



# EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

An Evangelical Covenant Church of Canada Affiliate

"We strive to follow, love & share Jesus"

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

October 17, 2021 (11:45am)

1. OPENING - SIMON

2. INTRODUCTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS- SIMON

3. ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2020

a) Senior Pastor - Simon

Josh felt privileged to be involved in church and camp. He offered his special thanks to Les Sather, the ECCC pastors, and offered his encouragement to the Council in their good work; they are a blessing. Josh also extended thanks to many particular congregants who had supported him. Josh calls the congregation to support them in their various efforts. His parting verse was Acts 23:2.

b) Youth Pastor & Camp Ministry - Kelvin

COVID has had an impact on youth. It's been good to meet in person with the youth, although much of it has been online. Some youth refuse to meet online. Loosening restrictions allow for connections to happen. Camp didn't happen this year because of COVID creating safety concerns. Day Camps were run in lieu of normal camp, and next year hopefully we can run full-camps. Kelvin invited everyone to participate as sponsors/non-physically active volunteers in the youth group.

c) Young Adults Pastor - Jesse

Jesse is thrilled to see the way the congregation is forming and thriving. Young adult numbers are not growing, and this seems to be due to the season of COVID. Young adults are exhausted and focused on what is 'essential.' Young adults need encouragement to rest, as essential items tend to rob life of its most important elements; family, faith, and friends. We are growing into a people specifically suited to fulfill the friendship and faith they are lacking. It would not be surprising if we saw an influx of young people. Our mission remains the same; to witness to the person and truth of Christ.

d) Property Committee - Monika

Time has been spent painting at Evansburg, finishing the kitchen, replacing the beds. Future plans include updating bathrooms, lights to LEDs, and some more painting. The Manse suite has been updated; paint, light fixtures, and smoke detectors were added in addition to cleaning. Church renovations will be mentioned later. If anyone has ideas for renos, or needs to rent the church, talk to Monica.

e) Women's Ministry & Special Events - Dorothee

Because of COVID several events have been cancelled. The retreat has been rescheduled in the church for Nov. 20th. Please sign up for that. The church anniversary last year consisted of a pizza dinner. Christmas get togethers had to be cancelled. Christmas events this year do not look promising. On August 15th this year we had a farewell party at Evansburg for pastor Josh and his family. The confidential prayer chain remains active and ready to pray for people's needs. Thanks to Mileta Witzke et al. on the altar committee.

f) Worship & Music - Ian

Worship committee is currently Ian, Natasha, and Kelvin. Main function is scheduling music and operation of the sound booth/recording, worship COVID guidelines, and management of teams. COVID-19 has been a primary concern for the committee, and Ian offers a special thanks to the teams for their cooperation and effort. This year the committee had conversations around song selection, study of specific song lyrics, and contribution to Josh's farewell. The committee has also been attending to sound equipment care and maintenance. They have been looking into improving our online presentation. The current arrangement has the worship team leading twice, hymns once, and the guitar choir once every month. Rudy offers his appreciation to Ian and the teams.

g) Living Water Bible Study – Simon

Just a reminder that these Bible studies exist- there is lots of room to participate!

h) Pastoral Care- Terry

We are continuing to work on evaluation forms, which has been benefited by the ECCC documents on pastoral care; "Ministry review toolkit," and "A faithful and fruitful ministry." They ensure good governance, discernment, and fulfillment of our mission. Thanks to the committee members for their effort. Request for continued prayer for everyone in leadership at the church.

i) Constitution Committee - Mike

The Constitution Committee consisted of Sieghard Wanke, Jesse Kane and Mike Ettrich. The committee proposed revisions and edits to update the constitution and align it with the ECCC Model Constitution. 89% of the congregation voted in favour of the revised constitution. The Constitution Committee is currently inactive. However, the Church Council is open to receiving suggestions for future edits to the EFC Constitution.

j) Financial Committee - Ingrid

**Income:**

Offering: \$177,170.20

Rent for 10517 - 79 Avenue: \$13,805.00

Spanish Church: \$1,500.00

Bank interest: \$12,745.99

Total income: 5205,221.19

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**Expenses:**

Wages & Allowances: \$181,566.88

Bank Charges: \$332.20

Gar Expense: \$1,800.00

Church Expense: \$37,465.12

Church Utilities: \$7,638.28

Evansburg Expense: \$9,003.23

Evansburg Utilities: \$4,837.06

Office Expense: \$578.71

Travel Expense: 0.00

Workers' Compensation Board: 0.00

Total Expenses: \$243,221.48

Net Loss for 2020: (\$38,000.29)

**CHURCH ACCOUNT BALANCE DECEMBER 31,2021**

**563,721.14**

Cynthia requested that all of the small details were included in the yearly report, such as thefts, etc.

k) Congregation questions - Simon

No questions, invitation for ongoing questions and communication.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

a) Council & Committee Volunteers - Simon

i) Nominating & Voting Committee; please be prayerfully considering who might fit here.

ii) Evangelism & Social Justice (inactive)

iii) Education, Youth & Sunday School (inactive)

b) ECCC Adoption – Simon/Mike

Based on the strength of EFC's membership application, which included our revised constitution, ECCC voted to approve EFC's membership at the ECCC AGM on May 1, 2021. Then ECC (the American-based umbrella organization) approved our application at their AGM on June 24, 2021 and unanimously welcomed EFC into membership in the Evangelical Covenant Church and the Canada Covenant.

c) Revised Constitution (May 30, 2021) - Mike

The revised constitution was approved by congregational vote on May 30, 2021 with an 89% majority. Mike outlined details of the most significant changes or additions found in the revised constitution related to these areas: (1) pastor contracts, (2) church council model, (3) how to deal with EFC property and assets if our church closed, (4) voting guidelines, and (5) membership categories.

d) Membership & Associate Membership - Mike

Membership criteria and roles and responsibilities of members and associate members are outlined in the bylaws of the revised EFC constitution and are printed on the back of the EFC Membership Application form.

e) Pastor Kane's Contract (revision to full time) - Simon

Jesse has been working extra hours to make up for Josh's absence as well as to move initiatives in the local community forward. He is particularly excited about working with the QACL community league and has until recently sat on their board. He continues to volunteer with them and is making inroads to our neighbors. The Council does not need congregational permission to adjust Jesse's salary to full time according to the constitution, but in the interest of transparency they want to inform the congregation and invite a conversation about that.

f) Pastoral Search Committee - Mike

The current committee members are Ian Wood and Mike Etrich. The committee is seeking additional members from the congregation. The committee has been in frequent contact with ECCC, which is providing support.

Glenn Peterson from ECCC suggested that the process to search for and call a senior pastor should be long and careful. In Glenn's experience, this process would take many months—and likely a year or more—and it must not be rushed. When the senior pastor job posting is ready, it will be advertised externally. Pastor Kelvin and Pastor Jesse are invited to apply.

A church profile for EFC is under development, and the congregation will be asked for input. The profile will say who we were, who we are, and who we aspire to be. This church profile is one of the tools ECCC has asked EFC to develop as part of our pastoral search process

g) Church Renovations - Monika

After some suggestions regarding the Lobby area and increasing the space for coffee use, a bigger library, and an updated office space for the pastors to work in, Monica has begun renovations. The Lobby will be altered to remove the library and replace it with bench seating

and some tables. The Library has been updated already and can be visited; some seating is still on it's way. The pastor's office has been arranged to create a space for meetings/work/counseling, (and has already been very effective for this!).

The only comment was about how fabulous the renovations looked. Monica invited further feedback and ideas.

h) A Community of Care – Simon/Jesse

We have been working on a "Vision and Call" Document since we began working on our vision in 2019. It's evolved a lot, but we feel that as we've sought God's guidance as the leadership that "A community of care" has become central to our identity. We went on a retreat in 2020 and set time aside to pray on Mondays about where we are going. We also rely on the congregation's input. A few of the major themes we got were "God is in control, at work in our congregation, and in us." As well as " We are a congregation in transition." We aren't the same as we were before the pandemic, Josh's contract, or even the conversation around women in leadership. We have changed, but that's OK. Change is an opportunity for God to form us personally and as a church. We must always be asking the questions we have been asking because change is the only constant. We must always be looking to God to inform our identity. Please share your thoughts, concerns, and dreams for the Church with us. God speaks to us all in a variety of ways, and it's important we share that.

5. GENERAL DISCUSSION

a) Open Discussion - Simon

General encouragement about how the Council is working.

b) Communion Preferences - Mike

Some congregants have expressed a desire to have the option to continue to use communion kits even after the COVID threat is behind us. Others have expressed a desire to have communion more frequently than once a month. The congregation is asked to think and pray about the requests for changes in, or accommodations for, communion and to provide feedback to the Church Council.

6. ADJOURNED - SIMON