

**ST MARK THE EVANGELIST  
PARISH COUNCIL  
Meeting of 11 January 2017  
7:00 pm, Bishop Reed Hall  
DRAFT MINUTES**

**In attendance:** Penny Miller, Jenny Morpew, Heather Simpson, Gillian Morris, Cynthia Greer, Suzanne Wilkins, Margaret Lodge, Fr. Jim Roberts, Janis Perkin, Michael Perkin, Laurie Slaughter

**1. Opening the meeting**

a. Call to order – 7:03 p.m. by Suzanne Wilkins

b. Opening Prayer/Reflection- Fr. Jim Roberts

c. Regrets: Ray Davidson, Kate Greer-Close

d. Approval of the Agenda

added – Jenny Morpew – Lay Reader at Christ Church Ashton put under Other Business

Lenten Outreach

Nominations Committee

Moved by Penny Miller, seconded by Michael Perkin; carried.

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting(s)**

- add Margaret Lodge to those in attendance

-in 2017 Event Calendar dates-change Vestry date from February 20, 2017 to February 19, 2017

Motion to approve minutes: moved by Margaret Lodge; seconded by Gillian Morris; approved.

**3. Business arising from previous meeting(s)**

**i) Budget 2017**

Parish Council reviewed and had continued discussion of the proposed 2017 budget.

At the end of the review and discussion Parish Council offered appreciation to the members of the Vitality group for their efforts in fundraising activities.

The following motion was made by Corporation:

Corporation moves that the budget for 2017 be approved by Parish Council for submission at Vestry.

moved by Penny Miller; seconded by Cynthia Greer; approved.

**ii) Date of Vestry- February 19, 2017**

Parish Council suggested that there be one combined service starting 9:00 am so the 8:00 am parishioners can attend as well. The service change will be taken under consideration by Corporation.

**iii) New Ministry**

Suzanne Wilkins presented Summary Notes (scan attached) from the St. Mark's Ministry Group Meeting. Fr. Jim commented on the request of the Bishop for St. Mark's to have a ministry focus. Elder care is going to be a huge issue in the province. St. Mark's has the skill set as seen through friendly visitors, the card ministry, Perley volunteers etc. Our history in elder care reaches back to Betty Gillham and her support of seniors and her service to them. There is a great need for programming and we could perhaps become a centre of excellence in the diocese. Margaret Lodge suggested that there be a report prepared for Vestry.

## 4. Regular Reports

### a. Rector's Report

Fr. Jim attended a planning meeting with the Greek Orthodox (Dormition of the Virgin Mary), Antiochan Orthodox (St. Elias), Madonna Della Risurrezione on January 12, 2017. This shared ecumenical service is being celebrated jointly by the neighbourhood churches at The Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church, 1315 Prince of Wales Dr. and will start at 5pm.

### b. Warden's Report/ Property

Sharon Walters has withdrawn from the position of Rector's Warden because of personal and professional reasons. There are just over two more years remaining to complete this position as it is an appointed position. Fr Jim has some suggested names and will be approaching these people. On Sunday we found out that the person who had been approached to take over the Treasurer position has declined. The search for a treasurer continues.

Property: Our thanks go to Cynthia and Paul Greer who researched and then replaced the outdoor light at the end of the hall which now offers better lighting coverage of the back parking lot. A donation was received to cover the costs of this. Paul Greer is clearing the snow off of the roof above where we have had leaks inside the church, to see if this makes a difference. Thank you.

### c. Treasurer

2017 Budget

### d. Membership/ Vitality

Report attached

### e. Stewardship

As we discussed, I am going to talk to Jim regarding a Stewardship Sunday, one in January, potentially one in June and another in Nov/Dec. Each one will have a theme. the January one is giving thanks. We will hopefully link the sermon to and opportunity to give thanks as a congregation. Details need to be worked out but I was thinking about having the 8 & 10 a.m. services write down what they are thankful for and collect them. At vestry I would ask for a few minutes to present a slide show on all the things we are thankful for as a congregation. The other two stewardship Sundays would also have themes and at least one of them would focus on faithful and sacrificial giving.

With respect to fund raising, I would like to suggest that corporation consider establishing a team to take on fundraising in an intentional manner. They would be the coordinators/facilitators and work with groups like Vitality to enhance fundraising. Vitality certainly has the internal St. Mark's portion wrapped up but there may be other opportunities such as rental, special events and other opportunities not funded by the congregation.

As I mentioned when I took on Stewardship it was not supposed to be all about fundraising or money. I would be willing to participate with any group to provide stewardship insights etc. but not in a leadership capacity.

Hope this provides food for thought, Michael Perkin

### f. Choir

(Originally an email from Ray Davidson)

The choirs have worked very hard in preparation for the Advent and Christmas services and in the presentation of the musical parts of the liturgy for the entire Christmas

season. I have not heard from our director of music, but it is my feeling that the commitment and devotion of these St. Mark's volunteers is commendable. I have also heard feedback that the music sung by the choirs was both beautiful and transcending and that the choir rates as one of the best in the Ottawa Anglican diocese.

g. Children and Youth( Sunday School / Junior choir report)

Advent wreaths: we sold 10 wreaths and received donations of materials as well as funds and so were able to raise \$225. The children and I will be deciding where to direct those funds this Sunday (Plan, World Vision likely).

Cookies: thanks to generous bakers and a great turnout of children we decorated cookies and donated them to St Luke's, The Mission and Salvation Army (Booth Centre).

Cards: the children coloured cards for our elderly and shut-in parishioners, and folk who attend our Friday services at the Perley; my mum (Cynthia Greer) mailed/delivered them

Pageant: There were about 20 children at the early Christmas Eve service and 15 of them participated in the pageant (7 children plus 2 young adults (Sarah and Alex Dee) sang in the choir).

Donation: We received a donation of funds directed to the children, with which I have purchased prayer cubes as gifts for the children.

I think that is all for now. I am very thankful for all of the support our congregation offers to our children's programs.

h. Outreach

Laurie Slaughter mentioned that the New Ministry report touched on Outreach.

## Other Business

a. Notes for the Bulletin

Firstly, a great big thank you from Parish Council for your generous giving in 2017

Dates to Remember:

January 22- Shared ecumenical Service to be held jointly with the neighbouring churches. This year it is being celebrated at The Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church, 1315 Prince of Wales Dr. and will start at 5pm.

January 29- St. Mark's Stewardship Sunday

February 19- Vestry There will be one service starting at 9am with Vestry starting at around 10:30am

The Nominating Committee is seeking to fill the following positions:

Synod Member 2 years

Alternate member to Synod 1 year

Membership 2 years

Outreach

Parish Council Member at Large 2 years

Please contact Suzanne Wilkins or Jane Delroy if interested in serving.

- b. Next meeting: February 8, 2017 please note time change: 7:30 pm following Corporation meeting
- c. Jenny Morphew brought information regarding a program offered by Brian Hull, a lay reader with Christ Church Ashton. He thought that we might be interested in Future Search. I have included the website address <http://www.futuresearch.net/method/whatis/> (copy and paste into the address bar).  
Then choose Applications and then on the next page Congregations. This is for information only and not an endorsement of the program.
- d. Lenten Outreach  
Parish Council has suggested the following charities for consideration: ANCOURA, The Ottawa Mission and the children's group that visits Iqaluit.
- e. Nominations Committee  
The committee members are Jane Delroy, Suzanne Wilkins and Sheila Pitt.

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- Synod Member 2 years
- Alternate member to Synod 1 year
- Membership 2 years
- Outreach
- Parish Council Member at Large 2 years

Please contact Suzanne Wilkins or Jane Delroy if interested in serving.

## 6. Adjournment

The Agenda being completed the meeting adjourned with the Grace at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Janis Perkin, Parish Council Secretary

## **Membership / Vitality Report January 2017**

### **Membership**

No new members since January 1, 2017

Presently have 195 family units

Newcomers in 2016 were 13 family units

Family units that were removed from our parish lists in 2016

6 moved out of parish

3 died

3 removed

### **Vitality**

A group from Vitality signed the Christmas cards for parishioners. The card was of St Mark's Nativity window, produced by Joy Bowerman.

In 2016 the Vitality group was challenged to raise \$5000 to help keep the church financially viable. This was not originally part of our mandate, but this challenge was accepted, and a number of FUN(d)raising events took place, including fun / community outreach / fundraising activities:

- Queen Elizabeth Dinner
- Card party
- Songs4Soul
- Big Give
- Tales &Tunes
- Garage Sale
- Pasta Supper
- Stairwell Carollers

We not only raised the \$5000 challenge but surpassed by over \$3000. At the last Parish Council meeting, we were just under \$7000, short \$19 - council was asked to make up the balance – and they did! In late December the ACW Card Party profit (Jackie Sorfleet and friends) added another \$1000. The final total was \$8023.

This had been a major challenge for Vitality – but we had amazing support from the congregation and friends, and also the greater community through the two non-parish concerts.

We have been commissioned to help raise \$5000 through social activities again for 2017. The group will meet in the next week to plan programs for 2017. Possible suggestions being:

- April 23 weekend – St Mark's patronal feast (25<sup>th</sup>)
- Card Party in May ?
- Garage Sale in May
- Songs 4 the Soul 2 – parish choral workshop – in May
- Big Give in June
- 2 parish suppers (spring / fall)
- 1 or 2 non-parish entertainment program (fall)

## **St. Mark's Ministry Group Meeting**

### **Summary Notes**

The following possibilities were discussed for the use of the church in and for the community, preferably in partnership:

1. **Diocesan Community Ministries Satellite** – a possible counselling site for the Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Center for example.
2. **Hospice Satellite** for bereavement counselling and groups and possibly a day hospice in conjunction with Hospice Care Ottawa as it is overseen by government affiliated organizations (LHINN).
3. **Refugee Administration Centre Satellite** (perhaps for the diocese)
4. **Food Community Centre** for: Newcomers; the Disadvantaged; Seniors (who are cooking for one) – affiliation with Meals on Wheels? – A better kitchen would certainly be required.
5. **Music Hub** – for Teaching and Performing (new seats would be needed)

Of all these discussion points, the music hub, hospice satellite and community ministries seemed the most possible.

**OUR SPACE IS OUR ASSET!**