

PRESENT: Barry McNabb, Fran Erven (Chair Elect), Maxine Gray, Barb Kingdon, Colleen Wallace, Tanya Dalgarno, Susan Nelson, Gord Kingdon, Michelle Gunderson, and Kathy Platt

REGRETS: Ray Orr (Chair), Julie Hutton (Past Chair), Heather Currie

Quorum present.

In the absence of our Chair and Past Chair, and this being the first meeting for our Chair Elect, it is agreed that Acting Chair for this meeting will be Barry McNabb. Thank you Barry!

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Acting Chair Barry McNabb

REFLECTION: Church Life and Outreach

Tanya D. shared the special meaning of a couple of wall hangings, which sustain her in times when she needs a boost - reminding us all that the little things can mean a lot!

Next Meeting: Worship, Learning and Membership

HOLY MANNERS: Kathy did a quick review around the philosophy of Holy Manners.

INTRODUCTIONS: Kathy invited the group to introduce themselves and explain in what role/capacity they are attending the meeting.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- Two items of correspondence
- Sanctuary lighting (New Business)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Agenda for this March 15, 2023 meeting.

**Motion: moved by Barb Kingdon and seconded by Fran Erven**

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Agenda for the March 15, 2023 meeting as amended."**

**CARRIED**

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES: no errors or omissions.

Minutes from the January 25, 2023 Council meeting.

**Motion: moved by Colleen Wallace and seconded by Maxine Gray**

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Minutes of the January 25, 2023 meeting as circulated."**

**CARRIED**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- none

CORRESPONDENCE

- Strathclair Theatre Chorus (STC): host feedback form  
The group discussed the questions on the form and agreed that our church is interested in continuing as a host site for STC performances.

**Motion: moved by Tanya Dalgarno and seconded by Maxine Gray**

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church agree to host a performance by the Strathclair Theatre Chorus for the upcoming season (2023-2024)."**

**CARRIED**

- Response to Self-Assessment from Prairie to Pine Regional Council:  
Heather Sandilands on behalf of the Committee for Community of Faith Support made many positive comments in her letter and encouraged us to continue to find this work engaging, life-giving and fulfilling.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Barry McNabb provided some feedback from the Strathclair Theatre Chorus, who used our Sanctuary for all of their rehearsals last fall. The group love our facility and the acoustics but find the lighting quite inadequate. After some discussion it was agreed that Barry would do some research to come up with suggestions of options and the costs to improve the lighting in the Sanctuary.

REPORTS:

OFFICE: Michelle G.  
APPENDIX "I"

\*Circulate the sign-up sheet for volunteers to count offering.

BellMTS internet costs..... the group agreed that we will sign a three year agreement at the reduced cost – after ensuring there are no expensive admin/connection fees.

FINANCIALS: FS 23-01 and 23-02

Barry Mc reviewed the statements for January and February 2023. These two months both had deficits.

**Motion: moved by Fran Erven and seconded by Barb Kingdon**  
**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church**  
**accept the Financial Reports for the months of January and February**  
**2023 as circulated, including the cheque register for the above**  
**months."**

**CARRIED**

REGION 5 (PRAIRIE TO PINE): Barb Kingdon

2023 Annual Meeting will be in Winnipeg, June 1-4.

Registration opened this week.

Barb received a letter requesting volunteer help with hosting duties at this meeting. This seems more suited to church members in the Winnipeg area.

FUNDRAISING:

- Spring Supper is scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup>.

NOMINATIONS: no activity since the Annual Meeting.

COMING EVENTS:

- Friday Feast on February 17<sup>th</sup>

Committees and church groups are asked to submit dates for any activities to the church office, for good coordination and communication of all events. Ideas for fundraising should come to Council through the Church Life/Outreach Committee to ensure it fits with our ethos.

MINISTER: Kathy P.

- Lenten Discussion Group: it has been a small group gathering but good conversation. The emailed summary option has been popular.
- Rather than composing a formal Lent Letter to send out to the congregation, Kathy will continue to use the bulletin and her Friday email to convey messages around Lent.
- Lent & Lunch series by Minnedosa Ministerial: Tuesdays at noon for five weeks. A 20-minute service followed by lunch together. Feb 28 at Calvary Church, March 7 at the Anglican Church, March 14 at the United Church, March 21 at the Covenant Church and March 28 at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church. Kathy emphasized that it is good to participate in ecumenical events in town, to support each other.

**COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

PASTORAL CARE: Susan Nelson

The committee continues with its usual activities: visiting, sending cards and giving prayer shawls. Welcome to Linda Birch on the committee!

CHURCH LIFE AND OUTREACH: Tanya Dalgarno

APPENDIX "J"

WORSHIP, LEARNING AND MEMBERSHIP: Colleen Wallace

APPENDIX "K"

**Motion: moved by Colleen Wallace and seconded by Fran Erven**

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the recommendation from the Worship, Learning and Membership Committee that all pulpit supply - whether ordained, diaconal or lay worship leaders be paid the same as the current United Church of Canada rate for Visiting Ministry Personnel."**

**CARRIED**

PROPERTY: Gord Kingdon

APPENDIX "L"

Had a meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

The committee has a 3 year plan for painting inside the building, and the next space to be done is the Sanctuary. Only the lower portion of the walls will be painted. Liz Burton has been contacted to do the painting. She has requested the time period of July 10-21 to complete the job. (The July 16<sup>th</sup> worship service will need to happen elsewhere – perhaps in the hall or at the park).

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL: Maxine G.

APPENDIX "M"

-We have received a couple of applications for the Care Taker position (end date is March 17<sup>th</sup>). Maxine, Lorna Hislop and Wilf Taylor will undertake the interview process.

Not sure if Hilton will be able to do some training of the new candidate before he is done March 29<sup>th</sup>. There may be a gap in staffing and require some volunteers to cover Care Taking duties until the new staff member is ready. The committee will get a card and gift for Hilton on behalf of the Council and Congregation.

-there was no response to the advertising in January for the Accompanist position. Perhaps M&P will meet with the choir in the spring to discuss ideas going forward.

FINANCE and STEWARDSHIP: Barry Mc.

APPENDIX "N"

The Stewardship course that Barry, Michelle and Kathy took before Christmas has helped with ideas for the Spring Appeal. Vicki Nelson is consulting to encourage follow-up.

-one suggestion is to introduce "Proportional Giving" – recommend 2% of income as a goal

-promote PAR – get more people to sign up, and encourage existing PAR donors to increase the amount of their monthly contribution.

The committee is considering speaking to the congregation during worship in the spring – Kathy may dedicate one Sunday to Stewardship.

-approach some "top donors" to share "why I give", to inspire others.

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:** Thursday June 15, 2023 at 7pm  
(To decrease the gap between spring and fall Council meetings.)

Regularly scheduled meetings on the third Wednesday of  
January/March/May/September/November.

**Motion: moved by Fran Erven**

**“That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church adjourn this  
meeting at 8:49 pm.”**

**REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION:** Barb Kingdon volunteered to do the report this time.

**HOLY MOMENTS**

**CLOSING PRAYER**

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Michelle Gunderson, Clerk

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Barry McNabb, Acting Chair

**APPENDIX “I”**

**OFFICE ADMIN REPORT**

Since January 25<sup>th</sup>:

- Assist with Independent Financial Review for 2022
- Receive committee/church group annual reports, work with Minister and Council Chair on Agenda and Nominating Report, review Historic Roll & Registers for Membership and Statistics in 2022, assemble and print Annual Report Booklet.
- Participate in planning of the first Friday Feast on February 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Submit files for 2022 GST Rebate with CRA
- Verify records in Employee files with T4's from ADP and the deductions remitted to CRA
- Volunteer in Sound Booth
- Print/email 2022 Tax Receipts
- Attend Annual Meeting on February 26<sup>th</sup>, and record Minutes.
- Arrange for Help Wanted ad's for Care Taker position in 3 newspapers, create poster & print, upload poster to church Facebook page, and send to Yellowhead Regional Employment services.

I have been in touch with BellMTS regarding our costs for Internet services. Currently we are paying \$99.95/mo. plus taxes, which provides 20MB download / 3MB upload speeds. We have unlimited usage, but faster speeds will increase the capacity for number of users. The person I spoke with suggested we sign a 3-year agreement which would provide us with 50MB download / 5MB upload for ~\$69.95/mo. (“Business Fibe 50”). This would be about a \$50 savings from the regular price. In his email, he also mentioned that they would likely update our Modem at no cost. Would Council like me to go ahead and consent to this agreement?

FACILITY USE SINCE JANUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>:

CHURCH: Together We Can parent/child group, Crochet Club, Friday Feast, Annual Meeting, ANPCC Open House (parent/child programming), Lenten Conversation group, Lenten Lunch

OTHER GROUPS: drop-in play group Thursdays, Harm Reduction Clinic, CUPE, Zumba classes, Food Bank (regular Thursday mornings, plus meetings and cooking days), private family gathering in hall, PMH Vaccine Clinics, private birthday party in the hall, Strath Theatre Chorus meeting, Easter Star supper, and yoga

FUNERALS: one graveside service

**APPENDIX "J" CHURCH LIFE/OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee Members: Nicole McLenehan, Kathy Platt and Tanya Dalgarno

The committee wishes to send out a HUGE Bouquet of Thanks to Lorna Hislop and Barb Kingdon for all their work with the committee over the years. Will be an adjusting period for the Committee as we move forward and see what we do during the next year.

**TOGETHER WE CAN**

Parent/Child Programming. Parent/Child Programming is back in person with Denise Dewar. The committee is available to assist with Grant Applications if required. The program has not required assistance or direction from the Committee recently.

**HAT AND MITTEN TREE**

Carol Lonsdale and Michelle Gunderson are keeping watch over the tree. Thank you!

**AFFIRMING**

- i) Celebration of PIE Day during Sunday March 12, 2023, and unveiling of the Welcoming Banner! Big Thank you to Lorna Hislop and Allan Dalrymple. The committee is sure everyone will be impressed!
- ii) Pride Sunday in Planning Stages for June 18 or 21.

**FUNDRAISING**

- i) Spring Smorg – Planning Underway and Date set for Last Weekend of April 2023
- ii) Fun Fest Luncheon - ?
- iii) Fall Supper - ?
- iv) Meat Pies – Lorna Hislop has agreed to Organize for the fall.
- v) Christmas Tea & Bake Sale - ?
- vi) Brainstorming for new fundraising ideas. Ideas/Suggestions always welcome.
- vii) Suggestion to use sign-up sheet for various Meals during the year.

**APPENDIX "K" WORSHIP AND LEARNING REPORT TO COUNCIL**

PULPIT SUPPLY: Julie Hutton on March 5. June 4 will be Carol Frost and Dora White.

May 21 will see Fran Erven preparing a coffee gathering for anyone wish to share in a time of morning fellowship. (No worship service)

After discussion regarding payment for pulpit supply, the committee proposes that whoever is providing pulpit supply be paid the rate that the United Church of Canada sets. Currently the amount is \$232.00 plus mileage.

SUNDAY SCHOOL / YOUTH: Numbers continue to fluctuate on Sunday mornings with 3-7 children. Mary and Colleen have scheduled after school Friday gatherings for our older children to take place two times a month. This group includes 6-10 children regularly. During Lent we have been discussing what fills our hearts and how we can share this. We are using music, art, videos, and stories to examine this.

**CHOIR AND PIANISTS**

A circulation of pianists for Sunday Worship continues to work well and having the adult choir share in worship on the first and third Sundays of each month is a great addition to worshipful mornings. The children plan to share some music this month as well.

Bell choir will begin practicing after Easter this year.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

Lorrie Laming and Colleen Wallace shared in readings at this community event. Carol Frost shared in organizing the event, with approximately 30 people in attendance. The United Church will be responsible for organizing this event next year.

#### LENTEN LUNCHESES

The United Church will take our turn hosting on Tuesday March 14. Kathy will be leading the worship service with Julie Hutton and Lorrie Laming organizing a lunch to follow the worship service.

FRIDAY FEASTS: Next one will be held on March 17th, St Patrick's day. Linda Birch, Barb Kingdon and Ruth Klassen are organizing the meal for this evening with the youth creating ambiance once again. Tentative plans are to host another Friday Feast in early June, maybe a wiener roast at the beach

#### EASTER WEEK

PALM SUNDAY falls on April 2<sup>nd</sup> this year. Kathy will be leading an interactive worship with a walk through the Holy Week and will include communion. The youth will be involved in preparing the set for this day.

MAUNDY THURSDAY will take place with a potluck supper on April 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE will take place here at 10:00 am on Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be coffee and hot cross buns served following the service.

EASTER SUNDAY on April 9, Kathy will share a recorded Sunrise walk from Erickson. This will be followed by an uplifting energized Easter Morning Service.

PENTECOST SUNDAY falls on May the 28th. Following our Sunday morning service, the Minnedosa Ministerial invites all the churches in Minnedosa to join together for a Joint Pentecost Service at 1:00, at the train park (rain location at United Church). Everyone will bring their lunch, share some worship and activities.

LENTEN DISCUSSION- Kathy is leading a gathering on Tuesdays from 7:00 - 8:00pm. It will include some reading and conversations. She then sends out a small review of the discussions and materials shared, to anyone who requested contact regarding this Lenten discussion.

#### **APPENDIX "L" PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee consists of Gord Kingdon, Wilf Taylor, Gregg Kingdon & Jan Macey. Short one member from the 4 that the committee consisted of.

Last meeting was held March 13, 2023. We considered the janitor duties & responsibilities for recommended changes.

Projects being planned for are, painting the small rooms (2), replacement of flooring around the sanitizer in the kitchen, filter inspection and replacement, entryway mat replacement & repair or replacement of floor scrubber.

- Details:
- 1) painting – nothing discussed for a timeline yet. Considering during summer months. Painter to be hired and paint purchased.
  - 2) flooring – to be completed by end of March is the target. Some existing floor has been trimmed to prevent tripping. Material on hand.
  - 3) filter inspection – semi annual inspection to be done in April or May. Large snowbank was removed from around furnaces on the roof. May need to have snow removed from around the exhaust vents to prevent leaking, but it will depend on weather.
  - 4) entryway mats – pricing the replacement of the mats and sourcing the larger mats (4X8). Replacement to be done this spring.
  - 5) floor scrubber – recent development. In the process of assessing the condition and whether repair or replacement is required. Original cost of machine was \$2000 in 2011. This may be a large new budget item.

With the completion of the fire alarm system inspection, recommendations are to have some new sensors replaced, at the same time as the next inspection in December 2023.

Thanks, Gord

**APPENDIX "M" MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ministry and Personnel (Maxine Gray, Linda Bertram, Judy McFadden) met virtually February 8, 2023 and communicated regarding issues via email as necessary.

Advertising took place again for an Accompanist with a deadline of January 31, 2023. Unfortunately, no responses resulted. We will continue to explore ways to address this and welcome suggestions.

On February 7, 2023 a letter of resignation (via email) was received from Hilton Martinez resigning from his position as Care Taker with March 29, 2023 being his last day of work. Maxine and Judy met with Hilton on February 12, 2023 to get feedback from him regarding the job and job description. We are currently in the process of advertising for a Care Taker. A gift and card will be given to Hilton to express our appreciation for his 8+ years of service to Minnedosa United Church.

Thank you to Linda Bertram and Judy McFadden for their many years on Ministry and Personnel Committee and their contributions!

Welcome to Lorna Hislop and Barb Kingdon who are coming onto the committee!!

Submitted by,  
Maxine Gray, Chair

**APPENDIX "N" FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

The finance committee met on Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 p.m.  
Michelle Gunderson, Elaine Thomson, Kathy Platt and Barry McNabb were present.

Jean Garbolinsky & Lloyd Babcock regrets.

Reviewed the January & February financial statements. Our bank balance is a positive \$13,280.20 at the end of February.

Legacy Fund Applications

- None at this time.

Discussion took place with the finance committee as to how many different appeal letters would be sent out to groups of people according to their financial givings. This based on the information we learned from the UC webinar which Michelle, Kathy & Barry took from Vicki Nelson. After much discussion it was felt we would draft 1 letter to send to all our members with the hopes people could see fit to increase their contribution to the church.

Our next meeting will be by Zoom on Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 9:30 am. with Vicki Nelson in attendance to guide us through our next steps with our letter writing in requesting more financial support from our members.

Our next regular finance meeting will be June 7<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Submitted by Barry McNabb