Susan presented an update on the WMS and gave a brief meditation.

Bonnie Mooney, Oak Ridges, thanked Susan for her presentation.

DINNER: Joy Randall introduced the guests sitting at the head table:

Guests: Rev. Richard Manafo (CNOB Synod Moderator) Kleinburg, Cornerstone Community Church; Rev. Mark and Mrs. Susan McLennan (WMS Council President and husband); Dr. Tori Smit and Rev. Dr. John Peter Smit; Joy Randall (President); Mary Veale- Parker (President Elect); Eileen Smith (President of Lindsay Presbyterial); Rev Dr. Terry Ingram, Moderator of Presbytery; Rev. Linda Park, & Rev. Bob Quick (Ministers of St. Andrew's); Joan Snider, President of local St. Andrew's WMS.

Grace: Rev. Linda Park said the grace.

Appreciation: Irene Camp, 2nd Vice President, thanked the people of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church for providing the meal.

ENTERTAINMENT: The evening entertainment was the Kawartha Male Chorus (KMC), who presented an evening of inspiring music.

Thanks: Janice Terry, President of Barrie Presbyterial, thanked the chorus for their musical presentation.

CLOSING PRAYER: Linda Grace, Past President CNOB Synodical, closed the evening with prayer.



Saturday, April 1, 2017

GATHERING MUSIC was led by Helen Torrey, and accompanied by Shirley Robertson on the piano.

OPENING PRAYER: Joy Randall, President, opened the meeting with the reading of Romans 12:9-13 and prayer.

WELCOME: Joy welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that Rev. Dr. Lynda Reid and Rev. Peter Ruddell be remembered in prayer.

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER: Katherine Allen, Recording Secretary, introduced our guest speaker, Rob Shropshire, Program Coordinator for Refugees, Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D). Rob explained how he got involved with refugee work. He has travelled to several countries that required development work and saw where refugees come from, as well as discovered why people leave their home countries.

Rob told stories about some of the families he has met, and expressed that they were living examples of the scripture "*Rejoice in the Lord Always*".

- Since 2015 – 21 million people have claimed to be refugees.
- United Nations have identified at least 5 million are priority cases.
- Canada has responded to the refugee crisis, especially the Syrian situation. The government has worked hard to mobilize resources. Approximately 40,000 Syrian refugees have been welcomed to resettle in Canada with help from the Canadian government; 14,000 were privately sponsored by friends/relatives who live in Canada.
- Rob talked about the sponsorship program and indicated that there are more than 100 sponsorship programs that have agreements with the government to sponsor refugees.
- In 2016, PWS&D received a quota of 38 spots for full sponsorship. In 2017, The Presbyterian Church in Canada have spots for 77 people given by the government. Later in the year, might be able to increase this number
- Rob rejoices at how far we have come as a country and within The Presbyterian Church in Canada to respond to the crisis in the world.

Everyone had the opportunity to talk about how we can be helpful in our own communities and churches. Some challenges faced, is that the families do not speak English, but there is often children who can interpret.

Rob concluded his presentation by the reading of a poem on refugees.

Thanks: Marion Hunter, Area Three Secretary, thanked Rob Shropshire for his informative presentation and for the fine job he is doing in helping the refugees.

SYNODICAL BUSINESS

- **CONSTITUTION & PRAYER:** Joy Randall, President, constituted the meeting with prayer.
- **WMS PURPOSE:** The meeting began with everyone repeating the WMS purpose.

- **ROLL CALL:** Katherine Allen, Recording Secretary

Names of members of the executive and presbyterials were called. After each presbyterial was called, the members of the presbyterial were asked to stand and be counted. The following count includes the executive:

<i>Algoma ~ 0</i>	<i>Kingston ~ 7</i>	<i>East Toronto ~4</i>
<i>Barrie ~ 6</i>	<i>Lindsay - 27</i>	<i>West Toronto~ 7</i>
<i>Brampton 1</i>	<i>Oak Ridges ~ 3</i>	<i>Waterloo-Wellington~6</i>
<i>Han Ca East</i>	<i>Peterborough ~14</i>	<i>Special Guests – 1</i>
Total present: 76		

- **MINUTES OF 2016 ANNUAL MEETING**

Motion: Moved by Katherine Allen, and seconded by Mary Veale-Parker that the minutes of the Synodical Annual Meeting held April 15 & 16, 2016 in Elmvale be accepted as corrected.
CARRIED. Correction: Page 9, Saturday 2016 not 2015

- **BUSINESS ARISING:** no report

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ **WMS COUNCIL** will be held Thursday May 18th, 2017 at Sheraton Parkway Hotel, Richmond Hill

Number of delegates - one from each Presbyterial and Oak Ridges:

Synodical President is a member of Council as well.

Presbyterials:

Barrie –Janice Terry

East Toronto/Recording Secretary –Katherine Allen

Kingston -

Lindsay -

**Oak Ridges –Bonnie Mooney

Peterborough - Joan Smith is on Council Executive

Waterloo-Wellington -

West Toronto -Janet Brewer is President elect.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Motion: Moved by Muriel Bell, and seconded by Marie Glover that the annual reports be received.
CARRIED.

President's Report: Joy Randall, President, highlighted her report.

~ Joy is Convenor of the RCC committee, Doreen Dath is the secretary. Linda Grace will be going off this committee; Mary Veale-Parker will be going onto that committee as the new President of CNOB.

~ Joy reminded everyone to send Tori Smit any information for the CNOB synod website.

~ Joy thanked the synodical for all the help and cooperation during the past few years.

Highlights of the Area Report:

Corresponding Secretary/Glad Tidings: Irene Camp reported that she has sent mostly get well and sympathy cards during the year. The prayer requests are mostly done by email, and asked everyone to please let the synodical know of any concerns.

TREASURERS REPORT: Marie Glover, Treasurer, presented the financial report.

The biggest expense is the travel expenses. She asked that when sending her money, to make sure that the name of the presbyterial is listed on the cheques.

Motion: Moved by Marie Glover, and seconded by Sue Down, the acceptance of the financial report. **Carried.**

Presbyterial objectives: Marie Glover presented the 2017 objectives and the Presbyterial Givings for 2016.

Appointment of Financial Examiner for 2017

Motion: Moved by Marie Glover, and seconded by Joan Lucas that we use Paula Gilthorpe as our financial examiner for 2017. **Carried.**

Motion: Moved by Marie Glover, and seconded by Evelyn Horne that we accept the Treasurers report as a whole. **Carried.**

➤ **Campership Report:** Lindsay Presbyterial – accepted as a report.

AREA 1 – Joan Smith reported that the report forms were emailed from the office via computer in the fall. Joan found that she received the reports faster. We keep saying we are getting smaller but amazing how much groups are doing and accomplishing much.

AREA 2 – Janet Brewer highlighted her report. She received only two reports from West Toronto.

AREA 3 – Marion Hunter highlighted her report. She referred to some of the groups that have disbanded.

MINISTER FOR FAITH FORMATION: Dr. Tori Smit, highlighted her report.

Tori thanked the synodical for a gift in honor of her graduation last May. It was combined with the synod gift, enabling her to purchase a Doctorate gown. She expressed appreciation for the support she has received from the synodical.

HISTORIAN: Elaine reported that she appreciated receiving the *In Memoriam* reports. One suggestion she received was there needs to be more recognition of those who are living.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Joyce Wagg, Member without Portfolio #2, presented the Nominating Committee Report.

Honorary President - Janet Brewer

Past President - Joy Randall

President - Mary Veale-Parker

1st Vice President - Irene Camp

2nd Vice President

Recording Secretary - Katherine Allen

Corresponding Secretary - Irene Camp

Treasurer - Marie Glover

Area One Secretary - Joan Smith

Area Two Secretary - Janet Brewer

Area Three Secretary - Marion Hunter

Historian - Elaine Steele

Member without Portfolio #1 Doreen Dath

Member without Portfolio #2 Joyce Wagg

Motion: Moved by Joyce Wagg, and seconded by Irene camp, that we accept the Nominating Committee report. Carried.

INVITATION TO 2018 ANNUAL MEETING: Sue Down, President Kingston Presbyterial, extended an invitation for the 2018 Synodical Annual Meeting to be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Kingston. The details will be decided on later.

Motion: Moved by Carolyn Jones, and seconded by Wilma Welsh the acceptance of the reports as presented. Carried.

CAMPERSHIP OFFERING: Peterborough Presbyterial – offering taken up and prayer by Mary Veale-Parker, 1st Vice President.

BOOK REVIEW: Dr .Tori Smit

Tori highlighted the bibliography she handed out. She continues to be sad about the closure of The Book Room at the national church office. She appreciates the fact that the synodical executive lets her recommend books. She will have them on display, and also mentioned where people may have to purchase books such as Indigo, Crux, internet. Books by Mary Jo Leddy who will be speaking at the Women's Gathering.

Grace: Tori Smit said grace for lunch.

Thanks: Dr. Wilma Welsh, President Waterloo-Wellington Presbyterial, thanked St. Andrew's for the lunch.

GATHERING MUSIC was led by Helen Torrey, and accompanied by Shirley Robertson on the piano.

BIBLE STUDY: Priscilla Anderson and Katherine Allen

Introduction: Joan Smith, Area One Secretary, introduced Rev. Priscilla Anderson and Katherine Allen who presented the Bible Study based on the Scripture theme Philippians 4:4-9. Priscilla and Katherine had helped plan the Bible Study with Lynda Reid who was unable to attend synodical because of her husband Jeff's having a stroke.

Thanks: Janet Brewer, Area Two Secretary, thanked Priscilla and Katherine for the inspiring Bible Study.

Closing Worship: Members of Waterloo-Wellington Presbyterial led in the closing worship.

Installation of Officers: Susan McLennan, President National WMS – Sanctuary

Communion: Rev. Linda Parks, St. Andrew's, Lindsay, led in the closing Communion.

Thanks: Mary Veale-Parker, President, thanked everyone for attending the synodical Annual Meeting and for those who participated throughout the time together.

Benediction: Rev. Linda Parks, St. Andrew's, Lindsay, closed with the Benediction.

Past-President, Joy Randall
Past President

Katherine Allen
Recording Secretary

*Corresponding, and Glad Tidings
Secretary Report*

The Corresponding Secretary report for 2017

The invitations for the 2017 were emailed out in February.

Sympathy card sent to Joy Randall, Lynda Reid for deaths in their families. Thznk you cards were issued to the music coordinator, the caretaker, and the sound person at Lindsay church for there assistance with the Synodical AGM. Also thank card sent to Willowdale Presbyterian Church for allowing CNOB to use there space for our executive meetings 2x a year.

Get well cards to Katherine Allen and Jeanette Globe when they were ill last year.

Birthday card send to Doreen Dath at the occasion of her 80th birthday.

The Glad Tidings continue to be a huge success with our WMS Membership and they use it often for their meetings. They use the studies for programs and he services that are printed 3 times a year. This magazine is a great amazing resourcefor all our members and non-members alike.

Blessings
Respectfully submitted
Irene Camp Corresponding Secretary

Area one Secretaries Report
Kingston, Lindsay, Peterborough Presbyterials

PRESBYTERIAL	GROUPS	ACTIVE	ASSOCIATE	TOTAL
KINGSTON	9	51	8	59
LINDSAY	10	93	48	141
PETERBOROUGH	7	54	42	96
TOTALS	26	198	98	296

With three less groups reporting this year, the active membership is down from 2016. The associate memberships is about the same. In Peterborough, the two groups have disbanded.

Prayer:

Prayer is a vital part of the life of WMS members. Groups report that prayer is an important part of their meetings, remembering those who are ill and shut-in and praying for local, national and international issues. One presbyterian reported that it has a prayer chain. One group has an unique prayer circle with a prayer banner in which they tie their rolled up prayer requests and pass around to be prayed over. Some groups take part in the local World Day of Prayer services.

Study:

The majority of groups reported that they use the meaningful, informative studies in the Glad Tidings. Other resources used - devotional books such as 'Our Daily Bread' and 'These Days' and other books of faith and resources off the internet. One presbyterian hosted a workshop 'Please Pass the Faith' with a variety of workshops, inviting presbytery members and other presbyterials. Groups have been fortunate in obtaining most informative speakers on a variety of mission topics, ranging from local issues to international ones. Many groups had 'Mission Awareness Sunday' services in their churches.

Service:

Our WMS groups participate in a variety of ways to help others in their churches, their communities and other areas. Many make sure that the needy are fed and/or provided with personal care items, whether through soup kitchens or monetary donations. Many groups cater meals and have teas and bazaars to raise funds to help others locally and world-wide. Some groups supported the two WMS 'Together We Can' projects'. Although groups may be small in numbers, this does not stop them from finding ways to assist others of all ages.

Fellowship:

Not only do groups enjoy a time of fellowship at their meetings, they also visit the sick and shut-ins. They have special luncheons and invite those who are unable to attend regular meetings for a time of good food and enjoyment. Special events are held so that all people in the church can take part and have a time of fellowship and learning about mission.

WMS is an organization of caring, loving members who accomplish much.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Smith, Area one Secretary

Area 2 Secretaries Report
East Toronto, Oak Ridges, Han-Ca East, and West Toronto Presbyterials

It is my pleasure to report on East Toronto, (former) Oak Ridges and West Toronto Presbyterials. At this time St. James, Stouffville and the Han Ca East Presbyterial have not reported.

Presbyterial	GROUPS	Active	Associates
East Toronto	2	23	not reported
Han Ca East	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oak Ridges (Presbyterial has closed - only 2 Groups reported)	2	25	7
West Toronto	2	24	3
TOTALS 2017	6	72+	10
2016	9	115+	9

Presbyterial	GUILDS	Active	Associates
West Toronto	1	9	2

East Toronto did a telephone interview rather than have Groups complete their Form A which worked very nicely. They have lost three active Groups during 2017.

Prayer - Groups pray for members of group and congregation and the universal church. Some have private prayer and others have Prayer Groups. Prayer is for world concerns, catastrophes, missions and missionaries and Church concerns. Many prepare the Mission Awareness Service for their congregations.

Study - Members lead devotions at meetings using Glad Tidings, Devotion Books, and the Bible. Many have special meetings that feature speakers from WMS, missionaries and various mission organizations in the Toronto area. One Group celebrated their 200th Anniversary with a special speaker.

Service - Groups assist at Food Banks, dinners, children's programmes, breakfast programmes, Syrian refugee sponsorships, Out of the Cold programmes, etc. They knit for various groups and collect items for Evangel Hall, ARISE, foodbanks etc. Groups assist in their own congregation. One group plants and tends a Church garden. Another organizes a food drive. Groups raised funds for mission projects.

Fellowship – Groups support Presbyterial and Synodical events. East & West Toronto Presbyterials have had joint meetings with special speakers. Groups have had special dinners and lunches and take opportunities to enjoy one another's company. Some visit members in the hospital.

Glad Tidings - 60 copies in regular print and 3 copies in large print reported.

Promotion - Display events for WMS on bulletin boards and in church bulletin.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Brewer, Area 2 Secretary

Area 3 Secretaries Report
Algoma, Barrie, Brampton, Waterloo-Wellington

Presbyterial	Groups	Active Members	Associate Members	TOTAL	Glad Tidings
ALGOMA	2			45	18
BARRIE *	7				
BRAMPTON	5	70	6	76	36+6
WATERLOO-WELLINGTON	9	85	50	135	69+11
TOTALS	23	155	56		

Algoma Presbyterial: Westminster-St. Paul's has closed but members are encouraged to attend other group events such as the 'Winter Gathering' February 17th at St. Paul's Church.

Barrie Presbyterial: Mansfield WMS has disbanded Summer 2017.

Prayer: All groups report that prayer is an essential part of their meetings. Members pray for their members, their congregations, and local, national and world issues.

Study: Glad Tidings is once again used for both interesting articles studies and seasonal devotions. Mission profiles and letters are also used. Invited speakers talk about their mission trips such as helping dig water wells in Africa, assisting with surgeries in Haiti or delivering shoe boxes in Costa Rica at Christmas. Some groups had speakers who talked about making a difference in their communities such as aiding independent living or volunteering in nursing homes, hospitals or hospice.

Service: WMS members serve their communities and congregations in many ways. Members visit people who have difficulty getting to activities, send cards and many lead Worship at nursing or retirement homes. Some groups pack and deliver cards and plates of home baked goodies or plants to senior at Christmas and a few groups bring 'care packages' to post secondary students before Christmas exams. Members lead Mission Awareness Sunday services, host/participate in world Day of Prayer services in their communities. They also raise money in many ways to support WMS projects. Groups support many worthwhile causes such as Evangel Hall, Food Banks, school nutrition projects, VBS and mission projects of the PPC both financially and with donations of clothing where needed in the community and knitting of preemie hats and pneumonia vests that go to India.

Fellowship: WMS members care for and support their congregations, the community and each other. Lifelong friendships are forged and friends become family as we gather together learning, praying, studying and sharing food.

May I close with a quote from Richard LeGallein included in the Barrie Presbyterial report. "By many hands the work of God is done".

Respectfully submitted
 Marion Hunter, Area 3 Secretary

Report of the Regional Minister for Faith Formation

Spring 2017 to Spring 2018 ~ Tori Smit

It is such a joy and blessing to teach and support faith formation ministry among the churches and presbyteries of our synod as well as work with the Women's Missionary Society as you seek to support a ministry of mission and mission education throughout the synodical.

I am appointed to my position by the Synod of Central, Northeastern Ontario (CNOB) and Bermuda. While I sit on the Executive Committee of the Synod and work with them in planning our annual synod meeting, I serve the synod through the oversight and encouragement of the Regional Consultative Committee (RCC), a sub-committee of the Executive Committee of the Synod. The RCC is made up of three representatives of the synod and three representatives of the synodical, with Joy Randall (convenor), Mary Veale-Parker, and Doreen Dath (recording secretary) representing the synodical at the table. I am forever grateful for the enthusiasm the RCC has for the work of faith formation and congregational health within our synod and the care they express to John-Peter Smit and myself, the two regional staff of the synod.

Christian Education/Faith Formation

It has been a busy and exciting year as I have worked with many congregations in their consideration of the faith formation of their members. Over the course of the year I have led 44 Christian Education (CE) workshops/consultations throughout the synod. Many of these workshops/consultations have focused on Christian education with children in the Church School, assisting them in their selection of curriculum, and leading workshops on lesson planning, classroom management, Leading with Care, developmental theory, and storytelling, as well as leading workshops with parents on how to talk to your children about death, and faith formation in the family, and working with clergy and church committees on a theology of and planning for intergenerational worship, and the question of cultural appropriation through seder suppers in Holy Week. I was delighted to lead three workshops with the students from Knox College, focusing on how to lead an adult bible study, how to give a children's message, and how to pick curriculum; all practical things they will need to know how to do in their student placements and with their first congregations.

I was pleased to be invited to teach a class at Knox College on best practices in faith formation as a part of their Church, Ministry and Sacraments course, as well as consult with the college library on educational materials for the McKay Educational Resource Centre. I spoke at the fall Biennial Council of the Order of Diaconal Ministries updating them on the topic of the state of Christian education in the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

It is always wonderful to get out and meet with ministers and church leaders, but the bulk of my work continues to be carried out over the phone and through email, working with ministers, CE committee chairs, and leaders with regard to a pressing specific concern, and answering their questions and/or doing research on their behalf.

Over the course of the year I also preached in 11 churches, primarily on themes of faith formation, and mission, and I led two ‘demonstration’ intergenerational worship services for congregations wishing to move towards this re-emerging worship focus.

Women’s Missionary Society and Women’s Ministry

During the past year I have enjoyed visiting and providing leadership in four of the presbyterials of our synodical, (Waterloo-Wellington, Peterborough, Brampton, and Lindsay) many with multiple visits. I have attended and also served as the speaker at some of these presbyterial events. I have also visited a handful of group meetings, primarily talking about how grandparents can pass their faith on to their grandchildren.

I continue to participate in the work of the synodical executive, attending meetings and participating in planning for the synodical annual meeting.

I enjoyed immensely my participation in the recent Women’s Gathering, serving on the Worship Planning Team as well as acting as the host for the event. In June I will be back at it, meeting for the first time with the next planning team for the 2020 Women’s Gathering event. Send me any theme ideas you’d like us to consider.

Finally, I served as the plenary speaker for a congregational women’s retreat weekend focusing on the theme of Wonder

Additional Service in the Church

In addition to the regular work of this position I continue to serve as a Church School teacher of middle schoolers at my home church, and sit on the congregation’s Christian Education Committee, I am the clerk of the Presbytery of West Toronto and sit on their Business Committee. I also serve as a volunteer LOGOS trainer with GenOn Ministries.

Over the past year I have been invited to speak or lead workshops beyond the bounds of the synod on four occasions. The following are the workshop titles and locations of these additional activities:

- Speaker at the annual meeting of the Synodical of Southwestern Ontario - “Roots and Wings.”
- Workshop leader for the Presbytery of Brandon, Manitoba - “Please Pass the Faith: Best Practices for Sharing Your Faith With Your Children and Grandchildren.”
- Presentation of an Academic Paper at InterGenerate Conference in Nashville - “Will Our Faith Have Children: Planting a Fruitful and Sustainable Ministry with Children in Congregations With Ten of Fewer Children.”
- Anniversary Preacher at Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church in Chicago, Illinois - “Thousands Fed.”

I am delighted that I was also invited to contribute a chapter to a soon-to-be-released book based on my paper presentation at the InterGenerate Event. *InterGenerate: Transforming Churches Through Intergenerational Ministry*, Holly C. Allen (ed.), (Abilene, TX: Abilene Christian University Press, 2018).

In late spring John-Peter and I will be taking a ten-week intermission and hopefully will complete our pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago, Spain. Look for lots of pictures and stories we'll want to share with you this fall.

This coming July I am booked to lead an online Webinar on how to pick curriculum for the PCC, to be the plenary speaker on Christian education in the small membership church at the Great Lakes Association of Presbyterian Church Educators annual conference in Indiana, a panel speaker on intergenerational ministry at the Association of Presbyterian Church educators annual event in Texas in February of 2019, and serve as an adjunct professor for an online half course on Christian education in the small membership church at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia in the fall.

With you in Christ's service,
Tori Smit, Regional Minister for Faith Formation, CNOB Synod.
torismit@gmail.com
647-348-0879
www.cnob.org

Historian & Publicity Report 2017

IN MEMORIAMS

Algoma Presbyterial

Westminster, Sault Ste. Marie Pat Jobe, Eileen Smith, Ruth Slater
(Josephine Nixon/Grace StoneWMS)



Barrie Presbyterial

Brampton Presbyterial
St. Andrew's, Brampton Muriel Crawford

Kingston Presbyterial

St. Peter's, Madoc Prue McIntosh
St. John's, Pittsburg Ruth Bialek
Sandhill P.C., Joyceville Jackie Armstrong

Lindsay Presbyterial

Beaverton Ruth Ross, Audrey Brown
Bolsover Alyth Mutart
Cannington Velma Willis
Cresswell Margaret Dart, Jessie Henderson
Uxbridge Jean Gould

Former Oak Ridges Presbyterial

Thornhill Margaret Black

Peterborough

St. Andrew's, Cobourg	Margaret (Marg) Johns
St. Paul's, Peterborough	Rena Wilson
St. Andrew's, Warkworth	Priscilla Gray

East Toronto Presbyterial

Knox Spadina	Mildred Gehman, Helen Soutter, Rose Hirayama, Donald W. Dolson, Margaret Jean McDermid
Calvin	Margaret Lois Near
Iona	Donna Wells
Queen St. East	Bella D'Souza, Louise Ross Tapper
St. Andrew's	Carol Wright
Thornhill	Margaret Black
Trinity	Ann Crowder, Elizabeth Beaton

West Toronto Presbyterial

Mimico Presbyterian Church	Dorothy Bell
Bonar-Parkdale	Ethleen Mohan (Parbati Ojageer)

Waterloo Wellington Presbyterial

Duff's, Puslinch	Ida Law
St. Andrew's, Kitchener	Mary Johnston
St. Andrew's, Arthur	Ann Boyd, Donelda Green
Eden Mills	Maisie Lasby
St. Andrew's, Hespeler	Jean Craig
Knox, Guelph	Marjorie Scott

CERTIFICATES/PINS

Honorary Life Memberships

Barrie Presbyterial ~ Stroud ~Mary Veale-Parker

Special Events

Barrie Presbyterial ~ Oro Esson ~ 124th Anniversary

Oak Ridges ~ Thornhill PC celebrated Church's 200th anniversary



Closures

East Toronto Presbyterial

Knox, Spadina ~ Mildred Gehman Group/Knox Mission Society ~ December 2017
Queen Street East P.C. 2017

Treasurers Report ~ Marie Glover

Synodical of CNOB

Jan. to Dec. 2017

Income

CNOB Membership	\$3,227.00
Donations	\$133.99
Supplies	\$205.00
Registration (AGM)	<u>\$350.00</u>
Total Income	\$3,915.99

Expenses

Bank Charges	45.00
Meetings	285.00
Office Supplies	72.75
Special Projects	50.00
Travel	<u>2,062.15</u>
Total Expenses	2,514.90

Opening Balance	2,826.69
plus Income	3,915.99
minus	<u>\$ 2,514.90</u>
Closing Balance	4,227.78

Paula Gilthorpe

Feb 15, 18

Marie Glover

Marie Glover Feb. 15/18

Feb 15, 2018

These books and records have been audited
by me and I have found everything to be
in order.

Paula Gilthorpe

Synodical of CNOB

Jan. to Dec. 2017

Income

Algoma	222.00
Waterloo-Wellington	400.00
Lindsay	368.00
West Toronto	138.00
Peterborough	236.00
Barrie	488.00
Brampton	114.00
East Toronto	599.00
Kingston	480.00
Oak Ridges	182.00
Total Dues	3227.00 3227.00

Donations	133.99
Registration(AGM)	350.00
Supplies	205.00
	688.99 688.99
Total Income	3915.99

Expenses

Bank Services	45.00
Meetings	
Speaker (AGM)	
AGM	285.00
Total Meetings	285.00 285.00
Office Supplies	72.75
Special Projects	
Willowdale Church	50.00
Total Special Projects	50.00 50.00
Travel	
AGM	571.30
Executive	1490.85
Total Travel	2062.15 2062.15
Total Expenses	2514.90

Opening Balance	\$2,826.69
plus income	3915.99
minus expenses	2514.9
Closing Balance	\$4,227.78

Paula Gilthorpe

Marie Glover

Presbyterial	2017 Objective	2017 Actual	2018 Objectives
Algoma	\$1,767.50	\$4,257.00	
Barrie	\$20,000.00	\$15,905.97	\$13,800
Brampton	\$6,633.00	\$9,536.00	
Kingston	\$14,000.00	\$9,215.71	
Lindsay	\$14,000.00	\$15,725.71	\$12,000.00
Han Ca East			
Peterborough	\$12,500.00	\$10,230.00	\$10,500.00
East Toronto (\$200 Pickering)	\$12,000.00	\$9,960.00	\$7,000
West Toronto	\$7,800.00	\$8,310.60	\$7,800.00
Waterloo-Wellington	\$10,500.00	\$9,000.00	
Pickering		\$400.00	
Oak Ridges	\$3,580.75	\$6,160.60	
TOTAL		\$98,701.59	

Camperships for 2017- Peterborough Presbyterial WMS

The \$1 264.23 donated at the 2017 Synodical Annual was equally divided amongst the three churches in the presbyterial who had children going to camp in the summer of 2017 with each church receiving \$421.41.

There were two young girls, one each from Centreville and Campbellford, who attended Camp Cairn. This was a first opportunity for both girls to attend camp and they thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Both of them can't wait until summer when they can go again.

Four girls from Port Hope attended the annual girls music camp at Trafalgar Castle in Whitby. They have attended this camp in previous years, learning many musical skills and singing in church choirs.

Joan Smith
Presbyterial President

***NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT
PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS
CNOB SYNODICAL 2018-2019***

Nominating Committee: Joyce Wagg, Katherine Allen, Joan Smith.

OFFICE	PERSON	YEAR
Honorary President	Janet Brewer	2017
Past President	Joy Randall	2017
President	Mary Veale-Parker	2017
First Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary & Glad Tidings	Irene Camp	2014
Second Vice-President	Janice Terry	2018
Recording Secretary	Katherine Allen	2012 & 2016
Treasurer	Marie Glover	2012 & 2016
Area One Secretary	Joan Smith	2015
Area Two Secretary	Janet Brewer	2013
Area Three Secretary	Marion Hunter	2015
Historian/In Memoriam	Jill Pardy	2018
Member without Portfolio #1	Doreen Dath	2017
Member without Portfolio #2	Kim Shepherd	2018



Biographies of Speakers

Senator Guy Mandeville, C.D., joined the Canadian Army and served 42 years. Guy has done service in Germany, Alert, NT, Cyprus, Egypt, Golan Heights, Croatia, Rwanda and East Timor. Guy has earned three bars to the Canadian Decoration (CD).

Presently Guy is involved with the local high schools doing First Nations, Métis and Inuit presentations.

He is committed to fill his new role as Senator of MNOVC to the best if his ability and represent the interests of all Métis Veterans in the Métis Nation of Ontario.

WMS, Presbyterian Church in Canada Presentation

Spring 2017, Janet Brewer, Joan Smith and Sarah Kim, had the opportunity to take part in the Truth & Reconciliation Tour of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Janet Brewer, National President of the Women's Missionary Society.

Janet is a member of Runnymede in West Toronto and is an elder and Presbytery Rep for her congregation. She is also a member (and treasurer) of her local WMS Group, president of West Toronto presbyterial, Area 2 Secretary of the CNOB synodical, former national treasurer and current president of the WMS.

Janet's grandmother and Mom were WMS members and her daughter is currently – a family of WMS-ers, something of which she is very proud!!

During her time with the WMS, Janet has travelled to Israel/Palestine, Afghanistan, India, Korea, Ghana and Haiti as well as places across Canada for the Truth and Reconciliation hearings and to meet WMS members and Groups.

Currently, she is a member of the International Affairs Committee of the General Assembly and in her position as WMS president serves on the Life & Mission Agency Committee and the Assembly Council.

Joan Smith, is a retired elementary school teacher, mainly grades 7&8. She is an active member of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Port Hope where her interests are especially in the areas of Christian Education, Session and WMS.

WMS has always been an important part of her life. She has served at various executive levels including Council past president and is now the Council treasurer. She has travelled on many exposure trips to various countries, representing WMS. For the past few years she has been keenly interested in the Truth & Reconciliation events and what reconciliation with our Indigenous peoples means and how it can be accomplished.

Rev. Sarah Kim, Executive Director of the National Women's Missionary Society.

Sarah Kim – Bio

Born as Yong Mi Kim, in Seoul, Korea, Sarah immigrated to Canada with her parents in 1968. Her first Canadian home was in Labrador City where she lived for 5 years; Sarah's family moved to Toronto in 1973 where she has been living.

Sarah graduated from the University of Toronto with a B.A. and from Knox College with an M.Div. She was ordained in 1995 at Albion Gardens Presbyterian Church by the Presbytery of West Toronto within the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

In 2001, around the time of September 11th tragedy, Sarah began her work with the WMS. She is currently the Executive Director.

Sarah is married to the Rev. In Kee Kim, minister of St. Timothy Presbyterian Church in Han-ca East Presbytery. They have two married children, Joshua and Grace, as well as two grandsons (Nolan Kim and Charlie Yoo).

Sarah is actively involved in her church, St. Timothy Presbyterian Church in Etobicoke, Ontario: she sings in the choir and the praise team; she is a member of the women's group, does pastoral care and visitations as the minister's wife, and attends mid-week worships and bible studies.

Some Recommended Reading from Tori Smit

Books for Children

This year I want to feature some great books in three particular categories; children's bible stories, freedom, and kindness. All of these would make great gifts for the special children in your life, and/or a great contribution to your church library

Bible Stories

Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible, Elizabeth F. Caldwell and Carol Wehrheim, editors (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2018)

This bible story book features numerous Old testament and New Testament stories written for early primary aged children. The stories are beautifully written and the pictures engaging. Perhaps the best feature in this book are the questions at the conclusion of every story, asking readers to reflect on what they Hear, See and might do to Act in response to the story.

Who Counts: 100 Sheep, 10 Coins, and 2 Sons, Amy-Jill Levine and Sandy Eisenberg Sasso (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2017)

This retelling of three of the 'number' parables of Jesus are delightfully inviting and share the explicit message that every sheep, coin and person matters and without them something is missing.

Is That Story True?, Laura Alary (Kelowna: Wood Lake Books, 2010)

Laura Alary helps us to wonder about the truth of the stories we hear as children and shows us that there is truth on the inside of the many stories we know and love.

Stories About Freedom

God's Dream, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Douglas Carlton Abrams (Somerville, Massachusetts: Candlewick Press, 2008)

This simple story asks each child of God what they dream about and then shares God's dream of sharing, caring, and loving among all of the people of the world as children of God.

Dreams of Freedom: In Words and Pictures, a collection of words and pictures from Amnesty International (London: Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2015)

A unique collection of powerful words from champions of freedom from today and throughout history. The book is beautifully illustrated by world-renowned artists. Each double-page spread can stand alone as a story and a source of conversation.

Out, Angela May George and Owen Swan (Toronto: Scholastic Canada, 2017)

This is the story of a little girl who is an 'asylum seeker' telling her story of coming to a safe place to live with her mother, with her memories and new experiences and her hope that her dad will find them in this new land.

Stories About Kindness

Each Kindness, Jacqueline Woodson (New York: Penguin Young Readers, 2012)

Chloe doesn't really know why she turns away from the new girl Maya when Maya tries to befriend her, but she and the other girls always turn their backs on Maya. When Chloe's teacher shares the effect of small acts of kindness Chloe becomes determined to change her ways, but sadly the opportunity has already been lost.

Extra Yarn, Mac Barnett (New York: Harper Collins, 2012)

A discovered box of colourful yarn never seems to run out for Annabelle as she knits sweater after sweater for everyone in town. The gifts of Annabelle change the town. When the ball is stolen it will not do for the thief what it has done for Annabelle.

Last Stop on Market Street, Matt de la Pena (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, Penguin Group, 2015)

On Sundays CJ and his nana ride the bus across town to their stop on Market Street. CJ wonders as he waits in the rain why they can't take the car, but Nana shows CJ the deep spirit of the city and neighbours they share it with.

Adult Books

This year I have books focusing on the difficult truths of our historical and present relationship as colonialists with Canada's Indigenous people, concerns for understanding and justice in places around our world, and reflections on our experience of God as we make sense of our lives.

The Inconvenient Indian: A Curious Account Of native People in North America, Thomas King (Anchor Canada, 2012)

Seven Fallen Feathers: Racism, Death, and Hard Truths in a Northern City, Tanya Talaga (House of Hanansi Press, 2017)

I Shall Not Hate: A Gaza Doctor's Journey, Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish (Vintage Canada, 2011)

City of Thorns: Nine Lives in the World's Largest Refugee Camp, Ben Rawlence (Vintage Canada, 2016)

The Refugees, Viet Thanh Nguyen (New York: Grove Press, 2017)

Everything Happens For A Reason: And Other Lives I've Loved, Kate Bowler (New York: Random House, 2018)

Hallelujah Anyway: Rediscovering Mercy, Anne Lamott (New York: Riverbed Books, 2017)