

STRATHROY UNITED CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES
SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022 11:00 AM

PRESENT: Cathy Adkin, Elgin Austen, Rena Beacom, Brenda Bourdeau, Art Clark, Janet Clark, Wanda Dickey, Dianne Dixon, Tina Dokter, Diane Goodhand, Alice Jolliffe, Ken Jolliffe, Gary Krupa, Irene Krupa, John Larocque, Nancy Larocque, Sandra Linton, Barb MacKinnon, Karen McMillan, Alice Milligan, Rev. Brad Morrison, Sarah Morrison, Jan O'Brien, Kevin O'Brien, Alma Robb, Donna Rowe, John Rowe, Peter Stenzel, Anne Walker, Don Walker, Tina Zimmermann.

1. Constitution of the Annual Congregational Meeting and Opening Prayer Rev. Brad Morrison
 - Meeting called to order 11:14am.

2. Appointment of Chairperson and Secretary
 - Motion by Cathy Adkin / Dianne Dixon that Marjorie Harris be appointed Chairperson for this 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting. **CARRIED**
 - Motion by Barb MacKinnon / Cathy Adkin that Patti Baratta be appointed Secretary for this 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting. **CARRIED**

3. Motion to Allow Adherents to Vote
 - Motion by Nancy Larocque / Irene Krupa allowing adherents to vote on financial and administrative matters. **CARRIED**
 - Motion by Nancy Larocque / Irene Krupa allowing adherents to vote on mission and ministry matters. **CARRIED**
 - Motion by Nancy Larocque / Irene Krupa allowing adherents to vote on pastoral relationship matters. **CARRIED**

4. Approval of the Agenda Patti Baratta
 - Motion by Sandra Linton / David Morton to approve the agenda as amended. **CARRIED**

5. Approval of Minutes of All 2021 – 2022 Congregational Meetings
 - Motion by Brenda Bourdeau / Barb MacKinnon that the Minutes of the March 7, 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting be accepted as printed. **CARRIED**
 - Motion by Brenda Bourdeau / Barb MacKinnon that the Minutes of the January 16, 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting be accepted as printed. **CARRIED**

6. In Memoriam Rev. Brad Morrison

7. Approval of the 2021 Annual Reports of Council, Teams, and Groups, excluding Finance and Nominating Teams.
 - Motion by Sandra Linton / Diane Goodhand to receive the 2021 reports. **CARRIED**
 - Motion by Cathy Adkin / Barb MacKinnon to approve the 2021 reports, excluding Finance and Nominating Teams. **CARRIED**

STRATHROY UNITED CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES
SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022 11:00 AM

8. Review and Approval of the 2021 Financial Report Tim McMillan

- **General Fund:** Overall revenue, including envelope donations and fundraising, is down due to the pandemic. However, the revenue was close to what was budgeted due to the receipt of the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS). Total expenses are \$234,036 for a deficit of \$96,695. This deficit was reduced to \$58,509, partly due to the final instalment received from the Estate of Margaret Goldthorp.
- **Mission and Service Fund:** Strathroy United Church remitted \$15,000 to the United Church of Canada for the 2021 pledge. An additional \$1,380 was sent to assist with emergency relief in Haiti.
- **Solar Panels:** The remaining balance is \$4,232.86. The balance will be paid in 2022 and revenue will be directed to the General Fund.
- **Additional Comments:** It is largely due to bequests that the church continues to operate as they cover the deficit. Many thanks to Patti Baratta, Patti Krista, Dianne Dixon, James Blackmore, and Kevin O'Brien for their support and assistance.

Motion by Marie Campbell / Diane Goodhand to approve the 2021 Financial Report found on pages 28 to 41. **CARRIED**

9. Report of the Financial Review Team Kevin O'Brien

- No exceptions were noted as per United Church of Canada Section G4.
- Financial Review Report will be added as appendix to the Annual Report.

Motion by David Morton / Tina Zimmermann to accept and approve the 2021 Financial Review Report. **CARRIED**

Motion by Dianne Dixon / Ken Jolliffe that the Congregation accept the transfer of \$57,813 from the Unrestricted Bequest Fund to the General Fund to eliminate the deficit as presented on December 31, 2021. **CARRIED**

10. Presentation and Approval of the 2022 Budget Proposal Tim McMillan

- **Revenue:** Envelope donations are budgeted at \$86,000 for 2022. Solar Panel revenue is expected to be \$2,893. Note that no CEWS will be received in 2022.
- **Expenses:** We will again be applying for the Canada Summer Jobs Youth Grant to fund a Summer Campfire Director and Summer Campfire Volunteer Coordinator position. Team expenses submitted by each team are in line with 2021 amounts. Deficit is budgeted to be \$125,526.

Motion by Barb MacKinnon / John Rowe to approve the 2022 Budget found on pages 42 to 45. **CARRIED**

11. 2022 Mission & Service Objective

Motion by Nancy Larocque / Tina Zimmermann that we accept and approve Council's recommendation to set the 2022 Mission & Service objective at \$15,000. **CARRIED**

STRATHROY UNITED CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES
SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022 11:00 AM

12. Nomination Report

- Names to be added: Wanda Dickey (Community Life Team), Nancy Larocque (Community Life Team), Peter Stenzel (Property Team).
- Thank you to everyone who stepped forward and to Patti Krista who has served as Chair of Finance for 20 years.

Motion by Irene Krupa / Cathy Adkin to accept the Nominations Report as amended on page 6. **CARRIED**

Motion by Sandra Linton / Cathy Adkin that nominations close. **CARRIED**

Motion by Alice Milligan / David Morton to approve the slate of candidates as amended excluding trustees. **CARRIED**

Motion by Dianne Dixon / Irene Krupa that the Congregation empowers the Council to appoint members to vacancies as required. **CARRIED**

Motion by Sandra Linton / Brenda Bourdeau that the notice of retirement from the Board of Trustees by Phil Pace and Marie Campbell be accepted with gratitude for their years of service, and that their resignation as Trustees be accepted. **CARRIED**
2/3 MAJORITY

Motion by Alice Jolliffe / Ken Jolliffe that Nancy Larocque be appointed to an open term as a Trustee on the Board of Trustees of Strathroy United Church. **CARRIED**
2/3 MAJORITY

a) Appointment of the Financial Reviewers for 2022

Motion by _____ / _____ that _____ be appointed as the 2022 Financial Reviewer.

OR

Motion by Ken Jolliffe / Sandra Linton that the Congregation empowers the Council to appoint members to vacancies as required.

13. New Business

a) Other

14. Appreciations

Diane Goodhand

I would like to bring courtesies to our staff on behalf of the Ministry and Personnel Team. This past year continued to have challenges due to the ongoing pandemic, however the work of the church continued with staff either working in the building, from home, or via Zoom. All staff provided flexibility as was required given the restrictions and protocols that were continually changing on what seemed a regular basis.

Leading our Ministry team is Rev Brad Morrison. Brad provides excellent leadership skills in both his ministry and with the staff. During regular worship services Brad shares relevant and meaningful messages, just as we heard today. Brad has continued to work at improving the

STRATHROY UNITED CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES
SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022 11:00 AM

livestream worship that became necessary when could not hold in person services and is also now offered for those unable to attend regular Sunday services. He has been very creative with his Children's Time with messages at times being shared while on a bike (or even a tricycle) which have been enjoyed by everyone. Brad has also organized a new members gathering and continues to preside at weddings and funerals as well as providing nursing home services. Brad generously agreed to support a practicum student minister for several months who will greatly benefit from the sharing of his vast knowledge and many strengths. Brad was an integral part of the Reopening Team and we appreciate his dedication to assuring that the church re-opened in a safe and timely manner.

Patti Baratta, Office Administrator, oversees the day-to-day operation of the church and assists Rev. Brad as needed, ensuring all administrative duties are performed as required. Throughout the year, Patti had the ability to alternate between the office and home when needed which ensured that she was able to continue her work regardless of the restrictions that were in place. Patti does an excellent job of overseeing the scheduling of rentals and events, her organized and efficient manner and willingness to help where needed does not go unnoticed.

Providing his ministry through music, Andy Cloutier is our Music Director. Andy has continued to share his many musical talents throughout the year and now, with some of the protocols being lifted, we have seen the return of some of the choir members and have also enjoyed the guest musicians that Andy has arranged and who are always a welcome addition to the service. Andy's gift of music is an important part of Sunday worship services.

Joe Rychel just completed his first year as custodian for the church building, his many skills that he brought with him have proven to be very beneficial. During the time where the church building was closed, Joe continued to work on the maintenance of the building along with several projects that needed to be done. Joe continues to ensure all health and safety protocols related to COVID are followed and does an excellent job at taking care of our church building for the enjoyment of all.

Treasurer Tim McMillan looks after the financial aspects of our church and records all financial transactions, providing detailed reports on a monthly basis with great attention to detail, making them easy to understand. Tim works closely with the Finance Team and, as always, is diligent in ensuring all necessary documentation and reporting is done in a timely manner and is able to provide a concise report when required to the Council.

Our Child and Youth Leader, Kaeleigh Berdan, works with the youth of our congregation and the community. Due to the ever-changing protocols that were in place during the last year, Kaeleigh needed to be flexible with her plans. When able to, Kaeleigh arranged for such events as an Ice Cream Fun Night, Halloween Themed get together, and a night spent together around a bonfire. We appreciate Kaeleigh's creativity and energy as she works with our youth.

We have had the pleasure of having Tabitha McLachlin Carey with us over the past several months for her practicum while working on her Masters of Divinity at Atlantic School of Theology. Tabitha regularly takes part in the Sunday services with the Children's Time or sermons which are enjoyed by the congregation. We wish Tabitha the best of luck in her continued studies.

STRATHROY UNITED CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES
SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022 11:00 AM

Thank you to each and every one of our staff. While the year continued to be one of many challenges, due to the dedicated staff working together we pulled through and it is the hope that the year ahead will allow us to return to more normalcy and complete the work of the church that we are meant to do while keeping each one of us safe.

- Additional appreciations were offered to the Chair by Rev. Brad Morrison.

15. Close Meeting

- Meeting adjourned 12:05pm.

16. Closing Prayer

Tabitha Carey

Chairperson: Marjorie Harris

Secretary: Patti Baratta

DRAFT