## Synod Report, 2025 Regional Minister for Congregational Health The Synod of Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda Rev. Jonathan Tait

As I continue in my first year in this role, I am grateful to the synod and the Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) for putting your trust in me. In particular I want to thank RCC members Peter Bush, Alex Bisset, Irene Camp, Don Laity, Michaell Nettleton, Janice Terry, and Mary Veale-Parker for meeting with me regularly and guiding and nurturing me; your time and efforts are greatly appreciated.

My role is to work with and support congregations, clergy, sessions, general presbyters, and presbyteries as they lead and navigate these rapidly changing times. I often feel a bit like the disciples on the road to Emmaus after the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ in Luke 24. Sometimes we just don't understand all that has happened in the world and in the church. We continue to walk the road before us in faith and lo and behold the risen Christ joins us and helps us make sense of it all and leads us faithfully into the next chapter. As we walk the uncertain road of church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century my hope is that we trust in God and listen for His guiding voice calling us home to faithfulness. What exactly this might look like may differ for each of us depending on our environment and circumstances. God has us in the palm of His hands.

As I go from presbytery to presbytery in our synod and respond to calls and emails know that I believe God has a great future and hope (Jeremiah 29:11) for our synod and denomination as a whole. Know that I am just a phone call away to help with anything relating to congregational life. Whether you are facing a transition, are visioning for outreach or evangelism, are discerning congregational health opportunities, are in need of leadership development or elder training, or if you are navigating conflict or other challenges - whatever the case may be, please don't hesitate to reach out. I am here to consult, guide, and walk with you every step of the way. I look forward to hearing from you about any aspect of congregational life. I can be reached by email at <a href="mailto:revjwtait@gmail.com">revjwtait@gmail.com</a> or phone at 905-447-0813.

In the words of the Apostle Paul, may everything we do be for the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31).

In grace and peace,

Rev. Jonathan Tait