

SEAGRAVE UNITED CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, September 25, 2022

The Congregational meeting was held after coffee break about 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 25th.

Welcome was given by Rick McAskill, acting Chair person, in the absence of John Olivero who was ill and couldn't attend.

Rev. Stephanie opened the meeting with prayer.

Motion by Brooke Acton and seconded by Don Beacock that all present be given adherent privileges to vote. CARRIED

Attendance: Betty Lou Beacock, acting Secretary, Eleanor Sturman, Doug Watson, Rev. Stephanie, Carol Coleman, Tara & Terry Taylor, Joan Lee, Don Beacock, Wendy Hudgins, Bill Richmond, Dale Goddard, Richard Charron, Linda & Hans Buscher, Chris & Brooke Acton, Diane & Keith Puckrin, Wyn Hughes, and Rick McAskill, acting Chair Person.

Proposed new Governance Doug Watson explained the new Governance in the absence of our Chair Person.

Motion by Brooke Acton, seconded by Keith Puckrin that we adopt the new governance and thanked the combined committee from Seagrave & Greenbank for all their work. CARRIED

The Official Board will now be known as the Unified Board and will have 14 voting members with voting rights, elected officials.

Rick McAskill read the Minutes from the May 5, 2022 meeting.

Motion by Brooke Acton & seconded by Tara Taylor the Minutes be accepted. CARRIED.

It was mentioned by Tara that she was the only person who had volunteered to work the Food Bank so we didn't have the food bank this past summer. Rick thanked Tara for her efforts. He mentioned that our Volunteering has slipped overall recently!

Treasurer's Report

As of Sept. 24, 2022 there is a Bank Balance of \$14,000.00, There is \$102,000 in GIC's after cashing one for \$25,000. The \$25,000.00 was put in the General Fund to pay ongoing expenses.

The Minister's Report September 25,2022

As we gather together to vision forward as Christ's church in Seagrave I would like to thank all of our church family for their support and patience over the past almost three years.

Over the past six months I truly thought emerging out of the pandemic would be easier than it has proved to be. We are all doing our best to resume in person worship and to be the church.

It will take time, commitment, and the love of God to live into what the Spirit is calling us to.

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The world has changed. When we made the decision to suspend in-person worship services for the safety of all our congregants over two years ago no one had even an inkling of what was ahead. The pandemic has brought out the best and the worst, we have seen so many societal divisions that are unfortunate, we have also seen ways people have reached out to help others with compassion and love in ways they never imagined.

The last few years have demonstrated the need to change and grow with the changing times. It is true that some people have not come back and yes we have grown older and we have had to say goodbye to some of our beloved faithful members who are now resting in God's loving care. However, that does not mean that we cannot be a vibrant and fruitful community of faith. I know God's Spirit of inclusive love, care and compassion is alive and with faith and trust we have much to look forward to.

I am excited to be moving into the next stage of our church life at both congregations. I feel the new calendar is a good step in keeping us organized and looking ahead. As we gather to vote on the proposed Governance model and vision forward, I trust that the Spirit of Christ will guide our discussions and that we will discern, with the wisdom of the spirit what is best for our church. It is openness to new and exciting ways of being the church that will bring us forward to produce good fruit, for Jesus said, I am the vine and you are the branches.

The Christian Church has seen many changes over the past 2000 years but the one constant is the love and the presence of God.

I trust that as we move forward into a busy fall and winter season God will continue to bless us and work through us as disciples of Christ.

Thank you for continuing to be supportive of this church family, loving God and loving your neighbour as yourself. Rev. Stephanie

New Business:

Church Re-opening There was much discussion regarding the opening once again of our Church for every Sunday worship.

Motion by Brooke Acton, seconded by Richard Charron that we vote on having a service in Seagrave every week or alternate Sundays. There were 5 IN FAVOUR OF EVERY WEEK SERVICES and 11 who WISH TO CONTINUE with the every other week (one week in Seagrave and the next week in Greenbank) and 2 ABSTAINED. The result of the vote is to CONTINUE ALTERNATE week services. CARRIED We can re-visit this motion at a later date.

Stewards' Request they are requesting \$5000.00 from the Memorial Fund to help pay for the Live Streaming. Motion by Brooke Acton, seconded by Wyn Hughes that we move \$5000.00 from the Memorial Fund to the General Fund to pay this expense. CARRIED

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December Services

There will be a December 24 service in Seagrave with Earl & Joan Durward coming with their horses around 3:30 p.m. to give children a wagon ride, followed by a service at 5:00 p.m.

There will be a December 25 service in Greenbank but Seagrave voted by a show of hands they will not have one on December 25 or January 1st.

Turkey Supper

There will be no turkey supper this year. It has been tabled until next year on motion by Wyn Hughes, seconded by Tara Taylor CARRIED

Memorial Fund Don Beacock said he has looked after the Memorial Fund for many years and he would like to move away from it in the near future. He would like people to be thinking of how it will work and who will look after it.

Photo Directory Tara & Terry Taylor will take pictures for a new directory and will take care of all costs this Fall. Betty Lou Beacock offered to help schedule appointments any time other than December.

Remaining Reports on Motion by Tara Taylor, seconded by Brooke Acton all remaining reports be tabled until our next meeting Jan 15, 2023 after our church service.

Tara Taylor closed the meeting with a prayer

Adjournment at 12:50 p.m.

Betty Lou Beacock

Acting Secretary

Rick McAskill

Acting Chair Person