

**ATTENDING**

Ron Clifton  
Sarah Kaulback  
Donna Watson  
Paul Wren

Byron Gilmore  
Janet Volkes  
Jeff White  
Chris Bird

Peter Volkes  
Martha Whittaker

**REGRETS**

Cierra Sobers-Barrett  
Heather Grégoire

Peter Harvey

Diamond Scott

1. **Opening Prayer and Devotions** – Following a potluck supper, Chris opened the meeting with prayer.
2. **Minutes and Agenda** – Minutes from the January 26, 2016 meeting (motion to accept Janet Volkes, seconded by Jeff White) and tonight's agenda were reviewed and accepted.
3. **Resource Management**

- a. Tax Receipting – The process was very smooth this year and any issues for resolve were handled in a timely manner. Thanks was extended to Carolynne Atkinson for her diligent work.
- b. Stewardship Focus – Released Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> ~ for pick-up 2 Sundays with the balance (93) mailed on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Components included a letter from Byron, Stewardship Education and Pledge Card. Focus period to conclude on Commitment Sunday/Pentecost with a celebratory potluck to follow the 10:45 pm service.

Pledging at Christ Church has been in place since 2006 and is done in advance of the fiscal planning for the following year. Our fiscal year begins July 1 so the focus period take place during the season of Easter.

Discussion ensued with regard to the distinction of "Time, Talent & Treasure" as being the commonly referred to components of stewardship. This particular campaign focuses on the treasure/monetary aspect. Some questions were raised that pointed to the need for ongoing education in the area of church financial operations, specifically that Christ Church is self-funding. In the fall, we will focus on "time and talent" thus addressing the need for volunteers.

- c. Wardens' Letter(s)/Parish Communication – Since our last meeting parishioners have received a communications at Lent (with tax receipts) and Easter. Further an announcement was made in the bulletin about Robert Robinson's resignation effective June 30, 2016. These communications have also been posted on our website (*see drop down box Media/Resource ► Board Communications*) and/or under "What's New" on the homepage. These communications included, but limited to, information on: Qtr 2 financial results, Boiler Replacement, Refugee Sponsorship, Lenten Study, Stewardship, Parish Events, Curacy Appointment, etc.
- d. Annual Diocesan Reporting – Incumbent's Return (*statistical reporting that drives our Synod membership and measures growth, programming and participation*) and Church Warden's Parochial Return (*financial reporting that drives our allotment calculations & overall all financial health*) due March 15<sup>th</sup> were completed and submitted. Additionally, a report the OFOH Grant Impact Report was submitted on April 26<sup>th</sup>.
- e. Financial Update – Qtr3 results were presented. Currently in a deficit position of -\$5k. This figure includes the Easter offerings which were behind budget by -\$3,200, although our attendance numbers were quite solid.

- f. Search Process – With the resignation of Robert Robinson, Director of Family Ministry, we have commenced a search for his replacement. A job posting has been posted at the Anglican Church of Canada, the Diocese of Toronto, a number of Toronto-based theological schools and our own website. We have also advertised the position on Facebook. Equally important, we have also been actively networking - we can cast the net as broadly as possible. The posting closes Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> and interviews are to be scheduled hopefully early June. This is all about finding the right person.

Discussion ensued with regard to the affordability of this position and also taking on a Curate. We need to exercise fiscal prudence so that we do not get into the deficit position we experienced in previous years. The position of Curate (a 2 year appointment) is partially funded (approximately 50%) by the Diocese of Toronto. Christ Church receives \$30k each of the 2 years with balance funded by Christ Church. Essentially we are adding a fulltime position at half costs. Byron reminded us that our investment in Youth and Family ministry is highly unusual within the mainline churches and something that we have been doing for years that has kept our congregation attractive to families which bodes well for our future.

- g. Property Update
- i. Carpet – new carpeting is to be installed upstairs in all areas that are currently carpeted. Financial contributions from the Parish Fellowship Group, Catering and the Christmas Tree Bazaar have been gratefully received and will underwrite this expense.
  - ii. Painting – the Property Committee is organizing a group to paint the upstairs prior to the new carpet being laid.
  - iii. Boiler – the boiler is to be replaced at a time to be scheduled in June. \$80k was approved at Vestry for this expense, however the total cost is to be less than \$50k.
  - iv. Garden Wall – has been repaired as it was in immediate danger of collapsing and posing a hazard to pedestrian traffic on the corner of Elizabeth and Queen
  - v. Paving – quotes have been received to resurface existing paved areas on the north and east side of the church. A motion will be presented at Vestry.
  - vi. Fire Panel – quote to replace outdated Fire Panel has been obtained. A motion will be presented at Vestry.

#### **4. Disciple Development (Byron)**

- a. Lenten Study – 3 groups journeyed throughout Lenten, each led by two lay leaders.
- b. Small Group Study – investigating another round of small group study similar to the Lenten format to be launched in the fall. It has been our experience that sessions of 6-8 weeks work well for our community.
- c. Youth Ministry – Winter/Spring schedule concludes in June. It has been a very busy ministry these past few months with events including but not limited to Coldest Night of the Year, visiting Ste. Louise Outreach, a trip to Erin for an afternoon of hiking, lunch and praise music all mapped on top of Confirmation Preparation. Upcoming events include our Senior Youth Retreat and a Graduation BBQ.
- d. Cool Church – will be led again this year by Renee Goodridge and Breanna Sobers-Barrett and plans are well on the way.

- e. VBS – as announced with Robert’s resignation, will not be offered this year.
- f. Christianity 101 – currently 4 couples participating in Christianity 101 who are either preparing for Baptism or Marriage. One couple is being prepared in Kingston while their child’s Baptism will be celebrated at Christ Church.
- g. Confirmation Preparation – formally concluded at the Great Vigil of Easter with 11 candidates presented for confirmation. The program that started in September provides a rich experience for the candidates ensuring that they are fully prepared. As is our practice at Christ Church, confirmation is bi-annual with preparation starting in September of the odd-numbered years and Confirmation on the even-numbered years. Our next program will start in September 2017.

**5. Liturgy & Worship (Byron)**

- a. Lent & Easter Overview – we had a strong Lent and Easter with our Easter numbers keeping pace with those in 2014 when confirmation was last held at Christ Church.
- b. Assistant Curate Role – Jeff Nowers will start in his role on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. He is to be ordained to the Diaconate at St. James’ Cathedral on May 1<sup>st</sup>. It is expected that he will be ordained to the priesthood within his first year ~ typically that ordination happens at the local parish. Jeff will be exposed to all aspects of ministry life and will have an opportunity to exercise his own special gifts and interests. He is currently now on staff at the Cathedral responsible for young adult ministry/small groups. His start date of September 1 is to provide him time to complete his thesis.
- c. Summer Schedule – starts on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> with services at 8:00 am and 10:00 am at Christ Church and the Annual Church Picnic at Gage Park at 10:30 am. The two-format schedule will stay in place until Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> (Vestry Sunday). The three-format schedule will start on Sunday, October 2. As we have for number of years, the music leaders will be collaborating and sharing responsibilities during the summer schedule.
- d. Hospitality & Accommodation – Christ Church experiences visitors in the summer so we need to be mindful of newcomers that are unfamiliar with our services ~ a smile and welcome goes a long way. As in years past, we encourage parishioners to leave the back pews empty for visitors as they typically do not want to take the empty seats at the front. The back pews will be roped off until the processional to gently signal a move forward for members, however discretion is to be exercised for those that require accommodation.

With the blend of the Contemporary and Choral traditions at 10:00, Christ Church parishioners have an opportunity to be exposed to different musical styles ~ this is a wonderful time of joint worship. To paraphrase Marva Dawn from *Reaching Out, Without Dumbing Down*, we remember that God is both the subject and object of our worship experience not whether you like one particular style of music over the other.

**6. Outreach & Service (Byron)**

- a. Coldest Night of the Year – Was held on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. The Christ Church Team came in 2<sup>nd</sup> for the amount raised and raised \$7,800 for Regeneration.
- b. Refugee Response – After prayer and discernment, Corporation decided not to move forward on this project. The funds raised as a result of a special offering (\$3,700) will be forward to the Faithworks ministry AURA (Anglican United Relief Alliance), that represents the Diocese of Toronto in assisting and sponsoring refugee resettlement.

- c. Regeneration Annual Golf Tournament – (Tuesday, June 21) Registration forms will be made available and information in Sunday bulletins and on our website.

**7. Parish Life**

- a. Pentecost Potluck (May 15) – To mark the formal conclusion of our Easter Stewardship Focus, we will celebrate with a parish potluck following the 10:45 service.
- b. Picnic Sunday (June 12) – As previously mentioned, worship is at 10:30 in Gage Park. This year there are four downtown churches joining – St. Paul's, Grace United, St. Andrew's and Christ Church. Each church will be responsible for bringing a BBQ, hotdogs and fixings and

**8. Pastoral Care (Byron)**

- a. Spring Workshop – (June 21) Being organized by members of the Parish Visitors. The theme is about "home" transitions ~ moving through the continuum of family home through to assisted-living.

**9. Pending**

- a. Faithworks Holdback & Outreach Principles – Guidelines and operating principles to be developed.
- b. Welcome Package – to be investigated; please refer people to our website in the meantime and/or provide them with a current copy of the *Courier*.

**Meeting concluded at 9:15 pm.**

Upcoming Meeting

Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 7:00 pm

Other dates may be scheduled as the need arises.