

St Andrew's River Heights United Church

255 Oak Street

Council Meeting April 16, 2019

Board Room, 7:00 pm

Council Meeting:

Administration

In attendance: Anne Grewar, Bill Craddock, Paul Webster, Rob Siddall, Michael Duncan, Karen Lumley, Lorne Hurst, Clark Brownlee, Betty Jubinville

Regrets: Linda Paul

Absent: Lisa Richards

1. Call to Order (7:00pm): Greetings/Vision Statement
2. Devotion: Paul
3. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Council Special Meeting minutes emailed separately
 - b. Motion to approve the agenda. Moved by Paul. Seconded by Mike. All in favour. Carried.
4. Guest: Clark Brownlee, Stewardship Committee
Attachments: Stewardship & Ten Worrisome Statements
 - a. Review of the stewardship team minutes. The committee determines what will work best for the congregation.
 - b. The stewardship meeting was called to assess the giving program that was completed in 2018. It was prompted by an online survey put out by UCC that three of them had already submitted.
 - c. In general there seems to be a sense that the program was quite adequate, following up on things were learned in the past, i.e. local speakers, personally signed invitations and appreciations, and a narrative budget.
 - d. The Committee chose to use their own people's testimonials rather than using videos of people they don't know.
 - e. There was some concern about the M&S envelopes. There is room on the back to direct the giving to either local outreach or the traditional M&S fund. The Committee felt the need to provide more and better financial information about M&S programs and how we support them. With 1Justcity operating in the city and the drop-in financial relief that we provide, our local mission work is important and we want people to be clear about what their contributions are

supporting. The Committee also does not want to down-play the importance of how M&S plays an important role in world and Canadian relief programs.

- f. The Committee acknowledges with appreciation that St. Andrew's will be increasing the M&S unified contribution from 4% to 5% this year.
 - g. The Committee discussed the need for the congregation to sense stability and some were concerned that for reasons that are likely related to the shift in governance from Presbytery to Region 5, neither of the staff appointments recently announced are assured beyond the fall, in fact one's term ends at the end of April.
 - h. Bill provided stewardship statistics.
 - i. 95 pledges were returned
 - ii. 35 were increased with a value of \$4414
 - iii. 5 were decreased with a value of \$1400
 - iv. The Committee's projected revenue for this year is \$266,780 (last year it was \$278,300)
 - v. Deaths account for some of the lost revenue
 - vi. With the reduction in staff time, the revenue reduction seems not to be a major concern
 - i. Although not specifically a stewardship issue the acquisition of an electronic sign for the church was discussed. The Committee was in agreement that the current sign and the process for keeping it up-to-date is not as effective as they want it to be. They also agreed that to fund such a project that could reach as much as \$20,000, we would have to hold a funding campaign, similar to the ones for the roof and the piano. Clark is willing to explore the idea with various people in the congregation including Linda Paul, Karen and members of the Property and Administration Committee.
5. Guest: Clark Brownlee, Truth and Reconciliation Action Group:
- a. Westworth reconciliation Lenten series was very well attended by the community. Over 200 people attended rotating locations (mosque, synagogue, Buddhist temple, Westworth).
 - b. This year, the congregation signed petitions Bill 262. Concern that the Bill become null and void, additional petitions signed.
 - c. Concern over the Manitoba Government's proposal to payout commercial fishers in exchange for their license to fish on Lake Winnipeg. No community consultation, reflective of a settler's approach and inconsistent with reconciliation efforts.

6. Motion to approve the March 19 Council meeting minutes. Moved by Paul. Second by Rob. All in favour. Carried.
 - a. Rob will be the liaison for outreach.
7. Motion to approve the March 31 Council meeting minutes. Moved by Rob. Seconded by Paul. All in favour. Carried
8. Business Arising- Visioning -Noreen
 - a. Noreen has contacted Health in Common and provided a quote of \$2,400 for a day of strategic planning. The total cost of this process can be as high as \$15,000 and that includes surveys, focus groups, data collection, strategic planning and a 3-5 year plan.
 - b. The congregation must be engaged. How much do we want to spend and what is the outcome we are looking for in terms of a plan. Discussion.
 - c. What are the elements of a plan and are there other services we can use? Discussion.
 - d. Suggestion to consider EDGE through the United Church of Canada. Westworth was not happy with this service.
 - e. Tabled for the May meeting.
9. Monthly presentation from Group: Fellowship (Betty)
 - a. See attached Fellowship and Caring Community Interest Group report.
11. Communication strategy
 - a. Provided by Linda Paul. This document lets the congregation know that there are many ways to get information.
 - b. Decision to provide a hard copy of the document in the narthex, email to membership and post it on the website.
12. Correspondence: none

Items for Discussion/Update

1. Liaison reports:
 - a. Lorne Hurst will be the official liaison to the Stewardship committee
2. P & A (minutes attached): Bill
 - a. We no longer have a caretaker, instead, we have a cleaner on a fixed monthly amount. If something needs to be done a form must to be filled out and then submitted to the Property committee for approval.
 - b. Discussion about security of the church premise and the daycare.
3. Ministry Profile: Michael
 - a. Concern that the PRC is not reviewing the correct documents.
 - b. Decision to invite Judy to a meeting to review documents and make changes so that we can move forward.

4. Treasure's Report: Bill

- a. Most revenue and expense items continue to be close to budget. Member givings are \$7, 216 over budget are \$1,329 less than last year at this time. Overall revenue is impacted by the transfer of \$10,000 into the budget for the donation to Oak Table of \$10,000 for their capital campaign. Revenues are also higher because of the \$10,000 grant from the Winnipeg Foundation for the engineering report of building mechanical systems. No expenditures have yet been made on that account.
- b. One of the most significant expense items deviation from budget, continues to be the heating component of maintenance and repairs. This item is \$6,339 which is 63% of the annual budget total. Also, since the end of March bills totaling \$4,465 have been paid for work by Mikkelsen-Coward. These bills date back to work in September and November last year. Bill was under the impression that he had covered all outstanding bills at year-end and entered them as accounts payable. The heating maintenance and repair item is now over 100% of the annual total with less than 1/3rd of the year gone.
- c. Since early 2002, we have been paying \$15 per person for attending to children on Sunday mornings in the nursery. The finance group unanimously agreed to increase this to \$20 retroactive to January 1. This will add an unbudgeted \$180 to our expenses for 2019.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Lorne at 8:57pm.

Vision Statement:

To live as Christ would have us live, in love with compassion and seeking justice, by sharing God's grace, learning from scripture, growing through the Spirit and being transformed by faith.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 21.

Presentation to the Service Team
The Fellowship and Caring Community Interest Group
April 16, 2019

Fellowship:

The Fellowship Interest Group consists of Diane Bowles, Karen Carswell, Verla Cleland, Maxine Hannam, Marion Kozak, Marilyn Muir, Roberta Popoff, Laura Regier, Kay Shawcross, Sandy Walker and Betty Jubinville. This year Brenda Kennedy decided to leave our committee. We miss her input and support.

1. Broad Vision: As mentioned in last year's report, our broad vision is somewhat unclear however; we work hard to ensure that there is a time for fellowship and conversation after each service as well as other times through out the year.
Other events held to promote fellowship are the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, Celebration Sunday, the Picnic, Easter Breakfast and Memory Tree. Our Caring Community group is diligent at keeping in touch with people, sending cards and visiting.
2. Don't know about us: 3 things: 1. Each year we mention that we are not the food committee however it does seem to be an excellent reason to get together. 2. We usually break even or have a small profit. 3. During Advent, we deliver a small thank you gift to the 50 houses on Oak Street.
3. Excites us:
 - Working with Outreach to prepare and serve a lunch to 110 guests at Oak Table. This year we went on March 17 and, keeping with the St. Patrick's Day theme, we served stew, fresh rolls, punch, cookies, watermelon and ice cream. We also had the pleasure of working with Emily to arrange, prepare and serve the meal for the Guatemala Celebration Dinner. We also hold the Memory tree reception. Each year, the proceeds of \$1,500.00 from the Memory Tree are sent to Jocelyn House. In the past we prepared the food for the Hustle for Hunger, however it was not held this year. We discussed supporting the September "Walk a Mile in My Shoes" event but have not looked into this in detail.
 - Working with Karen. Her energy and respect continues to make us feel supported and appreciated.
4. Over the last few months:
 - We prepared the food for the Celebration Sunday in September which consisted of your usual picnic fare, hotdogs, chips, ice-cream, watermelon and drinks.
 - We arranged the Cookie Walk fundraiser. Again, we had to turn people away as we sold out of cookies in 45 minutes, raising a record \$2,314.70. We decided to leave the price of the boxes at \$12.00 as they were a little smaller than previous boxes. The boutique was a hit as we were able to "borrow" some lovely pieces from the garage sale. Again, next year we will be soliciting for 450 dozen cookies. Be ware!
 - During Advent, we delivered red spatulas as a thank you gift to the homes on Oak Street.

- We arranged the collection of funds and the Memory Tree reception.
 - Held the Shrove Tuesday Supper, which consisted of a pancakes supper with sausages and fruit trays.
 - Prepared the food for the Guatemala Celebration, which consisted of buffet style roast pork, rice dish, hash browns, roasted vegetables, corn on the cob, taco salad, slaw and cheesecake.
 - Preparing the Easter Breakfast. This year it will be scrambled eggs, sausages and waffles. We decided to change the menu as the turn out has been lower in the last 2 years. This may be due to spring break but we thought it might be time for a change.
 - Continue to serve refreshments after the service every Sunday from September to June.
 - We will prepare the food for the upcoming Picnic Sunday.
 - Preparing muffins and cookies for Conference Sunday.
5. Challenges:
- Coming up with new ideas to engage the congregation and bring newcomers into St. Andrew's.
 - Preparing refreshments and clean up each and every Sunday. This is a lot to ask from this small group. Many on our committee take extended winter holidays or summer at the lake. Several people from the congregation have made the coffee in the summer and bring in baking.
 - Not knowing what the church has outlined as its goals. What is the main focus for 2019, fundraising, increased recognition in the community, increased membership?
 - Burn out.
6. Dreams:
- Not having to make the coffee every morning, however, over the last year, many church members have been bringing cookies for Sunday morning and that helps make the coffee time special.
7. Affirming Ministry: Personally, We, as a committee, never think of this as a separate item. The doors of St. Andrew's are open to everyone and all are treated with respect and inclusion.

Caring Community:

The Caring Community Interest Group consists of Vinny Ashton, Ellen Bruneau, Ardelia Burrow, Verla Cleland, Marjorie Eckert, Maxine Hannam, Karen Lumley, Andrea Moffat, Roberta Popoff, and Luba Scott.

1. Broad Vision: To keep in touch with those who are homebound or have suffered bereavement and keep them connected to their faith community.
2. Don't know about us: Our "Thinking of you" and "Sympathy" cards were handmade by Collette Berriault and the cards that go out with the Holy week plants were made by Brenda Trevenen.
3. What excites us: The wonderful communication we have with the Ministers and Andrea in the office. The overwhelming response to the baptism baby blankets.
4. Over the last few months:
 - We have sent 23 thinking of you cards, 36 Sympathy cards and 36 Christmas Cards.

- The Holy Week plants will be delivered to families who have been bereaved in the past year.
- The plants from the Easter Service will be delivered to people who are homebound.
- We have given a Baptism blanket to each child baptised in St. Andrew's.

Rose Ferries Prayer Shawl Ministry:

These shawls are for those in need of comfort. These shawls are not just for members of St. Andrew's. Please contact Andrea in the church office if you would like a shawl for someone.

FINAL NOTE:

I would like to thank the Service Team for their support during the year, especially with the Cookie Walk. It is so important that each member of the Interest Group and Service Team support this event by baking the 10 dozen cookies required from each member. For next year's Cookie Walk, we are looking at supplying recipes that yield 10 dozen for anyone who may need some assistance.

A huge thank you for the continuous support of Karen Lumley. Karen, you bring such energy and cheerfulness to each meeting and event. Thank you for being so supportive of our committee.

I personally would like to thank the members of the Fellowship, Caring Community and Prayer Shawl Ministry committees. What an amazing group of people! I cannot emphasise enough the amount of time, effort and dedication these committee members donate to St. Andrews. I am privileged and blessed to have them in my life.

Our committee would like to thank our partners, family members and friends. We could not make this type of commitment without their support.

Respectfully submitted.

Betty Jubinville