July 2022 update from the Board

The Property Committee will be applying for a provincial grant of up to $10,000 for the

purchase of an indoor security camera system that will be set up at each of our entry doors

facing out of Grace United Church. This will allow us to capture any unwanted entry attempts or

vandalism on camera. The content of these camera would not be accessed unless there is an

incident. Activity inside the building will not be recorded.

The Board has decided to move forward with several goals over the next few

months.

1. The concept of linking various committees and groups together into MINISTRIES has been

explored and it was agreed that we would pilot what we are calling a Pastoral Care

Ministry. This Ministry is about the care of, from, and by the congregation. Included are

the Care Network @Grace, Saturday dinners (initiated during COVID), the Prayer Chain,

the Prayer Shawl Ministry, the Welcoming & Membership committee and UCW.

2. Pursuant to Helen’s parting direction/wish that Grace completes our UNITY (where the past is fully

celebrated and the future embraced,) a small working group will be created to choose

a couple of visible symbols/furnishings in the church representing legacy churches to determine whether these can be made new (be consolidated into one or repurposed) or should be replaced. This is part of a plan to move forward with symbols/furnishings that simply represent Grace . The working group will explore ideas.

3. OUTREACH will reconnect with our communities though the Backpack program and the

Elf program. The project to supply food and other products to the people of WHALE COVE First Nation (a fly-in community) is currently underway until the end of August. Grace has participated in this initiative with other Burlington churches since 2019. Ideas of what is needed, and when items can be dropped off, can be found in the Grace-Line. We challenge everyone to get involved in some aspect of these

programs.

4. Grace will continue its journey to becoming an AFFIRMING community of faith. The

Affirming committee plans to hold 1-2 ‘lunch and learn’ sessions on inclusivity topics

(Indigenous, LGBTQIA2+) to further engage and inform the congregation. Watch for details about dates, times, formats and speakers.

5. With a desire to build a stronger STEWARDSHIP culture at GUC, we will be looking

for 3 people willing to participate in a Stewardship learning plan with Richard starting in January

2023. We are considering having October as a Gratitude month. This will be a time to identify and give thanks for our many blessings – the gifts (financial and other) talents and time shared within our congregation by worshippers (in person and online), committees, groups, our leadership team and minister.

Heather McGavin & Stacy Goodale

Board Co-Chairs 2022-2023