

BRIDGEWATER UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES
April 15, 2020

Present: Ewart Morse, Blake Hirtle, Corrine Zinck, Rev. Jeff Chant, David Walker, Brian Buck

Item	Topic/Discussion	Action
1.	Call to Order	
	A Church Council Executive meeting was held on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 via Zoom. Ewart Morse called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.	
2.	Financial Update	
	Blake Hirtle reported that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The custodian has been successful in applying for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit. • The new Canada Emergency Business Account interest free loan of \$40,000 expressly excludes churches. The United Church is lobbying on this matter. • Regarding the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, revenue was not down by 15% in either January, February or March. Blake Hirtle will be monitoring revenue in April. He feels we may qualify for the Temporary 10% Wage Subsidy. The request for this will be done through ADP Payroll Services. • Rev. Chant advised that the Region wants us to be in conversation with them regarding any staffing decisions, so we need to update them on our action re the Custodian and the Organist. 	Rev. Chant will communicate with Region 15.
3.	Church Bells	
	David Walker advised that our church bell rang for 4 minutes on Easter Sunday. David advised that he will ring the bell for 2 minutes at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday.	
4.	Insurance Claim	
	Blake Hirtle advised that he is waiting for a response to his call to the Insurance Company. He stated that we do have pandemic insurance for up to \$25,000 (the wording is in the policy).	Blake Hirtle will call Danny Carey today.
5.	Strategic Plan for the Next 6 Months - Updates	
	Rev. Chant reported that there has been no direction yet regarding church usage beyond April 30 th . He has a conference call with the Region today. The following updates were given:	

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	<p>Worship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rev. Chant has approached four ministry personnel regarding a coordinated video series. Three of them (Rev. Vivian Moores, Rev. Neil McEwan and Rev. Carol Smith) have indicated an interest beginning with the video this coming Sunday – the message will be related to “Earth Day”.• It was felt that we can only modify what we do within the time and resources we have available.• Having a group of clergy sharing the services shows “community”.• Encourage listeners/viewers to ‘share’ notices of our services on Facebook.• The ad in the Progress Bulletin has been changed to promote our online services.• Radio Broadcasts – need to contact CKBW to determine their flexibility about accommodating a shorter time – for April’s broadcast, can use one of the video services, i.e. the interview with Rev. David Hart.• Bible Study – It was agreed that it would be a good idea to have a virtual Bible Study. Rev. Chant suggested the book, “The Great Spiritual Migration” which has a study guide. People could order the book online from Amazon.• Could we transcribe the sermons so they could be distributed to those without technology? <p>Finances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blake Hirtle and Brian Buck have reviewed the forecasts for April and May.• April – need revenue of \$20,000 – currently have \$18,900• May – may be okay if givings do not drop• We have monthly savings of approximately \$7,000 related to Custodian and Organist lay offs, decreased floor maintenance, less fuel, etc.• Ewart Morse and Karen Crouse have reviewed the presentation made by Roger Janes regarding Stewardship. Ewart is currently going through the stewardship tool kit that Roger created. Ewart reported that the Stewardship Campaign will be ready to launch in September.• Ways and Means Committee – Ewart Morse and Brenda Knox will be stepping down from the Committee. They are currently contacting 3 families who they feel may be interested in serving on the Committee. David Walker reminded Ewart that it is important to work in consultation with the Nominating Committee when recruiting committee members.	<p>Rev. Chant will contact CKBW.</p> <p>Rev. Chant will attempt to run the audio through a program like Google Translator and Corrine will type the content.</p>
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	<p>Pastoral Care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastoral care will be producing hand-written notes to distribute to residents in nursing homes/residential homes. • Pastoral care members will be doing another round of telephone calls. • They may be able to utilize the help of District Reps. <p>Committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that it would be a good idea to have Committees meet, as needed, perhaps via Zoom. • It was agreed that reports from Committee meetings be sent to the Council Secretary who will collate them and distribute to Council members at the end of each month. 	
6.	Closing	
	The meeting closed at 10:40 a.m.	

Respectfully submitted,

Corrine Zinck, Secretary

Ewart Morse, Chair