

**Minutes of the Handbook Amendment Special Meeting
and continuation of
2022 Annual Congregational Meeting
Trinity United Church in person and online
Sunday, March 26, 2023**

Present: Mikayla-Aimee, Giceline Beaudet, Elsa Beaumont, Vickie Bellan, Delores Best, Diane Best, John Boone, John Bridgman, John Brosseau, Sheila Cannon, Sheri Cameron, Shirley Cartmill, Carol Cunningham, Norman Doré, Charles Dougherty, Eric Garceau, David Garland, Garry Garland, Sabz Heffernan, Veronica Heffernan, Dolton Lucas, Gail Pallente, Claudette Petrauskas, Heather Purcell, Warren Purcell, Philip Massarelli, Murray Rainier, Lala Razanaharinjara, Michelle Richard, Ivylin Scott, Natayla Scott-Sandy, Read Sherman, Christine Tatarewicz, Robert Thompson, Gary Tompkins, Ashley Verhaeghe, Stéphane Vermette, Kim Wildenmann

1. Welcome

Congregational Chair Rosemary Warren called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. and thanked everyone for coming back for two purposes: 1) to attend to certain needed changes to the Trinity Handbook, and 2) to resume thereafter the remaining business of the 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting.

2. Opening Prayer

The Rev. Read led an opening prayer.

3. Land Acknowledgement

Rosemary Warren read the acknowledgement of the land.

As the Handbook requires a dedicated meeting at which changes to the Handbook may be considered, we would proceed to this required meeting first, after which we would get back to the Annual Meeting later in the afternoon.

Quorum was established, requiring at least 20 full members and we had 25 online and in person. The meeting would be conducted to allow everyone to have the same information at the same time. Rosemary reminded us of how voting would proceed, and to use Holy Manners. Amending the Handbook would require a 2/3 majority of voting members present.

4. Motion for Adherents

MOTION Moved by Sheri Cameron, seconded by Eric Garceau, to allow adherents to vote in this special meeting for handbook amendments. MOTION CARRIED

5. Agenda Request from March 12, 2023 meeting

A motion had been made, but not voted on, at the end of part 1 of the Annual Congregational Meeting as follows:

MOTION Moved by Jennifer Bridgman, seconded by Gary Tompkins, that the special meeting to be called on or after March 26 will also include on the agenda “to redefine and clarify the definition of trustees.”

Calling for the vote in today’s meeting, **MOTION CARRIED.**

6. Approval of Agenda

MOTION Moved by Eric Garceau, seconded by Sabz Heffernan, to approve the agenda of the special meeting as presented. MOTION CARRIED

7. Adding a New Position to Council

MOTION Moved by Sabz Heffernan, seconded by Veronica Heffernan, to amend C.1.1 by adding a new item “f) a Director at Large” and making the current item (f item (g.); to add under C.3 a new C.3.7 “The duties of the Director at Large shall include: a) to assist other Directors when able and called upon by Council and b) to facilitate, manage or coordinate special projects that may come up from time to time.”; and make the current C.3.7. the new C.3.8.

Support had been heard at the March 12 meeting to take a vote to approve a new position on Council but due to the need to amend the Trinity Handbook first, it was deemed necessary to be put off until such amendment could be made with proper notice being given. (Some raised a question if under C.1.1.1. (f, an amendment was necessary).

Discussion on the motion was overall favourable and focussed on a friendly amendment about what if any role an “at-large” member of Council would play. Would they act as substitute for any other Council member who was sick or temporarily couldn’t serve in their role? Would they simply bring another perspective - something Philip Massarelli suggested was his motivation for raising the idea in Council from its inception under the new governance structure? Could they help coordinate special projects or focus on an issue that other directors wouldn’t have time for? Ultimately, language was crafted to provide direction, but also leave the question open for the elected Director at Large and Council to decide based on the needs of Council and the interest, skill, and ability of the Director-at-Large.

MOTION CARRIED

8. Motion to Change C.1.1 Allowing Two Director Positions to Be Held by One Person

MOTION Moved by Mikayla-Aimee, seconded by Philip Massarelli, that C.1.1 article f, second sentence “Any two Director positions may be held by the same person.” be removed.

Discussion centered on the desire to increase perspectives on Council which would be instead diminished were the same person to hold two positions. Some spoke in favour of flexibility in case due to sickness or other incapacity, a director might temporarily need to step in to serve in two roles. Directors act both individually as well as a team, taking responsibility together that the roles/tasks that need doing get done. It was noted as well that for directors with a team working with them, a member of the team could temporarily assume some responsibilities if the director, for example, was ill.

MOTION CARRIED

9. Motion to Allow Director Terms to Persist When Involved in Special Projects

MOTION Moved by Sheri Cameron, seconded by Sabz Heffernan, that the new C.3.7 be amended to include the following, “With respect to paragraph F.7.1, the responsibility for special projects may persist beyond the next Annual Congregational Meeting, as explicitly directed by Trinity Council.”

This motion was proposed by the Chair to address the possibility that the term of a director responsible for organizing a special project (say, a 50th Anniversary!) could end, giving Council the flexibility to allow that director to continue in their duties to see such a project to completion. It could also apply to a Director of Finance leaving Council but being the best positioned to finalize tax reports for the end of

the year. Discussion focussed on not wanting to have too many rules that might tie Council's hands in the future or have a director continuing when a new director had been elected, and the feeling that as a family working together, Council could address such an eventuality on a less formal basis. Philip suggested this could be looked at as part of a larger Trinity Handbook revision process down the road.

MOTION DEFEATED

10. Election to Fill Director-at-Large position now until 2024 Annual Congregational Meeting

Rosemary opened nominations. Mikayla-Aimee nominated Gary Tompkins. Gary accepted the nomination.

With no further nominations being made, Gary Tompkins was acclaimed as the first Director-at-Large of Trinity Council!

11. Structure and Definition of Trustees

Rosemary thanked Philip for taking the lead on the proposal regarding changes to trustees.

Philip explained that the trustees are a body mandated by the United Church of Canada to hold property (among other responsibilities) in trust for the denomination. Part of the Basis of Union of the United Church, and as an Act of Parliament, changes to the purpose or intent of the Board of Trustees were not being proposed. What seemed important to do was to update the Handbook language to give a fuller appreciation for, and understanding of, the trustees as people who serve the congregation, for what length of time, and more. The original language (anticipating one-year terms for three appointed members of Council (the Chair of Council, the Director of Finance, and one other member of Council) plus the Minister, did not account for trustees who prior to restructuring had been appointed for life. As of 2019, lifetime appointed trustees included: Elsa Beaumont, Norman Doré, David Ingham, Philip Massarelli, David Perron-Ringuet (resigned as of 2018), Heather Purcell and Ashley Verhaeghe. To "regularize" these faithful trustees, and to propose some modernization regarding length of terms to allow both consistency and change, the following was proposed:

MOTION Moved by Philip Massarelli, seconded by Mikayla-Aimee, that the Trinity Handbook section E.1 be amended as follows:

E.1 TRUSTEES

This section (E.1) is based on the Model Trust Deed. That document was part of The United Church of Canada Act and may only be changed through legislation. Section E.1 is intended to be a faithful interpretation of the Model Trust Deed. If there is any discrepancy between this section and the Model Trust Deed, the Model Trust Deed prevails. [G.3 Trustees]

In Quebec, The United Church of Canada is the legal owner of all congregational property, and the trustees act as its sole representatives (as mandataries) under the terms of sections 5 and 6 of The United Church of Canada Act as ratified by the Quebec National Assembly. [Congregational Board of Trustees Handbook (April 2021)]

E.1.1 General

The congregation is responsible for having a board of trustees for the congregation. [G3.1]

E.1.2 Membership

E.1.2.1 Appointing Trustees

The congregation is responsible for appointing the trustees at a congregational meeting [G.3.3.1]

There are specific notice requirements for a congregational meeting to appoint trustees.

E.1.2.1 Eligibility

A majority of the trustees must be United Church members [G.3.3.2].

The remaining trustees may be adherents or others. All trustees must be of the legal age of majority since a person under the age of majority cannot hold title to most kinds of property. In Quebec, this is because the officeholder must have unrestricted capacity to make decisions.

E.1.2.2 Automatic Trustee Membership.

The member (or one of the members) of the order of ministry who has been called or appointed to the Community of Faith Minister automatically shall be a Trustee by virtue of their position. [G.3.3.3].

E.1.2.3 Number

There must be a minimum of three Trustees [G.3.3.4]

Unless the Congregation decides otherwise (by majority secret ballot vote), the Congregation shall appoint up to a maximum fifteen individuals as Trustees at a Congregational Meeting, **Six positions are reserved for use by the fixed short-term members (see E.1.3.2 below** (– the assumption here is if we have 3 brand-new people coming into the role of Chair, Director of Finance and a third director).

One position is always reserved for the member who is the automatic member (see E.1.2.2 above)

a. Vacancies: The trustees may continue to act even if there are vacancies, as long as there are at least three trustees.

b. More than 15 trustees: If there are more than 15 trustees, the trustees may continue to act. But no vacancies may be filled until the number of trustees is reduced below 15.

c. Fewer than three trustees: This section applies if there are only one or two trustees remaining for any reason.

i) The chair or secretary or one of the equivalent officers of the regional council automatically becomes a trustee and continues to serve along with the remaining trustees until the full number of trustees has been appointed. [G.3.3.4 c]

- ii) The regional council may give notice to the congregation requiring it to appoint the full number of trustees.
- iii) The person presiding at public worship reads the notice to the congregation on two consecutive Sundays.
- iv) The congregation has four weeks after the second Sunday to appoint new trustees. If the congregation does not appoint them, the regional council may.
- v) The new trustees take office when the regional council gives notice of their appointment to the congregation during public worship.

E.1.3 Term. The term of the Trustees appointed by the Congregation pursuant to Section E.1.2.1

A congregation sometimes loses track of the identities of its trustees, particularly if they were appointed for life. [Congregational Board of Trustees Handbook (April 2021)]

E.1.3.1 Appointments for Life:

This Category is **no longer** applicable for any future appointments; however, six individuals (See Annual Congregational Meeting minutes – March 2023 for the complete list) continue to have this status until they are either removed for cause from office, resign and the congregation approves their resignation by a 2/3 majority, or pass-away.

If any of the six individuals resign and then later are re-appointed as Trustees, they will no longer have the status of being appointed for life.

E.1.3.2 Fixed, Short-term appointee

In consideration of the requirement to have a minimum of three Trustees, this handbook has been designed to help ensure that there will always be at least three Trustees named at our Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM) In addition there will always be room for these 3 people to be appointed as Trustees (see E.1.2.3 above).

The following individuals shall be presented to the congregation at the ACM for appointment to the role of a Trustee with a fixed short-term mandate.

- a) The incoming (or returning) Chair of the Trinity Council;
- b) the incoming (or returning) Director of Finance; and
- c) any other **MEMBER** of Council recommended by the nomination committee

The term as a Trustee begins immediately following the ACM they were voted into the position and ends approximately 15 months later (June 30 of the following calendar year)

Exception to the termination date exists if any individual has an appointment for life status or is a five-year term appointee whose term goes beyond this end date.

E.1.3.3 Five-year appointee (renewable) Term

Depending on the maximum number of Trustees the congregation has decided to have (see E.1.2.3 above) If there are any vacancies, other Individuals may be presented to the congregation for appointment to the Trustees for a 5-year (renewable) term. There is no requirement to fill all vacancies.

Discussion: The above amended Trustee section E.1 a) recognizes those trustees serving as life-appointees; b) retains the Chair of Council, the Director of Finance and another current Director (Communications, Ministry & Personnel, Spiritual Affairs, Director at Large, Treasurer) plus the Minister; and c) allows the election of additional trustees up to a maximum of 15. Also proposed is allowing an outgoing Council trustee some transition time (approximately three months) to mentor the incoming Council trustee (for example, outgoing Chair of Council and incoming Chair).

Another advantage is the introduction of staggered terms, including the Minister (term of employment); life appointed trustees, one-year terms for three Directors of Council; additional trustees with a proposed 5-year term, renewable. (If one trustee would fall into two of the categories above, the longer term would apply). The hope is that senior members of the Trustees could pass on knowledge to the junior members, providing for continuity of wisdom and knowledge over time.

An additional advantage is to allow for a wider group of trustees than just three members of the current Council, along with the minister, for a broader discussion (and holding of the powers/responsibilities).

Philip was proposing the election of three additional trustees now, to have a board with six members plus the minister (hopefully not too small and not too large – the maximum being 15). Philip also proposed that no new lifetime appointments be made in favour of 5-year terms renewable. Current lifetime appointees would retain that designation until such time as they resign, die, or are removed by the congregation. He was suggesting that lifetime appointees (including himself) might voluntarily decide to resign their appointment and allow the congregation the opportunity from time to time to re-elect – or not! – to a five-year term instead.

MOTION CARRIED

12. Election of Trustees (and how to deal with two resignations)

Having accepted the motion above, a Board of Trustees of 7 people was envisioned but at present we had 8 (Rev. Read Sherman, Elsa Beaumont, Norman Doré, Sabz Heffernan, David Ingham, Philip Massarelli, Heather Purcell and Ashley Verhaeghe). Additionally, one more member of Council needed to be added.

Rosemary noted as well that two Trustee resignations had been recently received, but not yet acted upon. Resignations took effect at a meeting called for that purpose, with proper (two weeks) notice, upon the congregation voting to accept the resignations. A brief meeting after church on April 23 was proposed for this purpose.

The question was then raised regarding the need to wait to have another meeting to accept trustee resignations and to elect new trustees. Could the Handbook be amended to allow this to take place? Rev. Read spoke to the question, explaining that the rules in the United Church Manual called for the two-week notice for important reasons, including giving the congregation full notice of such a resignation or other change, given the fiduciary responsibilities trustees hold for the congregation and United Church of Canada as a whole. It requires the highest level of accountability and transparency – two weeks of announcement from the pulpit – so everyone was aware and able to participate.

The question having been settled, Philip agreed to lead a wider Trinity Handbook revision team, but due to present commitments, he couldn't give a timeline (June 2023?) as to when it would meet or later make recommendations. **Action: Anyone** who'd like to help or have suggestions for amendments, please speak with Philip.

13. Special Meeting to Amend Handbook Adjournment

MOTION Moved by Eric Garceau, seconded by David Garland, to adjourn. MOTION CARRIED

Rosemary thanked everyone for their attention and interest. Rev. Read closed this part of the meeting with a prayer.

Continuation of Annual Meeting of March 12, 2023

The Annual Meeting was reconvened from March 12, 2023 at 3:04 P.M, with Rev. Read opening with a prayer. Quorum was established with 24 full members present in person and online.

MOTION Moved by Eric Garceau, seconded by Mikayla-Aimee, to approve the agenda as circulated. MOTION CARRIED

1. Elections

Rosemary thanked everyone who had stepped up to offer their time and talent for consideration. At the March 12 meeting, it was confirmed that Sabz Heffernan was re-elected as Chair of Council. Mikayla-Aimee was elected to Director of Spiritual Affairs. Heather Purcell was elected as Director of Ministry & Personnel. Sheri Cameron was re-elected to Director of Communications. Philip Massarelli was re-elected to Director of Finance. Today, Gary Tompkins was elected as a Director-at-Large. Also, at Council's meeting on March 15, Judy Ciciola was named as Treasurer with effective date July 1, allowing for a period of transition with outgoing Treasurer Beverley Bridgman.

A question was asked regarding the qualifications that led Council to appoint Judy as treasurer. Sabz spoke to the question, saying that of the two possible names, Council felt it was a role Judy had a background in, and time for (in her retirement!), although no in-depth analysis of qualifications had been done. As a volunteer organization, we appreciated people who stepped up and had qualities we believed could get the job done, such as Beverly Bridgman had done. We were confident Judy would have help to get up to speed as well.

1a. Open or Closed Nominations

Regarding today's election procedure, Rosemary said that after reflection upon the closed nomination process the Nominations Committee had used for March 12, she wanted to ask the congregation how it would wish to proceed for this meeting. She asked for a motion to allow nominations from the floor to test the will of the congregation.

MOTION Moved by Mikayla-Aimee, and seconded by Gary Tompkins, to allow nominations from the floor for all open positions. CARRIED

Pros and cons were discussed regarding honouring the prior closed process of nominations (nominations were open until March 5, after which time positions without nominees would be declared vacant and the Council would appoint to fill) or opening up nominations from the floor. Most comments from the floor were favourable to allowing nominations from the floor.

MOTION CARRIED

1b. Vacant Council Trustee Position

From the Nominations Committee, Mikayla-Aimee was asked if she would be willing to serve as a trustee. (Council members are allowed to say no, given the legal responsibilities that come with serving. Trustee names are publicly disclosed on T3010 forms and such). After consideration, Mikayla respectfully declined. After a call for other Directors (not already trustees) went unanswered, it was decided to leave the position vacant given that two Directors and the Minister were already trustees.

Rosemary asked for a round of applause to all members of Council 2023-2024! She reminded everyone that directors including Sheri Cameron, Sabz Heffernan, Philip Massarelli and Gary Tompkins were entering their fifth and therefore final year on Council per the Handbook. She encouraged everyone to consider their gifts and talents to possibly fill some of these important roles.

1c. Ministry Leaders

Buildings and Grounds – Norman Doré. Given no other nominations, Norman was acclaimed.

Christian Development – Veronica Heffernan. Given no other nominations, Veronica was acclaimed.

Congregational Life – David Garland. Given no other nominations, David was acclaimed.

Fund Development – Diane Best. Given no other nominations, Diane was acclaimed.

Media – Mikayla Aimee. Given no other nominations, Mikayla was acclaimed.

Membership & Pastoral Care – Judy Ciciola and Christine Tatarewicz had both been nominated. With Judy not present at the meeting, it was unclear if she'd want to accept the nomination given her appointment to the job as Treasurer. Eric Garceau said he couldn't speak for her but was aware she'd be happy with any positions in which she could help.

After a vote, Christine was elected to lead Membership & Pastoral Care.

Mission & Outreach – Judy Ciciola. Eric Garceau thought that Stacey Ciciola would also make a great lead for Mission & Outreach. As Stacey wasn't present to accept the nomination, Judy was acclaimed.

Worship – Heather Purcell. Given no other nominations, Heather was acclaimed.

Rosemary asked for a round of applause for our Ministry Leaders for 2023-2024!

She reminded everyone that some of our ministry leaders, including David, Heather and possibly Judy, would be coming up to their 5-year term limit this year. Be thinking of your gifts and skills to offer next year!

1d. Appointment for Ministry & Personnel

Dave Ingham had resigned from M&P, creating a vacancy. Because of the role of Ministry & Personnel supporting and managing employees, their relations with the congregation, working confidentially, nominees should not be a) the Treasurer or b) family to employees or other members of Ministry & Personnel to avoid conflict of interest. Judy Ciciola had been nominated but as she was now serving as treasurer, it would be a conflict of interest. Several people were asked if they would serve, including Ashley Verhaeghe, John Boone, Sheri Cameron, Carol Cunningham and Sabz Heffernan. (Currently on M&P are Heather, Kim Wildenmann, and Dorothy Wills (from Anjou).). All had reasons to decline. Finally, Natalya Scott-Sandy was nominated and she accepted, saying she was ready to learn and able to be neutral and ready to listen in a time of conflict.

Before the vote, Stéphane Vermette spoke to the special nature of M&P and those who were chosen to serve on it. He quoted from Luke 12:15, where Jesus says to the crowd to take care of each other. M&P has a role of caring for ministry personnel and lay employees. It was called to be a consultative and supportive group.

Given no other nominations, Natalya was acclaimed.

1e. Trinity Representatives to Regional Council

Elsa Beaumont and Jenn Carroll have been nominated. We'd be looking for an alternative adult. Diane Best was nominated to continue as our youth (35 and under) delegate. Ivylin Scott had been a representative for many years but had asked to go off for this year. When asked if she'd be willing to serve as an Alternate Rep (in case one of the other representatives can't attend) Ivylin agreed.

Given no other nominations, Elsa, Jenn, Ivylin (Alternate) and Diane were acclaimed.

Thank you to our Regional Representatives!!

1f. Nominations Committee vacancy

Because Mikayla-Aimee had been elected to Council, her seat on the Nominations Committee had become vacant. Rosemary asked for any nominations. Mikayla nominated Diane Best, who accepted.

Given no other nominations, Diane was acclaimed.

1g. Secretary of the Congregational Meeting

Current secretary Diane Best said she wished not to continue. Natalya Scott-Sandy and Veronica Heffernan had been nominated. After offering their qualifications, both friends said they'd be happy if the other wished to do the job!

A vote was taken, and Natalya was elected.

1h. Chair of the Congregational Meeting

Rosemary Warren asked for the Rev. Read Sherman to assume the role of Chair for this next item of business, the election of the Chair of the Congregational Meeting.

Rosemary Warren had been nominated. Read asked for any further nominations. Mikayla-Aimee, Gary Tompkins and Veronica Heffernan were nominated. Mikayla was thankful for the nomination but had to decline for now. Gary was willing to accept the nomination. Veronica said she was interested but at this time would decline.

Rosemary outlined the qualifications she brought to the position, including organization, being detail and deadline oriented, using technology to enhance understanding of concepts for people, and being willing to do research and consult experts when questions need answering, and try to communicate with others in helpful ways. She's open to feedback "the good, the bad and the ugly."

Gary offered himself as someone who has been in the role before, and he'd be glad to serve the congregation in this way again. "As I've said before, I'm willing to serve this congregation in any way they wish me to serve."

A vote was taken, and Gary was elected.

Rev. Read asked for a round of applause for all our leaders – both those outgoing and those coming in for 2023-2024!

Rosemary re-assumed the chair.

1i. Appointment of Auditor

Sabz rose to speak about the lack of auditing capacity/volunteers within the congregation, making it difficult to keep up with the required annual review of our financials. Addressing this need was a focus for the next year. Discussion at Council had included the idea of hiring an accounting firm to consult with us and possibly to audit our books. Sabz suggested more work needed to be done to consider all options, however, and that the motion be tabled for now. Philip rose with a point of order, that to table a motion it would first need to be brought to the floor.

MOTION Moved by Sabz Heffernan, and seconded by Philip Massarelli, that Trinity hire an accounting firm for auditing and consulting.

Discussion: Philip said he had three volunteers willing to review the 2022 books and that it would be helpful (but not necessary) if the congregation could approve them to do this work. They were Judy Ciciola, Kim Wildenmann, and Rosemary Warren. Philip also said he had an accounting firm in mind to get someone to come in. Cost would be \$1000, but it would go up substantially if a full audit was requested. Philip read notes provided by Beverley Bridgman regarding the types of audits versus a verification process which can be done by anyone. A Chartered Public Accountant audit could easily cost \$2500. A "real audit" done by a CPA could cost upwards of \$15,000.

Mikayla suggested going with the three volunteers to get the 2022 review done. Philip vouched for the abilities of the three volunteers, having confidence in working with them and showing them the system he had created. Given that his term-limit was nearly here as Director of Finance, Philip said he was working to transfer knowledge so others could continue after him.

Carol questioned the idea of hiring consultants to train verifiers or the new treasurer. With a \$100,000 deficit, it didn't make sense. If pursued, she suggested shopping around for the best price for professional help, to put that price in the budget, and have it voted on.

Philip responded with the plan he and Beverley had discussed, to have the three internal reviewers do the review and learn the system. This will provide more knowledge base for next year.

Sabz said the idea of the motion was to make everyone aware that the work needed to be done and that we were looking into getting it done properly. Not to necessarily spend \$10,000, of course! And there was more work to be done internally. Sabz felt therefore it was premature to rush into hiring an accountant although at some point it would probably be the best practice.

Shirley Cartmill said she agreed in part with Carol because she used to help Don Cameron with his books. It's complicated, along with the T3010 work too. "You really have to know what you're doing."

Sabz again suggested that the motion be tabled, with Philip's concurrence.

MOTION Moved by Sabz Heffernan, seconded by Philip Massarelli, to table the motion to hire an accounting firm. MOTION CARRIED

2. Joint Summer Service Question for Summer 2023

MOTION Moved by Mikayla-Aimee, and seconded by Diane Best, to not participate in shared joint worship with Mount Royal United and Hudson United in summer 2023.

Discussion centered around those who felt it was hard to get people to come to church in the summer, and that people wouldn't come out if they knew the sermon or other elements would be watched on a screen. Mikayla and others hoped to see us try to build up the Trinity community over the summer, something that would be harder without Read (or a replacement for him) in sanctuary every Sunday.

Rev. Read said he was open to the will of the congregation on this motion. He said the joint summer services had enjoyed strong support by the Anjou Board over the years. Many enjoyed the variety of preaching and music, helping us get out beyond our walls to understand how other congregations do things. Both Mount Royal and Hudson were eager to partner up again for summer 2023. He wondered if we might offer special things after church to attract people to come out – like lunches out, etc.

Some wondered whether a compromise could be suggested – worshipping together by Zoom for several Sundays only, including for joint communion; or have a joint picnic together.

A vote was taken, and the **MOTION WAS DEFEATED.**

3. Closing Words of Appreciation and Prayer

Without felt need for a closing Question & Answer period, Rosemary thanked everyone for their attention and called for a closing prayer. Rev. Read offered a prayer giving thanks for God's help and guidance in 2022 and asked for it to continue in 2023.

4. Adjournment

MOTION Moved by Gary Tompkins, and seconded by Mikayla-Aimee, to adjourn. CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Secretary of the Congregation Diane Best,

Read Sherman