

**UPG Parish & St. John's Windish Lutheran Church
Joint Council Meeting
ZOOM conference**

**Bethlehem, PA
May 18, 2021**

Members present: Donna Musselman, Bonnie Harper, Nancy Kostas, Ron Dalla Piazza, Jon Terry, Gina Brockway, Mike Truchan, Lois Ritchie, Maria Skrilec, Tracy Heberling, Kathy Remaly, Ron Leposa, Linda Maule, Teryan Gerhard, Pam Royal, Penny Weiss, Cindy Kemp, Tom Seifert, Steve Granlund, Harmony Gubich			
Members excused: Rich Hawk, Michel Lloyd, Matthew Bleier, Lou Dravec, Migdalia DeJesus			
Members absent: Donna Makaravitz, Buzz Heidecker, Sandy Vajda, James Ritchie, Pam Royal, Sandy Butch			
Staff members/guests present: Joe Bleier, Catherine Ziel, Josh Gulotta, Tracy Haas, Tina Piscitello, Kenda Riley, Michelle Harvey			
Topic	Discussion	Action	Resolution
<i>Call to Order</i>		@ 1913 by Gina Brockway (presider), Nancy Kostas, & Donna Musselman	
<i>Opening Prayer</i>		Offered by Pastor Mike	
<i>Approval of Agenda</i>		Motion to approve made by: Donna Musselman 2 nd by: Maria Skrilec	Approved unanimously
<i>Approval of Minutes March 04, 2021 & April 20, 2021 & special UPG council meeting on May 11, 2021</i>		Motion made to approve council minutes from March, April, & the special May 11 UPG council meeting made by: Penny Weiss 2 nd by: Lois Ritchie	Approved unanimously
<i>Treasurer's Updates</i>	LOC as submitted by Catherine Ziel St. Peter's as submitted by Joe Bleier St. John's Windish as submitted by Maria Skrilec	Motion to approve submitted reports for the UPG & St. John's Windish made by: Mike Truchan 2 nd by: Penny Weiss	Approved unanimously
<i>Staff Concerns</i>	See old business		
<i>Update on Live-Stream Equipment</i>	No report available		
<i>Update on Transition Task Force Team</i>	Next task force meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 25, 2021	Initial reports will be distributed to the congregation for upcoming summer & fall town hall meetings	Informational
<i>Old Business</i>			

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<p><i>Return to In Person Worship</i></p>	<p>Staff recommendation is that masks be worn based upon each individual's comfort level After much discussion it was suggested that, in keeping with the state mask mandate, masks are mandatory until 70% of the eligible population has been fully vaccinated; as of today, the state of Pennsylvania is at approximately 45% compliance</p>	<p>Each campus' council president will be in the back of the Narthex to help persuade everyone to wear a mask for the time being. Motion made to continue the current mask guideline by Penny Weiss 2nd by: Lois Ritchie</p>	<p>Approved unanimously</p>
<p><i>Use of Buildings by Outside Groups</i></p>	<p>Outside groups will need to adhere to the same guidelines that the congregations follow or risk losing use of the buildings</p>	<p>Motion to permit outside groups to resume building use made by: Harmony Gubich 2nd by: Lois Ritchie</p>	<p>Approved unanimously</p>
<p><i>Summer Worship Schedule - June, July, August</i></p>	<p>Staff recommendation is to resurrect pre-pandemic standing committees: i.e. Worship & Music Staff recommendation is to continue the Saturday afternoon live-stream Staff recommendation is to have one (1) Sunday service (06/13 – 09/12) @ 0900 rotating the campuses</p>	<p>Motion made to approve these staff recommendation made by: Tracy Heberling 2nd by: Lois Ritchie</p>	<p>Approved unanimously</p>
<p><i>New Business</i></p>			
<p><i>Growing Young Book Club Requests</i></p>	<p>Suggestion made to use the term "ministers" rather than volunteers</p>	<p>Motion to change the nomenclature from volunteer to</p>	<p>Approved unanimously</p>

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	May require much education of everyone to use the term "minister" rather than volunteer; to many of us "minister" refers to ordained clergy	minister made by the Growing Young committee 2 nd by: Ron Dalla Piazza	
<i>Ministry Fair</i>	Suggestion made to hold a fair to help educate congregation about all of the ministries available in the UPG & St. John's Windish		Informational
<i>Altar Care Videos</i>	Suggestion made to produce videos on altar care to help others learn what is involved & garner more assistance for this ministry	Confirmands will be asked to help as part of community service	Informational
<i>LOC letter for ARC to use building in emergency</i>	This has been a previously ongoing ministry; ARC requires renewal of agreement. Building use is only needed in an emergency situation & not as a routine function	Motion made to renew previous building use by: Mike Truchan 2 nd by: Jon Terry	Approved unanimously
<i>Staff Retirement</i>	Kenda Riley has tendered a letter of her intent to retire, effective June 30, 2021	Motion made to accept retirement request by: Penny Weiss 2 nd by: Donna Musselman	Approved unanimously
<i>Dates for Congregational Meetings</i>	6/13 – LOC Proposed LOC budget needs to be amended to show that LOC's contribution for Pastor Suzanne is 50% of the cost for the UPG, as opposed to the full cost currently showing	Motion made to accept proposed dates for each campus' congregational meeting by: council presidents 2 nd by: Penny Weiss Motion made to accept the amended LOC proposed budget for 2021 by: Jon Terry 2 nd by: Ron Dalla Piazza	Approved unanimously Approved unanimously

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	<p>LOC needs to elect council members. What would have been the election was put on hold by the pandemic. Members may need to be elected for 1 year term since members served an additional year due to COVID 06/27 – St. P 07/11 – St. John's</p>	<p>A nominating committee will be called Motion made to elect some of the council members for a one (1) year term by: Mike Truchan 2nd y: Jon Terry</p>	<p>Approved Unanimously</p> <p>Informational Informational</p>
<i>Youth Summer Events</i>	<p>Numerous summer events for the youth have been scheduled. Discussion on fund raisers for youth gathering next year Please refer to the web sites & printed material for upcoming dates & time of these events</p>	<p>Motion made to approve youth events by: Donna Musselman 2nd by: Harmony Gubich</p> <p>Tracy Haas offered to donate 2 trips to the dairy store as part of the youth events</p>	<p>Approved unanimously</p> <p>Informational</p>
<i>Adjournment & Lord's Prayer</i>	@ 2045	<p>Motion by: Kathy Remaly 2nd by: Penny Weiss</p>	Approved unanimously
<p>Next council meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 @ 1900 – LOC campus</p>			

Respectfully submitted,
 Donna Musselman, St. Peter's Congregational & UPG Council Secretary