

**Minnedosa United Church Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday March 21, 2018 7:00 pm**  
**United Church Multipurpose Room**

**2018 - 12**

**PRESENT:** Wilf Taylor (Chair), Carol Frost, (Clerk), Jean Taylor, Linda Bertram, Julie Hutton, Judy McFadden, Lorna Hislop, Linda Malitaere, Maxine Gray, Michelle Gunderson, Rev. Natasha Pearen

**REGRETS:** Barry McNabb

Quorum present.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chair Wilf Taylor

**REFLECTION:** Ministry & Personnel Committee      **NEXT MEETING:** Finance & Stewardship  
Natasha read her Minister's Report and talked about the conference she attended in Nova Scotia. "The Reconciliation Journey" explored reconciliation from a faith perspective. There was a special presenter from Northern Ireland. She then opened the meeting with a prayer.

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

**ADDITION TO THE AGENDA:** None

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:** Agenda for this March 21, 2018 regular meeting.

**MOTION:** moved by Linda Bertram and seconded by Jean Taylor

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the agenda as circulated, for the March 21, 2018 meeting."**

**CARRIED**

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:** Minutes from the January 17, 2018 regular meeting.

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

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Minutes of the January 17, 2018 meeting as circulated."**

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

- Ministry Profile Process  
March 13, 2018, MUC was officially declared a vacancy. The website will be listed in next week's bulletin so that the congregation can monitor the vacancy information. There will be a 3-6 month transition period into the new organizational structure for the United Church of Canada. This period would be from approximately Nov 2018 to April 2019, during which time there may be a freeze on hiring.
- August: closure/office hours/etc...  
As well as not holding Sunday Worship for the month of August, M&P will determine the office hours during the month based on staffing vacation schedules/requests.
- Xerox machine/contract  
On March 19<sup>th</sup>, the Xerox machine was picked up by Xerox. The \$650.00 removal fee was negotiated down to \$350.00. Wilf thanked Michelle and Lorna for their work in resolving this issue.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Assiniboine Presbytery: 2018 Assessment  
The amount is slightly less than estimated in this year's budget.
- UCC: Final Report on Regional Council Boundaries  
There will be 16 Regional Councils. Existing Pastoral Charges within the boundary of our Regional Council include: All pastoral charges in the province of Manitoba; all pastoral charges in the Central Time Zone portion of Cambrian Presbytery; Atikokan PC in Northern Ontario.

There will be 6 administration/offices for the regions. Northern Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba/Northern Ontario (within the Central Standard Time zone) will share 1 administrative office.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Gap Ministry. If it seems that a new Minister may not be found by the time Natasha leaves, the Ministry Profile Committee will explore 'gap ministry'.

**REPORTS:**

**1. OFFICE:** Michelle Gunderson  
See Appendix L

**2. FINANCIAL:** Michelle Gunderson

See FS 18-01 and FS 18-02

Financial statements for January 2018 and February 2018 were circulated. Highlights of each Financial Statement were given by Michelle.

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

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church, accept the Financial Report for the months of January and February 2018 as circulated, including the cheque register for each of the above months. "**

**CARRIED**

**3. PRESBYTERY:** Jean Taylor

See Appendix M

Next meeting: April 21, 2018 at Shoal Lake Community Hall

Workshop for Ministry and Personnel committee members:

Saturday April 14 at Trinity United in Brandon.

**4. FUNDRAISING:** Meat Pie Sale April 5-7, Spring Smorg April 29

**5. NOMINATIONS:** Chair Elect, M&P

Discussion re: possible amalgamation of committees and the increasing importance of the Ministry and Personnel Committee. Further discussion tabled until May meeting.

**6. COMING EVENTS:**

**7. MINISTER'S REPORT:**

See Appendix N

**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 Malitaere

See Appendix O

**CHURCH LIFE:** Lorna Hislop

**LEARNING COMMITTEE:** Jean Taylor

See Appendix P

Discussed Vacation Bible School plans for this coming summer. The theme will be "Operation Creation" - a program with an environmental focus.

**OUTREACH:** Maxine Gray

See Appendix Q

**WORSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP:** Julie Hutton

See Appendix R

**MOTION:** Moved by Julie Hutton, seconded by Linda Bertram

**“ . . . That we, Council of the Minnedosa United Church, as recommended by the Worship Committee approve the baptism of Laine Jordan Taylor Woodcock, daughter of Robyn and Keith Woodcock, scheduled for April 1, 2018 on Easter Sunday.”**

**CARRIED**

**PROPERTY:** Wilf Taylor

**MINISTRY and PERSONNEL:** Judy McFadden

See Appendix S

**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 that Michelle be granted sick leave for a family member (1 day) and that Elaine Thomson fill in for this absence.  
This day was taken on March 16, 2018. ”**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** moved by Judy McFadden, seconded by Linda Bertram

**“ . . . That we, Council of the Minnedosa United Church, as recommended by the Ministry and Personnel Committee, approve that Natasha be granted 6 days of holidays April 4, 2018 and June 24-30, 2018.”**

**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 that Michelle be granted 8 days of holidays August 4-20, 2018. ”**

**CARRIED**

**FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP:** Michelle Gunderson

Appendix T

In light of the current financial situation, the Finance Committee is recommending that all committees consider ways of reducing costs and/or increasing revenue. Since payroll costs are the biggest expense, the Ministry & Personnel Committee in particular will be asked to look into possible reductions in the coming months/years.

**LEGACY FUND APPLICATIONS:** (3)

We received an application from the Outreach Committee to cover expenses (advertising, etc.) for a fundraising concert for The Little Bouquet Children's Home. Concert dates are Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup> & Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup>/2018 in the Minnedosa United Church Sanctuary. Committee is requesting up to \$200.00.

Finance committee recommends that Council approve this Legacy application request.

**MOTION:** moved by Linda Bertram and seconded by Julie Hutton  
"....That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church, as recommended by the Finance and Stewardship Committee, approve the request for \$200.00 from the Legacy fund, as requested by the Outreach Committee, to cover expenses (advertising, etc.) for a fundraising concert for The Little Bouquet Children's Home. "  
**CARRIED**

Two other applications were presented to council (not previewed by the Finance Committee)

**MOTION:** moved by Jean Taylor and seconded by Maxine Gray  
"....That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church, as requested by the Learning Committee, approve the request for up to \$150.00 from the Legacy fund for the purchase of a second set of boomwhackers (musical instruments) for the upcoming Sunday School spring presentation. "  
**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** moved by Linda Bertram and seconded by Julie Hutton  
"....That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church, as recommended by the Finance and Stewardship Committee, approve the reimbursement of \$29.99 to Michelle, from the Legacy Fund, for the cost of participating in a 4 part series of Webinars for Church Treasurers presented by UCC United in Learning."  
**CARRIED**

**NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:** May 16, 2018

**MOTION:** moved by Linda Maliteare  
"....That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church adjourn this meeting at 9:15 pm."

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Carol Frost, Clerk

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Wilf Taylor, Chair

#### **APPENDIX L OFFICE ADMIN**

The last week of January, I assembled and printed the 2017 Annual Report Booklet. I attended the congregational meetings on February 4 (Ministry Profile) and February 11 (Annual Meeting).

The T4 slips have been distributed to the staff. Income Tax Receipts were signed and mailed in February.

The Minister's letter for Lent/Easter was printed and mailed/emailed on March 1<sup>st</sup>. I am currently working on completing the UCC Statics forms.

#### **FACILITY USE SINCE LAST MEETING:**

**CHURCH:** United We Can (Parent/Child group), Crochet Club, Coffee Party, Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Bell Choir, AOTS (Meetings and Pancake Supper), Lenten service/lunch.

**FUNERALS:** two services

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OTHER GROUPS: Primary Care Centre – fundraiser, Food Bank, Zumba, Minnedosa Grain Growing Project (Foodgrains Bank) meetings, Credit Union, Lions Club, Rolling River Festival of the Arts.

\*Alexander Jackson Law Office: due to the flooding and repairs to the new COOP building - Mr. Jackson has requested that he be able to use our facility to meet with clients. (He is temporarily using his basement for his office.)

**APPENDIX M ASSINIBOINE PRESBYTERY**

Presbytery Meeting February 9-10, 2018 at Central United Church in Brandon, MB.

Friday evening: Blanket Exercise

Saturday 9:30 am Gathering, Worship: Craig Miller and Susie McPherson

- Police Record Checks: Level II Vulnerable Sector
  - Ministry Personnel
  - Licensed Lay Worship Leaders
- Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Policy and Procedures (SMRPP)
  - Mandatory refresher training for all ministry personnel every 5 years
- Heart Bank: Mobile Learning Centre
  - can only access two more grants
  - Money is required to keep this worthwhile project available.
- Kairos Blanket Exercise has been popular especially by school groups.
- Voting on Remit 6: It was NOT approved by a majority of 85 Presbyteries
- The interim report from the Boundaries Commission is proposing that 17 Regional councils be established on January 01, 2019. It will release its final report no later than March 15, 2018, outlining the final boundaries of the new regional councils.
- December 2018: Presbyteries will cease to exist
- M+P Workshop: Saturday April 14 at Trinity United in Brandon.
- Conference Annual Meeting May 24-27, 2018: *Remembering, Celebrating, and Imagining*

Next Full Court Meeting: April 21, 2018 @ Shoal Lake Community Hall

**APPENDIX N MINISTER'S REPORT**

The last few months have been different as we begin to think about coming to an ending and saying "goodbye". I have begun to pull back in certain ways and at the same time focus more on other aspects of my ministry; trying to set realistic goals for the end of our time together. It is hard to move through this time of change and I've been trying to be more intentional about nurturing my mental health.

I appreciated the opportunity to do some more learning about reconciliation as well as spend some time on the coast doing house hunting. Despite the busyness of this time, it was relaxing and soul feeding. It has given me lots to think about, some of which is still difficult to express.

It has left me with a new sense that reconciliation is not a moment in time, or a thing to accomplish but rather a way of living that brings more wholeness and inner peace. Paul explained that in the intentional community of Corrymeela Ireland, they understand reconciliation as learning to live together in difference. It is not about everyone agreeing with one another or an end to conflict, but rather choosing not to let our disputes get in the way of living with respect and compassion. It is an ability to apologize and forgive when hurts happen. It involves creating a safe atmosphere where everyone can speak their truth, mercy, justice and peace even if this is in tension with the truth, mercy, justice and peace of another.

**APPENDIX O PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE**

Meeting March 15, 2018

Our PCH and Home Visitation List was reviewed and revised. Several visits have been made since our last meeting. We are going to recruit some new visitors for home and PCH visits. We have identified several people who our Chairperson will approach.

Five Prayer Shawls have been blessed and delivered. One more will be blessed for a hospitalized member next week. One thank-you card for a prayer shawl was received. We will be contacting several people in the hope they will agree to conduct PCH Worship Services and Hospital Visits upon Natasha's departure.

Submitted By Janice Richards, Recorder

**APPENDIX CHURCH LIFE COMMITTEE**

No report.

**APPENDIX P LEARNING COMMITTEE**

Meeting March 02, 2018

Present: Fran E. + Jean T.

1. Our women's relaxation/wellness retreat at The Solstice Spa at Clear Lake on February 26 was a success. Eleven women attended and enjoyed a day of prayer, meditation, conversation and spa activities
1. A family event was held March 11 at Minnedosa Bowl from 2-5 pm
2. Book Study re: *The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben will begin Sunday April 8 at 2:30 pm. We will have three sessions, the last one being April 22.
3. We are seeking a co-ordinator for Vacation Bible School scheduled for July 16-20.
4. A Sunday School meeting will be held soon to plan our Easter events.

Submitted by Jean Taylor

**APPENDIX Q OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

Members: Nicole McLenehan, Mary Dalton, Jan Macey, Maxine Gray, Natasha Pearen  
Outreach Committee met on March 1, 2018 with Denise Dewar as our guest (Facilitator of parent child programming, which Minnedosa United Church has been supporting).  
We reviewed the parent child programs that have taken place over the last year, discussing the grants from Assiniboine North Parent Child Coalition and Minnedosa Foundation, what has worked well, concerns, things to do differently, costs versus funding. We discussed how we can continue to work together to support the provision of parent child programming in Minnedosa.

We talked about Little Bouquet Children's Home, their needs and Barb Kingdon's visit (she was in Haiti at the time of our meeting). Many members of the congregation helped to collect and donated items for Barb to take to Little Bouquet. Mary reported that the children, Wesley and his wife were excited and grateful to receive these items. Mary is planning a fundraiser in support of Little Bouquet Children's Home June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. It is a concert featuring songs from Musicals presented by Jim Comrie and Eva Stevenson with presentations about Little Bouquet Children's Home.

Next meeting: April 24, 2018.

Maxine Gray, Chair

**APPENDIX R WORSHIP & MEMBERSHIP**

Wednesday February 28, 2018 Call to Order: Julie Hutton, Chair, 9:40 am  
 Present: Natasha Pearen, Julie Hutton, Carol Frost (recorder)  
 Regrets: Clinton Jeffrey, Eleanor Taylor, Betty Iverson, Gaileen Kingdon

BUSINESS ARISING from the January 10, 2018 minutes:

1. Hymns – Natasha and Eleanor have chosen hymns for services up to May 13<sup>th</sup>. Discussion occurred re: the reporting of hymns to One License, as required by our copyright agreement with them. Carol has been doing this since 2012. It was decided that this was not really a requirement of the Worship Committee and that any individual wishing to take this on may do so. Carol would be willing to show the individual how to do it. The new system is very user friendly.
2. More Voices – The 10 books we ordered are on back order.
3. Covenant Church request is put on hold for now.
4. PCH Services 2018: March 27 (Communion), April 3, May 15, June 12, June 19 (Memorial Service)  
 \*July 24 and August 28 services will need coverage, as Natasha will be finished.
5. Lent Plans/Events -

Lent	Discussion	Action
Lent services	An ad in the Minnedosa Tribune outlining the dates of the upcoming lent services.	Carol will submit this ad to the paper
March 25 – Palm Sunday	Betty ordered palm branches. They will be delivered to the church.	
	Someone will be needed to hand out the Palm Branches to the congregation.	Carol will find someone to hand out palm branches.
	It will be an intergenerational service with no Sunday School.	Julie will notify the Sunday School.
March 29 – Maundy Thursday	In the form of and agape meal: fellowship and meal together. Pot-luck at 5:30 pm.	Julie will make a poster about Holy Week services.
March 30 – Good Friday	The Choir will sing and Eleanor will play piano at the community service at 11:00.	
	Natasha asked if the choir would like to do an anthem for this service	Natasha will tell the Spiritual Care Committee, so they may invite their congregations to join the choir.
April 1 – Easter Sunday	Will include communion and baptism. We will use the small glasses for communion and the congregation will remain seated.	Carol will obtain bread and grape juice. Julie will find servers.
	We will have muffins, fruit and coffee before the Easter service (10:00 am).	Julie will ask people to donate of muffins and/or fruit.
	There will be Sunday School during the service, following the baptism.	Julie will tell the Sunday school.

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Other dates:

May 27 is Conference Annual Meeting weekend. There will be no pulpit supply available. Natasha will check into whether our local congregation can follow the bulletin used during conference for some of our service. Both Natasha and Julie will be attending conference.

MUSIC REPORT: Youth Choir and Sunday school – Natasha will check about dates for their presentations at services – possibly in May. The junior choir practices the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month.

NATASHA’S REPORT: Natasha’s last service will be June 17<sup>th</sup>.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request from Church Life that the Worship Committee do the after Church lunch at the end of June. The date is June 24<sup>th</sup>. Natasha will not be at this service. Her last service will be June 17<sup>th</sup>, so the lunch may be moved to that date. We will check with Church Life.
2. College Sunday 2017-2018: table until next meeting. Some discussion about showcasing the Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre, an Aboriginal Theological and Ministry Training Program of the United Church of Canada located in Beausejour, MB.
3. Sacrament Elder training – no dates available.
4. Earth Hour - Earth Hour 2018 will be at 8:30 - 9:30 p.m. (central time) on March 24.
5. Baptism:

MOTION: Moved by Julie Hutton, seconded by Carol Frost:

“. . . That we, the Worship Committee recommend that the Council of the Minnedosa United Church approve the baptism of Laine Jordan Taylor Woodcock, daughter of Robyn and Keith Woodcock, scheduled for April 1, 2018, Easter Sunday.”

CARRIED

6. Worship Committee Fundraiser – discussed previous fundraising events and looked at some ideas.
7. Natasha’s last service - tabled
8. Church Library – We will look at posting what books are in the Church library and remind congregation that they are available to sign out, if they wish.

Next meeting dates: Thursday April 5<sup>th</sup> /18 at 6:00 pm. Will check this date with Clinton and Eleanor.

Adjournment: Julie adjourned the meeting at 11:00 am.

**APPENDIX PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

No report.

**APPENDIX S MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL**

The committee met on Wednesday, February 28, 2018.

Present: Dave Walker, Judy McFadden

Terry McLenehan was unable to attend so the processes being developed for annual employee review and the vacation calendar/processes diary were tabled until Terry can meet with us. Terry is finished his term with this committee, but volunteered to complete these processes for us.

Holiday requests from Natasha, Michelle and Hilton were received and will be presented to council at the March council meeting.

A request from Michelle re: attendance at the Church Office Workers Conference in Saskatoon in October was favorably received and was tabled until our April meeting.



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Carol Frost has indicated that she will carry on as recorder of the council minutes for this next church year so M&P will table the suggestion of adding this to the office admin duties until we have a new minister in place and at that time we will review the office admin position description.

Clinton Jeffery joined our meeting to discuss his activities as music director. The music director's position description was reviewed at this time.

The M&P committee is still needing at least one additional member and preferably two. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 25.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy McFadden, Chair Ministry & Personnel Committee

**APPENDIX T FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The committee met on Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 @ 9:30 am. Phyllis Graham, Lorraine Sleep, Michelle Gunderson, Elaine Thomson, Wilf Taylor and Barry McNabb were present. Natasha Pearen was absent.

Reviewed the January & February financial statements. Discussion occurred as to how the finance committee felt about our current financial situation. After experiencing a great Fall Appeal resulting in a positive bank balance of \$3,350 to end 2017, we now have a deficit bank balance of -\$7,500 at the end of February – which leaves us with great concern. It has been noted that the number of weekly/monthly donors have been decreasing for some time now. Should we expect the remaining donors (are they able) to make up the difference? There does not appear to be many new people wanting to join our church.

In light of this current situation the Finance Committee is recommending that all committees consider ways of reducing costs and/or increasing revenue. Since payroll costs are the biggest expense, the Ministry & Personnel Committee in particular will be asked to look into possible reductions in the coming months/years.

**Legacy Fund Application:**

We received an application from the Outreach Committee to cover expenses (advertising, etc.) for a fundraising concert for The Little Bouquet Children's Home. Concert dates are Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup> & Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup>/2018 in the Minnedosa United Church Sanctuary. Committee is requesting up to \$200.00.

Finance committee recommends that Council approve this Legacy application request.

Discussion took place on what would be mentioned in the Spring Appeal letter so that a draft could be worked on. Hoping to have an Appeal letter sent out by first week of April.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, May 9th, 2018

Meeting adjourned by 12:00 noon.

Submitted by Barry McNabb