

ST. PHILIP PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES
13 July 2021 Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
via zoom

1. Prayer

Christopher opened the meeting with prayer. He read the scripture passage Mark 6:13: "They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them" - and then spoke of his last visits with Greg Anctil and shared a brief reflection on the deep reality of God's presence in that time of anointing – that there was in Greg and -- in the midst of their little circle with Greg's family, an enormous sense of peace & hope as he made his final transition into the Light, - and then prayed for us all that we might deliberate for the health of our community.

2. Regrets

Ged McLean & Jennifer Sharlow

3. Minutes – 15 June 2021

Minutes were sent out on the evening of June 15.

Karen Van Rheenen & Christopher requested a change to the wording of one statement on page 3 about the email being sent out to the congregation - new line to read:

A proposed mail out was read and agreed upon by council to inform the congregation of the restrictions that remain in place for Church reopening at this time. This was in response to the perception of some congregants' notion that opening in June would be without restrictions.

MOTION: Gillian -moved the acceptance of the Minutes as amended

Seconded: Esther. **Accepted / Carried.**

4. Office staffing going forward

Karen Fenimore is currently paid for 9 hours of work each week – though she tends to work more hours than that. There will be a further need for more work hours put in starting in September. – transitioning back to in-building worship and in the switch to power point for the overheads for Sunday

Proposed that Jennifer Sharlow will also work 9 hours – bringing total for office admin to 18 hours per week.

Some of these hours will be computer tasks that Jennifer may do from home.

Jennifer will also fill in for the few weeks in August that Karen is away.

MOTION: Karen Van Rheenen - that Council approve paying for 18 hours work for office admin, beginning September 7th, 2021.

Seconded: Larry. **Carried.**

5. 11:15 Service

Ten regular members of the 11:15 congregation met on Monday, July 12 to talk with Christopher about their hopes for the service. While they recognized our numbers are very small, all expressed grief at the possibility of losing this service -- and the hope that despite the very low numbers, we might continue on with the 'status quo' –at least through the fall.

MOTION: - Larry – In response to feedback, we plan to continue the 11:15 traditional service until Christmas. We will re-evaluate the viability of the service at the end of November. Seconded: Gillian Carried

Gillian will make a booklet containing the whole of the 11:15 service – liturgy and music for both the Eucharist and Morning Prayer services

6. Re-opening

* We will be printing fewer paper copies of leaflets. An electronic pewleaflet will be posted on Saturday each week – and also available at church by way of a QR scan code.

* Yes - coffee time will be part of our Sunday morning once again. Susan Smith has confirmed that she is willing to line up people for this roster.

*On the subject of ‘Passing the peace’ – it was suggested that we need to include a statement in the leaflet advising congregants that as some people may feel reluctant to shake hands, we – respectfully – discourage the practice now and ask “exchange the peace” in a more

* In our pre-pandemic days, Sharon Richmond was facilitating the nursery schedule. Karen VR will check with her to see if she is willing to take this on again

* Yes – we will remove floor directional markers, distance rods, and pew ropes

* Yes – we will bring the pew cushions back into the church

* If we have an unexpectedly sick priest on Sunday morning – we will carry on

On Monday evening, July 12, Dave Conway circulated an email to all council members, Summarizing recommendations from a tech meeting held Friday, July 9:

Larry, Al Carmichael and Dave Conway met July 9 to figure out some the technical and labour requirements of maintaining an online component to our 9 a.m. services.

* we agreed (in consultation with Christopher) that it would not be possible for people attending the service online at home to do readings and prayers for the rest of the congregation as they have been doing in Zoom church. Essentially, attending online will become a non-interactive streaming experience, but it will be not entirely passive in that people at home will still be able to read the lyrics and liturgy on screen in order to sing and take part in prayers and responses.

* **Streaming Platform Vs Zoom:** Recommendation: Given that we are moving to streaming of services without significant interactivity and participation for those at home, we should change to a simpler streaming platform (most likely YouTube) with higher quality sound and a much less work for techs.

* **Hardware and software needed:** Recommendation: AI will look into what is needed, purchase it and get it running this summer. The total cost will probably be somewhere between \$400 and \$1200.

There was discussion about how many people watching the livestreaming would justify its continuation in the future. It was suggested that we should reassess whether it's worth it in a couple of months. Karen pointed out that it isn't all about numbers as making it possible for even one seriously ill person to attend church from home was worth a great deal. In the end, we agreed informally to reassess whether the work and effort necessary is justified by the participation on an ongoing basis, not only as a one off, without setting predetermined criteria.

MOTION: Dave Conway. Move that we spend the money to provide equipment for the on-line streaming the Sunday service. Ask AI Carmichael to get the equipment necessary to provide a user friendly way of switching the frame so that what people see at home – the software that converts what the camera and screen provides – into something that streams.

Seconded: Karen. Carried.

* **Ethical and privacy questions and problems associated with streaming**

Recommendation: Provisional solutions to mitigate concerns about being visible during streaming include:

1. placing camera so the frame shows only the front of church where Christopher and musicians are standing;
2. showing a slide during children's time so that the kids are not visible;
3. showing lyrics on screen during communion when communicants come to the front.

NOTE: The mitigation suggested for the children is fine, but it doesn't take into account the fact that historically, St. Philip children roam and could be visible if they cross the front at other times.

* **Volunteer roles required for tech in the 9 a.m. services**

We will need at least two people to perform the tech tasks in a service, although the hope and intention is to make these tasks far simpler than was the case in the hybrid services last fall and indeed simpler than in pre-pandemic days.

* **Easy Worship vs. Power Point**

Recommendation: Consider making the switch from using Easy Worship to Power Point and paying for some office time to prepare the service slide shows.

7. Phone system

Does need to be replaced. Will revisit this conversation in the fall.

8. Lawn gatherings – last of 3 will be this Saturday 17 July at 4:00 p.m.

They've been good – worthwhile – people have enjoyed them.

Summer 2021 Schedule

Christopher's Holidays and Study week: July 19 to August 30

	Officiant	Sermon Time	Prayers
July			
25	Bruce Fyfe	CP video	Gerianne K-R
Aug			
1	Bruce Fyfe	Jennifer Sharlow	Gillian Fosdick
8	Joan Sedgwick	Judith Slimmon	Tim Davidge
15	Joan Sedgwick	CP video	Jennifer Sharlow
22	Bruce Fyfe	Anthony Hendriks	Ruth McGhee
29	Joan Sedgwick	Gillian Fosdick	Gerianne K-R

9. Adjourn

next meetings: 21 Sept, 19 Oct, 16 Nov, 14 Dec (nb: 2nd Tue in Dec not 3rd)

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. Amen**
