**Report from the Oversight Committee for Rev. Stephen Tamming**

May 2023

The Oversight Committee met with Rev. Tamming on April 17, 2023 at Trinity CRC in Goderich.

We heard how he is doing, created a plan for next steps for him with regard to his ordination, and prayed with him.

Rev. Tamming expressed thankfulness to the committee and was forthright about how he is doing. He is currently a case worker in a local social agency that focuses on helping vulnerable adults. He has maintained four years of sobriety and offered to be a resource to Classis on the topic of addiction and recovery. He is not ready to go back into full time pastoral ministry in the foreseeable future but does see the possibility of serving as an interim pastor in a few years. Since he is turning 55 in June he will be eligible for early retirement and can wait until he is 66 to receive his pension. Rev. Tamming asks that Classis grant him early retirement.

Our committee recommends that Classis discern and decide upon the following motion:

Motion:That Classis Huron grant early retirement to Rev. Stephen Tamming according to Article 18, effective September 1, 2023.

Grounds:

1. Rev. Tamming will have reached the age of 55 and will be eligible for early retirement.
2. Rev. Tamming has requested to be granted this status.

As a further note, Rev. Tamming’s ministerial credentials will continue to be held by Trinity CRC of Goderich. According to CRC Church Order Article 18b,

b. A retired minister shall retain the title of minister of the Word and the authority, conferred by the church, to perform official acts of ministry. Supervision shall remain with the church last served unless transferred to another congregation. The supervising church shall be responsible for providing honorably for the minister’s support and that of qualifying dependents according to synodical regulations.

Should Classis decide to the above recommendation, we will consider our work to be done and ask that our committee be dissolved with thanks. Past members to be thanked as well: Ralph Wigboldus (chair), Gilbert Vanden Heuvel (Trinity CRC Rep).

Humbly submitted,

The Oversight Committee for Rev. Stephen Tamming

Tom Bomhof (Community CRC, Kitchener, chair)

Kim Burgsma (Trinity CRC, Goderich, reporter)

Kevin teBrake (Exeter CRC)