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**COVENANTING SERVICES IN 2012-2013**

During the 2012-2013 Conference year members of Four Rivers Presbytery participated in its first Covenanting service.

**COVENANTING SERVICE AMONG SHELLEY ROBERTS  
LANARK-BALDERSON P.C.  
AND FOUR RIVERS PRESBYTERY**

At 3:00 p.m., on Sunday, April 28, 2013, friends and members of Lanark-Balderson Pastoral Charge, gathered at St. Andrew's United Church, Lanark to share in the covenant among the Rev. Shelley Roberts, Lanark-Balderson Pastoral Charge and the Four Rivers Presbytery.

The Rev. Don Stiles, Chair of Four Rivers Presbytery, welcomed everyone to this time of celebration – the first Covenanting service of the new Presbytery.

Choir members from both church congregations led by the organist and choir director, Peter Hannah, opened with the choral introit. The congregation joined the Rev. Stiles in the call to worship and the opening prayer which was followed by the singing of "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You."

Scriptures were read by the Rev. Stan Errett from St. Andrew's U.C., and the Rev. Jeff de Jonge from Boyd's-Franktown Pastoral Charge.

The Rev. de Jonge offered the reflection "Covenanting Together for/in Vital Ministry". Jeff's message was particularly welcomed as he had served in appointment at Lanark-Balderson for ten months prior to the congregation calling Shelley to ministry here.

Following a lively anthem by the choir, Karen McLean, Secretary of Four Rivers Presbytery, led the congregation in reciting The New Creed as a statement of our communal faith and we joined in singing "Let All Things Now Living."

Members of the Joint Search Committee led by their Chair Bill McNichol, presented the Rev. Shelley Roberts to the Secretary of Four Rivers.

Promises were made by Shelley, the Congregation, visitors and by the members of Four Rivers Presbytery. Members of Presbytery in attendance included Amy Bracken, Dave Charles, Jeanette Crimes, Peter Dahlin, Harold Davies, Wayne Harris, Christine Kempster, Rick Magie, Karen McLean, Micheline Montreuil, Mary Smiley, Don Stiles, Bob Wrightly and Norma Wrightly.

The congregation joined in singing "Here I Am Lord" after which members of the Pastoral Charge presented Shelley with symbols of her ministry among them – a Bible by David Harry; a Communion cup by Feryn Donaldson; a Loaf of Bread by Gladys Billings; a Towel and Bowl by Wayne Ashby and Brian Billings; a Container of Water by gage Echlin; a Bible Story Book and Balloon by Lauren Jones and Ayslynn Cook; a Lanark Newspaper and Mandate Magazine by Rosetta McInnes and David Montgomery; a Hymn Book by Vivian Whalen and Cornelia Closs; a Candle by Dick Leeflang. Chair Don invited everyone to rejoice in the covenant we had made and the congregation responded with a hearty round of applause.

The offering was collected and dedicated. Funds gathered today in the amount of five hundred and seventy dollars and fifty-five cents (\$570.55) will go to the Conference Student Bursary Fund.

After Prayers of the People we closed with "Go to the World" and everyone was invited to a reception provided by St. Andrew's UCW and an opportunity to visit with Shelley, her husband Roger and other family members and friends.