

**ST MARK THE EVANGELIST
PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting of June 13, 2018
7:00 pm, Choir Room
DRAFT MINUTES**

In attendance Janis Perkin recording secretary, , Rev Jessica Worden-Bolling, Bruce Lodge, Pauline Adams, Cynthia Greer, Penny Miller, Karen Barber, Jenny Morphew, Kate Greer-Close, Gillian Morris, Margaret Lodge, Georgia Roberts, Judy Life, Laurie Slaughter, Suzanne Bisson

1. Opening the meeting

Call to order Pauline Adams opened the meeting.

Opening Prayer/Reflection offered by Rev Jessica

Reflection Question "How do you plan to find rest, relaxation and spiritual renewal this summer?"

Regrets Michael Perkin

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Bruce Lodge seconded by Jenny Morphew; carried

2. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting

Moved by Georgia Roberts seconded by Karen Barber; carried

3. Business arising from previous meeting

Entrance Sign at the Link: Georgia reported that the sign needs to be mounted. Also, a decision needs to be made about its location.

4. Regular Reports

Rector's Report **June 13th, 2018**

Meeting with Bethel

I was approached by Randal Goodfellow who had come to talk to us about the Environment during Lent. He suggested St. Mark's meet with representatives from Bethel Pentecostal who are leading an outreach program. A small group from St. Mark's met with two social workers who lead the Bethel Care Centre program. So far they are holding things twice a month (one Saturday and one other day in the week). They do a clothing sale (50 cents per item) and a food bank with lots of fresh food. They have done extensive research in our community and their program is in high demand. It was exciting to meet with them and a small group from St. Mark's plans to go and see how the program runs in late June. This may prove to be an outreach project that we can assist with in some way. At any rate, it was wonderful to meet members of Bethel.

Lisa Fabian's information about Bethel Care Centre:

"The Care Centre provides both immediate relief in the form of food and clothing to those living on low income in our community, along with classes designed to help build capacity in individuals and families. Marketplace is our immediate relief branch where guests are offered access to our full choice food pantry and clothing depot. During Marketplace, we provide a store like environment where families are able to shop for items that their family need and enjoy. At Marketplace, we offer a variety of non-perishable foods, milk, eggs and bread, along with fresh fruit and vegetables. All items in our food pantry are free of charge. Guests can also choose from a variety of seasonal clothing, shoes, coats and accessories in our clothing depot. We charge 50 cents per item and all proceeds are reinvested back

into the food pantry. While guests wait, we offer either a continental style breakfast on Saturday mornings or a light lunch on Mondays free of charge. Children are also encouraged to complete crafts, colour and engage in other activities offered in our kids zone while their family waits to take a turn in the food pantry or clothing depot. During the month, we offer a variety of programs designed to build capacity in individuals and families including two cooking classes, conversational English circles, employments services, and a bible study called Finding Hope. We also provide follow up calls and home visits.

When we launched the Care Centre in January 2016, we served 27 families our first month. We have experienced consistent growth since then and now serve over 115 families per month. Each month approximately 20% of our guests are new. To meet the growing need, we have developed a number of partnerships with local businesses and are also a member agency of the Ottawa Food Bank.

You can find a video that summaries our services at <https://www.bethelcarecentre.ca/about-us>
Additional information is also available on our website [bethelcarecentre.ca](https://www.bethelcarecentre.ca)"

Indigenous Day of Prayer

Joy Bowerman attended the Moving Forward with Reconciliation day on Sat. May 26th, organized by the All My Relations Working Group. Joy will be reporting on the day during the sermon time this coming Sunday, June 17th at both 8 and 10am. Last year Bishop John Chapman encouraged every church in the Diocese of Ottawa to mark the Indigenous Day of Prayer on one of the Sundays either before or after the National Indigenous Peoples Day which is Thursday, June 21st. We will be marking this important educational Sunday on June 17th.

Season of Baptism

We will be welcoming Max Bordman (Erin Perkin, Jamie Bordman) into our Christian family at his baptism on Sunday, June 24th. This is the third baptism that we have had since Easter. It is a wonderful time as we celebrate this baby boom within our parish and help nurture these new believers. We will be having more baptisms in the fall. What a wonderful thing to celebrate!

Intergenerational services

We will be having an intergenerational service on Sunday, June 24th as we invite our whole church family to worship together and celebrate the beginning of summer time. Kate Close and I had a good discussion about planning more intergenerational services for the fall. We will be having them seasonally on appropriate Sundays. This will help with the huge commitment that running Sunday school entails and it will also be good for us to worship with the children.

Summer Holidays and Supply Clergy – The Rev. Rhondda Mackay will be taking the service on Sunday, July 1st and on Sunday, August 19th. The Rev. Bill Byers will be taking the service on Sunday, August 26th and Sunday, September 2nd. I will be away on holidays from Monday, August 13th through to Saturday, September 8th. (Here for Sunday, August 12th and back on Sunday, September 9th). The clergy at All Saints Westboro have agreed to cover any pastoral emergencies that arise during that time. The number for All Saints Westboro is; 613-725-9487.

Warden's Report

There are problems with the phones. Calling in can result in some lengthy music while waiting. Contracts for both the staff who are paid by the diocese and those who are paid by St. Marks are being prepared.

Parking in our lot after school is still an issue. Some No Parking signs might help.

Monies from the Joan Knight behest and Circle 2 are earmarked for the Kitchen renovations. Parish Council will be seeking feedback from parishioners.

In a parking lot paving update there are three different estimates but the measurements are different in each case.

Some painting will be done around the church this summer. With the day camp using the church we will need to work around their schedule. The plan is to paint the cloakroom and the Link to start. Parish council members were asked to fill in the spaces for the summer serving roster.

Property Report

Lawn care for the Church- This involves cutting the grass and clearing the ditches. Could we hire a youth to use our own equipment for the upkeep? This would actually be cheaper than the quote we received.

Treasurer's Report

Total collections are practically on budget.

Gains from assets are a little ahead of what was budgeted.

This year there is a lot of directed income which is not budgeted and it is quite a bit ahead of last year's.

Our outreach to Cornerstone (over \$5000,00) has been paid.

Overall we are ahead of where we were last year.

Membership / Vitality / Communications June 2017

Membership

St Mark's Women's Groups: Circle 2 has voted to disband. **Mothers' Union** is now the only active women's group. Cynthia Greer, as MU leader and People's Warden, would like to keep something available for all women who want to be part of a group activity. This would be for Circle 2 and any other parish women. One option is to reactivate ACW as a gathering group. Options to be discussed.

Church Events/Activities Report: The initial report was presented to Parish Council in April. Concerns had been raised that we were exhausting ourselves, that we might be trying to do too much, that we might need to refocus. This in part was addressed via the Visioning Day. As directed from the May Parish Council meeting, Membership discussed the whole report on May 28, (during a Mothers' Union meeting). Present were Cynthia Greer, Jenny Morphew, Penny Miller, Gillian Morris, Margaret Blakeney, Wanda Bowman, Suzanne Bisson, Rev Jessica Worden-Bolling, Laurie Slaughter and myself, Margaret Lodge. Each item/event was looked at to see just how much overlap of personnel there was, and to determine what might be dropped and why. Of the 70+ items, most were seen as OK as is, and up to the leader/group to decide if changes or ending the event are needed. Help is always needed, but felt it was not too much of an issue at this time. The new items raised from Visioning were not looked upon as overly time-consuming either. Again, it was noted that people choose what they want or need to do. If new activities become more important, and there is less time and helpers available for old events, then each event will need to be looked at for its own merit by the parish and the individual. As noted before, some activities might need to continue if only as a 'social' need and could continue as that, living its own life span.

Extra Help: Activities that might need extra help, but to be determined by the leader/group:

- Church School: extra teachers not just helpers
- Parish worship: readers, servers, LAC, sidespeople, greeters, counters etc
- Parish meal events: Breakfasts, lunches
- Parish Fundraisers: Pancake Supper
Concert / Dinner
- suggested only 1 of each per year – low-key fundraising.
- Doors Open: Should we continue annually or do only 1 of 2 days or every 5 years etc.
- Property - Church/Garden Maintenance: this always needs helpers

Further Discussion: Only a few were looked upon as in need of further discussion at this time. Only two were felt to be a lot of effort for little gain – Art Show and Yard Sale.

- **Art Show:** Circle 2 the lead group has disbanded. Georgia Roberts stated that she does not want to lead the event. Primary concern is WHO will run it? It is a good community event. Artisan/Crafts were a good addition this year. It was felt it needed better organization / promotion. Is it worth the time and effort for \$1400, part of which this year was donations specifically because of Cornerstone-Princeton.
- **Yard Sale:** This is a lot of hard work, but good socialising. Suggestion to stop for now. Items received could be part of BigGive or bazaar. IF it is needed in the future it can be held 'as-needed'.
- **Debra Dynes Soupalcious:** there was concern whether this is a St Mark's project or not. Clarification as to St Mark's role especially with funding.

- **Friendly Phone / Parish Prayer Cycle phoning / Event phoning :** to be discussed – specifically is there a difference between phone calls for bazaar & events etc / prayer calls / or just to chat i.e. all are for the parish but are Police checks required for all ?
- **Friendly Visits:** starting a group ?
- **Funeral Receptions:** leadership and helpers
- **Pastoral Care:** to be discussed - it is felt this is a needed ministry – friendly visit and phone etc
- **Welcoming Sunday:** it was felt that this in it's past form wasn't working. Jessica and Laurie to discuss. Maybe it could be part of Doors Open as a 'service of open doors' flowing into Doors Open

Past Parish events:

- May 16 Seniors' Eucharist and Royal Wedding lunch – about 45 attended including choir and helpers, with guests from Carleton Memorial and St Augustine's. Choir from St Rita's school provided the entertainment. Lots of positive comments, great decorations, music, and fancy hats!
- May 26 Parish Clean-up day – less needed doing this year because of the early start with gardening and also a very good clean-up the previous year. Thanks to Cynthia Greer for organizing it.
- May 27 Madonna Festival parade – Rev Jessica, Kate Greer-Close and 8 church school children were joined by 5 adult parishioners
- May 27 Multi-faith Tulipathon – Laurie Slaughter and Brian Harrison lead 20 participants in the walk that raised over \$900 for MFHI. Again the church school was well represented.
- June 2 Big Give – quite a few people dropped in - always a nice time for reaching out to the community sharing our abundance (plants, baking etc).
- June 2 & 3 Doors Open Ottawa – we had over 30 people registered to see our church, quite a number were interested because of the architect James Strutt.

Up-coming Parish events:

- June 24 Inter-generational Sunday and Parish Picnic
- July 1 Summer hours – 9am Sung Eucharist
- September 9 back to normal hours 8am Eucharist and 10am Sung Eucharist and Church School
- September 16 Parish Breakfast
- September 23 Parish BBQ

Communications:

Newsletter: Summer newsletter being printed this week. Next MTW will be September Issue. Deadline August 1, for mid-August printing – basically a welcome back issue and events up to Advent.

Web: The present web set up is outdated and not compatible with the diocese. We need a new web provider with the old domain and from there a new web page which will still be at www.stmarksottawa.ca

- we need to be a presence if only for others to find us
- Joy Bowerman and I have been asked to look at a simple system that is cost effective
- a site that is easy to set up and easy to maintain, that virtually "anybody" with access can update,
- maintenance can be done by whoever has the password – eg calendar can be linked to the church's own calendar of activities through the office
- Joy and I met with Arnold and Emanuel Elite on May 26.
- they are looking at Wordpress – a system Joy is familiar with, I will learn
- they asked for a list of what is needed - Joy and I will provide that
- A & E Elite would be able to set up the site and basic design – there are enough templates available
- content still to be determined but a basic site can be running and archives etc added
- active spots on the site, like a calendar and maps, are part of the program templates

what information to keep or implement ?

- event info / pics
 - history, picture gallery, newsletters, archival items – this is the most viewed section
 - links to Facebook and Blog
 - active calendar for the year
 - active map/directions
 - PayPal link – looking into cost for this
- Meanwhile – the old version is still active.

Stewardship

Michael Perkin sent out the stewardship moment ahead of the meeting by e-mail.

Outreach

June 13, 2018 Outreach Report

Debra Dynes Family House – As reported after Mother's Day, our small gift contributions to DDFH for the children to purchase in order to give to their Mom on Mother's Day, were very generous this year. Two full bins of items, thanks to the caring of our parishioners, were delivered by our faithful "delivery man" Lawrence Peever, to Debra Dynes who gratefully received them. In August we will be advertising for donations of school supplies for the students at D.D.

Bales for the North – As Jenny, our Bales "delivery person" reported, our church sent over 11 bags of requested new items to St. Columba's for shipping to the northern communities that our Diocese supplies each year. Again, we were most generous in sharing. It is important to mention that the Guild/Circle Two at St. Mark's gave their usual \$500.00 towards the shipping of Bales to the North.

Tulipathon Walk (the Multifaith Housing Initiative) – The success of this participation by St. Mark's members has also been reported to the membership. Our presence at the Walk for safe and affordable housing in Ottawa was a very visible one. Over 20 church members and their friends were our representatives, including 8 children from our Sunday school. The group proudly walked on a beautiful day with the St. Mark's banner in the lead. This year we won second prize for the banner, as judged by the deputy mayor, Mark Taylor who commented on the tulips that adorned the sides of the banner, thanks to Penny Miller. Most notably this year, St. Mark's donated over \$900.00 to the building of Veterans' House. In addition, some donations were made online, so it was well over the amount we handed in at the walk station. It is our hope that next year will match or exceed this support to MFHI's walk for housing.

New Ministry Initiative

1. Meeting with Bethel Pentecostal Church – Rev. Jessica has reported on this meeting which was initiated by Randal Goodfellow. The committee was pleased by this reaching out from Bethel requesting a partnership. They were interested in our proposed plan and would be willing to work together on both our and their community outreach concepts.
2. "Seniors Soup Session" – Sixteen seniors who attend our church have been invited to a casual soup lunch after coffee this coming Sunday, June 17. Their input is most important to the development of the proposal to initiate and coordinate a local seniors' drop in centre in our space, which is a desirable feature of our church (as learned in our meeting with Bethel). The gathering over a light lunch with our seniors will hopefully bring out the needs and wants of seniors in our area that would determine the nature of activities, atmosphere and time/frequency of the drop in centre. The thoughts of our senior members are most important to the committee.

Choir

Karen Barber reported that the senior and junior choirs have maintained their normal schedule of rehearsals and participation in Sunday worship. The choral year will end with a second intergenerational service on Sunday, 24 June. Regular choral services will resume Sunday, 9 September.

Children and Youth (Sunday School)

I am trying to incorporate Sunday school singing in church opportunities as there are children who like to sing but aren't able to join the Junior choir.

We had 8 Sunday school children walking in the Tulipathon. We also had two children and two adults from St Margaret's Vanier who joined us to walk (I had invited them to attend with us). We also had 8 children who walked with Madonna for their annual parade.

Sunday school's last regular Sunday is June 17 this year but we will also be present, in church for the intergenerational service on June 24.

Sunday school will not be organized over the summer but there are toys for young children in the chapel, and paper and crayons, and reading books, at the back of the church.

5. Other Business

Little Free Library

Karen Barber is continuing the research on building a little free library. Thomas Pilson is willing to build one once plans are found. St. James, Huntley has one and may have plans.

Labyrinth

Karen Barber is continuing to research the planning and layout designs for labyrinth. It appears that there are some plans online.

AED Training etc.

Karen Barber reported the following: A sign-up sheet has been posted for those interested in certifying or recertifying in AED use. We are hoping that a sufficient number of people will be interested that we can have the training at St. Mark's in September.

The 9V battery for the door alarm of the unit has been replaced and the alarm will now sound if the door is opened. The keys to turn the alarm off are inside the unit, back left. If the alarm is sounding, retrieve the keys and insert in the lock on the front of the unit, upper left, and turn the alarm off.

Next Meeting Wednesday September 19, 2017 7:00pm

6. Adjournment the business being completed the meeting was closed with the grace at 9:05pm

Respectfully submitted by
Janis Perkin
Recording Secretary