

BRIDGEWATER UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL  
EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES  
November 4, 2020

Present: Brian Buck, Rev. Jeff Chant, Blake Hirtle, David Walker, Corrine Zinck  
 Regrets: Jo-Anne Ferrier

Item	Topic/Discussion	Action
<b>1.</b>	<b>Call to Order</b>	
	A Church Council Executive meeting was held on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 in the Library of Bridgewater United Church. David Walker, Chair, called the meeting to order with prayer at 6:30 p.m.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes and financial report from Bridgewater Day Care</li> <li>• Letter from Riverport Pastoral Charge</li> </ul>	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Minutes - October 14, 2020</b>	
	Approved as circulated.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Chair's Updates</b>	
	<p><b>Worship Committee Update:</b> The Worship Committee met prior to this Council Executive and David Walker presented the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Walker is the Acting Chair of the Committee; Angela Clifton is the Acting Secretary.</li> <li>• The survey which went out to the congregation was reviewed.</li> <li>• Discussion regarding in-person/online worship and what to do going forward.</li> <li>• The following decisions were made:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In-person worship will resume every Sunday beginning 15 November 2020 until the end of December.</li> <li>○ Christmas Eve - there will be one service at 6:00 p.m. - there will be no communion - may try to "live-stream this service.</li> <li>○ Communion will be held on 29 November 2020 (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent) - worshippers will be asked to bring their own bread and juice.</li> <li>○ Children's Time will happen during the upcoming services and then children will go out to Sunday School.</li> <li>○ Singing: It is hoped that we may be able to engage some outside groups to provide singing.</li> <li>○ Rev. Jeff will be on vacation on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of December - Angela Clifton will do these services.</li> <li>○ Blake Hirtle and Tracy Rafuse will continue to count collection until the end of December 2020</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	David Walker to reach out to Kenny Anthony - Bill Pyke may be a good resource too.

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	<p><b>Wee Wisdom Nursery School (WWNS) Update:</b> Corrine Zinck reported that this may possibly be the last year for WWNS operations. Since the introduction of Pre-Primary in the school system, registrations have continued to fall. Currently, parent fees and grants from the province do not even cover staffing costs. Therefore, we will have to begin using some of our reserves and we may not have enough reserves to take us past the end of June 2021. The WWNS Board will be discussing this issue at their December meeting.</p> <p><b>Angela Clifton’s Position/Description:</b> Angela is currently a Student of Ordination. She will continue to be referred to as Pastoral Care Coordinator and Parish Nurse.</p> <p><b>BUC Governance Structure:</b> The new concept will be taken to Church Council. This would entail keeping Property, Finance and Ministry and Personnel Committees with other causes being addressed by others who would assist as needed. There would be a need for a “lead person” or “champion” for other causes who could be a “go-to” person.</p>	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Minister’s Updates</b>	
	<p><b>Memorial Committee Update:</b> Rev. Jeff advised that a family is interested in making a substantial memorial donation to purchase an item in memory of their mother. The Memorial Committee met and supports exploring options for a digital sign. Rev. Jeff is researching options.</p> <p><b>Wall Hanging:</b> The Inclusivity Committee has suggesting commissioning a wall hanging to be placed on the wall behind the grand piano. Designs have been received but none were suitable, and the cost was prohibitive. It is suggested that perhaps “craft” persons in the congregation create a design and produce the hanging.</p> <p><b>Riverport Letter:</b> The Riverport Pastoral Charge distributed a letter to churches in the area suggesting an opportunity to collaborate as a successful way forward for us all. Discussion around this opportunity included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must have a vision – what are we all doing together?</li> <li>• Suggested a Master Service Agreement for services provided</li> <li>• Opportunity to form a network – in addition to Riverport, might include West Side and Petite</li> <li>• Decision: Respond to Riverport first – willing to meet with them in a space chosen by them – our Executive meet with their Executive</li> </ul>	<p>Rev. Jeff to contact Randall Knox for the information previously received. Rev. Jeff to prepare a proposal for the family.</p>

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	<p><b>Survey Results:</b> Rev. Jeff reviewed the results of the congregational survey. Discussion regarding the online worship piece which a majority of respondents wanted to continue after in-person worship resumes. Current challenges, opportunities and objectives were discussed. It was decided to take a proposal to Church Council and the congregation to seek funding from the Trustees to provide online ministry until the end of June 2021 (the end of Rev. Jeff’s current appointment). This would necessitate hiring Jeff full-time until 30 June 2021, marketing to grow income from online ministry, and searching for grants to support the project.</p> <p><u>Decision:</u> A Special Council meeting to be called for Thursday, 12 November 2020 with a plan for a Congregational meeting to be called for two weeks after the Council meeting.</p> <p><b>Angel Tree:</b> Discussion re moving forward with the Angel Tree Project and the need for a more missional approach.</p>	<p>Rev. Jeff will develop the online ministry proposal to go to Council and circulate to the Executive.</p>
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Treasurer’s Update</b></p>	
	<p>Blake Hirtle provided an update to the end of October 2020.</p>	
<p><b>7.</b></p>	<p><b>Closing</b></p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 8:30 p.m.</p>	
<p><b>8.</b></p>	<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	
	<p>The next Council Executive meeting is scheduled for 9 Dec 2020 at 6:30 p.m.</p>	

Respectfully submitted,

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Corrine Zinck, Secretary

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David Walker, Chair