

**PRESENT:** Wilf Taylor (Chair), Carol Frost, (Clerk), Linda Maliteare, Jean Taylor, Maxine Gray, Dora White, Lorna Hislop, Judy McFadden, Michelle Gunderson, Rev. Natasha Pearen  
**REGRETS:** Barry McNabb, Fran Erven and Alf Iverson

Quorum present.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Wilf Taylor

**REFLECTIONS:** Worship and Membership                      **NEXT MEETING:** Property Committee  
Dora White read an excerpt on 'Community' from Henry Nouwen's *Bread for the Journey*.

**COUNCIL REPORT TO CONGREGATION:** Minutes are on website now.

**ADDITION TO THE AGENDA:** None

**ADOPTION OF THE Agenda:** Agenda for this November 15, 2017 regular meeting.

**Motion: moved by Maxine Gray and seconded by Lorna Hislop**

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the agenda for the November 15, 2017 meeting."**

**CARRIED**

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:** Minutes from the September 27, 2017 regular meeting.

**Motion: moved by Lorna Hislop and seconded by Jean Taylor**

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Minutes of the September 27, 2017 meeting as circulated."**

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

- Purchase of Sanctuary Speakers

Wilf Taylor presented information about the possibility of purchasing new speakers and other possible remedies for sound problems in the Sanctuary. Decision was made to not purchase speakers at this time and look at other options (Such as a longer arm for the pulpit mic, so it's easier to get close enough to speak into). Wilf will take the results of discussions back to the Property Committee.

- Discussion regarding church closure survey

Due to overlapping vacation days this summer, the Council decided to close for 2 weeks (3 Sundays) this past August. The Finance committee looked at 4 year trends (for charitable donations, facility use and expenses) and found that changes to the Church finances were negligible, as a result of the 2 week closure.

A survey was done with the congregation to see if we should plan to do a closure in summer 2018. There were approximately 30 replies to the survey. The M&P committee met with Staff to discuss this, as well.

Some clear results from the survey were noted:

1. Yes, we should close again next summer
2. Yes, it should occur in August
3. Yes, to either 2 weeks or 1 month
4. No, we would not likely come, even if we did have services in August.

**Motion: moved by Lorna Hislop and seconded by Judy McFadden**

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church recommend that no Sunday Worship services will be held August 2018 with the understanding that the staff will take the bulk of their holidays during the month of August."**

**CARRIED**

The Ministry and Personnel Committee will continue to communicate with the staff regarding this decision.

- Website: purchase "firewall"?  
Wilf Taylor was advised by "Go Daddy"(our domain host), that "site monitoring" is paid for and that no firewall is required.
- Remit #6 (Notice of Motion)  
Remit 6: One Order of Ministry ' was discussed, voted on and defeated in a motion.  
**"Does the presbytery/pastoral charge agree that there should be one new order of ministry encompassing the present categories of recognized designated lay ministers, diaconal ministers, and ordained ministers, with ordination to the ministry of word, sacrament, education, service and pastoral care as the single rite of entry, and with provision for the continued identity of the diakonia within the ordained ministry?"** **DEFEATED**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- UCC: for Remit updates go to [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca) and search "remit implementation"

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Set Date For Annual Meeting

**Motion: moved by Jean Taylor and seconded by Linda Maliteare**

**"....That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church, approve the date of Sunday February 11, 2018 for the Annual Meeting. "**

**CARRIED**

**REPORTS:**

**1. OFFICE:** Michelle Gunderson

See Appendix AK

- Committees are asked to prepare and submit their 2017 Annual Reports by early January (December would be great too!).
- When using the church after hours, please be sure to turn off the bathroom lights when you are ready to lock-up and leave!

**2. FINANCIAL:** Michelle Gunderson

See FS 17-9 and FS 17-10

Financial statements for September 2017 and October 2017 were circulated. Highlights of each Financial Statement were given by Michelle.

**Motion: moved by Lorna Hislop and seconded by Dora White**

**"....That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church, accept the Financial Report for the months of September and October 2017 as circulated, including the cheque register for each of the above months. "**

**CARRIED**

**3. PRESBYTERY:** Jean Taylor

Meeting in Brandon Nov 17 & 18

**4. FUNDRAISING:**

Christmas Tea and Bake Sale Dec 2nd

**5. NOMINATIONS:**

Chair Elect, Secretary, all Committees to assess the status of their member's terms & fill any vacancies.

**6. COMING EVENTS:**

Fair Trade Friday and AOTS Pancake Supper Nov 24th

**7. MINISTER'S REPORT:** No report

**COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

A reminder to committees to plan their calendar of events for the year and submit to council / the office – to facilitate scheduling and promotion.

**PASTORAL CARE:** Linda Maliteare

See Appendix AL

**CHURCH LIFE:** Lorna Hislop

See Appendix AM

Update on wooden Angels Ornaments for fundraising: Lorna reported that the Men's Shed group are working on cutting out the table top size and larger 3 1/2 ft outdoor Angels. Plans are to have them ready for sale at the Dec 2 Christmas Tea and Bake sale.

**LEARNING COMMITTEE:** Jean Taylor

See Appendix AN

**OUTREACH:** Maxine Gray

See Appendix AO

The Common Vision concert was held October 28, 2017 as a Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB) fundraiser. 75 people were in attendance with total donations of \$1905.00. The CFGB receives 100% of all funds generated from these concerts. Plus, donations are matched by the Government of Canada on a 4:1 basis, which means each dollar donated becomes \$5! Natasha will thank all the participating Churches for joining in this fundraiser. Thanks were expressed to the Choir for initiating and organizing this event.

**WORSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP:** Dora White

See Appendix AP

A request was made from the Worship committee to use funds from the Legacy Fund to purchase 10 More Voices song books. An application has been sent to the Finance committee for their recommendation.

**Motion: moved by Dora White and seconded by Jean Taylor**

**"....That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church, as recommended by the Worship and Membership committee, approve that there will be no worship service on Sunday December 31, 2017."**

**CARRIED**

**PROPERTY:** Wilf Taylor

See Appendix AQ

Wilf Taylor reported on the continuing efforts to end the lease for our Xerox photocopier. Lorna Hislop, who has dealt with Xerox before, agreed to follow up.

**MINISTRY and PERSONNEL:** Judy McFadden

See Appendix AR

Michelle and Natasha vacation requests, and office hours during the Christmas period.

**Motion: moved by Judy McFadden, seconded by Dora White**

**“ . . . That we, Council of the Minnedosa United Church, as recommended by the Ministry and Personnel Committee, approve Natasha’s request for time off as follows: December 27, 2017 (in lieu of December 25); December 28 and Dec 29, 2017 (regular vacation days) and January 2, 2018 (in lieu of January 1).”**

**CARRIED**

**Motion: moved by Judy McFadden, seconded by Dora White**

**“ . . . That we, Council of the Minnedosa United Church, as recommended by the Ministry and Personnel Committee, approve Michelle’s request for time off as follows: 3 vacation days - November 10, 17 and 24, 2017; 2 days off - December 27, 2017 (in lieu of December 25) and January 2, 2018 (in lieu of January 1).**

**CARRIED**

**Motion: moved by Judy McFadden, seconded by Lorna Hislop**

**“ . . . That we, Council of the Minnedosa United Church, as recommended by the Ministry and Personnel Committee, approve the closure of the Church Office for December 26 & 27, 2017 and January 2, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

**FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP:** Michelle Gunderson

Appendix AS

The Finance committee is asking all church committees to please have their committee budgets into the church office before year end.

LEGACY FUND APPLICATIONS: The Finance committee asks that application and approval of Legacy Funds requests be received prior to any purchases, if possible.

Reviewed an expense for child care this fall (Application #14-7 was initially approved in November 2014 and needs to be annually renewed, for child care during church events in the Minnedosa United Church).

**Motion: moved by Dora White and seconded by Judy McFadden**

**“....That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church, as recommended by the Finance and Stewardship Committee, approves \$250.00 to be made available yearly in order to pay for child caregivers as necessary. ”**

**CARRIED**

Received an application from Learning Committee to purchase musical instruments (bells, triangles, drums and boom whackers) for Sunday School children to perform at Christmas concerts etc. in the amount of \$190.55.

**Motion: moved by Lorna Hislop, seconded by Jean Taylor**

**“ . . . That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church, as recommended by the Finance and Stewardship Committee, approve the application from Learning Committee to purchase musical instruments (bells, triangles, drums and boom whackers) for Sunday School children to perform at Christmas concerts etc. in the amount of \$190.55 from the Legacy Fund. ”**

**CARRIED**

**NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:** January 17, 2018

**Motion: moved by Lorna Hislop**

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church adjourn this meeting at 8:55 p.m."**

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Carol Frost, Clerk

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Wilf Taylor, Chair

**APPENDIX AK OFFICE ADMIN**

- Worked with the Finance Committee to compose, print and mail the Fall Appeal letter
- Am using my last few vacation days – three Fridays off in November
- Committees are asked to prepare and submit their 2017 Annual Reports by early January (December would be great too!).
- When using the church after hours, please be sure to turn off the bathroom lights when you are ready to lock-up and leave!

**FACILITY USE SINCE LAST COUNCIL MEETING:**

Church Use: AOTS supper meetings, Meditation Group, Fall Supper, Directory Portraits, Ministerial meeting, Bell Choir, Common Vision choir concert, Crochet Club, Book Study  
Funerals: 4

Other Groups: Food Bank, Zumba classes, United We Can (Parent/Child group)

**APPENDIX AL PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE**

Meeting held at Minnedosa United Church Wed. Nov. 8, 2017 at 4:30 pm.

PRESENT: Natasha Pearen, Janice Richards, Carol Lee, Linda Maliteare, Alexis Harvey, and Olive Cameron.

Call to Order by Linda Maliteare.

Prayer Shawls – 6 prayer shawls were blessed and given out – 3 to Care Home residents, 2 to Minnedosa residents, and 1 to a relative of a parishioner in Brandon hospital.

Minnedosa United Church sympathy cards- Alexis has the cards ready to be printed. The design was chosen from Teresa Wareham's creations which she donated for our use and a verse was selected. 100 cards will be printed by the Tribune.

Visitor list reviewed – 2 from our list were deceased and 4 new names will be added.

Longest night service -will be held Dec. 21st. Carol Lee volunteered to organize the lunch.

We discussed problems with some of parishioners having difficulties getting into our church due to mobility handicaps. Suggestion to announce at church that it would be better if able persons could leave a spot open for these people at the front entrance.

Our budget for 2018 - \$100.00

Meeting closed at 5:40 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday Jan 9, 2018 at 4:30 PM

Recorder Olive Cameron

**APPENDIX AM CHURCH LIFE COMMITTEE**

Our Committee met on November 2, 2017

Lorna Hislop, Yvonne Chambers; Barb Kingdon (via telephone) in attendance

Regrets: Donna Illerbrun

Church Life Calendar

- October Congregational Luncheon provided by Senior Choir
- November Congregational Luncheon will be provided by Church Life
- Morning Coffee Party – 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month – are continuing
- Pictorial Directory – photo sessions took place Oct 16 & 17<sup>th</sup>  
Next sessions will be Nov 21, Nov 22 and Nov 23
- Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> – Christmas Tea & Bake Sale

**PICTORIAL DIRECTORY:**

We have been working on updating the Pictorial Directory. October sessions were filled and we hope to have November sessions filled as well. We have found that many of our members do not wish to have their pictures taken for it. We wondered about putting our complete membership in as a listing.

**ANGEL PROJECT:**

We are working on our Angel project. (Wooden ornaments to sell as a fundraiser). The materials have been purchased and Men's Shed has graciously begun the work of cutting out the angels. We will be holding a couple of painting sessions in the next week. We have 2 different sizes – 18" and 42". These will be ready for the Tea & Bake Sale. We also plan to have these advertised on social media with the hopes of generating orders.

**CHRISTMAS TEA & BAKE SALE:** Date Saturday, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Sign-up sheet will be put up; meat pies will once again be made/sold for this.

**2018 BUDGET:**

We do not foresee any major expenses for 2018 and will request that the budget for 2018 be kept the same: \$100 for the Committee; \$100 for Kitchen items; \$500 for consumables.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Donna Illerbrun's term is finished in February 2018

Submitted by Lorna Hislop

**APPENDIX AN LEARNING COMMITTEE**

The learning committee met October 13/2017

Natasha led a Guided Meditation series for 4 weeks in September and October. We have discussed holding another 4 week series in December. The sessions were held on Friday evenings and were well attended by church members and non-members.

We are holding a Book study/discussion of Margaret Atwood's book *The Handmaid's Tale* which was recently on TV. Sessions will be held after church November 12, 19 and 26. We haven't chosen our next book study yet, but Natasha has suggested *The Hidden Life of Trees*. by Peter Wohlleben.

We are looking to hold a relaxation/wellness day at The Solstice Spa in Clear Lake. This will probably be held at the end of February 2018, but is still in the planning stages.

Our Sunday school is running well with Joy Jeffrey as the coordinator. We have had 6-10 children attending. Clinton has been participating with musical direction and we have learned a few new songs. We also purchased instruments to be used in this form of worship and for performances like our upcoming Christmas presentation on December 10.

Submitted by Fran Erven

**APPENDIX AO OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

Members: Jan Macey, Nicole McLenehan, Mary Dalton, Maxine Gray.

We met on November 9, 2017. Issues of discussion included

- Fair Trade Friday and Ten Thousand Villages; Ten Thousand Villages will be here on November 24, 2017 in conjunction with AOTS Pancake Supper.
- Parent Child Programming related issues; Outreach Committee applied to Minnedosa Foundation for grant funds to support providing Parent Child Programming and were approved for a grant of \$1,000.00. The Rotary Club contacted Denise Dewar, Parent Child Program facilitator, offering to apply for a Assiniboine Parent Child Program grant to fund a program in the spring (as they did last year) - no further information known on this at this time. \*Note – we had agreed to help ensure parent child programming in the community on a consistent twice monthly basis from September to May accessing what resources we could – if Rotary is willing to assist, that's great.
- Little Bouquet; Mary talked about Little Bouquet, their financial needs and the possibility of people from our community participating in a trip to Haiti in the spring to assist with projects there. Mary will form a sub-committee to discuss and plan around this further.
- Mission and Service donations; Regarding Mission and Service donations we discussed the importance of setting a goal that realistically matched our ability.
- Committee Membership
- Collecting for Christmas Cheer.

We had brief discussion about the Beach Enhancement Committee (BEC), who continue to fundraise and to seek grant funds to enhance the beach/playground areas and have been denied a charitable number. The question was raised whether we should be offering to pair with this group to help them overcome this obstacle and allow them to apply for more grants. Willingness to help the BEC was expressed if we can help without a cost to the church. Concerns were expressed about liability and whether the church would have any liability concerns.

Submitted by, Maxine Gray

**APPENDIX AP WORSHIP & MEMBERSHIP**

Wednesday, October 11, 2017. Call to Order: Dora W, Chair, 7:00 pm

Present: Dora White, Carol Frost, Betty Iverson, Julie Hutton, and Natasha Pearen

Regrets: Eleanor Taylor, Clinton Jeffrey

Opening Reflection: Gathered for Worship, Chapter 16: Audiovisuals and Visible Words: Worship and Technology –discussion followed regarding technology in our place of worship.

Music Report: Cantata Dec 17 – to be performed on Sunday morning at church and in the evening. There will be additional performers joining the choir in the evening.

Natasha's Report:

1. Natasha is planning a meditation program again during Advent
2. Remembrance Service will be Nov 12 – Legion Ladies Auxiliary invitation to attend – Julie will write an invitation and ask if they would like a processional or just reserve seats for them to sit.
3. The committee has asked to get a list of the Sundays that there are no Sunday School activities provided during worship, for our planning purposes.
4. There are 5 Sundays in Dec – Natasha will be taking Dec 31 off – the committee agreed that Dora recommend to council that there be no Church this date.

New Business:

1. Remembrance Sunday - Natasha will check with the community Remembrance Day Committee to see what choir involvement there is to be this year.
2. Communion – Nov 26 – we will continue to use the 3 stations – Natasha will direct the congregation before communion begins.
3. More Voices song books – discussed ordering more of these song books for the congregation to use

Motion: That a request be made to use funds from the Memorial or Legacy Fund to purchase 10 More Voices song books. Julie/seconded by Carol Carried.

4. Thanksgiving display – the sanctuary was beautifully displayed again this year.
5. November 20 – Natasha is planning a Trans Day of Remembrance service
6. Christmas activities and events:
  - a. Decorating – November 29 at 9:00  
Motion: To purchase 3 poinsettias from the TCS Parent Advisory Committee playground fundraiser at \$25 each. Carol/seconded by Betty. Carried.
  - b. We discussed the annual nativity displays or an angel display - not this year (Strathclair Chorus performs here on December 3 and they will need all the space in the sanctuary)
  - c. December 3 – First Sunday of Advent & White Gift Sunday
  - d. December 10? - Bell Choir performing (date not decided yet)
  - e. December 10? - Sunday School participation in worship (date not decided yet)
  - f. December 17 - Cantata – 2 performances
  - g. December 21 – Longest Night service – check with Pastoral Care regarding the coffee gathering following this service.
  - h. Dec 24 Sunday – we agreed that we should have 2 services – 11:00 am and 7:00 pm December 31 – no worship
  - i. January 7/2018 – Natasha will be back
  - j. Betty offered to look after the advertising for the Advent season in the paper

Next meeting dates: January 10 at 9:30 am. We will un-decorate after the meeting.

Adjournment: Dora adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm.

**APPENDIX AQ PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

Property committee met November 10, 2017.

- We continue to deal with Xerox regarding the ending of our lease and the removal of the copier. They insist on a fee for the removal of their machine.
- We purchased two microphones: another hand held remote microphone and a replacement for the damaged one (used to record our services).
- The SE exterior wall stucco has been repaired.
- A quote to replace the speakers in the sanctuary was expensive. The property committee would like some guidance regarding the need for replacement speakers.
- Alf is in the process of reviewing our insurance coverage with Minnedosa Insurance
- We need to repair some ceiling tiles in the church office. (Alf)
- Some discussion regarding snow clearing of our sidewalk in front of the church

**APPENDIX AR MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL**

The committee met on Wednesday, November 8, 2017

The following procedures/processes are being developed:

- An annual review process/document for employees
- a vacation calendar with accompanying guidelines
- a diary for maintaining processes and procedures

These projects will continue to be worked on in the next few months.

**Minnedosa United Church Council Meeting  
Wednesday November 15, 2017 7:00 pm  
United Church Multipurpose Room**

**2017 - 47**

Clergy appreciation month was acknowledged during a Sunday service in October with a tribute to Natasha.

Holiday requests from Natasha and Michelle were received; the committee is presenting motions for these holidays to be approved at the November council meeting. A suggestion for the office to be closed for December 26, 27 and January 2 will be put forward to council.

Considerable discussion took place regarding the survey results for church closing in the summer. Prior to this meeting discussion of same took place with staff by their liaisons with the M & P committee. Areas of concern will be: length of closing and how this affects salaries, flexibility of time off, need for knowing as soon as possible for family planning of vacation.

Budget planning was initiated and it was determined that we would follow up with an additional meeting on November 29 to complete this planning.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy McFadden

**APPENDIX AS FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The committee met on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 @ 9:30 am.

Phyllis Graham, Harold Gilleshammer, Michelle Gunderson, Elaine Thomson, Natasha Pearen and Barry McNabb were present.

Reviewed the September financial statement and the October Profit & Loss Detail (not the official October statement).

Fall Appeal letter was sent out on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Big thank you to Linda Bertram, Fran Erven, Michelle Gunderson, Carol Frost, Linda Maliteare and Natasha Pearen for helping the Finance Committee include a hand written personal note in each appeal letter. Will have to wait and see whether the efforts were worth the extra work.

Discussion occurred about phoning the fall appeal donors to thank them. Phyllis Graham agreed to do some phoning and looking to find one other person to help her.

**LEGACY FUND APPLICATION:**

Reviewed an expense for child care this fall (Application #14-7 initially approved in November 2014 and needs to be annually renewed, for child care during church events in the Minnedosa United Church).

Received an application from Learning Committee to purchase musical instruments (bells, triangles, drums and boom whackers) for Sunday School children to perform at Xmas concerts etc. in the amount of \$190.55. Apparently the musical items were purchased before approval was given by finance committee and council. Finance committee asks that in the future approval be given first before any purchasing is done, if possible.

Finance committee recommends that Council approve these two Legacy requests.

Natasha gave the finance committee an update on the "Remit Implementation" and stated that changes will be effective in January/2019, following General Council in summer 2018. Our Pastoral Charge Assessments will come from the national level, and will be calculated differently.

Further discussion occurred on the possibility of a 2 week - 1 month closure for the Minnedosa United Church during the summer. Elaine Thomson will look into assembling some income/expense figures from the last few years. Finance committee is suggesting that Council not base any decision around summer closure of Minnedosa United Church on financials.

**Minnedosa United Church Council Meeting  
Wednesday November 15, 2017 7:00 pm  
United Church Multipurpose Room**

**2017 - 48**

Carol Lonsdale informed the finance committee that Julie Hutton has agreed to be Carol's replacement to perform the Annual Review of the church financial records. Carol will mentor Julie to help learn the process that is currently in place. At our annual meeting we will need to have a congregational vote to have Julie Hutton approved for this position.

Finance committee is asking all church committees to please have their committee budgets into the church office before year end.

Meeting adjourned by 11:45 am.

Submitted by Barry McNabb