

AGENDA

MEETING DATE: SUNDAY JAN 31, 2021

**FIRST SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH OF TORONTO
 QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING
 FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1ST, 2020 – DECEMBER 31ST, 2020**

OPENING PRAYER: Pastor Owen Lynch

MODERATOR: Pastor Omari Rhoden

Asst. MODERATOR: Sis. Paula Reynolds

CLERK: Sis. Diane Barrows

Asst. Clerk: Sis. Safiya Parkinson

SCHEDULED START TIME: 11:00 A.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. Minutes – Clerk

C. Matters Arising from the minutes

D. Reports

		Suggested Time allotment
1	Nominating Committee	Recommendation from Advisory
2	Pastor	
3	Clerk	
4	Treasurer (No longer required for the AGM). Will be presented at our next Business meeting	
5	Advisory	
6	Diaconate	
7	Cambridge Fellowship	
8	Property Management	
9	Sabbath School	
10	Evangelism	
11	Fundraising & Planning	
12	Young Adults	
13	Men's Fellowship	
14	Women's Auxiliary	
15	Youth Fellowship	
16	Music	

E. Unfinished Business

		Suggested Time allotment
1		

F. New Business

		Suggested Time allotment
1	Nominating Committee report	
2	Town Hall Meeting (setting date)	

G. Adjournment

First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Toronto
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

PASTOR'S REPORT

DATE OF MEETING – JANUARY 31 , 2021

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20

Annual Objective(s):

- Continue to expand and communicate vision for the Church
- Emphasize Great Commission as the unique ministry of the Church
- Expand formal discipleship program

Report (looking backwards):

- Continue to chair the Advisory board
- Attend Diaconate meeting
- Common Pastoral Duties
 - Performed Funeral service for Yvonne Williams
 - Performed Communion Services
 - Preached through half of the Book of Revelation, and various other topics.
 - Taught Adult Sabbath School classes
 - Serve on the board for SDB Missionary Society

Report (on-going ministry):

The transition to minister during COVID-19 era, stalled or stole the focus from some of these initiatives; but my hope for 2021 is to get back on track.

- Simplicity is the key word for the year – where we seek to streamline the ministries of the church and re-evaluate the time-honored traditions that need to be updated. All this is an effort to be in alignment with the Word with the mission of God and the Great Commission.
- Ministry in the Word includes Teaching Sabbath School and Adult bible study.
- Preaching ministry will be enhanced by implementing regular preaching series, where we can better handle larger topics

Needs/problems arising:

- We have responded to the challenges that COVID-19 has brought – for the first-time moving services online, and various groups in the church rising to the challenge and embracing zoom technology to keep us connected.
- We are looking for alternative ways to reach the community surrounding Brydon as we seek to fulfill the great commission.
- It is unlikely that COVID-19 will relent, and we regain a semblance of normality before the end of the second quarter; and as such we hope for the best but prepare for the worst.
- There are several functions related to use of technology in the church. This includes but not limited to the church website, editing video messages, maintenance of AV computer, photo copier, telephone and internet accounts. These functions have become essential now that we are online and necessary for the production and transmission of quality Sabbath services.

In the Master's service,

Pastor Owen Lynch

FIRST SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH OF TORONTO

ANNUAL GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

CLERK'S REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD OF JAN 1ST 2020 TO DEC 31, 2020

MEETING DATE - JANUARY 31, 2021

"The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer". Psalms 18:1-3, 46

Pastor Owen Lynch fulfilled the leadership role as he continued to serve the church through preaching, teaching, performing 1 funeral service & conducting several communion services. (all during our Virtual Divine worship services). Pastor Owen Lynch also chaired Advisory meetings, attended meeting/s with the Diaconate committee & Board of Directors and served on the board of SDB Missionary Society.

During this year in review, he also partnered closely with Pastor Omari Rhoden with the continued maintenance of our "Electronic Church" which includes livestream, Facebook live, Zoom, YouTube and dial-in options. He also led the Site Plan Fund-Raising Appeal to the Church for Phase 1 of the Church Site Plan.

The Church continued to utilize the on-line feature for tithes and/offerings.

**(Note: Preauthorized giving & Interac e-Transfers can be sent to:
donations@seventhdaybaptist.ca.)**

In light of the decision of Premier Doug Ford declaring 2 separate state of emergencies for Ontario (due to the Coronavirus outbreak - COVID-19), virtual Church services continues.

This is in keeping with protecting the health and safety of all brethren and our visitors. This remains the outmost of importance for the Church.

Also, the praise team continued to work diligently to enhance the weekly worship service.

During 2020, the Church held 3 Quarterly Business meeting outlining the activities of the Church. (See previous reports).

Weekly Virtual programming included:

- Virtual Sabbath School with Pastor Owen Lynch & Pastor Omari Rhoden (with guests)
- *Virtual Divine worship* (Pastor Owen Lynch, Pastor David McLean, Deacon Keith Ashley & other guests speakers)
- Bi-Weekly – Children’s Message (Children’s Church)

Some of our ongoing Virtual ministries/outreach programs were:

- *Prayer Line - Tuesdays*
- Saturday Bible Study with Pastor Daniel West (most of the year)
- Friday Night Youth/Young Adults Bible Study
- W.A Prayer line

Virtual Highlights for the last quarter of 2020 were:

- Oct 4 – Annual Allegheny Association session (only Business Meeting held)
- Oct 31 - Communion Service
- Nov 2 - QBM
- Nov 15 – Church & Prayer Group Fasting
- Nov 28 – Pastor’s Appreciation celebration
- Dec 19 – W.A year end social titled “Sip & Mingle”

During the reporting year, 2 members withdrew their memberships. They were Sis. Annette Lawrence & Sis. Charmaine Walker.

The congregation continue to pray for our brethren who went through health concerns this year. Please continue to pray for full healing for Pastor Herlitz Condison, Sis. Hazel Condison, Sis. Norma Anderson, Sis. Hermine Hunter and many others.

Additionally, during this year, we mourned with so many of our members who experienced great loss of family members. We continue to lift them up in our prayers.

In closing we also want to take this opportunity to acknowledge God's grace and mercy for ALL things seen and unseen in 2020. We continue to rejoice for the deliverance we have witnessed. We look forward to fulfilling his vision for 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Sis Diane Barrows

Clerk, First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Toronto

49 Brydon Drive

Toronto, Ontario

FIRST SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH OF TORONTO

ANNUAL GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

ADVISORY REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD OF JAN 1ST TO DEC 31, 2020

MEETING DATE: JANUARY 31, 2021

“The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer”. Psalms 18:1-3, 46

To the Quarterly Business Meeting of the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Toronto in session Sunday January 31, 2021. During this reporting year the members of the Advisory Committee met on a number of occasions with Pastor Owen Lynch chairing the meetings.

It has been over 11 months since the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Church has experienced significant changes on how we operate and deliver our services to the brethren, visitors, seniors, the sick & shut-in and others.

During this reporting year, various church matters were discussed. Some of these items were:

Status relating to the global pandemic -ongoing

March 2020

Coronavirus - COVID-19

In light of the continued spread of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) which was declared a “global pandemic” by the World Health organization, the leadership including the Board of Directors met & communicated to the brethren new measures in place.

March 14th church remained open with rigorous cleaning and hygiene protocols implemented.

March 18th Church services at 49 Brydon were suspended.

Subsequently, virtual services implemented.

December 31st Virtual services continue.

Status ongoing

Return to Church Protocol & Streamline of Church services

A comprehensive return to church protocol was completed by the Health Resource Team & Property Management committee, and was approved by the Advisory & Board of Directors.

As the pandemic continues, the roll out of the Church protocol remained on hold.

Note: This return to church protocol/policy aligns with the current Public Health recommendations at the Federal and Provincial levels. It will be subject to change as new recommendations arise.

Status ongoing

Electronic Church progress

The committee continues to support several church ministries as they utilize Zoom for their on-line meetings. Pastor Omari Rhoden & Pastor Owen Lynch continue their work to enhance the Church website, streaming services, edit sermons and messages, all in efforts to maintain the increasing viewership worldwide. As the work expands, they continue to seek volunteers to assist in this area.

Status ongoing

Infrastructure for Worship Service

The committee started the process to develop & create potential improvements to the infrastructure of worship services.

Status ongoing

Formal contract for Pastor Owen Lynch as a member of the Pastorate

The Board of Director have forwarded the draft contract to the Advisory committee for next steps.

Status closed

Constitutional amendment

Third reading finalized for the Constitutional amendment for staggering terms for “At large members” on the Board of Directors.

Status closed

Pastor Owen Lynch to perform weddings

The committee approved the formal request from Pastor Owen Lynch to perform wedding ceremonies at 49 Brydon Drive. Pastor Owen Lynch and the committee jointly agreed that the protocol for weddings will be consistent with the return-to church protocol. This will ensure visitors will properly adhere to the boundaries for safety when in the Church building.

Status closed

Launch of the Vision 2020 Plan for the Church

The committee supported & prayed for the execution of the Vision plan for the Church.

Pastor Owen Lynch explained the vision framework to the brethren during several Sabbath school and Bible study sessions. A vision package was distributed to brethren.

Our mission is to develop Kingdom Minded, Spiritually Faithful, Reproductive, Disciples of Christ.

Our Vision – Cultivate the Spiritual DNA needed to birth disciple makers, equipped for ministry, who will love and defend the truth; and are zealous for witness and service in the home, church and community – Luke 10:1-2

Status ongoing

Site Plan progress

The committee discussed budgetary limitations, concerns and the progress of the site plan.

Urgent financial funding for the completion of Phase 1 (dirt removal) was the primary driver during this year in review. Pastor Owen Lynch led the Site-Plan Fund raising Appeal to the Church. The Site Plan committee continued to update & work closely with the committee & the Board of Directors. During the reporting year

Respectfully submitted,

Sis. Diane Barrows

Clerk, First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Toronto

First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Toronto

49 Brydon Drive

Annual Report - Diaconate

January to December 2020

January 31, 2021

*“Now then, **stand still** and see this great thing the LORD is about to do before your eyes! (1Samuel 12: 16)*

- Serving God and serving the church through the guidance of the Holy Spirit is the objective of the Diaconate, collectively and individually.
- Although we have not physically assembled for worship and fellowship since March 16th, 2020 - because of the coronavirus pandemic- the Diaconate is still involved in the business of the church.
- The Diaconate has held virtual meetings to discuss matters pertaining to the running of the church, (eg. communion, fasting etc.)
- The Diaconate met virtually to set the dates for communion and fasting for 2021.
- The Diaconate met virtually to arrange for the “SDB week of prayer” starting the first week of January 2021.
- Spearheaded by Deacon S. Gooden, the Diaconate arranged for and held a virtual Pastors appreciation program in October.
- The Diaconate participated in effort to mediate where there is known conflict between members.
- Members of the Diaconate continue to reach out through telephone calls to church members and those who were regular visitors to the church.
- The Diaconate encourages all members to pray for each other and especially those in leadership positions that God’s will be done in all of our lives.
- It is the desire of the Diaconate to see that God’s vineyard continue to flourish even in these troubled times.

Yours in the Master’s service,

Elon Sinclair. (Chairman).

Report of the Cambridge Seventh Day Baptist Fellowship to Business
Meeting in session for January 31st, 2021.

Period under review January 1st, 2020 to December 31st, 2020

"We" Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him:

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints... Ephesians 1:16-18

Reviewing the Cambridge group activities for year 2020; we started out with many plans for outreach and various other activities that we were not able to undertake due to the pandemic. We were informed on February 19th, 2020, that we will no longer be able to use our old location at Tannery St.

Thank God we were able to find a place to move our worship service to, and on March 14th, 2020 we started at our new location at 37 Wellington Street, Cambridge for the 1st service there. Unfortunately, due to the Pandemic lock down we had to hold our Sabbath services on Zoom...this went well and had many joined us from various SDB churches.

On July 4th, 2020, with full pandemic precautions in place, and practicing social distancing as per Public Health Advised recommendations, we were able to start in church services.

Our Sabbath services were indeed a blessing and we had the pleasure of the support of the McFarlane family and Sis A Murray, we give God thanks for them.

With social distancing, we were still able to minister to a few visitors seeking prayer and encouragement and, having them joining us in Sabbath School sessions helped quite a bit.

We continued with our weekly Wednesday night Bible study on Zoom, focusing on the Lord's guiding in these times and walking in His will. The book of James and the books of Peter was our main source of the Study...

We took the time on our Wednesday night meetings on Zoom to encourage each other, and pray for families and our church groups, leaders in the church and our communities, our country Canada and various prayer requests as they were given..

We continued to seek God's face for direction, coverage and guidance in all that we faced. Staying strong in unity and praying as the apostles in Act 2... as there is strength in unity, and also practicing walking in the word of God...with hope for a better year in 2020

Stay blessed and be strong in the Lord.

Yours in the Master's service,

Sonya Richards



**CAMBRIDGE SDB FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE BUSINESS
MEETING on Jan/31/2021**

FOR OPERATING PERIOD January 1st, 2020 to December 31st, 2020

INCOME

1. TITHE: \$14,483.00

2. OFFERING: \$266.07

TOTAL: \$14,749.07

EXPENCES

1. CHURCH RENTAL: \$2,600.00

2. TRAVELLING (PASTOR): \$1,500.00

3. TELEPHONE: \$ 890.00

4. MEETINGS/OFFICE/POST BOX: \$903.35

5. CHARITY & DONATIONS: \$1,600.00

6. BENEVOLENCE: \$ 905.76

7. MISSIONS: \$ 403.56

TOTAL: \$ 8802.67

BANK BALANCE AS OF JANUARY 02/2020: \$37, 670.48

Peter Richards

Treasurer



FIRST SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH OF TORONTO

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

FUNDRAISING AND PLANNING AUXILIARY

FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2020

JANUARY 31, 2020

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

Annual Objective(s):

- Our fundraising goal was to raise \$12,000.00
- Focus on planning social and fundraising events
- Provide the church with funds to be used to assist with church renovation project.
- Assist with the planning of events with other auxiliaries.

Report on Year

This year due to the pandemic the committee was unable to execute any events. A praise night was planned for December 12, 2020. Due to multiple difficulties we were unable to have the event and it was postponed for the new year.

Report on future projects

The committee has made plans to have the Praise Night in March. Due to the ever changing Federal and Provincial guidelines for the Pandemic we have not planned any further events.

Remaining Opportunities (looking ahead):

- Sponsorship opportunities for businesses/entrepreneurs to help with expenses for projects
- Look at different ways members can give to the needs of the church.
- We ask the church to give generously towards the construction of the church, media needs to help continue livestream services and the many needs of the church. We thank you for all of your efforts in giving in 2020.

Needs/problems arising:

- Church Fundraising goal/budget that **ALL** auxiliaries/members would work towards.
- Limited to no involvement of committee members for the planning and execution of activities.
- Involvement/commitment from Church members to participate in programs being organized by Committee

In the Lord's service,

Respectfully submitted
Paula Reynolds
Chair

Youth and Young Adult Report
First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Toronto
Annual Business Meeting
For the period of January 1st – December 31st, 2020

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.
1 Timothy 4:12 (NIV)

The year 2020 has proven itself as the year of unprecedented events. However, on the positive side the year had allowed the youth to reflect and review the purpose and overall mission of the Youth and Young Adult Groups. As well, a tremendous amount of growth has occurred for both groups.

The groups objectives continue to be:

Develop a deeper understanding of God's word, developing trusting and meaningful relationships and understanding the role youth play in the body of Christ.

Looking back over 2020, during the months of January and February, the Youth, Young Adults and Advisors had participated in the 2020 Teen Conference held in Oakville. They have also participated in the CAA Girls and CAA Boys Clubs activities and led out an afternoon program of games and discussion.

Unfortunately, the Annual CAA Conference was postponed in May 2020, but the group looks forward to when they can physically meet again to plan and execute this annual event.

During the remainder of the year due to COVID and social distancing regulations, the groups immediately decided to hold Friday Night Bible Studies, to support their spiritual growth and to foster their relationships. The Youth and Young Adult weekly virtual meetings saw many visitors (Christian and non-Christian) joining weekly sessions, some even becoming regulars. Engaging discussion were enjoyed on a wide range of issues topical to our youth today. Many of these studies were creatively led by the youth and YA themselves. Such topics included but were not limited to Anxiety and Depression; Youth Leadership as seen through the study of Timothy; Godly Characters Traits; The Fruit of the Spirit; studies of various parables; wisdom as outlined by Proverbs and the young man Daniel, taught by Jordan Lynch; the Church, God, and Christian youth in the face of then current events including COVID-19, the US Elections and the Killing of George Floyd.

The youth enjoyed a myriad of socializing events that included movies and games nights. These events were also centered around spiritual and personal development. Kimberly and Amelia facilitated a meeting with the junior children's church which was well received. Friday Night Studies have been a great success and continue to be an event we all look forward too.

Despite the "stay at home" order, the groups were able to participate in the back-to-school prayer via zoom lead by the diaconate committee, which was well attended and well received.

The Youth/Young Adults have begun to plan for many new initiatives for 2021 and encourage the adults to participate when possible.

We look forward to when we all can physically meet again in the house of the Lord.

Respectfully submitted by,

Youth Advisors:

Deacon Keith Ashley

Sis Kelita Smith

Pastor Daniel West

Sis Nicole Gilmore-Coombs

**First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Toronto
Annual Report
Men's Fellowship**

January 2021 - March 2021

"Love, must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

Romans 12: 9-13

Annual Objective(s):

- To be more mobilize in doing God's work (send reminders, updates, conversation starters and even jokes as a way to communication and build stronger relationships within the men fellowship group).
- Continue youth outreach and create mentorship within the men's fellowship group.

Report (looking backwards):

- **On Hold** - "Streetlights Basketball" located at Westview Collegiate) continues to be on hold Tuesday evenings due to COVID19 pandemic and the city decision to close none essential programs.
- Any in-person event (ex: mens fellowship breakfast or get together) are on hold due to Covid-19 restrictions.

We started the year 2021 on January 1st, with The men's fellowship hosting a virtual praise night. We had a very favable turn out and the whole experience was new but the holy spirit lead us to connect. It was also a blessing to see all those wonderful face! We look forward to hosting another event like this in early spring.

Report (on-going ministry):

- The Street light Ministry is **on hold** due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, we look forward to resuming once the restrictions and COVID 19 is no longer here.
- We vow to continue prayer meetings, every second Sabbath of each month post pandemic.
- We would like to have a mens fellowship meeting once a month virtually via Zoom.
- Continue with mentorship initiatives, with the young men in the church teaching life skills, Bible study and character building.
- The young men are now learning how to operate the AV system in support of our online streaming.
- The men fellowship group recognizes the impact that the pandemic is having on people's lives and their mental health. We will expolre and see what other things we can do collectively that will support our church community.

- We also want to bring more awareness about physical health and overall wellness during such a difficult time.

Remaining Opportunities (looking ahead):

- We hope to have a few virtual events such as games/trivia night in march 2021.
- The men's fellowship also plans on being involved with any initiative that will support the return to church by working with the appropriate committee.
- Creating more opportunities to engage in prayer and fasting.

Needs/problems arising:

- **We need involvement from the other men in the group (A must).** This is not a one person committee.
- The men's fellowship has been more disconnected during the pandemic. More effort needs to be made from fellow members to connect with each other.
- Filling vacant secretary and vice-president positions.

In the Lord's service,

Jeremy Saunders

**WOMEN'S AUXILIARY REPORT
FIRST SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH OF TORONTO
ANNUAL GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1st 2020 TO DECEMBER 31, 2020**

Philippians 2:3-4 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

Objective

- To meet the spiritual and social needs of ladies in the church and the community through prayer and events that will minister to them spiritually and socially.

Completed Projects

- Women's conference held at 49 Brydon Dr on February 28-29, 2020
- Prayer breakfast held virtually on May 3, 2020
- Retreat held virtually on September 18-20, 2020
- Joyce Lyons Bursary – application was received, reviewed and payment was disbursed to 4 successful applicants
- Election of officers – meeting was held virtually on September 27, 2020. Officers were selected for 2021 and 2022
- Food donations was collected and delivered to the Horizon for Youth on December 1, 2020

Current/ongoing Ministry

- Fourth Sabbath cell group prayer – Every fourth Sabbath a cell group leads the members of the auxiliary into prayer and fellowship.
- Joyce Lyons Bursary

Looking ahead

- Bible study February 13, 2021 – Theme: How does the scripture present fasting
- Virtual Conference February 19-20, 2021 – Theme: Beauty for Ashes
- Prayer brunch May 2, 2021

Needs/problems arising:

- Consistent commitment to our dues and the Joyce Lyons Bursary

I thank you for your prayers, commitment, and support, even with the pandemic you continue to meet virtually during these unprecedented times. I encourage all members to continue to contribute positively and maintain a supportive attitude towards planned events and continue to reach out to each other.

In the Lord's service,

Debra-Lee Matthews (President)

