

BRIDGEWATER UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
May 25, 2022

**WELCOME:**

The regular meeting of the Bridgewater United Church Council was held in the Church Sanctuary on Wednesday, May 25, 2022. David Walker, Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE-REGRETS:**

Council Members (Voting Delegates) Present:

David Walker	Chair
Elizabeth Burr ridge	Vice Chair
Blake Hirtle	Treasurer
Edna Matheson	Secretary
Rev. Jeff Chant	Minister
Ewart Morse	Past Chair
Karen Crouse	Member at Large
Randall Knox	Property and Grounds
Richard Greek	Finance and Stewardship
Ruth Rudderham	UCW
Sam Elsworth	Ministry and Personnel
Tracy Rafuse	Faith Formation

Committee/Ministry Members/Guests Present (Non-voting):

Corrine Zinck  
Marg Forbes

Regrets:

Bev Burgess	Member at Large
Jack Logan	Regional Council 15 rep

It was determined that a quorum was present.

**OPENING WORSHIP/PRAYER:**

David Walker led us in prayer.

**CORRESPONDING MEMBERS:**

**Motion:** Ewart Morse/Karen Crouse that those persons present who are not Council members or designates can participate in discussion but will not have a vote. **Motion Carried.**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

David Walker noted two additions to the agenda:

8. Minutes FYI - Executive April 13, 2022 - Minutes for April 25, 2022 added



## 12. New Business

## c) Week of Prayer

**Motion:** Richard Greek/Ruth Rudderham that the Agenda be approved as with additions as noted. **Motion Carried.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- a) April 25, 2022 – Letter of resignation from Jeff Chant
- b) May 17, 2022 – Copy of Email from Rev. David Hewitt to Rev. Jeff Chant approving the requested Change in Pastoral Relations with Bridgewater United

**MINUTES – March 23, 2022**

**Motion:** Blake Hirtle/Richard Greek to approve the draft Minutes of the March 23, 2022 regular Council Meeting as approved. **Motion Carried.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a) COVID updates if required. David Walker noted there have not been changes to the provincial protocols.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS & MOTIONS:**

**Motion:** Ewart Morse/Tracy Rafuse to approve the committee reports as circulated. **Motion carried.**

**MINISTER’S REPORT:**

Rev. Jeff Chant reported on the following:

- Pulpit supply to the end of August. The first Sundays of each month will continue to be the joint service with Westside United, New West Pine United and St. Andrews-St. Marks United led by Rev. Neil McEwan. Second Sundays will be a digital service. There are a couple of services to be covered.
- Digital services. The format for digital services has been adapted to reuse previous productions, alternating with podcasts and new material with the goal of enticing people to attend services. Production is scheduled until September with Rev. Neil McEwan’s support. Rev. Jeff Chant offered to support with productions but noted it is Council’s choice whether to continue this ministry.
- BUD Network. Rev. Jeff Chant reported that a document and video to promote BUD Network has been completed. BUD Network continues with New West Pine on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Caledonia has just started and St. Andrew’s-St. Mark’s in Ingramport will be using the services once a month.
- Rev. Jeff Chant spoke about the vision of uniting the wider United Church community by working together and sharing ministry personnel.
- Christmas concert is confirmed. First lobster roll take out dinner is in June.



- Rev. Jeff noted that this will be his last Council meeting and spoke about his feelings and memories with his time with Bridgewater United Church. He expressed appreciation for the Council and the executive for being open to new models of ministry, acknowledged what has been accomplished and the changes that have occurred over the last six years. He specifically thanked Tracy Rafuse.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Enhanced collaborative opportunities with West Side United. David Walker spoke about the challenge related to the change in the status of BUC's ministry personnel and the actions that have occurred. Council Executive, Ewart Morse as Past Chair and Sam Elsworth as Chair of M&P met with the Executive of the Board of Westside United and Rev. Neil McEwan to discuss potential opportunities for collaboration. Everyone at the meeting agreed with the potential for further collaboration and planned on presenting the same request to their governing bodies for endorsement to continue discussing future options. The liaison appointed by Region 15 is Rev. Heather Ferrier. Rev. Ferrier and Rev. David Hewitt, Executive Secretary of Region 15 will attend the next Adhoc Committee meeting with Westside United representatives.

**Motion:** Ewart Morse/Blake Hirtle for the adhoc committee to continue discussing enhanced collaborative opportunities between Bridgewater United Church and Westside United Church. **Motion carried.**

- Pulpit supply for June, July and August. Previously reported on by Rev. Chant.
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Instead of a daily service for a week, there will be an outdoor service at the Woodland Gardens behind the DesBrisay Museum on Sunday, June 5 at 7 pm.

#### NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next regularly scheduled meeting is planned for September but there will probably be one called in June, to be determined based on the meetings with Westside United.

#### CLOSING MOTIONS AND CLOSING PRAYER:

**Motion:** Sam Elsworth/Randall Knox that powers be given to the Church Council Executive to deal with all such business that may come before it until the next Council meeting. **Motion Carried.**

The meeting closed at 7:50 p.m. upon motion of Randall Knox/Elizabeth Burr ridge.

David Walker gave the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Edna Matheson, Secretary



David Walker, Chair



**Bridgewater United Church  
Committee Reports for May 25, 2022**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE ~ Blake Hirtle. FOR THE FOUR MONTH PERIOD ENDED APRIL 30, 2022**

**RECEIPTS**

TOTAL LOCAL RECEIPTS	57,539
TRUST RECEIPTS	
MISSION & SERVICE	6,505
UCW FUNDS FOR M & S	1,000
FOOD BANK RECEIPTS	2,320
DIASTER RELIEF	3,020
STARFISH CANADA	450
MISC TRUST RECEIPTS	1,881
BUILDING USE RECEIPTS	18,115
FUNDRAISING-MISSION FUND	00
BROADCAST SERVICE RECEIPTS	1,3363
MISC RECEIPTS	2,209
TOTAL RECEIPTS (Note 1)	96,716

**DISBURSEMENTS**

TOTAL TRUST DISBURSEMENTS	12,846
PASTORAL CARE EXPENSES	4,905
TOTAL PERSONNEL EXPENSE	62,415
TOTAL OFFICE & ADMIN EXPENSE	6,123
ACCOUNTING FEES	5,551
HEATING FUEL	18,635
LIGHTS, WATER & SEWER	4,789
SNOW REMOVAL & SALTING	7,243
INSURANCE	4,255
FLOOR MAINTAINCE	316
OTHER PREMISES EXPENSES	1,979
UCC ASSESSMENT	2,680
OTHER MISC. EXPENSES	484
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS (Note 1)	132,221

**OPERATING DEFICIT AT END OF PERIOD** **35,505**

**BANK BALANCE** **\$75,900.79**

Note 1: TOTAL RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS DOES NOT INCLUDE BUILDING FUND RECIPITS OR THE UNDISBURSED TRUST RECEIPTS.

Note 2: THE CHURCH OWES THE TRUSTEES \$20,000 FOR THE GROCERY CARD ADVANCE.

**FAITH FORMATION ~ Diane Barry**

- The study group is going very well and is well attended. The participants involved come from over twelve different communities either in person or via Zoom.
- A youth group movie night is planned for Friday, April 22, 2022 @ 6:30pm. There will be popcorn for sharing. The youth will finish packing up the blessing bags for Souls Harbour.
- Student care letters and gift cards will be sent out to students soon.
- A Sunday School picnic is being planned for Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022, in conjunction with a Father's Day service. The picnic will be held at the United Church in the parking lot with enjoyable activities being planned for everyone.
- There is some buzz about EPIC returning for a one-day event. More details will be shared as they become available.
- The next committee meeting will be held Wednesday, June 1, 2022 @ 4:00pm via Zoom.

**MISSION TEAM ~ Bev Burgess**

Our Mission Team in support of Servants Heart Ministries held a successful Yard Sale in the CE Centre on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> which raised \$1,094.00. Thank you to Day Care for allowing us to spread our goodies in the gym Friday afternoon which helped greatly. Thanks also to Karen Crouse, Mallory Eisener and Emma Drew who helped our team with the sale and cleanup after the event.

We also extend a huge thank you to the New Germany Lions Club, Karen Crouse and Rev. Neil who helped with the distribution of the remaining treasures. Thank you again to our congregation for your continued support of our Mission.

**PROPERTY AND GROUNDS ~ Randall Knox**

From meeting held on May 12, 2022

Bob and Blake are to fill out energy audit information request

Door closer was purchased for CEC door but not installed, yet

Spring cleanup date June 9 at 6 PM

Dishwasher has been rebuilt

**UCW ~ Ruth Rudderham**

UCW have two items to report;

1. On May 8th, Christian Family Sunday or Mother's Day, our UCW held the morning worship service. This was a service not only to honour women, but also for Mission and Service and to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of UCW.
2. On Monday evening of June 13th we are planning to celebrate being together once again at a Pot-Luck Dinner in the Church Parlour and are looking forward to this occasion.