

Meeting Held: November 22, 2017 at 7:00 pm, Exeter United Church

Present: Joan Kammerer, Rev. Laurie O'Leary, Cheryl Masson, Janice Brock, Stephen Platts, Ena deHaan, Eleanor Clark, Lois Godbolt

Treasurer: Lynn Alderdice, Secretary: Heather MacKechnie

Finance and Stewardship Representative: Rob Snell

Regrets: Alice MacLean, Brenda Turner, Ann Johns,

1. OPENING PRAYER AND REFLECTION: Rev. Laurie O'Leary read from Dwelling Places: Words to Live in Every Season.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Stephen Platts and **Seconded** by Janice Brock that the agenda be accepted as printed.

CARRIED

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Received notification through the United Church Foundation that a financial gift of \$10, 037.43 was received from congregation member.

4. FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP REPORT-Rob Snell

- i) Proposed New Budget Summary Reporting Format-see attached
 - to simplify reporting process
 - in line with Narrative Budget as presented at Annual Meeting
 - discussed concerns regarding who is looking at more detailed monthly breakdown, Finance and Stewardship Committee will be responsible for monitoring detailed income and expenditures
 - need to address Mission and Service and Designated Revenue (Capital etc.)

Overall Consensus that new format is sufficient for Board reports.

- ii) Stewardship Report and Recommendation-see attached
1. Tracking data about time, talent and other physical resources in ChurchWatch.

-Discussed who would be gathering and entering data into ChurchWatch for tracking time and talents.

MOVED by Ena deHaan and **Seconded** by Eleanor Clark that the Finance and Stewardship Committee proceed with the proposal to track data about time, talent and other physical resources in ChurchWatch. **CARRIED**

2. Providing the minister with a copy of ChurchWatch to enable direct access to all data i.e. time, talent and treasure including financial donations.

MOVED by Cheryl Masson and **Seconded** by Janice Brock that the Minister be provided with a copy of the ChurchWatch software to be reviewed 11 months after purchase to determine if renewal is worthwhile. **CARRIED**

Discussion.

MOVED by Cheryl Masson and **Seconded** by Janice Brock that the decision to allow the Minister access to the congregational financial data be tabled until November 2018 to allow the Board and the Stewardship Committee an opportunity to provide more information and education to the congregation regarding the benefits of the proposed Stewardship plan. **CARRIED**

5. MINUTES OF LAST BOARD MEETING

MOVED by Stephen Platts and **Seconded** by Ena deHaan that the minutes of the October 25, 2017 meeting be accepted as printed. **CARRIED**

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- i) Telling Our Story and Constitution

Is the direction that we're moving in changing? Discussed working groups rather than committees.

Board members remaining/leaving and nominations. Ena deHaan will be stepping down in February. Joan Kammerer will be stepping down as chair but will remain on the Board.

Joanne Bowen will help with nominations.

ii) South Huron Community Choir Report-met with co-chairs, discussed possible partnership arrangements including having the choir sing at services, tuning the piano, profit sharing (25%), supporting community dinners. Will have choir provide own volunteers for lift, sound system etc.

iii) Congregational Meeting-October 29, good conversation on our future. Will have smaller group discussions in the New Year with more focused questions.

7. APPROVAL OF CONSENT DOCKET- Committee Reports

MOVED by Eleanor Clark and **Seconded** by Cheryl Masson that the consent docket be approved. **CARRIED**

8. CORRESPONDENCE

i) MyFM The True Meaning of Christmas-Rev. Laurie will record a Christmas message from Exeter United on the Bronze Plan for \$95.00

ii) Letter from Heinz-re-kraft dinner collection for Foodbank and request for matched donation. They are not able to help but thank us for contacting them.

9. MINISTER'S REPORT-see attached

10. NEW BUSINESS

i) After Church Social Dec. 3 Board Hosting

ii) Lessons and Carols Service Dec. 19-Rev. Laurie requested Board help CD/Outreach with cookies and cider, Board declined

iii) Lessons and Carols Service December 19-offering will be split between Benevolent Fund and Food Bank

iv) Annual Meeting Date set for Sunday, February 18 at 10:30 am

Next Meeting January 17th, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT AND PRAYER Rev. Laurie O'Leary closed the meeting with prayer.

Joan Kammerer, Chair

Heather MacKechnie, Secretary

**Minister's Report
Board Meeting 22 November 2017**

- ✓ attended meetings of Legion, South Huron Community Choir, Conference E&S/CIES, Conference Settlement
- ✓ met with Justine and Tim Meidinger re Bria's baptism
- ✓ prepared and facilitated worship at Exeter Villa
- ✓ attended preaching workshop - Rhetoric & Poetry
- ✓ led worship at the cenotaph on behalf of the Legion and Remembrance Sunday worship
- ✓ attended Senior's Remembrance Dining Event
- ✓ attended UCW Christmas Bazaar
- ✓ attended Legion dinner for Remembrance Day
- ✓ Baptism of Sawyer Mudge and Bria Meidinger on November 12
- ✓ attended SHCC concert
- ✓ attend Lecture - Spiritual and Religious (Rev. Gary Patterson)
- ✓ pastoral visits
- ✓ Worship Calendar:
 - 26 November - Brent Yearly, Huron Distribution Centre
 - 3 December - 1st Advent, Baptism & Communion
 - 10 December - 2nd Advent
 - 17 December - 3rd Advent
 - 24 December - 4th Advent - 10:30 am
 - Christmas Eve - 7 & 10 pm
 - 31 December - Gayle Coleman (no Sunday School)

20 november 2017
Rev. Laurie O'Leary

EXETER UNITED CHURCH
General Operating Budget

Oct-17

	Current Period	Year to Date	YTD Prior Year	Annual Budget
INCOME				
Envelope Contributions	\$ 13,268.50	\$ 117,923.91	\$ 125,893.75	\$ 170,000.00
M & S Contributions	\$ 3,122.50	\$ 26,795.00	\$ 25,278.50	\$ 39,000.00
General Income	\$ 947.13	\$ 31,760.62	\$ 37,483.23	\$ 33,000.00
Stewardship Fundraising	\$ 346.56	\$ 5,826.39	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
Designated Revenue	\$ 8,375.00	\$ 9,125.00	\$ 50.00	\$ -
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 26,059.69	\$ 201,468.35	\$ 188,705.48	\$ 247,000.00
EXPENSES				
Wages & Benefits.	\$ 11,999.00	\$ 130,933.97	\$ 121,976.16	\$ 148,500.00
Property	\$ 775.47	\$ 24,556.94	\$ 27,667.66	\$ 34,400.00
Finance & Administration	\$ 1,350.44	\$ 7,288.46	\$ 8,952.15	\$ 11,160.00
Presbytery Dues	\$ -	\$ 10,732.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 10,732.00
Worship & Music	\$ 230.00	\$ 4,089.55	\$ 4,919.98	\$ 6,390.00
Christian Development/Outreach	\$ 1,263.93	\$ 4,648.75	\$ 5,318.55	\$ 6,895.00
Membership & Visitation	\$ 189.43	\$ 668.05	\$ 333.36	\$ 1,450.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 15,808.27	\$ 182,917.72	\$ 178,167.86	\$ 219,527.00
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	\$ (1,246.08)	\$ (17,369.37)	\$ (14,790.88)	\$ (11,527.00)

To: Exeter United Church Official Board
From: Finance & Stewardship Committee
Date: November 22, 2017
Subject: Stewardship Report & Recommendation

As shared last fall, stewardship is an area of focus for the Finance & Stewardship committee this year. Our committee's stewardship journey started last fall when we attended a full day workshop. We learned we make willing and generous donations of our time, talents and treasure when we are:

1. **Inspired** ... when we hear how generosity has impacted lives and brought change.
2. **Asked** ... when we receive direct and heartfelt requests for our generous giving.
3. **Thanked** ... when we are personally thanked and know our gifts are appreciated.

With these key learnings, we started this year by asking members of our congregation to tell their stories – to inspire us by telling us about their generous donations of time and talents to the church and community and what this has meant to them.

At our annual meeting in February, the story of our ministry was told using a narrative budget - what our financial generosity accomplishes i.e. what the money does not just where the money goes.

This spring and fall Rev Laurie delivered stewardship messages about:

- Living thankfully, day by day
- Living out our mission locally
- Participating in our Church's mission
- Inviting generosity
- Giving thanks

Our congregational stewardship is how we as a group of faithful Christians, gather and employ our resources.

This year has been about understanding the basics. To take stewardship to the next level, we believe our next steps are to gather data about our resources and set specific stewardship goals.

When it comes to people, talents, volunteers, resources, facilities, promises and money there's a lot to keep track of. Today, our office administrator tracks people (names & addresses) and our treasurer tracks financial donations using a software package called "ChurchWatch".

Going forward, we propose:

1. Tracking data about time, talent and other physical resources in ChurchWatch.
2. Providing the minister with a copy of ChurchWatch to enable direct access to all data i.e. time, talent and treasure including financial donations.

Our committee proposes making all data in ChurchWatch accessible by the minister based on the rationale that ministers should have access to all membership and gifts data given including financial giving's as this enables a positive and affirming approach to giving and supports pastoral care. In essence, all giving's are the business of ministry.

Currently, financial giving's are confidential and only accessible by the Treasurer. This proposal will make financial donor information also available on a very limited and confidential basis to the Minister.

As per the board's direction in June, this proposal was shared for awareness at the Sunday October 29 congregation meeting. It was subsequently shared on Sunday November 12 following the service which also included a question and answer session. A total of 43 people attended the November 12 session.

Feedback received on this proposal can be summarized as follows:

- There is general acceptance for tracking additional data on time, talent and other physical resources. This is based on this data being kept confidential to those who need to use it and it being stored securely.
- There is support for use of financial giving's data to support stewardship efforts.
- There is mixed feedback on providing the minister with access to financial giving's.
 - Some are supportive and surprised to know the minister does not already have access to financial giving's.
 - Some are opposed indicating the minister does not need to know about specific financial giving's. Of those opposed, some requested looking for alternate ways to support stewardship efforts. Others indicated this should be put to the congregation for a vote.

Based on the feedback received, our Finance & Stewardship Committee requests approval and direction from the board as follows:

1. Approval to proceed to track data about time, talent and other physical resources using ChurchWatch.
2. Approval to acquire an additional copy of ChurchWatch for minister use with access of all data **excluding financial giving's**.
3. Direction on the process for making a decision on providing the Minister with access to financial giving's.

Based on receiving board approvals and direction, our committee's next step will be to develop detailed plans for implementation.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Johns

Rob Snell

Finance & Stewardship Committee

NOVEMBER REPORT FROM UCW

UCW purchased clothing worth \$354(all items on sale) from Hansens for the Christmas Bureau

Profit from the bazaar was \$8226.92

The December UCW meeting is an excursion to Parkview United Church in Stratford on December 2 to view the 101 Nativities.

Not part of the report but a heads up: Peter Snell has given a photo of his father, Rev. Harold Snell, to be included in the gallery of ministers in the Andrew Street Entrance. The photo is in the cupboard used by the archives. I will bring it out for the board meeting this week in the hope that someone will entertain how best to make use of the photo.

BOARD REPORT

Karen Brintnell

October 25 - November 22, 2017

This past month I have worked mainly on:

- Finding my way around the website, updating articles and adding myself to the staff section.
- Attended a website workshop in Goderich which was more geared toward building a website through word press (this was not specified on the invite)
- Adding current and relevant posts to Facebook, sharing Facebook posts in other groups with the aim of boosting members
- Getting accustomed to constant contact, creating appreciation dinner invite for Sunday School teachers/ CD outreach and nursery volunteers
- Met with Lynn to discuss Pro Musica, updated budget for Board
- Met with Carol Brisbin to discuss Vista.
- Contacted businesses to inquire if they are interested in corporate support through Vista.
- Only had one reply and the business stated that as their employees attend different churches in the community they do not feel it is right to support one church over another.

Karen