

PRESENT: Julie Hutton (Chair), Wilf Taylor (Past Chair), Alf Iverson, Carol Frost, Maxine Gray, Olive Cameron, Barry McNabb, Lorna Hislop, Barb Kingdon, Michelle Gunderson (Clerk/Treasurer), and Kathy Platt (Minister).

Quorum present.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chair, Julie Hutton.

REFLECTION Barb Kingdon read the Affirm Vision Statement for Prairie to Pine, approved at the Regional meeting earlier this month. She likened it to the four H's in the 4-H club (head, hands, heart and health) and reflected on the message in the statement - Barb encouraged all of us to consider how we may personally live into this vision every day of the week.

HOLY MANNERS

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- remove the item under New Business (Phases of re-opening) – was included in error.
- Sandy-Saulteaux letter (Correspondence): information and welcome of support

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: for this October 21, 2020 online meeting.

MOTION: moved by Carol Frost and seconded by Wilf Taylor .

"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the agenda for the October 21, 2020 online meeting as amended."

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES: Minutes from the September 16, 2020 online meeting.

MOTION: moved by Alf Iverson and seconded by Barb Kingdon.

"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Minutes of the September 16, 2020 online meeting as circulated."

CARRIED

COUNCIL MINUTES ARE POSTED ON OUR CHURCH WEBSITE

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- **Survey Review:** Julie spoke about the results of the survey. There were 26 responses summarized by Jean Garbolinsky and Colleen Wallace.
- **Moving Forward:**
Carol Frost discussed how in-person worship has been – it has generally gone well. Kathy was in touch with some of those attending, to get feedback – it feels different but good, and people do feel safe. Gradually there are more new people coming – word of mouth helps. There were some challenges with the Zoom video and sound once we began in-person worship, but an external webcam (camera), and an external microphone have greatly improved (not perfected) the quality of both.
Alf reported that there were a few issues with the sound system which have been sorted out now, and that the recordings for Access TV are going well.
Michelle talked about the pre-registration process – some have asked about expanding the window of time they can call to pre-register – council agreed to make registration available Tuesday, Wednesday and until noon on Friday. Thus far attendance has stayed below our maximum, so have not needed to turn anyone away or suggest that they "take turns" attending. Worship committee will meet to make plans for increased numbers attending, and possibly expand to using the hall as well. Carol emphasized that our goal is to make worship available to those who would like to come, using protocols to keep everyone as safe as possible – not to aim for maximum attendance! Many folks are finding Zoom to be a good experience, and they feel more comfortable staying home for now.

- User groups:
Council was asked about their comfort level with allowing user groups into the facility at this time. Most felt that people are yearning for social contact and engagement, and are in favour of allowing facility use by small groups using appropriate protocols for screening, entry & exit, signing-in for contact tracing, physical distancing, sanitation, etc. Our church also has the current policy that masks must be worn when coming into our facility.
Church groups like the AOTS, Crochet Club and Bell Choir would like to begin gathering again. Community groups are interested and looking for spaces to use. We already have the Food Bank and PMH Harm Reduction groups using our facility – will use some of those guidelines for other groups as well.
A concern about liability was raised, and it was felt that our coverage is sufficient, and as long as we are known to be making every effort to follow provincial requirements.
- Food Bank requests:
 - would like to host a meeting in the hall
 - propose a plan to do some cooking in the kitchen (using foods and recipies provided to their clients), on a monthly basis.Council agreed to both of these requests.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Services to Seniors: would like to use our meeting hall for an exercise class (offered for free through Prairie Mountain Health Region). It would begin in mid-November until the 50+ Centre is open again. Council agreed to this request (see above discussion under User Groups).
- Sandy-Saulteaux letter: shared the information with Council, no action required.

NEW BUSINESS:

-

REPORTS:

- 1. OFFICE:** Michelle Gunderson
No report.
- 2. FINANCIAL:** Barry McNabb
See FS 20-09

Financial Statement from September 2020 was circulated.

Michelle did a review of the September financials. Charitable donations are similar to last year, which is wonderful considering the covid closures! However, due to the closure there has been no income from Facility Use or Fundraising. Most of the expense categories are holding steady compared to last year, with the exception of increased salary costs (due to having a full time minister all year). The government wage subsidies we received have almost exactly covered the increased salary costs, so far. The remaining deficit balance is very near the amount of lost income from no Facility Use/Fundraising.

MOTION: moved by Lorna Hislop and seconded by Olive Cameron.

"....That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church, accept the Financial Report for the month of September 2020 as circulated, including the cheque register for the above month."

CARRIED

MOTION: moved by Barry McNabb and seconded by Wilf Taylor.

"....That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church, agree to a transfer of \$25,000 from the Legacy chequing account into the Legacy Cash Builder fund."

CARRIED

3. PRAIRIE TO PINE REGION 5

APPENDIX W

- online Regional Gathering held Sept 30 and Oct 7th.
Barb & Michelle participated with Kathy.
 - Our Covenanting with the Region was finalized.
 - the Affirming Vision Statement was approved
 - Voting on Remit 1 was completed. (Change wording describing who is eligible to be a UCC Minister: "The Order of Ministry shall be open to persons of all gender identities.")

4. FUNDRAISING: Meat Pies

5. NOMINATIONS: -

6. COMING EVENTS: -

7. MINISTER: One of the realities that I need to keep reminding myself of, is that the reason I am often exhausted has more to do with the steep learning curve I am on with all of this technology, rather than simply that I am getting old! I profoundly appreciate the support of the worship committee in sorting through the details of how to begin our "in person" worship services. It truly does take a whole community of people to make this a safe and worship-full experience - so thank you! I know that coming to church during this Pandemic reality is far from "normal", but the feedback that we have been receiving is that once people are there, it feels like worship, and it feels safe - yeah!
I continue to struggle with how best to offer pastoral care. I hope that families know that the only way I can visit in palliative care is if the family requests it, and then adds me to their list of "approved" visitors. Otherwise, I have been making phone calls, sending e-mails, and doing socially distanced visits as time permits. I am on a reading break October 26 - November 3, giving myself the time and space to focus on the upcoming Advent/Christmas season. Julie Hutton will be leading worship on Nov 1st, with the support of Carol Frost, Colleen Wallace, Mary Dalton, Jim Comrie, Clark McNabb & Alexis Harvey.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

PASTORAL CARE: Olive Cameron

See Appendix X

*Clarification, the volunteers have 25 people on the list of people to be visited.

CHURCH LIFE / OUTREACH: Lorna Hislop

See Appendix Y

-Have made 25 copies of the music CD they recorded (not for sale), which will be delivered with care packages to those of our church family who do not have online access to church messages & services.
-are in need of a new supply of hats, mitts & gloves, etc. for our Hat and Mitt Tree, which is set out now.
-The committee would like to hear from Council if they can go ahead and plan to make meat pies as a fund raiser. They feel they can do so while following the required covid protocols. Council agreed.

WORSHIP, MEMBERSHIP and LEARNING: Carol Frost

See Appendix Z

PROPERTY: Alf Iverson

See Appendix AA

Discussion around whether now would be a good time to have some planned painting done in the church. A previous quote from Liz Burton came in at \$900. There may be some additional touch ups (north wall of the Sanctuary where there is water damage, and perhaps around the speakers in the hall when the repaired speakers are mounted again).

MOTION: moved by Alf Iverson and seconded by Wilf Taylor.

"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church, agree to have Liz Burton paint the corridors of the building, with cost not to exceed \$1200, to be paid from the new Building Account."

CARRIED

MINISTRY and PERSONNEL: Maxine Gray

See Appendix AB

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP: Barry McNabb

See Appendix AC

HOLY MOMENTS (a moment from the meeting that "gives you life") & PRAYER

NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING: November 18th, 2020 at 7 pm (likely Zoom)

MOTION: moved by Barb Kingdon

"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church adjourn this meeting at 8:59 p.m."

Michelle Gunderson, Clerk

Julie Hutton, Chair

APPENDIX W

PRAIRIE TO PINE - REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING REPORT September 30 & October 7, 2020

Barb Kingdon, Michelle Gunderson and Kathy Platt met the evenings of Sept 30 & Oct 7th for a virtual Prairie to Pine Regional Council meeting that had been organized in lieu of the cancelled meeting that was to be held in person at the end of May.

Each evening it was quite the process to get the over 200 people signed in but for the most part it worked. The first part of the 2 part meeting was spent reviewing the processes for conducting the meeting, and processes for speaking and voting on both the computer and phone.

The motions, the Remit to Court and proposed vision statement were all reviewed and comments were welcomed.

Part 2 on October 7th

The Omnibus motion with 2 additional motions added regarding the minutes of the inaugural meeting of Prairie to Pine Regional Council held June 2019 and the holding a Celebration of Ministries services a date and time to be determined. The motion was carried.

Remit to Court:

Introduction of a few changes to the vision statement and then voting was held and carried.

DRAFT AFFIRMING VISION STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE LGBTQI2S+ COMMUNITY:

Prairie to Pine, a Regional Council of The United Church of Canada, is called to offer an open door, an open heart, an open mind and an open hand.

An open door is evidence of the belief that all people are created in God's image and are unconditionally loved by the Creator.

An open heart follows Jesus' teachings to love one another. We extend that love to all, inclusive of their ability, age, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, socio-economic status or any other human division.

An open mind calls us to continue working for justice, dignity, and the full inclusion of everyone in all aspects of the church community and society.

An open hand is a symbol of our work towards reconciliation as Indigenous and Non-Indigenous peoples, and our call to live into the intercultural global community.

An open table recognises that Jesus Christ is our host and that we are all welcomed guests.

All who seek to follow Jesus are invited to share in this significant and sacred meal.

We recognize the unique and diverse Communities of Faith and recognize we are at varying levels of development and capacities.

Several reports, congratulations of retirements, and in memoriams were heard. There was the acknowledgement of Sam Ross (Designated Lay Minister) and Eleanor Thompson (Ordinand).

The evening ended following worship and communion and the covenanting with co-chairs.

There is summary of both evenings , a video and many resources connected to the evenings on the Prairie to Pine website.

APPENDIX X

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE October 2020 Report

Meeting held Sept 30th at the church.

In attendance: Kathy Platt, Linda Maliteare, Alexis Harvey, Janice Richards, and Heather Currie. Chaired by Olive Cameron.

Discussion about methods of helping our housebound parishioners during this COVID-19 restrictions time. We have assigned 25 persons to our volunteer group at the present time.

Care home members are difficult to visit due to visitor restrictions, so we've sent well wishes individually made cards to them and hope the individuals receive them and have done some distanced visiting.

Some people have been able to watch our services on TV or zoom, but not too many are able to do this.

Bereavement cards have been sent to five families, and one prayer shawl was delivered.

We are open for accepting referrals for those in need of a visit.

We thank Kathy for her new innovations to help our congregation through these rough times.

The pastoral care committee. Recorded by O. Cameron.

APPENDIX Y

CHURCH LIFE/ OUTREACH REPORT TO COUNCIL – October 21, 2020

Committee met online on Tuesday October 20, 2020 with Nicole McLenehan; Lorna Hislop; Mary Dalton; Barb Kingdon and Kathy Platt

OUTREACH:

1. Together We Can (Nicole) - we have applied for a grant from the Minnedosa Foundation – our request was for \$750 instead of the \$1400 as we had funds left over from last year. The first sessions will be starting up with Zoom meetings between the facilitator and parents in the next couple weeks.
2. Little Bouquet Children's Home (Mary) the Home is in desperate need of batteries and solar panels for the solar power system in order to produce electricity. Need to look into making our Congregation aware of this need.

3. Outreach Care packages: We will be making up and delivering 17 care packages to some of our Church family that have had no access to our Zoom Church services. Packages will contain some homemade soup; a handwritten note in a card and a CD of recorded music. Delivers will be made the week of Oct 25th.
4. Hat/Mitten Tree – will put out this week. We are always in need of mittens.

CHURCH LIFE:

1. Meat Pies – discussed how we could proceed with this event.
Would like to target the end of November.
 - advertise thru Tribune/ social media / call list
 - ask that pie shells be made into the pie plates as much as possible in order to eliminate the need of having to roll them out.
 - filling to be brought in already prepared
 - masks would have to be worn – spread out in the Main Hall if necessary
 - pick up times would be set – have designated person at Front door – do not allow anyone into the Church or we would deliver the pies as done previously.
2. Christmas Dainty Trays – in lieu of holding our annual Christmas Bake Sale & Tea – we would put together dainty trays and sell. Trays would be ready for Dec 18th
3. Valentine's TakeOut Supper – discussed the idea of holding a supper in February – this would be a 'TakeOut' supper. More details to come.

Next scheduled meeting: Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 7:30 pm

APPENDIX Z

WORSHIP + MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE - Council Report for Oct 21, 2020

Our last meeting: Wednesday September 30, 2020 at 9:30 am (and then a quick review on Oct 4 following the service).

Attending: Kathy (minister), Betty I, Colleen W, Gaileen K, Jean T (secretary), Carol F (chair), Mary D, Michelle G

Correspondence: Thank you card from Marion McNabb

Trial (soft re-opening) September 27th, 2020 and Oct 4, 2020.

In attendance:

Sunday September 27th: some members of the Worship Committee and Council

Sunday October the 4th: some members of the Worship Committee, Council and Choir.

Three modes of communication:

1. Zoom
 - Will mute Zoom @ 10:50 to allow us to listen to the music
 - The new mike has arrived. Tried out Oct 4. Sound greatly improved. The camera for Zoom worked well by the second week.
2. Access TV - was good
3. In-person in the Sanctuary – sound was good

A decision was made: World Communion will not take place in the church (Oct 4)

The 3 Groups planning the Re-opening:

1. The Worship Team: Kathy, Mary, and Alexis - with Alf on sound/filming/tech issues
2. The Pre-Registry Group: Michelle, Colleen and Jean
3. The Usher/Greeter Group: Betty, Gaileen and Carol

A letter to be sent to the congregation on Tuesday Oct 6th (by e-mail with about 15 being mailed to those who don't have internet) regarding in-person worship on Thanksgiving, October 11, 2020.

APPENDIX AA

PROPERTY COMMITTEE Oct/2020

* Wilf Taylor has been in touch with Jenkins flooring re: repairs to sanctuary floor and hall flooring. They are aware but due to work load they have not been able to be available. The work will happen as they can accomodate.

* Clark McNabb was in touch with Ted Good in Brandon Re: hall speakers. They are in the process of repairing them and we will pick them up and get them back to the church when available.

*The furnace filters have been replaced as required for the winter season. No problems encountered. "A GREAT VIEW FROM THE ROOF!"

*Chimney addition to the remaining furnace is still pending.

*Seating arrangements for Sunday Service appears to be working good , however we have room for more.

Alf Iverson
Chair, Property

APPENDIX AB

COUNCIL REPORT FROM M & P October 19, 2020

A preliminary budget was discussed to be completed at the next meeting.

New Resource for Musicians and Ministry has been printed to be reviewed by the Committee. A donation of \$50.00 in memory of the late Bob Taylor, Eleanor Taylor's husband was sent to Central Plains Cancer Care Service.

Further conversation will be initiated in the next few weeks regarding Eleanor's Leave Of Absence.

Submitted by:
Linda Bertram

APPENDIX AC

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT – October 2020

The Finance committee has not had a meeting since the last Council meeting.

We did gather on September 25th to fold'n stuff the Fall Appeal letters, which were mailed out that day. Thus far the response has been \$8590 as of Oct 13th.

The September financials:

Income: 9,935.50 + 6,895.27 (subsidy) = 16,830.77 Expenses: 10,742.08

YTD: Income: 77,443.89 + 26,440.85 (subsidy) = 103,884.74

Expenses: 112,607.78

Government Wage Subsidies:

TWSE (10%) – have now received the full amount for the three months that this program was available - we are in communications with ADP & UCC about a couple of small calculation discrepancies and an ADP calculation error. We are waiting to hear from UCC, on whether we correct this with CRA, or if ADP will handle it.

CEWS – we are holding off making our claim for Period 7 (Aug 30 – Sept 26) until we know about the possible corrections from above involving the TWSE.

Note: the maximum base subsidy rate will be gradually reduced from 60% in Periods 5&6, down to 20% in Period 9 (ending Nov 21st). The Subsidy rate varies depending on the amount of revenue drop. If the drop is less than 30% we can still qualify.

Cash Builder Account: paid out interest on Sept 30th (\$530.58) which was deposited into that same account. (The interest is calculated daily, but paid out annually). With this type of account, we can only make a deposit in October of each year (can withdraw once per month: minimum of \$1000). The Legacy Chequing account has a balance of \$50,229, which includes the bequest from the Lois P estate. 50% of the bequest (\$12,500) will go to Endowed Funds in July 2021, but as it is unlikely there will be many applications for Legacy funds in the next year, up to \$25,000 could be added to the Cash Builder Account.