

**ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST  
PARISH COUNCIL  
Meeting of  
May 15, 2019  
7:00 pm, Choir Room  
DRAFT MINUTES**

**In attendance:** Rev Rob Davis (Interim P-in-C), Cynthia Greer, Georgia Roberts, Karen Barber, Kate Greer-Close, Margaret Lodge, Bill Barber, Julia Fogg, Suzanne Bisson, Gillian Morris

**1. Opening the meeting**

**Call-to-order:** Father Rob opened the meeting at 7:02 pm

**a) Opening Prayer:** Offered by Rev Rob Davis

**b) Regrets:** Pauline Adams, Michael Perkin, Janis Perkin, Judy Life

**c) Approval of the Agenda:** There were no motions

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting:** there were no minutes available.

**3. Business arising from previous meeting**

Kitchen Renovations - Cynthia Greer provided an update. The appliances, fridge, upright freezer, and dishwasher have been purchased. The Armenians will be using the kitchen from 9 to 1 pm on Saturday and 1 to 5 pm on Sunday, the weekend of May 25 and May 26 so the packing of the kitchen will take place on May 27 & 28. An announcement for bins and boxes will be made.

**4. Regular Reports**

**a) Rector's Report**

Not too much to report this month. Our Eastertide services went well and seemed to be a blessing to the congregation. Great thanks to all who worked so hard to make them so, especially to Ariane and the Choir, the Altar Guild, and to Joy. And we just enjoyed another wonderful intergenerational service on Mothers Day. Unlike some in the past this was essentially a normal Sunday morning service in form, but huge thanks to Kate and our younger members for the inspiration and effort that transformed the normal into something quite special.

Beginning to look to the future, our Parish Picnic will be on June 23 and the following week, June 30, we will move to the summer pattern of worship with one service at 9:00 am, returning to our normal pattern on the Sunday after Labour Day, September 8. It is a little tricky planning at the moment as the future remains even less clear than usual. Jessica's status is still up in the air, although I gather that there may be a re-evaluation of her condition in June which might give her, and us, some idea of what is to be. In the meantime we will, I think, just have to proceed as if I will be here for the foreseeable future. Cathy and I are still working out our own plans for the summer but we will probably take some time off in August and we will soon need to figure out the necessary arrangements for that.

The Bishop is recovering well now although he did end up losing an entire lung. He was at the Bishops Gala, although not for the whole of it, and spoke to us of his experience. In particular he spoke of his gratitude for the prayers of the people of the Diocese and of how this time has allowed him to experience the strength and comfort of prayers offered for him in a more powerful way than ever before in his ministry.

The Bishop's Office has announced the appointment of Darren Graham as the Executive Director of Centre 454 effective June 3, 2019. Darren has worked in organizations addressing issues such as homelessness, housing, addictions, poverty reduction, and food security, and has most recently been Residential Coordinator at the John Howard Society since 2015.

It strikes me, these days, that we are living in a time of uncertainty and confusion, not just in our parish, but in our diocese, our city, our province, our country, and in our world itself. So it may be a good time to remember and consider Isaiah 30: 15: *For thus says the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and trust shall be your strength."*

### **The Ven. Rob Davis Priest in Charge**

*Note:* Father Rob also mentioned that he will speak with Joy regarding the summer service - but the plan is to keep it simple". Georgia mentioned that we usually have a bulletin that serves for the summer.

### **b) Warden's Report**

Information on kitchen provided by Cynthia in item 3, Business from previous meeting.

### **c) Treasurer's Report**

Georgia Roberts presented the budget. She pointed out that envelop collection is down and she will look into this. St Mark's does not take up a collection during service and it was suggested that before the service starts, an announcement be made that we do not take up a collection, but for those wishing to donate, there are plates at the back of the Church.

Margaret Lodge suggested and it was widely accepted that there be a separate budget sheet regarding the kitchen resources (e.g. Joan Knight, Circle Two) and expenditures, such as the appliances, contractors fee, etc. Georgia will provide this separate report on the kitchen.

There were no motions.

### **d) Property Report**

Cynthia Greer presented the property report.

On Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> we held our spring cleanup outside. While there were very few people, those who came worked very hard. The 6 pathfinders and leaders were very helpful and pleasant. Might be the beginning of a good relationship with them. 4 of the 8 helpers were my family, so they are used to knowing what needs doing.

We accomplished many of the jobs.

There is still more work on the ditches, as they were wet.

Russ and Georgia started cutting the cedars on the Normandy side of the parking lot.

The 3 new handicapped signs are up in the appropriate places.

Margaret Blakeney is working hard on the gardens.

Part of the fascia has been replaced. The other half will be done later.

The sump pumps have worked hard all winter.

The kitchen renovations will begin on May 29<sup>th</sup>. This will be a nuisance, but that is inevitable. They need to be completed by June 26<sup>th</sup>. The things from the kitchen will be kept in the conference room.

Next week I'm going to be pricing windows.

Please let me know if there are jobs that need doing.

Cynthia Greer

### **e) Membership**

Margaret Lodge presented this report. Since April there were three baptisms; three new members; and one death.

#### **Vitality**

1. **Patronal Day and Lunch April 28:** We had three baptisms. The parish lunch was the official 'welcome to St Mark's' for the newcomers who came after our last 'welcome' in 2016. As of April 2019 we had 16 family invitees, of which 10 families attended. Donations \$449.40 – Expenses \$222.50 = \$223.90. We will need to replace a few tablecloths.

2 Big Give June 1: has been cancelled for this year

3 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 1<sup>st</sup> Anglican service October 9, 1949:

- October 5 - Parish Pot-luck Supper: details to follow
- October 6 – Eucharist Service: details to follow

#### **Communications**

**Newsletter:** Next issue is mid-May for June distribution. This is the end of season/summer newsletter but I hope to have some info on Fall events, so please plan ahead.

The Fall issue will be produced in mid-August.

**Web:** There is still nothing to report. I emailed Joy Bowerman and Fr Rob. Joy said she had been in touch with one of the Elites. I have no details. The old site is still being maintained.

#### **Past Parish events:**

April 28 Patronal Sunday – 3 baptisms, 75 attended the parish lunch that included a 'welcome' to 16 newcomer families.

May 11 Spring cleaning – church & property. About 15 turned out including Pathfinders (Guides)

May 12 Mother's Day Intergenerational service – the church school did readings, prayers and a special song

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

May >June Coffee, Company & Conversation continues every Thursday until June 27

May 22 Seniors Eucharist & Lunch - a new date 11am Eucharist

May 26 Tulipathon – Multi-Faith Housing

May 29 >June Kitchen reno

June 23 Parish Picnic

**Margaret Lodge**, Membership, Vitality and Communications

### **f) Stewardship**

The new financial stewardship campaign will be launched in the fall under the title "2020 Vision". The format will follow that of the previous 2018 campaign. Its purpose is to provide the parish financial committee with updated information in order to set a budget for the 2020 financial year.

The launch date will be Sunday, September 8, the Sunday after Labour Day. Parishioners will be asked to return their completed pledge forms no later than Sunday, October 13, Thanksgiving Day weekend. The forms will be reviewed firstly by Karen Roberts, the envelope secretary, who will be the only person to see

individual pledges. Karen will prepare a collated summary of all pledges for use by the financial committee in November and December so that a budget will be ready for presentation at the 2020 Vestry.

To quote Father Rob, who reminds us that "Giving opens our hearts and lives so that we are able to receive all the blessing God pours out", as promised in Malachi 3:10.

**Bruce Lodge**, Stewardship 2020 Campaign Coordinator

## **g) Outreach**

### **Circle Two**

On May 14, 2018 members agreed and the motion was passed to disband Circle Two. At this same meeting all members agreed that the balances in the Circle Two bank accounts would be transferred to the much needed repairs to the kitchen.

The combined balances from St. Mark's Ladies Guild and St. Mark's Ladies Guild Circle of \$7,602.68 were transferred on May 8, 2019 to St. Mark's TD bank account.

### **Debra Dynes Family House**

On May 6, I attended DDFH along with Doreen Matteow to deliver the Mother's Day gifts that had been donated by St. Mark's parishioners. Forty-nine children were able to purchase gifts for their mothers. As well, Doreen donated a large box of baby items to DDFH. We also brought over three large bags of upholstery material (swathes) that had been donated to St. Marks. DDFH will use these in their weekly sewing classes.

### **Coffee, Company and Conversation**

This community ministry continues every Thursday mornings from 10:00 to 12:00 for seniors from St. Mark's and the surrounding local community. The numbers of attendees have ranged from 22 to 38 with a third on average from outside of St. Mark's. Free-will donations have sustained the program and a roster of bakers have provided delicious morning snacks. We thank all the St. Mark's people who have helped bake, set up, clean up and help with welcoming attendees/participants. Many thanks to Laurie Slaughter for spearheading this Church outreach program.

Suzanne Bisson, Outreach Coordinator

## **h) Choir Report 15 May 2019**

The Junior and Senior Choirs continued to provide music for services, especially those during Holy Week (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the Great Vigil of Easter, and Easter Sunday). The busiest time of the year passed very successfully. Another intergenerational service was held 12 May, to the enjoyment of all.

Karen M. Barber  
Choir Representative

## **i) AED Report 15 May 2019**

There is nothing to report at this time.

Karen M. Barber  
AED Contact Person

## **j) Fire Extinguishers and Emergency Lighting 15 May 2019**

There is nothing to report at this time.

Karen M. Barber

### **k) Little Free Library Report 15 May 2019**

Larry Last is to deliver the Little Free Library Wednesday morning (15 May 2019). Further details will be available by the time Parish Council meets.

**Karen M. Barber**

Note: It was agreed that Julia Fogg, Kate Greer-Close and Karen Barber would decide where the little library was to be placed. Note that the City has to ensure that no gas lines are located where the library pole will be. Karen will contact the City.

It was discussed and agreed that an honorarium be given to Larry Last, e.g. Lee Valley gift certificated. There were no motions on the above.

### **l) Children and Youth - Kate Greer-Close**

All of the children and youth who attended our May 12 Intergenerational service were able to participate in some way: singing, reading, serving, helping with sides-duty or communion, or in the prayers.

This being the long weekend, there will be no Sunday school, but there will be (as usual) crayons/paper and books at the back of the church, as well as a few toys in the chapel.

We hope to have a good group of children and youth participating in the Tulipathon walk on May 26.

I am just counting up our Lenten Outreach offering which we will direct to Centre 454 (St Mark's chosen Lenten Outreach).

Unfortunately, my family will be away the last Sunday of regular services (June 23) so unless someone else would like to lead Sunday school on that day, we will finish the Sunday prior (June 16). We always resume on the Sunday after the Labour Day weekend in September.

### **5) Other Business**

a) It was noted that Brian Harrison is beginning to explore the possibility of someone to take over the Parish breakfasts. It was suggested that someone work with Brian on this.

b) Georgia Roberts brought up the topic of accessibility and that the doors where persons enter for service be made accessible to facilitate remote opening as many of our aging parishioners find the doors difficult to open. Someone else asked about making the bathroom doors accessible. Georgia said she would look into the possibility of getting a grant for accessible Church doors.

c) Georgia Roberts also brought up whether additional parking spaces could be made accessible. Father Rob suggested that we start with the accessible doors and that the corporation will look at the parking spaces.

d) The next meeting will be held on June 19 at 7 pm.

### **6) Adjournment**

The Business being completed at 830 pm, Father Rob led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Bisson on behalf of the Recording Secretary.