

Executive:

Chair Barb Baxter ✓
 Vice-Chair Kirk Wilson ✓
 Past Chair Brad Mackey ✓
 Secretary Diana Fisher ✓
 Treasurer Paul Cooper ✓
 Ministry Pat Morrison ✓

Committee Representatives:

AOTS Bill Palmer ✓
 Christian Development x
 Communications Christopher Cooke
 Congregational Care & Growth Iris Murtha ✓
 Finance Paul Cooper ✓
 Region Rep x
 Outreach Paul Cooper ✓
 Ministry & Personnel John Cooke ✓
 Planning x
 Property Marion Staples ✓
 Proclamation and Special Events x
 Trustees Pete Melanson ✓
 UCW x
 Worship Val Adamson ✓
 Growth & Givings John Cooke ✓

✓ = present

The Meeting was held at Grace United Church as per adjournment and began at 7:02pm. There was a quorum.

1. Devotion

OUTREACH – Paul Cooper shares Part B of his story.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION to approve the agenda with added topics:

Supply Minister Update

Sarnia UC Partnership Task Group

Growth & Giving

Marion Staples / Pete Melanson. Carried

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION to approve the OCT 2, 2019 council meeting minutes.

Val Adamson / Iris Murtha. Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

none

5. Correspondence

Response from Central United

Central UC is closing November 2020 and they are exploring other UC to either move enmass to another church or look at amalgamation options. We responded to their letter asking for more details about Grace UC and included details of our programs and annual report. They are now looking for someone from Grace to attend a meeting at Central United to further explore mass move of members coming to Grace UC or amalgamation and answer questions. Paul Cooper and John Cooke have volunteered to attend.

6. New BusinessSarnia United Churches Partnership Task Group

London Road West is looking for a new minister. Frustrated with UC website.

Churches are paired up, one church closes and everyone attends the open church to experience new and different venues.

Live streaming of worship services is being explored.

Proposing a Variety Show to 'market' UC to Sarnia and area; to be hosted at Central UC.

Supply Minister Update

Bruce Davies. Interviewed candidate by telephone that resides in Atlantic Canada. Committee agreed to offer candidate a contract term of 6 months.

Her ministry is 2nd career, ordained ministry experience 25 years, retired but interested in full-time appointment basis. Educated at Halifax College, with teaching background.

MOTION to accept candidate recommended by Supply Search Committee to start Dec 1 for 6 month term.

Marion Staples / Brad Mackey. Carried

Contract Positions

Renewed Marilyn Townsend-Smith contract Nov 9, 2019. It would be a good idea to have some overlap between Marilyn and Supply Minister. We will see how this unfolds before we terminate the contract with Marilyn.

Dan Leaver contract expires Nov 30, 2019. Propose to renew his contract for Dec 1 for 3 months to give more time to Pat to focus on governance and minister search tasks.

MOTION to renew Dan Leaver contract for 3 months, term of Dec 1, 2019 to February 28, 2020.

John Cooke / Pete Melanson. Carried

Search and Call Update

Pat Morrison. Regional Council has stipulated that Grace UC must complete some awareness and exploration tasks in preparation for a Search & Call.

Organized into multiple teams to spread out the work and give more people an opportunity to contribute. Agreed that some of these tasks can be done concurrently to accelerate the timeline.

Team A – Intentional Interim Elements

Design and publish questionnaire for individuals, groups, committees to reflect on:

- Heritage
- Leadership
- Mission
- Connections/Partnerships
- Future

Process feedback to present to congregation

<p><u>Team B – Congregational Discussion</u> Design and facilitate congregational discussion on questionnaire findings. Outcomes inform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ChurchHub profiles ▪ Position Description ▪ Fresh Start Modules
<p><u>Team C – Document Creation</u> ChurchHub profiles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Update profiles ▪ Secure Regional Council approval ▪ Post to ChurchHub <p>Update Position Description</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with M&P ▪ Post to ChurchHub
<p><u>Team D – Search and Call</u> Select/Train search team Interview & recommend candidate Congregational Meeting Covenanting Service</p>
<p><u>Team E – Fresh Start Module training</u> Select modules Liaise with RC Run modules</p>

7. Pastoral Report and Teaching

PAT MORRISON

No report

8. Key Ministry Committee Reports

Worship

a) Guidelines for Displaying Affirm United Banners: This topic was raised based on some comment from members of the Guild regarding the placement of Affirm United banners or other items in the sanctuary. The committee was unanimous in their support for demonstrating that Grace is an affirming congregation, and having a banner or some other visible feature in the sanctuary was seen to be important. Feedback from the Guild is that placement would be an important consideration so that there can be consistency, and no visual conflict with the changing banners that reflects the liturgical seasonal changes.

It was decided that the committee would spend some time looking at what other affirming churches have done to show their inclusion in Affirm United. In addition, the committee, with support from Barb Baxter, will look at options that are currently available through Affirm United. Once the review is complete, a representative from each of the Guild, Communications Committee and the Affirming Committee will be invited to that meeting to discuss the topic as it relates to both the sanctuary and church in general.

b) Chapel Upgrades and Renovations: Gord Walkling reported that he had spoken with Geoff Clarke about the chapel and obtained his input and opinion. Geoff indicated that he would be willing

to assist with the removal of pews and installation of physical elements of the space, but not be available to choose tables and chairs etc. Bryce McGarvey said that he would locate the previous project proposal form to use as a basis for writing an updated form for this phase of the work. The draft document will be shared with the Wednesday Men's Group and other major users of the space for their input.

Christian Development

No report.

Congregational Care & Growth

CC&G approved the wedding of Ashley Mills and Gary Hotham planned for July 11, 2020.

The funeral for Betty Gansler, who died on September 17, 2019, was held at Grace on October 10, 2019, presided by Melanie Kirk Hall.

CC&G requested rental and sponsored the insurance cost for Room 1 and the small kitchen for a family dinner during the Christmas season.

There was a discussion about members bringing their dogs (not service dogs) to church rather than staying out in the car. There was a consensus against this idea. Reasons included allergies, fear of dogs, bites, dog fights, soiling and marking.

Transgender Day of Remembrance Nov 20, 2019 here at Grace UC in which we will host a lasagna dinner at 5pm followed by service at 7pm.

Outreach

1. Successful soup luncheon on October 20; raised about \$2,000 for Hurricane Dorian Caribbean Emergency Response and Rebuild.
2. November 17 soup luncheon will support a group focused on Clean Water projects. Details will be in the November 10 bulletin.
3. October 4 Syrian dinner was a sellout (more than the planned 70 attendees were served). After expenses, a total of \$1150 was raised. Daphne Murray has forwarded the money to Outreach. After some discussion, it was decided to add the money to the existing Lambton Refugee Committee funds as there is a proposal to sponsor another family (Jaber's mother and brother's family).
4. No soup luncheon in December. January 2020 soup luncheon donations will go to RayJon.
5. Email received from Brigden United. Soybeans were harvested in October with crop proceeds exceeding \$5000. A full summary of the Forget-Me-Not project will be issued in early 2020.
6. Active list of L4L opportunities in November; Fiery Faces event raised about \$1000. fund raising dinner scheduled for November 24.
7. Proposal for Grace to be Constituent Group sponsor (with Lambton Refugee Committee as lead working group) for an additional Syrian Refugee family was approved by the congregation on October 20. Thank you. Documents have been signed and forwarded to UCC contact. Schedule for family arrival is not known at this time.
8. No meeting in December. Next meeting is January 6, 202. Karen to host, Ruth for devotion.

Proclamation and Special Events

No report

9. Governance and Support Committee Reports:

Planning

No report.

Finance

2020 Operating Budget Process

- November 2019
 - All committees requested to submit 2020 cost plans (e-mail request will be issued).
 - 2019 October YTD actual and 2019 budget cost data available as a reference.
 - Rationale for any significant changes for 2020 requested. Also, any significant cost items for remainder of 2019 or anticipated cost overruns would also be appreciated.
 - Submissions requested by **November 30, 2019**
- December 2019
 - First pass 2020 Budget to be reviewed at December 2019 Council meeting
 - Issues flagged (both cost and revenue) for follow-up by Council sub-committee
- January 2020
 - Council review/endorsement of final 2020 Budget (after year-end data available)
 - Printing of 2019 Annual report includes 2019 year-end financial data and 2020 Budget

Communications

No report.

Property

Solar hydro panels are being explored, as a recommendation from church member. Will only result in a credit to hydro bill.

Replaced the north end heat exchanger on HVAC Nov 1, 2019.

Ainsworth discovered faulty ventor assembly and gas valve that needs to be replaced at cost of \$935.92 plus HST.

Pat Morrison's office painted, new blinds.

Working with vendors to replace floor in Brad's office; will also paint.

Trustees

No report.

Ministry & Personnel

Lisa Cattran continues to provide excellent support to Lori in the office. We propose to extend Dan Leaver's contract for 3 months.

UCW

Joan Guthrie should consult the UCW National office to officially dissolve this group at Grace UC.

AOTS

The regular, monthly, Sunday morning breakfast meeting for AOTS, was held in the gym of Grace United on Sunday, October 27, 2019, at 8:00 AM. Guest speaker was Heather Taylor of the Suicide Prevention Committee who described the work of the Committee and emphasized the suicide risks for two demographic groups --- teenagers and the elderly. ---- Bill Palmer

Regional Council

- Congregations will covenant with the Regional Council to establish the relationship between Grace (community of faith) and the Region (replacing Presbytery/Conference).
- General discussion and decision making around evolving new structure, budget

Growth & Giving

Gym Floor official opening to be held on Sunday, Nov 10 after Worship, along with demo of the new floor cleaner.

10. Meeting closed at 8:56pm

Next regular meeting: DEC 4, 2019

2019 Devotion Responsibility:

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

2019 Sunday Lock-up Responsibility:

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

11. Closing Prayer

Pat Morrison led us in closing prayer.

Barb Baxter, Council Chair

Diana Fisher, Council Secretary