

**Executive:**

Chair Kirk Wilson ✓  
 Vice-Chair Regan Pfaff-MacDonald ✓  
 Past Chair Barb Baxter ✓  
 Secretary Diana Duke ✓  
 Treasurer Wayne Pease  
 Ministry Pat Morrison ✓  
 Kenji Marui

**Committee Representatives:**

AOTS Al Grimwood  
 Christian Development Shirley Willis ✓  
 Communications Christopher Cooke  
 Congregational Care & Growth x  
 Finance Paul Cooper ✓  
 Region Rep x  
 Outreach x  
 Ministry & Personnel John Cooke ✓  
 Planning Regan Pfaff-MacDonald ✓  
 Property Marion Staples ✓  
 Proclamation and Special Events x  
 Trustees Pete Melanson ✓  
 Worship Val Adamson ✓

✓ = present

The Meeting was held via Zoom with 11 participants, as per adjournment and began at 7:05pm. There was a quorum.

**1. Devotion**

PROPERTY – Marion Staples shared her devotion tonight by sharing questions and how to get answers to ponder about everyday life.

Even though I am considered old by my children, I still have so many unanswered questions!!!!

I haven't found out who let the dogs out...where's the beef...how to get to Sesame Street...

why Dora doesn't just use Google Maps...Why do all flavors of fruit loops taste exactly the same, or how many licks does it take to get to the center of a tootsie pop.....why eggs are packaged in a flimsy carton, but batteries are secured in plastic that's tough as nails...what does the fox say... why "abbreviated" is such a long word; or why is there a D in 'fridge' but not in refrigerator... why lemon juice is made with artificial flavor yet dish-washing liquid is made with real lemons... why they sterilize the needle for lethal injections... and, why do you have to "put your two cents in" but it's only a "penny for your thoughts" ... where's that extra penny going to... why does The Alphabet Song and Twinkle Twinkle Little Star have the same tune... why did you just try to sing those two previous songs...and just what exactly is Victoria's secret? ... and where is Waldo?... Can you hear me now?... and why do you drive on a parkway but park in a driveway...

In life we do have more serious questions regardless of our age, and stage of life. Questions of life and death, who is God and why do bad things happen to good people.

I grew up in a time where many adults told me that it's wrong to question anyone in authority, especially God.

I understand the thought behind this because many think that in the process of questioning, I am seizing authority.

However, there is a difference between rebellion and genuine questioning.

There are many examples of people in the Bible who questioned God and each time, God addressed their concerns.

When God tells Abraham in Genesis 15 that he would become the father of a great nation, Abraham didn't understand. He asked God how this could be possible.

Gideon asked God in Judges 6 why all the difficulties were coming his way. Throughout much of the book of Job, we can read the conversations God has with Job. Job asks many questions and God patiently answered them.

There is a point, when we need to accept the answers God gives us in His word by faith, then we must move on because "faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God." (Romans 10:17).

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION to approve the agenda with edit – Devotion should be Property.**

Barb Baxter/Val Adamson. Carried

### 3. Approval of Minutes

#### **MOTION to approve the Council meeting minutes from DECEMBER 2, 2020.**

John Cooke/Paul Cooper. Carried

#### **MOTION to approve the SPECIAL Council meeting minutes from DECEMBER 22, 2020.**

John Cooke/Paul Cooper. Carried

### 4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Kirk contacted Pathways about their Donor Wall and asking for our permission to be recognized. Grace UC has donated proceeds from soup lunch back in 2018 and another donation of \$1000.

We did not lay-off Cameron Scott; he has been extended to Jan 24, 2021.

### 5. Correspondence

None

### 6. New Business

#### Bill C-6

This enactment amends the Criminal Code to, among other things, create the following offences:

- a. causing a person to undergo conversion therapy without the person's consent;
- b. causing a child to undergo conversion therapy;
- c. doing anything for the purpose of removing a child from Canada with the intention that the child undergo conversion therapy outside Canada;
- d. promoting or advertising an offer to provide conversion therapy; and
- e. receiving a financial or other material benefit from the provision of conversion therapy.
- f. It also amends the Criminal Code to authorize courts to order that advertisements for conversion therapy be disposed of or deleted.

Bill C-6 Petition presented by Marilyn Gladu in the House of Commons on December 9, 2020:

Mr. Speaker, this petition is supported by the majority of the 91 churches in my riding.

*"The undersigned citizens are extremely concerned about Bill C-6, about the attack on their freedom of religion, conscience, expression, belief and their ability to speak it in the public square. While all Canadians agree that no one should have to forcibly undergo a treatment they do not want, Bill C-6 prevents people who, of their own free will, want counselling, advice or prayer about their sexual confusion.*

*The petitioners call upon the Government of Canada for a narrower definition of what the Liberals view as conversion therapy in order to exclude pastoral care, voluntarily sought counselling or prayer, to amend or withdraw this legislation and to preserve their charter rights."*

We are concerned on 3 points:

- Who was included in the 'majority of 91 local churches'? We were never contacted.
- Bill C-6 wording does not exclude people from receiving pastoral care of their own free will. Yet, Marilyn Gladu's petition says the Bill does state this issue. Confused?
- Term 'sexual confusion' is deemed derogatory.

#### **MOTION that Kenji Marui and Barb Baxter send a letter to Marilyn Gladu on behalf of Grace UC with our concerns.**

John Cooke/Regan Pfaff-McDonald.

#### Grace Annual Meeting 2021

Scheduled for Feb 14 after online worship, via Zoom. We will mail the final Annual Report to members who do not have electronic means.

## 7. Pastoral Report and Teaching

### PAT MORRISON

I am ready and excited for the new year.

With COVID restrictions continuing to hamper Christian development programming, I am focusing attention on major governance projects; most significantly, reconvening the Planning Committee after three plus years of dormancy.

I continue to work with Kenji to integrate him into Grace. Together we are constructing a 'Ministerial Team Covenant' that outlines how we will work together as a team.

Next week I will begin a 12 week course at University of British Columbia to study the work of Charles Taylor, focusing specifically on his book "A Secular Age" and exploring its application to congregational ministry.

I have accumulated a significant number of weeks of holidays and study leave over the past two years. After consulting with the staff and M&P, I will be taking 12 weeks of holidays and study leave in the spring (April 19 - July 4, 2021). Further, I have again deferred my sabbatical to next spring.

### KENJI MARUI

- the experience continues to be surreal, trying to meet people and learn about Grace; can confidently say that 2020's Advent and Christmas were unique!
- adapting to on-line worship services, trying to see the opportunities not the limitations of our situation
- continuing to meet people over the phone, indebted to Sylvia Rose for her work and referrals to me
- was happy to attend "Tuck-In Time" sessions in December and meet some the younger kids and their families, virtually
- attending various online seminars/conferences (ex. Calvin Seminary Worship Symposium, United Church's EDGE conversations on church sustainability, Fresh Start program for ministers beginning new ministries)
- grateful for my ministerial teammate as we continue to converse, dream, and imagine how we move forward

## 8. Key Ministry Committee Reports

### Worship

Audio Visual Equipment Update: Pat advised the Worship Committee and members of the Planning Committee that he had identified equipment availability that was discounted due to Boxing Day sales promotions. An order was placed in order to capture the savings.

Transition to On-Line Worship: As was discussed in December, there was a decision to move to on-line worship during the Christmas season. This format has been extended with the Province of Ontario lockdown and subsequent declaration of a state of emergency. Communion was successfully integrated in the January 10 service for those who attended the live Zoom version. The committee also supported the trial format for pass the peace using smaller breakout groups permit some additional time for members of the congregation to introduce themselves and have short conversations.

### Christian Development

No report

### Congregational Care & Growth

No report

### Outreach

Served 65 clients at the December 23 IOGS meal. Thanks to those in the congregation who have assisted with this significant ministry in 2020.

Starting to develop the 2021 schedule. Looking for additional volunteers to help with the meal prep at Grace and the pickup meal prep at the Inn.

**Proclamation and Special Events**

No report

**9. Governance and Support Committee Reports:**

**Planning**

Member recruitment is going well. Potential engagement with EDGE and reviewing a plan forward. Reviewing project proposals.

**Finance**

2021 Operating Budget Recommendation ... see attached

**MOTION that Council endorse the proposed 2021 budget recommendation and present at the AGM on Feb 14 for approval by Congregation.**

Paul Cooper/Val Adamson. Carried

**Communications**

No report

**Property**

Working on asphalt proposals. Seeking ways to reduce electrical costs; getting input from outside contractors.

**Trustees**

No report.

**Ministry & Personnel**

- Curtis continues on leave of absence.
- Christmas recognition shared with all staff members.
- Pat is taking vacation/study leave as the situation permits to reduce his carryover.
- 2021 salary changes were implemented for all staff in their Jan 15 pay.
- Cameron Scott is performing well. He was directed by Property to do project activities after the lockdown.
- In 2021, ADP will transition United Churches from telephone payroll to TeamPay (a cloud-based system). The new system will require some learning and cost a bit more.

**MOTION to empower M&P and Property to defer Cameron's lay-off on a week to week basis, based on work availability.**

John Cooke/Marion Staples. Carried.

**MOTION that Cameron Scott's wage increase to \$15.75/hour effective Jan 1, 2021.**

John Cooke/Shirley Willis. Carried.

**AOTS**

No report.

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council**

No report.

**10. Meeting closed at 8:17pm**

**11. Closing Prayer**

Pat lead us in closing prayer.

Next regular meeting: FEBRUARY 3, 2021

**2021 Devotion Responsibility:**

JANUARY – Property  
**FEBRUARY – Planning**  
 MARCH – Trustees  
 APRIL – Worship  
 MAY – CD  
 JUNE – Finance  
 JULY - na  
 AUGUST - na  
 SEPTEMBER – na  
 OCTOBER – Outreach  
 NOVEMBER – M&P  
 DECEMBER – Communications

**2021 Sunday Lock-up Responsibility:**

JANUARY – Trustees  
 FEBRUARY – Worship  
 MARCH – CD  
 APRIL – CC&G  
 MAY – AOTS  
 JUNE – Communications  
 JULY – Finance  
 AUGUST – Outreach  
 SEPTEMBER – M&P  
 OCTOBER – Property  
 NOVEMBER – Planning  
 DECEMBER – Trustees

Kirk Wilson, Council Chair

Diana Fisher, Council Secretary

**2021 BUDGET RECOMMENDATION (REV 2)**

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020 Budget</b>	<b>2020 Actual</b>	<b>2021 Budget</b>	<b>Assumptions</b>
Givings for Operating Budget	378800	354203	378800	332359	354203	Achieve 2019 Givings
Designated M & S Givings	5400	3425	5400	3735	3425	
<b>Total Givings</b>	<b>384200</b>	<b>357628</b>	<b>384200</b>	<b>336094</b>	<b>357628</b>	
Other Income						
Rental	19100	21655	21500	13135	15000	Rentals impacted by lockdown

Donations	2600	2373	2000	2863	2800	
Interest	1800	2293	1000	764	750	
Special Events	6300	5097	5000	0	0	No 2021 special events
Grace Ministries	100					
Other Income	850	745	1000	600	600	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>414950</b>	<b>389791</b>	<b>414700</b>	<b>353456</b>	<b>376778</b>	
<b>Committee Expenditure</b>						<b>Adopted Committee Requests</b>
Congregational Care and Growth Outreach (M & S)	250	803	650	236	650	
Christian Development	2700	2206	2200	634	2200	
Worship	600	787	1625	1156	1650	
Communications	8500	8475	8150	7231	7500	
Ministry and Personnel	315300	297367	320000	247169	329,500	
Trustees	6600	7029	7200	7064	8570	Rate increase
Property	32900	32337	38500	29530	30,750	
Finance	3300	3680	3500	3701	3500	
Region 7 assessment	13300	15013	15600	14699	15,600	
Council		33	0	73	0	
Debt Servicing						
M & S	27300	27415	25422	25422	25000	
Line of Credit Interest						
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>410750</b>	<b>395199</b>	<b>422847</b>	<b>336930</b>	<b>424920</b>	
Net Income vs. Expenditure	4200	-5408	-8147	16526	-48142	
Transfer to Reserve Fund	4200			16526		
Transfer from Reserve Fund		5408	8147		-48142	
Transfer from Legacy Fund						