

Executive:

Chair Regan Pfaff-MacDonald ✓
 Vice-Chair Al Shaw ✓
 Past Chair Kirk Wilson ✓
 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 Bob Newman ✓
 Finance Paul Cooper ✓
 Region Rep x
 Outreach Paul Cooper ✓
 Ministry & Personnel John Cooke ✓
 Planning Jim Wicks ✓
 Property Marion Staples ✓
 Proclamation and Special Events x
 Trustees Pete Melanson ✓
 Worship Gord Walking ✓

✓ = present

The Meeting was held via Zoom with 12 participants, as per adjournment and began at 7:02 pm. There was a quorum. John Cooke served as Secretary in Diana Duke’s absence.

1. Devotion

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION to approve the agenda as distributed.

Bob Newman / Marion Staples. Carried

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION to approve the Council meeting minutes from April 7, 2021, with REVISION that committee reps were Marion Staples (Property) and Jim Wicks (Planning).

Jim Wicks / Pete Melanson. Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None

5. Correspondence

Thank you letter and receipt received from Rayjon in thanks for the Soup Luncheon proceeds.

6. New Business

None

7. Pastoral Report and Teaching

PAT MORRISON

No report

KENJI MARUI

The past month has been a little uneven with holidays, study leave, and Pat being away. I will continue, for now, to produce worship video for on-line in advance of Sunday morning as time and learning curve allows.

Response to our inquiries to other Sarnia-Lambton churches about follow-up to Bill C-6 has been lacklustre. We received 4 responses, only 2 of which indicated willingness to work on something further.

I am seeing one person on a regular basis in hospital, permitted to visit as a spiritual care provider. Otherwise, working from home, attending meetings on-line and showcasing the sights around Strathroy in worship videos.

8. Key Ministry Committee Reports

Worship

Minister Coverage During Vacation and Study Leave: There are two upcoming Sundays – one in May and one June – when we need pulpit support. Kenji has identified a colleague who may be available to lead the services those days. The service presentation would be similar to the format of the service this past Sunday, May 2nd. The committee is extending an invitation to said minister for the May Worship Committee meeting so that introductions can be made prior to the first coverage date.

Christian Development

No report

Bob Newman noted that Summer Students were approved by the federal government. CD Committee and Pat will proceed with planning and hiring.

Congregational Care & Growth

No report

Outreach

- 83 clients served at the April Inn of the Good Shepherd meal
- Thanks to all who donated food for the Inn at the drive-through drop-off event on April 4th. It will be repeated on May 2nd.
- Proposed date for virtual soup luncheon supporting the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and the Brigden UC 'Forget-Me-Not' grow project is June 6. Henry Reindeers, the Ontario Region Representative, will be participating in the zoom call.
- Easter special offering for the UCC M&S fund raised \$450. Thank-you to the congregation for your support.

Proclamation and Special Events

No report

9. Governance and Support Committee Reports:

Planning

1. Project Proposals (see separate **Planning Project Proposals Master List**)

- Last Council meeting, Planning was asked to provide a complete list of Project Proposals that are to be prioritized against the LED Lighting Upgrade proposal presented.
- Past Proposal Forms were located, and tabulated and missing information gained from those involved with the projects.
- The Project Proposal Listing is categorized as follows:
 - **Active** Proposals
 - **Non-Active** Proposals (Submitted but on hold or deferred)
 - **Completed** Projects (Submitted Planning Forms where project complete)
 - Proposals **Completed by Growth and Giving Campaign**
 - **Predicted Future** Expenditures Based on Life Expectancy (Boiler, Roofs, HVAC, etc)
- The only "Active Projects" are:
 - Sanctuary HVAC Replacement (Mandatory fix when fail)
 - Chapel Renovations (Some completed, but remainder unclear)

- **NOTE:** The LED Lighting Upgrade proposal was withdrawn due to contractor COVID restrictions. New proposal to be submitted late 2021 or early 2022

2. Constitution Update

- Last Council meetings, members asked to review Grace’s constitution as related to your Committee suggesting providing feedback by April.
- Request that Committees also review Constitution Appendices that are associated with your Committee.
- **STATUS:**
 - The following Inputs have been received on the **Constitution** wording:

13	Christian Development Committee	Shirley Willis	Planning has received proposed updates from Shirley and Pat
14	Communications Committee	Christopher Cooke	Planning has received comments from Chris Cooke
16	Finance Committee	Paul Cooper	Planning has received proposed updates from Paul Cooper
17	Lay Presbytery Committee	Kenji Marui	Planning has received proposed updates from Kenji Marui
20	Outreach Committee	Paul Cooper	Planning has received proposed updates from Paul Cooper

- The following Inputs have been received on the Appendices wording:

2.2	Position Description: Financial Review Committee Members		Gord Walkling has reviewed and provided comments
2.4	Legacy Fund Policy	Finance	Paul Cooper has reviewed and made comments
3.1	Model of Multiple Staff Ministry	M&P	M&P will review and update by YE 2021 to YE 2022 per John Cooke
3.2	Annual Review Timeline	M&P	M&P will review and update by YE 2021 to YE 2022 per John Cooke

- John Cooke has reviewed all Appendices for “Regional” wording updates and submitted.

3. Fresh Start Modules

- Planning reviewed the candidates from the Region-sponsored “Fresh Start” modules in support of a congregation in transition.
- First one chosen was the **“Family Systems Theory” was held May 4, 2021.**
- Further modules will be selected by Planning in near future.

4. Visioning

- Planning Team had initial discussions on a Visioning effort for Grace.
- Al Shaw reviewed 2008 visioning effort (Al was Chair of this effort) that included major Council and congregational involvement.

- Next steps by Planning will be to Brainstorm first pass at both the ideal future for Grace and approach we will take to engage the Congregation as a whole.

4. Legacy Fund

- Planning requested to consider plans for the use of the Legacy Fund (nominally \$370k)
- It is expected that the planned Visioning Effort will provide most of the insight into how this Fund can help Grace achieve the Vision.

Finance

The CEBA loan/grant application was successful. We have confirmed that \$60K (\$40K is a loan, \$20K is a grant conditional on repaying the \$40K prior to December 31, 2022) has been deposited in our RBC account.

The operating budget report for the end of Q1/2021 was sent to Council members and communicated to the congregation via the weekly zoom meeting e-mail.

We received the annual statement from the Sarnia Community Foundation (SCF). After checking with Pat Morrison and Pauline Henderson-Ferguson (the L4L bequest from High Park UC is now under our SCF umbrella), we have concluded that we will not require any withdrawals in 2021 so our funds can grow.

Funding proposed for two unplanned repair items - 1) chapel roof to be replaced as a number of shingles on the west side are missing and 2) some soffit damage on the south side of the sanctuary.

OPERATING BUDGET SUMMARY (K\$) - end of March 2021 versus end of March 2020

	2021	2020	DELTA
REVENUE	99.2	108.9	-9.7
COSTS	90.1	101.8	-10.7
DELTA	9.1	7.1	

- Revenue was lower in 2021 due to lower rental income (\$8.6K) with the Church being closed. Givings were about the same in 2021.
- Expenses were lower in 2021 due to lower property and staffing costs. The net result was a positive balance of \$9.1K at the end of March.
- We have submitted an application for one of the government programs (CEBA) that we may qualify for and are hoping for approval.
- Finance is still forecasting a significant deficit by year-end. We need to continue to identify and capture opportunities to improve.
- Thank-you to the congregation for your ongoing support and the positive result in the first quarter.

Communications

No report

Property

Work on the Chapel roof will start this month. Repair of the Sanctuary eaves and soffit is deferred to until the ground is firmer (early summer). The screen and window in Pat’s office were damaged during an attempted break-in. Repair is estimated to be \$300. Marion is monitoring the contractor renting the parking lot to ensure the stay within their allotted space.

Trustees

No report

Ministry & Personnel

Transition to phase 2 of the ADP TeamPay payroll platform was completed in April. The new system is easier to use than the old platform and has several helpful new features.

AOTS

Ken Plumley Scholarship application process is underway. The application form is available from Lori. Deadline is June 13.

Antler River Watershed Regional Council

An on-line keynote address from Sen. Murray Sinclair regarding the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s calls to actions for churches will be held on May 28. His comments will provide the basis for Antler River Watershed Regional Council’s on-line spring meeting, June 10-12.

10. Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm

11. Closing Prayer

Kenji led us in closing devotion and prayer.

Next regular meeting: JUNE 2, 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

Regan Pfaff-MacDonald, Council Chair

Diana Fisher, Council Secretary
