

# Trinity....connecting spiritual journeys

## Church Aurora

Wednesday March 17, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Via: Zoom

Chair: Rev Karen Hatch

Minutes: Lorraine Bell

Attendees: 27

Opening Prayer: After a brief reflection on St. Patrick, Rev. Karen opened with prayer

Minutes of Advisory Board Meeting of November 18, 2020: Motion to approve Tom Fletcher/Doug Jarvie adopted unanimously.

Business Arising from previous meeting: none

Ministry Updates:

1. FNMI: Father David Franks/Dave Gordon

Trinity raised \$5480.00 and the Endowment Fund contributed \$2000.00 , with monies going to the PWDRF, Water First Initiative. Fr. David reported that the letter writing campaign to the Prime Minister had been most effective. Pikangikum First Nation will be getting an internet service provider. A website is now running on the federal site for Indigenous Services which shows water advisories and work being done.

All Saints King City is offering a Lenten Series on FNMI issues. Participants in the series include Doug Jarvie, Dave Gordon and Mim Harder. Plans are being finalized for a service at Trinity on June 20, 2021.

Dave Gordon reported that \$6,100.00 had been collected nationally for Advent Conspiracy 2019-2020. Trinity contributed \$12,000.00. on March 24, 2021, Water First internships will be offered to First Nations along the Georgian Bay corridor to train water monitors.

2. Katherine Corbett was unable to attend but sent her report which includes the following:

Church School: Katherine has a delightful time each Sunday morning connecting with 10 kids enjoying games, quizzes, charades, Bible Story, reflective discussions, some tie-in activity (seed planting this week) and prayer together. Each month she prepares and delivers resource packets to each of the families' doorsteps (COVID safe delivery) and this is also a wonderful opportunity to check in with each family to see how they are faring. Katherine considers this a real blessing that she has been able to support these families in their faith journeys. They will continue to meet until the end of the school year.

Fair Trade Coffee/Tea/Chocolate: Each month sales are between \$150 and \$250, mostly coffee. Katherine delivers orders to peoples' doorsteps fully COVID safe. "Just Us" products are fair trade, shade grown and organic which is a nice tie-in with the Diocesan Lenten Fast for The Earth and our own Green Team.

University/College Student Card Ministry: Katherine has prepared hand written Easter Cards with a Tim's gift card for each of the 16 students. Katherine noted that this is a stressful time for them as they wrap up the school year and prepare for final exams during this COVID ravaged year. Katherine will ask the prayer Chain to include these kids in prayer. Katherine has written to them all previously at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Biblical Storytelling: The group has stayed in touch throughout the year. There are 7 storytellers in this ministry and they will be telling a number of stories during the Easter season. Storytelling can be impactful even when pre-recorded.

### 3. Financial Report: Ross Carter

Ross used our financial report as of January 31, 2021 to guide our understanding of our current situation. Our year to date on budget shows that we are down 16%. Our expenses are down 19%. It is difficult to compare year over year because of the effect of COVID. Ross reported that giving has held up quite well and reflected that the Wardens had been judicious in spending and were providing careful oversight of our funds. Overall our cash position and assets are good, our liabilities are down, equity up a little. The annual Charity and Parochial Returns have been filed. Ross responded to a question that AUC had signed a COVID modified agreement and were up to date in their payments. It was suggested that we look into Trillium and Reach Grants.

### 4. Property Report: Dave Young

Dave reported that repairs had been made to some toilets and that the sink in Binions' Hall had been fixed. The water heater was replaced. He said that we are still looking into ways to effectively upgrade lighting. The steps at the front of the church leading down to Binions are in need of repair. Estimates place the cost between \$6500.00 and \$9500.00. he is expecting another estimate soon. However work can't begin until the ground thaws. It was pointed out that consideration needed to be given to providing a wheelchair ramp there too because it is a fire exit. Also mention was made of the outside steps at the Chapel were also deteriorating and needed to be inspected.

### 5. Wardens' Report: Katherine Webster

Katherine reported that COVID had forced us to reconsider our previous practices for billing, filing and access. Wardens are no longer required to attend the church to approve invoices and sign cheques. Everything is on-line for all the Wardens to see. Warranties/repair histories can be viewed. Invoices need two-person approval on-line for payment which provides both security and safe distancing, cuts down on paper usage, and is excellent for communication among the Wardens. Wardens' meetings have been moved to the third week of each month so that our most current financials are available.

As of March 26, Trinity will move from the ACS software for tracking giving and updating our parish lists to Breeze. This system has excellent customer service, is intuitive, is very precise, and only needs 2 people counting and entering givings. It is also considerably cheaper. The Wardens have been considering some fund raising initiatives. Return to in-person worship is being monitored closely.

#### 6. Incumbent's Report: Rev. Karen

Karen reported that both she and Fr. Dan would be taking vacation time in the coming weeks. Fr. Dan will be away March 22-29 and Rev. Karen will try to get away before a new PA begins. The celebration of our 175 year anniversary is this year and Rev. Karen is looking for volunteers to help in the preparations for a celebration. She has arranged for Bishop Asbil to visit on Sunday September 27 2021.

Margot Secord and Joy Marshall reported on the launch of our phone tree. Volunteers have been enlisted to phone regular parishioners to ensure they are aware of our on-line services, available resources, and to update parishioners' information. Joy said that the volunteers were most enthusiastic about being part of this initiative.

Karen reported that we had been informed that the Town of Aurora was beginning work on the installation of a sidewalk on the south side of the church along Metcalfe St. It will take about 3 meters from the edge of the roadway. It will not affect our sign but concern was expressed that the root systems of our trees on the south lawn might be damaged. Dave Young will follow up.

7. The meeting was adjourned with an Irish blessing and the Grace led by Rev. Karen

8. Our next Advisory Board will be June 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.