

Renewal News!

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The Renewal Fellowship within The Presbyterian Church in Canada

is a means to contact and encourage those concerned about the evangelical renewal of the PCC.

Our mission:

To lead each other and The Presbyterian Church in Canada to authentic Biblical thinking, powerful Spirit-led prayer and effective Gospel witness.

Our executive director is available to speak to congregations and groups weekdays or on Sundays.

Contact info Page 8.

The Renewal News is a quarterly publication of Renewal Fellowship.

We welcome your stories



Renewal executive director Andy Cornell, foreground, meets with Rev. Heinrich Grosskopf, left, Rev. Rodger McEachern, Rev. Tim Choi and Rev. Jasper Lim in Edmonton. See story Page 3.

20/20 vision in 2020

By Ian Shaw
RF board chairperson

Here's a trivia question, "What do Paul Simon and Savatage share in common?"

Okay I'll let you Google "Savatage". The answer: both express similar skeptical sentiments (in wildly different musical genres) about our human capacity to filter or shape the world to fit our predetermined

biases. In 'The Boxer', Simon writes, "A man hears what he wants to hear and disregards the rest". In 'Follow Me', the band states, "A man only sees what he wants to see."

All the demonstrations of entrenched binary approaches to life throughout the world and the many resultant pleas for respect, experienced in recent months seem to indicate that these musical perspectives from

fifty and thirty years ago were glaringly and sadly accurate (even though they lack gender inclusivity).

Part of me gets this preference for positioning oneself within the narrow confines of personal preferences and a priori perspectives. They are comfortable and familiar. Hanging exclusively with others of the same persuasion reduces stress.

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RF's mission

To lead each other and The Presbyterian Church in Canada to authentic Biblical thinking, powerful Spirit-led prayer, and effective Gospel witness.

Support renewal

Almost 100 per cent of our revenue is from donations. Prayer is always the most important contribution you can make. And if the Lord is leading you to support us financially, there are a number of ways:

- ◇ Ask your church's Mission Committee to consider adding us to the congregation's annual budget.
- ◇ Encourage one other person to become a member of the Fellowship. Details are on at renewal-fellowship.ca, see SUPPORT US.
- ◇ Renew your membership.
- ◇ Make regular donations through the PAR plan on our website. Or email us at renewalfellowshipcc@gmail.com
- ◇ Make a one-time or occasional donation by credit card or by cheque.

No matter what the method, we are grateful for all your financial support.

Power of story

General Assembly 2020 encouraged each of us to express the impact the process leading to the adoption of Pathway 'B' (inclusion), as well as the Remits 'B' and 'C' now being considered.

- Go to www.presbyterian.ca/sexuality and click on "Expressing views on 2019 remits re sexuality."
- Call or email Rev. Ian Ross-McDonald, general secretary of the Life and Mission Agency
imcdonald@presbyterian.ca
1-800-619-7301 ext. 289.

Deadline to file responses is Feb. 15.

Tracking the remit voting

Renewal Fellowship continues to track how all 45 presbyteries are handling the remits. Each court has until April 1 to submit their responses.

With 45 presbyteries of all shapes, sizes and theological leanings, the response has literally been all over the map.

For some, it was a quick decision. Presbytery of Peace River was the first to render a decision, voting 'no' to remits 'B' and 'C' on Sept. 7. It was a good example of a court which recognized that minds were made up, so why waste valuable time in fruitless debate.

Some presbyteries separated the discussion from the decision. Essex-Kent, for example, spent more than two hours on the issue on Nov. 19: the 'yes' and the 'no' sides were presented by a designated presbyter, which was followed by Q&A, then an open mic, in which anyone — members and adherents of each congregation — had time to state their cases. That presbytery will vote in February.

By early December, 22 presbyteries had decided: 14 courts in favour of Remits 'B' and 'C' and 9 opposed. (For current

results, go to www.renewal-fellowship.ca.)

The remits consist of recommendations to allow two parallel definitions of marriage ("a man and a woman" or "two adult persons") and to allow congregations and presbyteries to "call and ordain as ministers and elect and ordain as ruling elders LGBTQI persons (married or single)."

Approval of those remits is required by at least half of the PCC's presbyteries (50 per cent plus one equals 23 presbyteries) which represent at least half of the combined total of the constituent members of presbyteries on the day of the vote.

If the double majority is not reached, the matter dies. If it passes at the presbytery level, then it goes to General Assembly 2020 for final approval. The 2020 Assembly may approve them. Assembly may reject them and send the issue back to presbyteries for reconsideration. Commissioners could also take no further action, or they could send an amended or totally new proposal back to the presbyteries.

Vision

Continued from page 1

Unfortunately, it also presumes that I have already arrived; that is, I more or less have a good grasp of all there is that is vital, important or worth knowing or experiencing.

And even more unfortunately, it also ignores [chooses not to hear or see] Jesus' summary statement of his prototypical exposition of life in the kingdom of God found in Matthew 13. This conclusion can be read in verse 52. *'He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old."*

There is always the possibility of new as one follows Jesus — different insights, fuller ways of being faithful, greater awareness of God's glorious person. The new of course is solidly connected to the previous (old) perceptions — eternal truths, clear conducts of right behaviour, nurturing traditions. Old and

new come from the same storehouse of divine revelation through the teaching ministry of God's Spirit.

Embracing such a living faith doesn't permit the comfort so many find in a narrow binary world. Oh, the world of faith is binary, it's just that the light part of that division is vibrant and expanding, always poised to explode into the darkness, wherever it is and overthrow it. Sadly, I have too often learned the darkness was sometimes lurking in my personal preferences and a priori perspectives. At first encounter with the light, the loss of those long held, though dark, prejudices was painful. In the end however, walking in the light is always more enriching and enjoyable.

Perhaps in 2020 we can, each one, seek to have 20-20 vision praying daily the words of the familiar chorus:

"Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus. To reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him. Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen. Open our hearts, Lord, we want to serve Jesus." (Words by Bob Cull; alt)

On the road: Alberta/Saskatchewan

Tales of the unexpected

By Rev. Andy Cornell
Executive Director

Among the joys of traveling to new places and meeting people is that one never knows exactly what to expect. It's in times like that I pray and ask for God's hands to work.

Planning a road trip begins with a single invitation or opportunity from a distant place — a spark, if you will. I put out some feelers and if I get encouraging responses, I make travel arrangements. Often, there are significant holes in my itinerary: a morning here, and evening there. The Holy Spirit — the ultimate travel agent — fills them without fail.

Here are a few snippets.

CALGARY, Oct. 29: I knew there'd be something good at Valleyview Community Church. I'd heard stories for years about the congregants' vibrant orthodoxy from their minister, Grant Gunnink.

By the time I arrived, I'd been awake 17 hours. I was selfishly looking for some Holy Spirit power to get me through the night. Ask and you will receive. In this case, a healthy dose of scripture, testimony, prayer and song — all in the company of an amazing group of prayer warriors.

With a looming vote on the remits at the Presbytery of Calgary McLeod and the state of the PCC, we read 2 Kings 18-19 with a focus on 19:14-16. We launched into a prayer time structured around confession, declaring the Lordship of Christ, bringing the remits into the presence of God and petitioning him to respond, calling out the activity of the enemy and petitioning a Holy God to respond, ending in praise — thanking God for His power and might and expressing our trust and confidence in Him.

This was no ordinary, sober Presbyterian prayer time. It was Spirit-driven and powerful.

"We make you too small, Lord, we have built a false foundation and make peace with the enemy," declared one woman, as a man broke out in song.

"Arise O Lord, and let the enemy be



VALLEYVIEW CALGARY: Renewal executive director Andy Cornell, front, found himself surrounded by prayer warriors on Oct. 29 in Calgary, led by minister, Grant Gunnink, back row centre.

put to shame."

On a frosty evening in suburban Calgary, the hills were alive with the sweet sound of prayer.

This is how God works.

CALGARY, Oct. 30: Three private meetings with ministers, here and there. "People are the same, wherever you go," sang Paul McCartney in *Ebony and Ivory*. True to an extent. If there's something just about all Presbyterian pastors share these days — no matter what their theology — it's the desire for something better. Can something good come from the trials and tribulations in our courts?

EDMONTON, Oct. 31: Callingwood Road Presbyterian Church may look like an ordinary suburban congregation. But just inside the entrance is a large blackboard with the words "Prayer wall" above it. It's filled with prayer requests. The building is modernist, 1960-70s, with lots of open spaces and the sanctuary has normal non-fixed seating. But if you'd rather sit with a coffee and have a place to take notes, there are several round tables with chairs — café style. Outside, a large cross sits atop a tower which can be seen for miles. It cost them nothing: it was built by a telecommunications company. Bonus: they receive rental income from the company.

But the greatest gift was the midweek

morning gathering. The minister, Rev. Rodger McEachern and eight faithful congregants gathered to hear me talk about the state of the denomination and what may lay ahead, followed by some great conversation. How did it get to this point, they wondered. What future do we have?

Later, over lunch conversation with McEachern and three other ministers — two from Western Han-Ca — I was reminded of the great need for those in orthodoxy to look beyond our cultural allegiances. We naturally find security when surrounded by those who speak the same language. We put God in a box.

REGINA, Nov. 1: The car rental agent at the Regina airport studied his computer screen with a puzzled look. I'd reserved a cheap subcompact, but he asked if I'd mind a full-sized pickup with a 5.7-litre Hemi V-8 — for the same price. Glancing at the snow falling outside, I said yes.

That was just the beginning.

Rather than drive into the city to find an early lunch, I thought I'd go directly to Briercrest, where I was sure I'd find food.

Linking my phone to the truck's sound system, I took care of business.

"You're going to Briercrest!" exclaimed a minister who recently visited the area.

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On the road: Saskatchewan

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“There’s a restaurant which serves the absolute best pie I have ever had.”

Holy confirmation. That settled it.

Arriving confidently and hungrily in Briercrest, I surveyed the unpaved roads, vacant homes, empty school and complete lack of restaurants and wondered if I had the right place. Indeed, there was Briercrest Presbyterian Church at the exact location my host had provided.

Puzzled, and motivated by the fact that my single protein bar would not be enough to last until dinner, I thanked God for Internet data and search Google maps for the closest restaurant. Wow. Thirty minutes in a village named Rouleau. But I had time.

I turned off the paved road onto what appeared to be mud. Which proceeded to get muddier. And deeper. Then I noticed the sign: “Roads impassable when wet.” Sigh.

This is how God works, I thought, as I proceeded confidently in this God-given vehicle.

Upon arrival in what was supposed to be Rouleau, I glanced at the name on the grain elevator: Dog River. What? No. Had I entered the Twilight Zone?

Sure enough, it was the town that was used as the setting for the TV series *Corner Gas*.

I made small talk with the restaurant owner, asking she knew the best way to get back to Briercrest. (I tried not to come across as just another star-struck tourist.) She pointed to a local woman who knew the roads better than anyone. You want to go where?” she asked, wondering why this tourist wanted to go back to Briercrest.

I mumbled something about the Presbyterian church. With a puzzled look, she studied my map phone for a few minutes and pointed out a parallel road to the south.

Sadly, that road was just as muddy.

Driving along, I had this sense of being really, really alone. The Prairies do that to a newcomer, I’m told. Absolutely no trees made it feel flatter than flat. You could seemingly see forever. And except for steady wind, almost dead silence. I stopped, got out and took in the aloneness.

After three days on non-stop airports, highways and meetings, this was the stillness I needed.

This is how God works.

Still early for my 1 p.m. meeting, I tried the front door. Unlocked! It recalled

memories of the suburban church of my youth, whose sanctuary was always open in case someone needed a quiet place to pray.

I quietly took it in: classic, old school, rural church, where time stood still and where the best years are a distant memory.

With mud roads and Dog River on my mind, I wasn’t expecting much.

And then they started to arrive. One or two at first, then a carload. A young parent and two preschoolers. Several more. It was an ecumenical gathering — at least four denominations represented — with healthy testimony, good questions and plenty of vibrant faith. They talked about the families and children. The need for a community of faith to serve people. And their expensive new elevator.

I left feeling energized and encouraged.

The mystery of the pie eatery was solved that evening when someone at Norman Kennedy Presbyterian Church in Regina observed that there is a Briercrest College and Seminary on the Trans-Canada Highway 63 kilometres west., near a truck stop. People get it mixed up all the time.

This is how God works.

On the road: New Brunswick

RF’s executive director attended the September Denominational Conversation, with about 60 people at St. Andrew’s in Moncton. He took part in a panel discussion with co-organizers (and past RF board members) Rev. Martin Kreplin and Rev. Charles Cook. Here is the official statement from the Sept. 21 gathering:

Statements of Consensus: As part of the Holy Apostolic Catholic Church in the Reformed tradition, we celebrate our submission to the authority of Scripture and our adherence to a traditional interpretation of the Word of God regarding the definition of marriage and ordination practices of the PCC. As part of the Reformed tradition, residing under the authority of the Word of God, we recognize there is no Biblical justification for moving away from the traditional view that marriage is

between one man and one woman, as the Church Doctrine Committee Report to General Assembly in 2018 indicated. Therefore, we would not encourage Presbyters and Commissioners to support 2019 GA Remits 1 or 2 (B or C), and will invite individuals and congregations to express this view. Should the Remits fail at either the Presbytery level or General Assembly 2020, that the 2018 the Majority Report of the Committee on Church Doctrine would be reintroduced for consideration either through an overture or from the floor of GA. The Remits appear to present ‘room’ for divergent theological views, but still require acknowledgement that same sex marriage is affirmed through a faithful reading of scripture under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

See **MONCTON** Page 8



Renewal executive director Andy Cornell had the honour of meeting longtime Renewal member Phyllis Graham at St. Andrew’s Moncton on Sept. 22. Phyllis and her late husband, the Rev. Murray Graham, joined in 1984 and have been faithful supporters and regular contributors to the Prayer Calendar.

Renewal's winter 2020 prayer guide

Dear friends,

In an ever-changing world, those of us who adhere to established practices are sometimes branded as “backward.” More-gracious critics might just say we’re “old school.” But that’s missing the point, which is that practice must follow principle, otherwise we are just branches swaying in the wind.

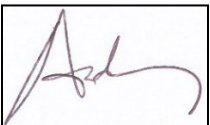
In this stormy season, our presbyteries are being asked to approve Remit ‘B’ (parallel definitions of marriage) and Remit ‘C’ (calling/electing and ordaining teaching and ruling elders who may be married to same-sex partners.) The proposals are heralded as a way forward which accommodates diversity and yet protects freedom of belief. But we do not believe that they flow from scripture or that they will lead to renewal.

Our presbyteries have until the end of March 2020 to decide before the issue returns to General Assembly. The results so far have reaffirmed our deep divisions.

Please pray:

- that something good will come out of this division;
- for those who are wondering whether they have a future in the PCC;
- for spiritual protection and guidance for prayer partners – individuals, couples and groups;
- for presbyteries which have yet to discuss and vote on the remits; and
- for the Holy Spirit to move in us – to guide our prayers, our words and our actions – so that God’s pure, holy will can move freely in our courts and congregations.

Amen.



Rev. Andy Cornell
Executive Director



HAMILTON: Renewal Fellowship’s Hamilton group had a few new faces at its November meeting at Chedoke Presbyterian Church. Standing from left are Chedoke minister Rev. Garfield Havemann, Rev. George Anderson, Rev. Steve Lindsay, Rev. Bob Sim, Jim Dunlop and Jeff Cass. Seated are Rev. Andy Cornell and Rev. Sandra Copland Dufour. Present earlier was Bill Harrison.

소그룹 기도 가이드

사랑하는 친구 여러분,

끊임없이 변하고 있는 이 세상에서 하나님께서 우신 가치질서를 지키며 살아가려는 사람들에게는 종종 “거꾸로” 가는 사람이란 꼬리표가 붙게 됩니다. 좀 너그럽게 비판하는 사람들은 우리들을 “고리타분” 하다고 말할 것입니다. 하지만 이것은 중요한 사실을 간파하는 것입니다. 우리의 삶이 우리가 믿는 가치들을 따르지 않는 것이라면 우리들은 허공에 매달려 바람에 흔들리는 가지에 불과하다는 사실입니다.

폭풍의 계절을 지나고 있는 우리 장로교인들은 현재 Remit “B” (결혼에 대한 2가지 다른 정의를 병행해서 인정하는 것) 과 Remit “C” (동성 파트너와 결혼한 사람을 목회자나 장로로 위임하는 것) 을 승인할 것을 요청받았습니다. 이같은 제안들은 다양성을 수용하면서 동시에 종교의 자유를 보호하는 일을 적극적으로 추진하는 것으로 알려져 있습니다. 하지만 우리들은 이런 제안이 성경적인 것이라고 믿지 않고, 또 우리들이 새롭게 회복되도록 인도하는 것으로도 보지 않습니다.

이 안건에 대한 결정이 총회로 들어가기까지 우리에게 2020년 3월 말까지의 기간이 있습니다. 현재까지 이 안건이 초래한 결과는 우리 가운데 있는 심한 분열을 더욱 확고히 하는 것이었습니다.

이제 여러분께 다음의 기도들을 부탁드립니다.

이 분열을 통해 오히려 더 선한 일들이 이루어지도록

캐나다 장로교의 미래에 소망이 있을까 의문을 품는 분들을 위해

개인이나 부부, 그룹으로 기도하는 기도 동역자들을 영적으로 보호하시고 인도해 주실 것을

아직도 이 Remit을 놓고 논의 중이거나 투표를 해야 할 장로 교회들을 위해

성령님께서 우리들 가운데 역사하시도록 - 우리의 기도와 언행을 지도해 주셔서 하나님의 순전하고 거룩하신 뜻이 우리들의 court와 회중 가운데 자유로이 운행하시도록

아멘



Regional conversations

Following the actions of General Assembly 2019, gatherings of Presbyterians who adhere to orthodoxy have taken place in Montreal, Moncton, Vaughan, Ont., Kelowna and Calgary. Here are some brief accounts.

“Remembering our roots” at Calgary Korean Presbyterian Church, Nov. 30. Hosted by Calgary Korean and the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca.

The conference opened with praise and worship led by the young people in the congregation.

Rev. Alfred Lee introduced the conference by noting that our roots are Jesus and love.

A wide range of voices were heard:

- Hyo Jin Park, moderator of Western Han-Ca, noted that we have differences but we should do things to God’s glory.
- Willem van de Wall, Synod of BC, provided the message based on 1 Peter 2:4-10. Holiness is to be like God. The roots of the Greek word for Holy mean to be separated.
- Martin Kreplin, of Moncton, gave his perspective on the realities orthodox Presbyterians face and possible paths forward.
- Victor Kim, Presbytery of Westminster, keyed in on the larger issue of where we go regardless of whether the remits pass or do not pass. He referred to Ephesians 4 and encouraged us to focus on Jesus Christ and work to remain united.
- Jonathan Hong, of Eastern Han-Ca, commented on the liberty of action and liberty of conscience and legalities that may arise because of the remits. Eastern Han-Ca wishes to petition for a permanent solution.
- Mun Hyun Ryu, Western Han-Ca clerk, reported on the solidarity of the Han-Ca presbyteries in opposing the remits.
- Shannon Bell, Presbytery of Kamloops, reported on behalf of orthodox women in the PCC.

See Calgary Page 8

“A Place to Stand” at Vaughan Community Church, Sept. 28. Hosted by the Presbytery of Eastern Han-Ca.

More than 250 people representing dozens of presbyteries and congregations agreed by consensus to allow the Presbytery of Eastern Han-Ca to take the lead and outline “some next definitive steps” and work with a special committee “specifically charged with providing leadership to navigate the issue of human sexuality vis-a-vis our presbytery, denomination, and other traditional individuals, groups, churches, presbyteries who wish to work together as one united group.” See Andy’s Blog “Orthodoxy takes flight” at renewal-fellowship.ca, click publications.

NOTE: In November, Eastern Han-Ca struck the special committee, convened by Rev. Jinsook Khang, to make recommendations on possible steps to move forward together.

“Talking Together” at Best Western in Kelowna, B.C., on Oct. 18, 2019. Organized by Rev. Shannon Bell and Rev. Meridyth Robertson.

Eighteen people gathered together in an upper room at the hotel immediately before the Synod of BC. We began with worship and listened to the words of 2 Corinthians 4:1-10 to set the tone for our discussions. Via Zoom video, Rev. Andy Cornell of Renewal Fellowship provided an overview of what has happened at some other gatherings.

Small group discussions:

1. *Given the intention of the remits to bring space and unity for all in the PCC, how do you envision the church should they pass?*
2. *What would be the challenges should they pass?*

Comments: The remits and human sexuality are not really the issue. There is a wide spectrum of belief within the church in regard to the authority and interpretation of scripture. How can we work together? Concern that emotions can rule over the Word of God. How long will the liberty of conscience last? This all moves the focus off of Jesus and onto sexuality. The church is headed into ‘Post-truth’ where feelings are more important than truth. We are weary of the uphill battle.

3. What can we do to truly minister with grace to LGBTQI people inside and outside the church?

Comments: Identity and sexuality have become so closely linked that moral instruction is seen as a personal attack. Can we offer personal counselling ministry? Instruction for congregations for sensitivity to people struggling with sexuality. We need to preach the whole gospel and the reception of the Lordship of Jesus.

4. What are your hopes for the future? What are your fears? How can we support each other in both?

Comments: Churches that become about a single issue die. Fear that LGBTQI folks will feel isolated. Hope that the LGBTQI community will enter the church through salvation and those in the church will feel loved even though their actions/behaviour is not condoned. Can we support a church denomination where two streams try to work together, when one honours the Word of God and the other doesn’t? Or is it time for two different denominations?

5. What would something new look like for you?

· We need to work together in unity if the traditional people leave. All agreed with the importance of supporting one another and acting together.

PROFILE: Zion Charlottetown

NOTE: The roots of renewal are in our congregations. We hope that sharing the brief story of a vibrant congregation may be encouraging to you.

By John Barrett
Zion Clerk of Session

Zion, as it's commonly referred to in PEI, has been serving its congregation for the past 172 years.

There has been a distinguished cadre of senior ministers occupying its pulpit over this time, many of whom have enjoyed very lengthy tenures at the helm of this flagship church within our denomination.

Today, Zion Church is led by its senior minister, the Rev. Douglas Rollwage, who is assisted by Music Director Faye Barrett, Christian Education Co-ordinator

Melissa Deelstra and Church Administrator Dianne White. Currently the congregation is seeking to replace its recently retired Associate Minister, the Rev. Andrew Hutchinson.

With a keen and capable session of 23, along with a 12-person Board of Trustees, the past decade has been one of tremendous accomplishment, including congregational growth, increased Bible study involvement, financial security and — most importantly — a wonderful love for the Lord and each other.

Sunday worship is highlighted by the involvement of one or more of Zion's four church choirs, along with Biblically-based educational and inspirational sermons and

PowerPoint presentations prepared by the lead minister. With more than 300 in regular attendance, a flourishing Sunday School and a mid-week Bible study that's filled to capacity, this congregation is an example to the greater Charlottetown community of a dedicated group of Christians who live out their mission "To Know Christ and to Make Him Known."



May the Lord, Maker of Heaven and Earth, Bless You from Zion! — Psalm 134:3

Church members are certainly active beyond their own walls, with denominational involvement on such committees as Assembly Council, the National Finance Committee and the Committee on History. As well, several members occupy lead roles within the PEI Presbytery and the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces. Proudly, Zion's senior minister recently served as the Moderator of the 142nd General Assembly in 2016.

Local mission initiatives include the support of the Charlottetown Food Bank as well as the Presbytery Camp (Camp Keir), but the far-reaching efforts of Zion's congregation really come to light through their support of the Canadian Food Grains

Bank. Over the last decade, this congregation's support has provided the equivalent of 1.6 million meals to those in need across the globe.

For the past 106 years, Zion's congregation has been worshiping in a beautiful structure in downtown Charlottetown. Inside and out, this building has been maintained immaculately by the Board of Trustees and such things as a

leaky roof or drafty windows are a thing of the past. As you enter Zion, you are immediately greeted by our wonderful stained-glass windows through which the morning sun illuminates their beauty — a breathtaking and colourful tribute to those who served both their country and their church.

Zion extends a warm invitation to any and all who may be visiting Prince Edward Island to join us for Sunday worship. As well, if Zion can be of any assistance to any

of our fellow congregations, the Session is always willing to share any of the methods and processes they have followed. Please feel free to contact Session Clerk John Barrett at john@veseys.com with any inquiries you may have. Should you wish to enjoy a service online, join Zion at <http://zionpres.org/service-videos/> or visit the extensive web site at <http://www.zionpres.org>.

**Know a vibrant
congregation?
Pray tell.**

renewalfellowshipccc@gmail.com

20/20 Vision: Vigilant and Vital

WHAT: Renewal Fellowship's Annual General Meeting & Day of Renewal.

WHEN: Saturday, April 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WHERE: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Huntsville, Ont.

SPEAKER: Rev. Jonathan Hong, lead pastor of English-language ministry, Toronto Korean Presbyterian Church, Eastern Han-Ca.

PURPOSE: To pray, learn and fellowship with those who support our mission. To receive the annual report, to approve the 2020 budget.

THEME: "20/20 Vision: Vigilant and Vital." By April, we will know whether Remits 'B' and 'C' will be going to General Assembly for final approval. Even if they are defeated, our theological discontent won't be resolved. What is God's Holy will for those who adhere to an authentic reading of scripture?

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Go to renewal-fellowship.ca or call 416-233-6581 for registration details.

Calgary continued from Page 6

- Miklos Szigeti gave perspectives from the Hungarian Presbyterian Churches.
- Jin Kim, English Ministry Pastor at Calgary Korean, provided the results of his survey to his generation YZ congregants response to the remits.

In the afternoon, small group panel discussions took place.

Liberty and Conscience and Liberty of Action and Legal Opinion on the Remits, led by Jonathan Hong. The church needs to provide resources to our young people to be countercultural. Can we have multiple houses with one roof of PCC.? Does that mean unity or conformity?

Presbyterians Standing for Apostolic Love and Truth (PSALT), led by Grant Gunnink. Key points: There is a right and wrong way to use scripture (2 Tim 2:15), everything needs the redemptive work of Christ applied to it, the way forward is to stay true to the one Gospel, let us stay connected.

Protecting Orthodoxy or Gracious Dismissal, led by Martin Kreplin. Key points: the issue of the remits is only the tip of the iceberg, there is a lack of discipline in the PCC, restructuring into theological streams is the best immediate hope, a "made in Canada solution" needs to be found.

This summary is based on notes provided by Leslie Ruo, who brought official greetings on behalf of Renewal Fellowship.

Moncton Continued from Page 4

A faithful reading of Scripture under the guidance of the Holy Spirit does not allow for such an acknowledgement. Therefore, we will encourage others to join in re-affirming the Preamble and Ordination vows of both Clergy and Elders, and congregation's confessing together the Apostles' Creed on Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020. We understand these to be non-negotiable basis of our unity. The assurance of 'freedom of conscience' in the matters introduced in the Remits are illusionary. Being *permitted* not to participate in ordinations and marriages is tokenism because we function collegially and will be expected to accept divergent views as living faithful Holy Spirit led lives, in those

whose ordination we could not support as valid. Our multiple voices around the unacceptability of the Remits must be clearly and confidently expressed while attentively lovingly and graciously heard. Should we be forced to re-consider our future within the PCC, we seek voice in establishing the terms of Gracious Dismissal, and if necessary will collaborate with others in seeking legal counsel. Our collective traditional voice is stronger when heard together rowing in the same direction. Should Remits pass or fail the Barrier Act, we need to prayerfully discern how God may be leading us in the next steps. Should the Remits fail to pass GA, we would be on track for prolonged protracted conflict. Should the Remits pass GA, we are on track for the eventual elimination of an orthodox voice within the PCC.



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