

**DIOCESE OF ONTARIO SYNOD COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2019  
CHRIST CHURCH, CATARAQUI 6:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Alex Pierson, Bishop Michael Oulton, Wayne Varley, Trish Miller, Viren Oogarah, Shane McKay, Michael Read, Robin Jones, Bill Clarke, James Young, Nancy Beale, Valerie Kelly, Maureen Butler, Don Davidson,

**Attending remotely** “on the bridge”: Ada Clifton, Pauline Eskerod

**Regrets:** Anne Patterson, Don Bailey, Peter Cory, Lynn Mitchell, Garth Allan, Heather Grimshaw, Kate McLean

**Opening Devotions:**

**Trish Miller**

Trish led Synod Council in an abbreviated Evening Prayer highlighting the *Invite, Inspire, Thank* material on the National Church’s website, along with posts and blogs. Trish focused on stewardship and a program in the U.K., “How to Give without Guilt” then closed with prayer.

**Agenda Review and Adoption**

**Chair**

**Chair’s Remarks and Bishop’s Update**

**Chair**

- Bishop Oulton has just returned from Liverpool, England, attending the 10<sup>th</sup> Consultation of Anglican Bishops in Dialogue. There was good and varied discussion. The Bishops went to Worcester to meet with the Archbishop of Canterbury. Liverpool was part of the Slavery Triangle and was a hub for the slave market. Presently, it is being reconsidered as the Triangle of Hope. The final Consultation will be held in Zanzibar in 2020 before the Lambeth Conference. The Diocese of Ontario has attended seven of the ten consultations.
- St. Luke’s (Lyndhurst) Thrift Store – the deconsecration service for St. Luke’s was held on Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup> with Bishop Peter Mason. The congregation currently worships in the Legion; the ministry centre will have a Grand Opening on Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> June at the new location in Elgin.
- On Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, AJ Couttreau was ordained to the diaconate at St. Lawrence Church in Brockville, with great celebration following.
- The service of Induction was held at Christ Church Gananoque for Rev. Valerie Kelly, Incumbent of Christ Church and Redeemer (Rockport) with a bbq buffet following.

- June will be the last meeting of Synod Council until September. The Bishop goes on vacation in August. He will be in Vancouver at General Synod from July 9-17 and is a candidate for the primatial election.
- Chris Carr, a retired priest of the Diocese is back in Kingston General Hospital and will soon be moving to Providence Care for palliative care. Please hold Chris and his wife Connie and family in prayer.
- As well, Don Davidson reported that retired Diocesan priest, Alex Wakeling is declining yet was able to celebrate Eucharist in his hospital room on the anniversary of his ordination (yesterday).

### Approval of Minutes – May 28, 2019

Chair

#### MOTION:

RJones/TMiller

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of May 28, 2019 be accepted as presented.**

**CARRIED**

### Business Arising from the Minutes

Chair

None

### Update from “Re-Imagining Places of Worship” Workshop

DEO/APatterson/DCowley

The day-long ecumenical workshop was held at The Spire (formerly Sydenham Street United Church) on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. Primary organizer was Bruce Hutchison; the Diocese was a supporter at this sold out event of over 75 people. The morning presenters spoke from a variety of perspectives including heritage, National Trust, rural strategy, fund-raising, etc., breakout sessions were held in the afternoon. Summary from those present from the Diocese: positive event, what are next steps; encouraged the Diocese to provide a parish resource as many were feeling overwhelmed; noted the emphasis was to get out into community... *what can we do ‘with’ you vs. ‘for’ you*; invited Bishop Oulton to encourage churches to continue connecting and engaging in the community; need to address the future with workable frameworks. Participants received the powerpoint resources by e-mail after the event.

### Update on the Diocese of Ontario Foundation

Bill Clarke

Bill provided information and background on the Foundation. It was formed in 2010 out of Stewardship Committee which Bill chaired at the time. The Foundation is incorporated and legally separate from the Diocese. The Foundation is being revitalized. Bill extended his gratitude to past Board members and to new members and directors. Over \$127K in grants were granted over the past number of years. This Fall the first annual appeal, *Fearless Generosity*, will be launched. Bill would like October 6<sup>th</sup>, to be acknowledged as *Fearless Generosity Sunday* and that Synod Council support this and an annual appeal. Annual Foundation Membership is \$100. The Foundation is asking for permission to have parishioners

contact info. It was recommended the Foundation meet with the Stewardship Committee to streamline their ministries. Aside from the paper material presented, on-line versions will be made available, social media will be employed; recommended using testimonials as well as electronic banking, CanadaHelps and a website. Synod Council extended its general encouragement. The Bishop thanked Bill and the Directors for their efforts.

### **Stewardship Update**

**Trish Miller**

Trish has copies of two resources available to parishes: Douglas Hambidge's book *S-Word* and, *Invite, Welcome, Connect* booklets <https://www.anglican.ca/gifts/gtp/getting-started/>.

Wayne noted he is developing a visioning process with Jane Scanlon (Diocese of Ottawa, Steward Development Officer) on *Holy Conversations*.

It is hoped in the Fall 2019 that members of the Stewardship Committee will speak at Synod Council.

Networking meeting will resume in the Fall.

The Stewardship Committee is looking for parishes to partner with M&M Consulting on stewardship matters. The Diocese shares half of the cost (\$4K each). Wayne noted spiritually strong parishes are desired.

### **Worship Committee Update**

**Michael Read**

The Worship Committee met today. Perhaps there should be guidelines for Initiation and Baptism Preparation & its related liturgies. Synod 2020 – the Committee started meeting in January; a slightly different structure is emerging. A reminder of the John Bell workshop July 6<sup>th</sup>; 75 people registered. Wayne reminded Synod Council of St. John the Baptist (Lyn) celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary on June 22 & 23; the Metropolitan, Anne Germon preached.

### **Reconciliation Group Update**

**Michael Read**

Recent meeting with conversation pertaining to human trafficking; specifically, the recent release of the report of the Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) – Truth & Reconciliation materials invite broader conversation and will commence across the Diocese in the Fall with Regional meetings, finding ways to respond as Kingston is a high traffic area.

The Bishop and Michael Read outlined a panel discussion pertaining to the *state of discourse in the public square*, which will be held on Sept 21<sup>st</sup>, 7pm, at the Isabel Bader Centre; co-moderators are Eric Friesen and Sophie Kiwala; panelists are being determined.

The Bishop noted early plans for a 2021 Peace Initiative conference organized by Coventry Cathedral U.K., Community of the Cross of Nails. Details will be forthcoming.

**Synod report:** Michael Read reported his co-chair is once again Audrey Doliszny. The Synod Planning Committee met in early June. Michael noted organizational changes which include: starting Synod on Thursday at noon for registration & orientation and keeping Friday morning for registration; Bishop Bill Cliff has agreed to be Synod speaker & preacher. Rather than opening Friday morning with Morning Prayer a bible study and/or an opportunity to speak about one's faith will occur. Friday dinner and evening will be left open following Evensong at Cathedral. Synod will conclude Saturday at noon. In September the committee will begin meeting monthly.

### **Insurance (following the May Synod Council meeting)**

**DEO/CFO**

The Finance Committee presented a recommendation on a new method for the allocation of Insurance premiums. Council supported the concept presented and directed the CFO and Finance Committee to do further detail analysis and to return to Council with a detailed recommendation in the Fall. This would be for 2020 and would not impact 2019 Insurance or premiums.

### **BUDGET 2020**

**CFO**

Alex presented a new process for the 2020 budget with discussion. Being that 2019 is not a Synod year, final approval of the 2020 Budget will be by Synod Council in either October or November. Diocesan groups & committees have been given the budget request form and are due back July 26, 2019. A consultation and information session will be held in September. Budget approval is targeted for October. Synod Council gave approval for the process of input and consultation.

### **Updates**

**DEO**

- Church Bookroom: closure is slated for June 28<sup>th</sup> with 'next steps' being considered. Alex noted that inventory had been on display in the adjoining space to the Bookroom. Announcing the closure was extensive. Employee John Adams is recovering from surgery.
- Diocesan Resource Centre: in July a Synod Council Working Group will convene and begin looking at needs, objectives, resourcing needs, development of a report and recommendation for Synod Council in September.
- PAG – there is a new system in place with the Bank of Montreal; testing is underway. Some churches are not subscribing to the new system. The new packaging process will be unrolled in the near future. Alex recommended an individual in the church be a liaison with the Diocese to answer questions/concerns on behalf of parishioners. Video training will be available. Unless the Diocese is told to remove an individual's name from the PAG process, their name will remain.

- **St Luke's Lyndhurst Lease**

**DEO/Trish Miller**

St. Luke's Leeds Anglican Church (new name) continues worshipping at the Legion on a pay per use basis. They are in the midst of relocating their ministry centre, which

comprises the thrift shop and have found a 1200 retail space by Gordanier's Grocery in Elgin. The space is larger and has space for meetings if needed and is located at 18 Main St., Elgin.

**MOTION:****DDavidson/VOogarah**

**BE IT APPROVED THAT St. Luke's Leeds Anglican Church be approved to enter a year-by-year lease agreement with the Gordanier's business in Elgin.**

**CARRIED**

- **Diocese of Ontario Archives** – discussion for preparing a credible plan for the future in accordance with Canon 37 (preservation and safekeeping of material). The Archives Committee is accountable to the DEO. The current facility on Baker St. is not climate-controlled and is a concrete building. At present, it has been closed for research. Information is not being accepted and recorded into the system due to a lack of volunteers. Four options were presented by the DEO: 1) allow the space of the Church Bookroom to become storage space 2) form a partnership with the Archdiocese of Kingston at the Church of the Good Thief building which is being reconfigured as a climate-controlled space for archives however the cost of doing so is prohibitive 3) consolidate with the Diocesan Office and the adjoining clearance space, which will require either volunteers or a paid staff person to manage Archives with an estimated cost of \$10-\$15, 000 per year 4) partner with another Diocese such as Ottawa however this has the disadvantage of inaccessibility. Synod Council supported the idea option #3 consolidation of archival material into the Synod Office and directed the DEO to detail a proposal for consideration at its September meeting.

**Consent Agenda – No Items Identified****Other Business****September 2019 Meeting – Input on Agenda Items for the Regular Meeting**

**Meeting Evaluations** were distributed and collected.

Prior to adjournment the Bishop offered a prayer for General Synod, which begins July 10–16, 2019 with a primatial election, the second vote on Canon XXI, as well as consideration on Indigenous self-determination.

**Adjournment & The Grace** – Nancy Beale moved adjourned at 8:48pm.

**Date of Next Meeting:** **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2019 6 pm**  
**Christ Church, Cataraqui**

**Devotions:** Heather Grimshaw