

**ST MARK THE EVANGELIST  
PARISH COUNCIL  
Meeting of February 17, 2018  
7:30 pm, Choir Room  
DRAFT MINUTES**

**In attendance:** Janis Perkin, Michael Perkin, Rev Jessica Worden-Bolling, Jenny Morphey, Gillian Morris, Kate Greer-Close, Margaret Lodge, Georgia Roberts, Penny Miller, Cynthia Greer, Bruce Lodge, Ray Davidson, Laurie Slaughter

### **1. Opening the meeting**

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm.

**Opening Prayer/Reflection:** Prayer was offered by Rev Jessica. The reflection question was "What are you planning to take out or/and give up for Lent and why."

**Regrets:** Maria Padin

Reverend Jessica Worden-Bolling welcomed Pauline Adam who is the incoming Rector's Warden.

#### **Approval of the Agenda:**

Moved by Michael Perkin, seconded by Gillian Morris; carried

### **2. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting:**

Moved by Cynthia Greer, seconded by Michael Perkin; carried

Corrections: In the Warden's Report it was requested that the 7<sup>th</sup> line should read "it is not to be used as a way of giving money to a specific charity."

### **3. Business arising from previous meeting**

#### **Seniors- New Ministry Initiative**

There is nothing new to report due to coming changes at Julian of Norwich. The groups from the two parishes are still hoping to meet.

#### **Status of Cornerstone / Julian of Norwich project**

Rev. Jessica contacted Sue Garvey who sent St. Mark's a pledge form to fill out. This was passed around to all members at the meeting. Our pledge is for \$3,500.00 to help furnish a room. The Art Show will be giving any proceeds from their sale minus their costs to the fund-raising effort.

### **4. Regular Reports**

#### **Rector's Report**

##### **Service of Prayer for Christian Unity**

The service of Prayer for Christian Unity went very well and we have a large turn out from all three congregations. Thank you to everyone who helped with bringing in food and setting things up. Thank you to the choir who participated and made the event possible. I really appreciate everyone's support and help in making this event a success. Now that I know Fr. Antonio, I'll make sure we get lots of notice about hosting any future events.

## **Visioning Day January 28<sup>th</sup> update**

On Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> we had a wonderful turn out for our first visioning session with 50 parishioners in attendance. I really appreciate everyone's participation in this discussion. I will include the raw data that we recorded and Gillian Morris typed up. The planning group is meeting again on Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. It is my hope that the 5 Marks of Mission focus during Lent will help our overall vision for St. Mark's. I am happy to announce that we have booked the date of Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> for a full day planning session with the Rev. Monique Stone. She will help us create a 5 year ministry plan for St. Mark's.

## **5 Marks of Mission Lenten Focus**

During Lent we will have special guest speakers at the 10am service on Sundays to help us focus on the 5 Marks of Mission.

Lent 1, February 18<sup>th</sup> – To Proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom, Guest speaker Leslie Giddings, Child, Youth and Adult Learning Facilitator (She will address Mark #1 & Mark #2)

Lent 2, February 25<sup>th</sup> – To Teach, Baptize and Nurture New Believers (Vestry Meeting Sunday)

Lent 3, March 4- To Respond to Human need by Loving Service, Guest speaker Rev. Linda Posthuma, Chaplain at Cornerstone

Lent 4, March 11<sup>th</sup> – To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence and pursue peace and reconciliation, Guest Speaker is Larry Langlois, member of the All My Relations committee of the Diocese. He will lead a smudging ceremony at 9:40am outside if the weather is nice or in the hall to prevent too much smoke and scent from going into the sanctuary.

Lent 5, March 18<sup>th</sup> – To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth, Guest speaker is Randal Goodfellow, Founding Chair of the Diocesan committee, "Creation Matters".

Submitted by: Rev. Jessica Worden-Bolling

**Comments:** Following Lent and the focus on the Five Marks of Mission there will be a visual representation of parishioners' hopes and dreams for St. Mark posted in the Link. It will be a garden with vines and then flowers can be added with the hopes and dreams written on them. Janis Perkin will provide flowers of different shapes and colours for the garden.

It was suggested that the summary of the discussions held during St. Mark's Visioning Session on January 28, 2018 should be made available to as many parishioners as possible. Could it be placed on the website? Margaret Lodge thought that there was enough room in the Lenten mailing to include it as well.

## **Warden's / Property Report**

1. While we as P.C agreed to change the composition of P.C. by adding a youth/ church school connection, we would like to make it a vote of Vestry.
2. We need to choose or vote on a new secretary, before the first P.C. after vestry.
3. and a new chair of Parish Council by the next meeting.
4. The chair and secretary do not need to be voted in members of P.C. and sometimes it is better if they aren't. That way those who are elected have time to speak and vote.
5. Men -We have very few active –a) by being in church, and b) physically active, i.e. can stand on a ladder, bend, carry heavy things. etc. in our congregation.  
I counted approximately 20 to 22 at most, although there are a lot of men.

We need to formulate a letter, which asks what they can participate in, and offers enough suggestions. They probably only vaguely realize that there aren't many of them. I don't see another way around it.

6. Yesterday the office thermostat went haywire, so it is now pretty chilly. Ask Rev. Jessica and Karen B. Being from Yorkshire, I wasn't as sympathetic as I might have been, although I brought a woollen shawl for Karen!  
Hopefully, once the Vestry report has been run, there will be chance to fix it.
7. When the cleaners came in on Monday, the kitchen door was about a foot open.
8. The AED report. The wellness committee has asked the Corporation to take over the running and checking of the AED. The present wellness committee will organize the next training session before they hand it over. We need a person, or 2 people to check the equipment each month.
9. We need to change names on the list of signers for cheques. Will make an appointment.

Cynthia

### **Property Report**

There has been little needing repair.

This is with the exception of the roof. The roof is leaking almost non-stop.

There are 2 separate leaks, one in the sacristy, coming from the flat roof of the office, where the sloped roof meets the flat roof. I apologize to the Altar Guild in particular that they have a lot of buckets in the way.

The other one is in the church, again on the flat roof, on the south side. It is where the inside Christmas tree stands. This only began Monday Feb 5<sup>th</sup>.

I have arranged with Elio, our snow clearer, to add clearing off the snow on the office roof, near the sloped roof for 6 feet out and on the flat south roof for 10 feet eastwards from the office to his work load, at extra cost when requested.

Suggestions and innovative ideas are always listened to and implemented where possible.

At some point the ceiling in the sacristy will need to be fixed, but that isn't new.

What we need are some physically healthy men and women, who can paint, clean up, replace lights, and keep their eye out for future problems.

There are many things to do, but which are not yet absolutely necessary.

Saturday May 26<sup>th</sup> is clean up the church day. Please keep it available.

Cynthia Greer.

**Comments:** there was a question about whether we need to have Vestry vote on the addition of a new position on Parish Council, in this instance a Church School representative. Rev. Jessica will consult with Rev. Chris Dunn.

There was some discussion about Property work that needs to be done around the church. Due to less people at St. Mark's available to do the work usually done by volunteers it may require hiring others to do it. An example is paying Elio's staff to clear the office roof of snow as needed. It is the in-coming People's Warden that coordinates the Property work. Cynthia Greer is actively seeking the names of handymen who might be available to do some work and Rev. Jessica has offered to canvas her colleagues about what they do.

## **Treasurer's Report**

We had less income in January than what we had budgeted. Georgia pointed out that expenses are on par with other years. We probably need more time to see where we really are financially for 2018. We are trending in the same way as in previous years. We have no outstanding debts. Georgia will follow-up on the question about where we find a list pointing out the uses that can be made of the Consolidated Trust Fund monies. The other question she will research is whether the Rectory Trust Fund can be used for capital or other projects at St. Mark's.

## **Membership / Vitality / Communications**

**Membership**                      death: 1                      move: 1                      new member: 1

**Name Badge program:**     I am still looking into this – cost being the main problem

### **Past Parish events:**

January 14	8:45am	Parish Breakfast – Jamaica with Audia Barnett
January 21	5:00pm	Service of Prayer for Christian Unity – St Mark's hosted. Madonna della Risurrezione and the Dormition of the Virgin Mary joined us. Members from three choirs took part. Clergy and lay people from all churches led the service. The service was in English, with hymns in English, Italian and Greek. Over 150 attended, including 30 from St Mark's. An extensive reception followed.
January 28	9:00am	Joint service and Vision 1 for St Mark's future – 50 attended and they provided a lot of positive input.

### **Up-coming Parish events:**

February 13	5-7:00pm	Pancake Supper
February 14	10:00am / 7:00pm	Ash Wednesday Service
February 21 > March 21	10:00am / 7:30pm	Lenten Study
February 25	9:00am	Joint service and Vestry following
March 7	12 noon	Card Party
March 11	8:45am	Parish Breakfast

### **Vitality**

The Group met on January 30 to expand plans for the first few months.

- St Mark's Patronal parish lunch - Sunday April 22. This will be a sit-down ham & salad lunch for the parish. It will not be advertised elsewhere. There will be a freewill offering, with a suggested \$10, with proceeds going to our parish sponsor-a-room for Cornerstone.
- Rev Jessica had talked about an inter-generational service in the future, it was suggested that our patronal day would be a good opportunity of being 'family' for the whole day.
- We are hoping to do the Big Give and Doors Open Ottawa again June 2/3. This will require a Parish Clean-up day May 26.
- Parish Dinner – Saturday October 20 – we are looking at a 'concert' option to add to this. This will be a catered meal and a major fundraiser.
- Stairwell Carollers – December 7, 7:30pm: this concert is now confirmed and agreements signed. This is the last major fundraiser for the year.

### **Communications:**

**MTW Lent newsletter:** this will be printed and ready for distribution February 11, and will include tax receipts. Next MTW will be late May.

**Web Page:** a change to the type of web application is long over-due. It has been discussed a number of times and nothing happened. It is now being looked at again.

Margaret Lodge    Membership

## **Stewardship**

Michael Perkin reported on the Elder Care Survey. The survey has been distributed throughout the ecclesiastical province of Ontario. There have been 88 surveys received so far. The Provincial Council will look at them in March and questions will be formulated that can be asked during the run-up to the provincial election.

## **Outreach**

There was nothing to report at this time.

## **New Ministry Initiative for Seniors**

This was spoken about earlier in Business Arising.

## **Choir / Church School**

### **Sunday School:**

We have now sent our funds from our Christmas fundraising and donations to Plan (beekeeping and books), CCFC (moringa tree) and PWRDF (goat for Mothers and Children program).

I am planning a church school party, it will likely be in March (March 4 is my tentative date), lunch and movie after church.

We will be taking a detour from our gospel-based studies to study the Old Testament - leaders and prophets.

### **Choir:**

We will have a new choir representative to accept at Vestry - Karen Barber has volunteered to represent the choir, being as I will be officially representing the church school and not the choir, and Ray is stepping down. I am continuing my term as choir president.

### **Additions to Choir Report February 2018**

Thank you to Bruce and Margaret for hosting our winter choir party at their home - it was lovely to arrive cold and be quickly warmed up with gluhwein (juice version)! At vestry there will be a new host of representatives chosen/appointed to represent the parish on our Parish Council. We, the choir, have a choir representative. Although we have many choristers on PC, Ray has been the specific representative for the choir.

I am currently the choir president but have not been able to be our choir representative as I have been on PC as member at large. My term as member at large is ending but at PC we discussed the need to have Sunday School represented on Parish Council (which I have also been doing but not officially) so I would volunteer to take on that role officially.

All this to say, that Karen Barber has expressed interest in participating on Parish Council and Ray is pleased to pass on the baton so it seems a good fit for Karen to take on the role of choir representative at Parish Council (since I still can't take that on). This means that she will offer reports on the choir at meetings and consider the choir's interests in discussions and decisions.

Thank you very much to Karen for volunteering and thanks to Ray for his time on PC!

(submitted by e-mail February 7, 2018)

Kate Greer-Close

## **6. Other Business**

- a. Parish Council Notes for Bulletin: Cynthia will draft a note about names of available handymen.
- b. Next Meeting- Wednesday, March 14, 2018
- c. Thanks for the retiring members of Council  
Bruce Lodge offered thanks to the following members:
  - Penny Miller, People's Warden finishing a 4 year term
  - Janis Perkin, Synod member and recording secretary
  - Maria Padin, Alternate member to Synod
  - Ray Davidson, Choir representative
  - Kate Greer-Close, member at large

## **7. Adjournment**

Business being completed the meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted by  
Janis Perkin, Parish Council Secretary