

Minutes
Grace United Church Session
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Because of the Covid-19, the meeting was held via Internet Zoom

ATTENDANCE:

Present: David Charles, Barb Jenkins, Diane Kirkby, Bill Lussier, Donna Norman, Paul Harding, Cheryl O'Leary, Rhea Roantree, Paul Scott, Raymond Shea, Rev. Takouhi, Doreen Wilson, Joan Shaw
Regrets: Tammy Fergusson

Quorum was present.

OPENING PRAYER:

Donna Norman opened the meeting with prayer. Rhea Roantree volunteered to open with prayer at the March meeting.

WELCOME:

Paul Scott welcomed new members Barb Jenkins, Diane Kirkby, Cheryl O'Leary, Raymond Shea and Doreen Wilson to Session.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Motion: That Paul Scott be elected as Chair.

Moved by: Dave Charles, Seconded by Rhea Roantree, Carried

Motion: That Rhea Roantree be elected as Vice Chair

Moved by: David Charles, Seconded by Diane Kirkby. Carried

Motion: That Joan Shaw be elected as Clerk.

Moved by: Rhea Roantree, Seconded by Diane Kirkby. Carried

Rev. Takouhi offered a covenanting prayer for all members of Session.

AGENDA:

Addition to Agenda: Pie Sale, April 11 Service, Correspondence - MyFm

Motion: To adopt the Agenda

Moved by: Paul Scott, Seconded by Joan Shaw, Carried

MINUTES:

Motion: To accept the minutes of January 26, 2021 as circulated.

Moved by: Joan Shaw, Seconded by Rhea Roantree. Carried

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP:

Virtual Services

Welcome/Announcements/Readers – Worship Committee while doing virtual services.

REPORTS:

Minister's Musings: Rev. Takouhi

See attached report.

Ministry of Music: Paul Harding

Paul reminded us that he is an ex officio member of Session. Services are going well. He continues to search for hymns accompanied by singing. Deb Donaldson will perform a liturgical dance on Easter Sunday.

M&S Enthusiast: Dave Charles

Your Generosity Matters videos and readings appear to be well received since they were introduced in January. I will work with Tech Team on how to sync these in when we return to in person worship services. I have a large screen TV that I will donate to the sanctuary to show these videos. Gary Petro is working with the audio contractor to prepare a bid for our sanctuary sound system upgrade.

Gananoque and Area Food Access Network has selected Christ Church Anglican as the site of the new Community Kitchen. We are collecting contractor bids for installation of new equipment and workspace renovations. We plan to coordinate with local churches, service clubs, and schools to prepare nutrition programs and community meals through the facility.

I plan to attend an EOORC workshop “New Ministry and Mission” on Feb 24 and Mar 10 to explore faith based community mission and service opportunities such as kitchens, housing, and emotional support.

Motion: To adopt the M&S Enthusiast Report

Moved by: David Charles, Seconded by Bill Lussier, Carried

EOORC Update: Dave Charles

I have attached the latest EOORC newsletter to highlight activities and workshops. Laurie is working with our web designer Simon to add a link from our website homepage to EOORC website.

Here is a summary of events:

- EOORC Plenary Meeting via Zoom on February 27 9:00 am to noon
- M&P Workshop March 17 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm via Zoom
- Choosing between Life and Death March 24 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm via Zoom
- Discerning your future March 3 and March 17 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm via Zoom
- Confirmation classes available Feb to May and Sep to Nov Ages 13 to 16 every third Sunday 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm via Zoom

Veterans House in Ottawa is now operational with an estimated 40 residents to move in over next 2 months.

Motion: To adopt the EOORC Report

Moved by: David Charles, Seconded by Rhea Roantree, Carried

Worship Committee: Paul Harding

The Worship Committee met on February 18, 2021. Discussed the church calendar. Agreed that we will continue to do virtual celebrations for the foreseeable future with no desire to rush into reopening too soon. Discussion as to how many people are watching the virtual services on Facebook and Youtube. Rev. Takouhi will check with Gary to see if he can establish a number that could be included in the March newsletter.

Licensed Lay Worship Leader Course: Tammy Fergusson

I can report to Session that Colleen and I are currently organizing welcomers and readers for March. On March 7th, the Worship Committee is organizing a service to commemorate International Women’s Day and World Day of Prayer. I plan to ask members of the UCW to help in this service. I will be leading Prayers of Hope and Healing in this service as well.

As a course requirement and as discussed with Reverend Takouhi, I will be leading full services on Sundays April 11th and May 23rd. Sunday April 11th is Holy Humour Sunday. It is an ancient tradition to have a Sunday dedicated to humour after Easter. The Early Church used to say that God played a joke on death by raising Jesus from the dead. For this service, I will need clean, church-themed jokes to use. Could you ask Session if they have any jokes? Perhaps this could also be added to the announcements. Anything from Knock Knock Jokes, Puns or Stories are welcome. Many thanks!

OUR CHURCH AT WORK:

Correspondence: Information from MyFM regarding Easter Message

Motion: That the Gold Plan be purchased from MyFM to enable Rev. Takouhi to provide thirty one-minute messages on the true meaning of Easter. Rev. Takouhi will check with the station to ascertain whether or not she may tape more than one message.

Moved by: David Charles, Seconded by Cheryl O'Leary. Carried.

Outreach: Joan Shaw

A Thinking of You card was sent to Helen Merkley and a Get Well card to David Charles.

Paul Scott will contact Laurie regarding a notice for the bulletin suggesting that members of the congregation contact her with names of those they know who have need of sympathy, get well or thinking of you cards.

Communion Dates: April 4, 2021

Liturgical Colours: February 21 to March 28 - Purple

NEW BUSINESS:

Pie Sales

Pies available are: Blueberry, Bumbleberry, Cherry, Peach, Raspberry, Rhubarb, Strawberry, Strawberry Rhubarb (\$12 each) and Mincemeat (\$15).

Call Carol at 613-382-4376 to arrange pick-up.

April 11 Service:

Tammy will conduct the service on April 11. Rev. Takouhi will be away. Paul Harding will create the video as in the past with assistance from Gary in distribution.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Worship Committee: – tabled to March meeting. Paul Scott would like to have an insert regarding the Worship Committee to include in the Handbook.

Worship by Phone: - tabled to March meeting. Once credit card is received, phone calls will be made to those who might take advantage of this arrangement.

Study Group – Rev. Takouhi

Enhanced version of our Zoom account is being investigated. Rev. Takouhi will prepare a flyer. Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 beginning Wednesday, April 14, 2021.

Grace's Chatter Newsletter

Deadline: Friday, March 19, 2021

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Closing Prayer for March 23, 2021– David Charles

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Cheryl O'Leary

CLOSING PRAYER: Donna Norman

Paul Scott, Chair of Session

Joan Shaw, Clerk of Session

Attachments:

EOORC Newsletter <file:///C:/Users/grace/Downloads/EOORC-News-February-17-2021.pdf>

Rev. Takouhi's Musings

<file:///C:/Users/grace/Downloads/Ministers%20Musings%20-%20February%2023%202021.pdf>