



General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada
Tuesday, June 6, 2017

Morning Worship

After joining their voices together in song, the Assembly listened to scripture read by Greg Matthews of St. Andrew's, Kingston and Lottie Sutherland of Strathcona Park Presbyterian. The Rev. Dr. Dale Woods then spoke of the type of encouragement we can give to congregations and leaders to look to the love of Jesus – the same yesterday, today and forever – to keep us anchored.

SEDERUNT 5

Ecumenical Visitor: Ms. Dóra Kanizsai-Nagy, Reformed Church in Hungary

The Rev. Dr. Glynis Williams, Associate Secretary for International Ministries, introduced Ms. Dóra Kanizsai-Nagy, co-founder of the Kalunba Social Services

Association—an organization that grew from the Refugee Ministry of the Reformed Church in Hungary and welcomes refugees in Budapest, Hungary. Ms Kanizsai-Nagy talked about the plight of refugees in Hungary who face prejudice due to

religion, ethnicity and culture. She explained, “Kalunba is a place where migrants and refugees come to take free Hungarian lessons, tutoring in school subjects, meet counsellors, enjoy community, and search for jobs and accommodation. We assist 200 people with a staff of 16 and many Hungarian and International volunteers—one among them is your own Jackie Bannerman.” She reminded us of our responsibility to welcome the stranger and show love and compassion to our neighbours. She is thankful for the ongoing support from and partnership with The Presbyterian Church in Canada.



Pension and Benefits

The Pension and Benefits Board reported on the administration of pension and benefits. The Constitution of the pension plan of The PCC was revised and amended. The board also expressed a minute of appreciation for Judy Haas. Judy began working at Pension and Benefits in 2001, and served as their Senior Administrator for the last 15 years.

Special Committee re. Pension Solvency Funding

With the help of the markets and the congregations who paid ahead their premiums, the PCC's pension is at 87% of the solvency—so won't have to file a solvency report until 2020. The government has announced that they will adjust their standard for dealing with solvency, which will benefit the church. Look for further updates.



Committee on Church Doctrine

The General Assembly received “Understanding and Interpreting the Bible” as a resource to equip the church to faithfully read the Bible. This answered the prayer of the 2016 overture looking for a Reformed confessional hermeneutic.

The Assembly accepted an interim response to physician-assisted suicide. Congregations and groups in The Presbyterian Church in Canada are encouraged to use it in the next year and report back comments by January 31, 2018.

Theological Colleges

St. Andrew’s Hall shared some highlights from 2016, including the expansion and impact of the Centre for Missional Leadership program, the completion of renovations on the residential hall and increased enrolment. The Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart was granted tenure and re-appointed as St. Andrew’s Hall Professor of Ministry Formation and Director of the Centre for Missional Leadership.

Vancouver School of Theology reported on their year and highlighted new initiatives including a partnership with Sauder School of Business to help ministry students learn skills in the areas of finance, coaching and mentoring, administrative excellence and strategic thinking.

The Moderator invited the Rev. Jae Taek Lim to offer prayer in Korean.