

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Sackville, New Brunswick**  
**Sunday, February 7, 2021**

**Place and Time**

The Congregation of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Sackville, New Brunswick held its annual meeting virtually on Sunday, February 7, 2021 at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

**Attendance:**

**Present:** Rev. Jeff Murray, Ed and Terrlynn Allen, Mary and Paul Bogaard, Jean Cameron, Donna Capper, Beth Cockburn-Savoie, Robert Corkerton, Elizabeth Craig, Richard Fillmore, Barb Jardine, Kirk and Mona Meldrum, Anne and Art Miller, Brian Neilson, Laura Snyder, Debbie Stewart, Gillian Strong, Linda Trentini.

Rev. Murray, Chair, opened the meeting with the reading of Hebrews 10:23-25, followed by prayer. In his brief remarks on this passage, he noted with thanksgiving that in this difficult year we have pulled together to find new ways of doing things, and have not neglected to encourage one another. Our online services have extended our congregation beyond our local community, and we have recently welcomed two new members: Betty Torrance from California, and Donna Capper, who now lives in Ontario.

**Secretary:**

**It was moved by Barb Jardine, seconded by Kirk Meldrum, that Laura Snyder serve as Recording Secretary for the Annual Congregational Meeting. Carried.**

**Agenda:**

**It was moved by Mona Meldrum, seconded by Richard Fillmore, that the agenda distributed with the *Annual Reports for 2020* be adopted. Carried.**

**Minutes:**

**It was moved by Terrlynn Allen, seconded by Beth Cockburn-Savoie, that the minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting held on February 9, 2020 distributed with the *Annual Reports for 2020* be adopted. Carried.**

**2020 Reports:**

**It was moved by Robert Corkerton, seconded by Anne Miller, that the following 2020 reports be adopted as distributed: Atlantic Mission Society and Ladies' Aid, Atlantic Mission Society Financial Report, Board, Church School, Flower Committee, Greeting & Reading, Ladies' Bible Study, Music Support, Publications, Session, St. Andrew's Library, and Social Committee. Carried.**

Linda Trentini thanked Barbara Jardine for preparing the Bible Study and Nominating Committee reports, and also thanked Beth Cockburn-Savoie for helping with the Bible Study report.

### **Nominating Committee Report:**

It was agreed to consider the following recommendations for the board of managers appointments under one motion.

**It was moved by Mary Bogaard, seconded by Laura Snyder, that the Recommendations 1 to 7 be adopted by consent. Carried.**

1. That Paul Bogaard and Anne Miller be appointed to the Board of Managers for a three-year term (2021-2023).
2. That Art Miller be re-appointed as Chair of the Board of Managers for 2021.
3. That Anne Miller be re-appointed as the church Treasurer for 2021.
4. That Alex Whitla be re-appointed as Secretary of the Board of Managers for 2021.
5. That Elizabeth Millar be appointed Envelope Secretary for a one-year term (2021).
6. That Brian Johnstone be re-appointed as the Financial Reviewer for 2021.
7. That Anne Miller be re-appointed as a Trustee for St. Andrew's for a three-year period (2021-2023).

Linda Trentini noted that Jerry Ward has agreed to take over the Food Bank responsibility when our church collection of food donations resumes.

Rev. Murray noted that the Communion Elements responsibility is left blank for now. He has been doing the preparation, since Matt Somers has been unable to attend during the border closure.

**It was moved by Linda Trentini, seconded by Richard Fillmore, that all other nominations and the Nominating Committee report as a whole be adopted. Carried.**

### **Financial Reports and Review:**

Rev. Murray called upon Anne Miller to present the financial statements. Our funds had reached a low point at the end of 2019, but several measures undertaken during 2020 have improved our fiscal situation significantly. During 2020 total revenue received was \$126,832, while expenses totalled \$96,166, for a net gain of \$30,666. The Vision 2020 campaign was launched in March, with the goal of raising \$20,000 to cover an insulation project in the manse basement and also to increase the balance of the Building and Reserve account. Vision 2020 was a success and the manse project was completed. A letter sent out on July 1 to members and friends of St. Andrew's brought in \$10,750 for Vision 2020 and \$4500 for Local funds. \$10,400 of the \$15,250 raised was from former members of the congregation.

In August Anne applied for a CEBA (Canadian Emergency Bank Account) loan. St. Andrew's received \$40,000 through this program, of which \$10,000 is forgivable if the \$30,000 is paid back by December 2022. The \$10,000 plus some interest will become income in 2022.

**It was moved by Anne Miller, seconded by Paul Bogaard, that all Income and Expense statements, Balance Sheet, and Financial Review for 2020 be adopted as distributed. Carried.**

In her presentation of the proposed budget for 2021, Anne Miller noted that Pandemic Church Services was added as a new budget line, and that insurance rates have increased. As pandemic relief, the Presbytery is not collecting dues this year, and the Synod percentage was reduced from 2% to 1.8%. Rev. Murray reported a very recent notice of a further reduction to 1.2%.

Rev. Murray's change to three-quarter time salary took effect on July 1, 2020, and this reduction for the full year is now apparent in the budget for 2021.

Anne Miller also commented that the decision made in 2020 to remit only what was earmarked for our missions such as Presbyterian Sharing has worked well. If our budget is doing well in December, we may be able to consider sending extra money to Presbyterian Sharing or other missions then. No donations were received for Camp Geddie or Sackville Community Association during 2020. Rev. Murray commented that the plan to highlight these mission opportunities to the congregation did not happen during 2020 but should be considered again for this year.

Gillian Strong described a project she is considering in her role as Church School coordinator, to prepare kits for children and their families to use at home. All agreed that this is a great idea. Gillian was encouraged to move forward with this; funds are available to support this project.

**It was moved by Anne Miller, seconded by Paul Bogaard, that the Budget for 2021, totalling \$102,500 be approved. Carried.**

Brian Neilson asked whether the budget line for Elder Education could be expanded in scope to allow possible use by others in the congregation, such as for workshops or book purchases.

**It was moved by Barbara Jardine, seconded by Brian Neilson, that the Elder Education budget line be renamed as Christian Education; amount to remain at \$200. Carried.**

Anne Miller was thanked for her continuing dedication and hard work as treasurer.

**New business:**

Rev. Murray shared a short video on Presbyterians Sharing, from the PCC.

Gillian Strong commented that she misses seeing everyone and Amherst, NS seems very far away now. She suggested that having church fellowship hours by Zoom. Linda Trentini volunteered to help out with projects for the Church School. Gillian is considering something such as an Easter basket for each child that could be made available through curbside pickup or delivery.

Mary Bogaard thanked Rev. Murray for all of his work. Rev. Murray in turn commended the support of everyone during this past year.

There being no further business, Rev. Murray called for a motion to adjourn.

**It was moved by Richard Fillmore, seconded by Edward Allen, that the meeting be adjourned.**

Rev. Murray closed the meeting with prayer at 2:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Snyder  
Recording Secretary