

PRESENT: Ray Orr (Chair), Fran Erven (Chair Elect), Julie Hutton (Past Chair), Nicole McLenehan, Barb Kingdon, Colleen Wallace, Gord Kingdon, Heather Currie, Lorna Hislop, Jean Garbolinsky, Michelle Gunderson, and Kathy Platt.

REGRETS: Maxine Gray, Barry McNabb

Quorum present.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Ray Orr

REFLECTION: Property Next Meeting: Ministry and Personnel Committee
Gord Kingdon shared a photo of Winnie the Pooh with the wording: "Be kinder than necessary, for everyone is fighting some type of battle."

HOLY MANNERS: Ray mentioned that he is aware that being in a state of indecision and/or waiting can create anxiety and he expressed understanding that Kathy had likely been holding onto her decision for a while.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- RBC request (Correspondence)
- Announcement (New Business)
- Affirm Action (New Business)
- Piano in the hall (New Business)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Agenda for this September 20, 2023 meeting.

**Motion: moved by Julie Hutton and seconded by Jean Garbolinsky
"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Agenda for the September 20, 2023 meeting as amended."**

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES: no errors or omissions.

Minutes from the June 15, 2023 Council meeting.

**Motion: moved by Colleen Wallace and seconded by Barb Kingdon
"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Minutes of the June 15, 2023 meeting as circulated."**

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- Sanctuary Lighting – Barry McNabb reports that they are still looking for fixtures that will give brighter lighting and are aesthetically pleasing to the eye.
- UCC Category 3 Remit: postpone to November meeting.

Discussed under Coming Events:

- Fundraising for M&S and Theological Colleges
- Communications with the congregation around planning: monthly lunches, Friday Feasts, Christmas Tea & Bake Sale, etc.

Postponed for now:

- Follow up to Visioning sessions.

CORRESPONDENCE

- WMYC: Request for facility use.

**Motion: moved by Julie Hutton and seconded by Nicole McLenehan
"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church agree to allow the Rolling River Festival of the Arts committee use of the church building to host the Westman Youth Choir on October 14, 2023 at no charge."**

CARRIED

- Donation from the Food Bank in July (as thanks for use of our kitchen for the Breakfast Program) – for information only.
- Royal Bank: Emergency Committee requests our facility for evacuation Muster Point. A letter was emailed to the church from the Minnedosa RBC Emergency Committee, asking if their staff may use our church as a gathering point if they ever need to evacuate their building, with the understanding that it would only be available during the church office hours of operation.
The Council discussed this and agreed to the RBC request.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **ANNOUNCEMENT** of Kathy's retirement at the end of June 2024. We would like to extend congratulations to her on this decision after a nearly 30-year career! Julie Hutton and Barb Kingdon gave a report about the "Training for Pastoral Relations Process: Part One: Community of Faith Profile" which was held on September 16, 2023, by ZOOM – lead by the Prairie to Pine Region. For this first step in the process, Council members will send possible names to Julie. Julie will then make the phone-calls to find 4 - 5 people to serve on the Profile committee. Once confirmed, those names will be sent to Council so that they can be approved and empowered to begin the work.
The Profile is a very important document which potential new ministers will review to decide if they would be interested in joining our community of faith (COF). The Profile is a description of our COF, and since it will be viewed digitally via ChurchHub, it can be composed of text, pictures, video, etc.
- **Fall Thank You Campaign/Financial Appeal:** see Finance Committee report.
- **Transition from Ray Orr to Fran Erven as council chair** – Ray will Chair the November meeting, then he will be away and Fran will step into the Chair position.
- **Affirm action in response to the rise of intolerance, especially for queer and trans youth in schools:** Many thanks to Michelle for the ways she initiated creating a visible response in front of our building with the signs and colored rainbow chalk designs on the sidewalk - a lovely visible sign that we welcome diversity - our church is a safe space. After some discussion, it was agreed that a few people will arrange for one or more educational sessions for our congregation and the community, to help people become more familiar and comfortable with the terms and concepts used, to help us confidently support the 2SLGBTQIA+ folks among us.
- **Piano in the hall:** the family of Phyllis Graham contacted the church about donating her piano to the church. The Sunday School leaders (Colleen Wallace and Mary Dalton) would like to have a piano in the hall to use when singing with the Sunday School students. It was agreed to accept the gift of the piano. A thank you will be extended to Phyllis's family and the congregation will be notified.
The piano will need to be tuned in the near future.

REPORTS:

OFFICE: Michelle G.
APPENDIX "V"

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

FINANCIALS: FS 23-06, FS 23-07 and 23-08

Michelle reviewed the statements for June, July, and August 2023.

**Motion: moved by Jean Garbolinsky and seconded by Fran Erven
"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church
accept the Financial Reports for the months of June, July, and August
2023 as circulated, including the cheque register for the above
months."**

CARRIED

REGION 5 (PRAIRIE TO PINE): Barb Kingdon

No report.

FUNDRAISING:

- Fall Supper October 22nd: Gord and Wanda Kingdon will coordinate. It is their understanding that we need to get a permit from public health anytime we are serving food to the public, so we'll need to investigate that.

- AOTS Pancake Supper? Not sure what plans the AOTS have.

Fair Trade Friday? Christmas Tea & Bake Sale? (Discussed under Coming Events)

*Gord Kingdon presented his Property Report before he left the meeting at 8:00pm.

NOMINATIONS: no report.

COMING EVENTS:

(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.)

Kathy addressed the topic of how to go forward with some of our "usual" events in support of church life and fundraising. Her suggestion was to post sign-up sheets for one-time occurrences – the thinking being that most volunteers don't wish to make long term commitments.

Possible ideas: one congregational lunch in Oct/Nov with proceeds toward Mission and Service, another congregational lunch in Feb/Mar in support of the UC Theological Schools. A sign-up sheet could be done to find coordinators for the Christmas Tea & Bake Sale.

Kathy will meet with Nicole and Michelle, and they will create a plan and a message to email to the broader church family – aiming to post the sign-up sheets on Oct 1st.

MINISTER: Kathy P.

- The announcement of her retirement in June/24 has used most of her time and energy recently, on top of her "usual" responsibilities and duties.
- Kathy will be serving as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Carberry United Church while their minister is away on maternity leave Nov to Feb.
- There will be guest musicians with special music for the Sept 24th service.
- She will be doing a graveside funeral Sept 23rd.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

PASTORAL CARE: Heather Currie

APPENDIX "W"

CHURCH LIFE AND OUTREACH: Nicole McLenehan
APPENDIX "X"

WORSHIP, LEARNING AND MEMBERSHIP: Colleen Wallace
APPENDIX "Y"

Archives Report:

Carol Frost (on behalf of the Worship, Learning and Membership Committee) and Michelle Gunderson (Office Admin) have met a few times in 2023 to review the status of our current submissions to the UC Archives in Winnipeg.

We are pleased to attach a list of items that are ready to be delivered to the UC Archives in Winnipeg:

- Annual Reports: 2010-2022
 - Board/Council Records: Minutes 2005-2022 and Correspondence 2012-2019
 - Governance Documents: 2009, 2011, 2015, 2019, 2020 revisions
 - Policy Documents: 2015, 2016
- These documents include:
- Guidelines for Weddings, Baptism, and Funerals.
 - Facility Occasional Use/Application Form permit 2010 and 2014 versions
 - Legacy Gifts Plan and Application form 2013, 2017 & 2022 versions
- Newsletters: 2006-2008

The Council acknowledged that these documents will be submitted as archival material to the United Church Archives at the University of Winnipeg.

Carol and Michelle will continue to review items that could be sent to the Archives, with one more batch to go in the next year, then we should be "caught up" for a few years.

PROPERTY: Gord Kingdon

APPENDIX "Z"

- Noted that the shelf that the heating/cooling units sit on (on the roof) is bowed and holds water.
- Wondering if we should be thinking about setting aside some funds each year to prepare for roof re-shingling & ventilation updates in about 10 years?

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL: Lorna Hislop

APPENDIX "AA"

- Great news! They have a candidate to recommend for the Accompanist position! The position advertised stated: for Sunday morning services, 10:00 am to Noon, September to June. Monthly salary. To provide keyboard accompaniment for congregation & choir. May include hymns, anthems, special music, prelude, postlude selections.

Motion: moved by Lorna Hislop and seconded by Julie Hutton

"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church approve the hiring of Kathryn Yanchycki for the position of Pianist at the rate of \$600.00 per month (with 4% vacation pay) to begin as soon as she is able to start in October 2023. *

***Criminal Record, Vulnerable Persons and Child Abuse Registry Checks are a requirement for Minnedosa United Church staff. We ask for approval for her to start as soon as possible with the understanding that these record checks be completed, and results submitted to M&P as soon as possible. ***

Should the occasion arise that, for whatever reason, she is unable to fill the role of Pianist every Sunday, pay would be pro-rated based upon Sundays worked."

CARRIED

FINANCE and STEWARDSHIP: Jean Garbolinsky
APPENDIX "AB"

**Motion: moved by Jean Garbolinsky and seconded by Lorna Hislop
"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the recommendation from the Finance Committee that we approve the purchase of material to sew kitchen aprons up to the value of \$200 from the Legacy Fund."**

CARRIED

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: November 15, 2023 at 7pm

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

REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION: Ray will consult with Kathy and Michelle to prepare a report to make during worship next Sunday.

**Motion: moved by Heather Currie
"That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church adjourn this meeting at 8:35 pm."**

HOLY MOMENTS

CLOSING PRAYER

Michelle Gunderson, Clerk

Ray Orr, Chair

APPENDIX "V" OFFICE ADMIN

- June 16th filed Charity Return online.
- June 20th: M&P "Team Meeting"
- Organize sign-up sheet for watering flowers over the summer.
- Manage Broadview subscription renewals.
- Update Council Minutes and Financials on website
- Sort & organize documents to sent to Archives: Annual Reports, Governance Documents (including Wedding/Funeral/Baptism policies), Facility Use documents, Legacy Gifts Plan. Also printed copies of the Board/Council Minutes from 2005-2022 for the Archives.
- Advertising for the Accompanist position: posters, newspapers, Facebook, etc.
- Fun Fest Lunch posters, sign-up sheets, float & deposits, sandwich board signs, etc.
- Reconciling financials for the parent/child program for the last few years, and ensure application was in for this coming Sept – March session.

FACILITY USE

CHURCH ACTIVITIES: Fun Fest Lunch

FUNERALS: four

OTHER USER GROUPS: Minnedosa Drama Club, Healthy Baby program, Together We Can (Parent/Child) program, Horticultural Society Peony Show and Fall Show, Masons Pancake Breakfast, family supper, Phoenix security used the kitchen for 5 days, Pop-up Passport clinic, Haywood cookies (kitchen), Strathclair Theatre Chorus rehearsals, yoga.

APPENDIX "W" PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Care Committee has not met formally since May 2nd, 2023. Visiting goes on at the Personal Care Home as well as a PCH worship service lead by Linda Bertram on August 8th. Anyone who wishes a visit please contact Susan Nelson, Linda Birch, Don Jury, or Heather Currie.

Respectfully submitted by Heather Currie

APPENDIX "X" CHURCH LIFE AND OUTREACH

TOGETHER WE CAN:

New session will run from October to March 2024. Since there are still enough funds left in the account, we will not be applying to the Minnedosa Foundation for additional money.

AFFIRMING:

Our banner continues to grace the entrance to the church and is a visible reminder of our commitment to be an affirming congregation.

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION:

Once again, we are ordering orange T-shirts from the Friendship Centre in Brandon for our Orange Shirt Day service. Michelle has graciously agreed to collect money and pick them up the week of September 18th. Kathy has encouraged the congregation to wear their orange shirts for the service on Sunday, September 24th.

FUNDRAISING:

Fun Fest Luncheon – Thank you to Jean Garbolinsky for chairing this successful project. 175+ plates were served with a profit of around \$2250.

October Fall Supper – Gord and Wanda Kingdon will chair this project. The date is Oct 22nd.

Meat Pies – Lorna Hislop has interest in chairing this fundraiser. Dates to be determined.

Christmas Tea – Is there interest in holding this event again in December?

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Westman Youth Choir Concert – October 14th

Strathclair Theatre Concert – November 26th

Submitted by Nicole McLenehan

APPENDIX "Y" WORSHIP, LEARNING AND MEMBERSHIP

Worship and Learning committee meeting was on Sept 19, 2023. 6 of 7 members were present.

MUSIC - Alexis Harvey shared that there is a possibility of a pianist in the works. M&P will be sharing information at Council's next meeting.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Mary Dalton and Colleen Wallace spent time cleaning, organizing, and preparing for Sunday School this fall. The first Sunday was Sept 17th with 11 children in attendance with a wide variety of ages. They have met with Kathy to co-ordinate topics and direction of messages.

Mary and Colleen are hoping to develop opportunities for the adults and the children in our church family to find connecting moments.

MINISTER'S PLANS

Sept. 24 - Every Child Matters - Orange Shirt Day

Oct. 1 - World Wide communion with the committee preparing and serving communion.

Oct. 8 - Thanksgiving will see the committee preparing decorations for the sanctuary.

The Sunday school hopes to have some music to share and a small parade of thankfulness.

Oct. 15 - Kathy and Colleen are both away this week. Kathy is looking into contacting the Canadian Foodgrains Bank to see if someone would consider sharing some information.

Oct. 22 - Peace Sabbath

Oct. 29 - All Saints Day. The worship Committee will prepare candles for this celebration to honour those who have died and those we are missing.

Nov. 5 - Remembrance Sunday - We hope to invite Legion Members to attend the service as well the committee will decorate for the day.

Nov. 12 - The committee discussed the possibility of giving Kathy this Sunday off. We are looking at a plan which may involve Sunday School taking some leadership.

NEW BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION

Attendance at the summer services was generally around 25-30 a week.

The feeling of the committee was that keeping church going during the summer was an important part of the life of the congregation. Some elderly feel somewhat lost with no church on Sundays, while some wondered at it being open during summer as traditionally this does not happen. Some were also happy to know that it was open in warm weather whereas they cannot physically attend in the harsh winter weather. It was *unanimous* that this committee agrees the summer worship worked well for this summer, with the varied ways of sharing Sundays with the congregation.

As the Council and congregation look at Fund Raising this fall and winter, the committee is prepared to support in any way possible, including youth involvement. Our young people are discovering their church home as they help decorate, work at suppers and meals. They take great pride in being part of it all. Thanks to the church family for their appreciation.

Michelle Gunderson and Carol Frost have been working on gathering materials to forward to the Archives in Wpg.

Next Worship and Learning Meeting is set for Nov. 7th @ 1:30

Colleen Wallace

APPENDIX "Z"

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Over the summer the committee has been occupied with maintaining the routine wear and tear of the building. Including replacing light ballasts/bulbs, roof vents & eavestrough. The major job completed in July was the painting of the sanctuary walls. The next projected painting update will be determined at the next committee meeting, in October.

The roof vents are being worked on by members of the committee with approx. 25% completed as of now. It's turning into a bigger job than was expected with the old tar compound in very poor condition. We are removing a majority of the old compound as it is cracked and peeling. It is restricting the flow of water around the vents because of the buildup as well. The projected completion of this job is mid-October, dependent on weather and availability of workers.

It would be the recommendation of the committee that any new vent configuration be considered at the same time as the roof covering replacement. This would also apply to any additions to the roof such as solar panels.

The eavestroughs have also been worked on and should be completed by the end of September. It consists of removing large amounts of debris build up which is restricting the flow of water, it has a hard time flowing up hill....

The dish washer is having a hissy fit again with the rinse line flowing back into the reservoir, our service man has been contacted. No timeline for inspection.

The kitchen floor still has to be repaired under the dishwasher; it also is a bigger job than first anticipated - that's why it hasn't been attempted! A cost estimate will be requested from some experienced repair businesses.

The committee will be making a decision on replacing some of the water-stained ceiling tiles throughout the building. Cost and number of the tiles have yet to be determined.

It has been suggested that the property committee consider the installation of solar panels. A search for information could be started which would include cost, grants available, determination if the roof structure is sufficient to have this installation, and where the battery storage would be facilitated. Council direction is requested on this project.

Another consideration is, does the council consider it feasible to install gender neutral washroom facilities and if so where in the building would it be placed.

Gord K., Property Chair

APPENDIX "AA"

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

M&P met once on June 26, 2023, in addition to ongoing communication (primarily by email). June 20, 2023 – Maxine, Lorna, Barb, Kathy and Michelle met for a Team Conversation. Good discussions took place and we left with a deeper understanding of Kathy and Michelle's experiences and observations of the last year.

Lorna has continued to provide support to Monica as she grows into her role as Care Taker. The ongoing support and assistance to Monica from Michelle and Gord has been helpful and appreciated also!

A search for a Pianist was undertaken over the summer with planning in July and mass advertising through August. An expression of interest was received. Alexis Harvey, Nicole McLenehan, and I met with the applicant on September 13, 2023. Further steps are underway and a motion to Council to hire someone may be presented soon. Thank you to Alexis Harvey, Barry McNabb, Nicole McLenehan, and Michelle for their involvement and help throughout this process. It has been so much appreciated!

Submitted by,
Maxine Gray, Chair

Submitted on September 20th at the Church Council Meeting:

PIANIST

One expression of interest was received for the Pianist position – from Kathryn Yanchycki. On September 13, 2023, Maxine Gray, Alexis Harvey, and Nicole McLenehan met with Kathryn to discuss her qualifications and the position. Reference checks were completed by Alexis Harvey. Kathryn is an experienced pianist and vocalist, who is seeking an opportunity to use her pianist skills more. She is available to start in October 2023. The Selection Committee recommended Kathryn Yanchycki for the position of Pianist for Minnedosa United Church.

*Ministry and Personnel Committee would like to make a motion that Council approve the hiring of Kathryn Yanchycki for the position of Pianist at the rate of \$600.00 per month (with 4% vacation pay) to begin as soon as she is able to start. *

*Criminal Record, Vulnerable Persons and Child Abuse Registry Checks are a requirement for Minnedosa United Church staff. We ask for approval for her to start as soon as possible with the understanding that these record checks be completed, and results submitted to M&P as soon as possible. *

Should the occasion arise that, for whatever reason, she is unable to fill the role of Pianist every Sunday, pay would be pro-rated based upon Sundays worked.

Recorded by Maxine Gray, September 19, 2023

Minnedosa United Church Council Meeting **2023 - 43**
Wednesday September 20, 2023 7:00 pm **United Church Multipurpose Room**

Newspaper advertisement:

PIANIST REQUIRED – Minnedosa United Church is seeking a PIANIST for Sunday morning services, 10:00 am to Noon, September to June. Monthly salary. To provide keyboard accompaniment for congregation & choir. May include hymns, anthems, special music, prelude, postlude selections. Organ available. For more information call: 204-867-2674, Minnedosa United Church, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Tuesday to Friday.

APPENDIX "AB" FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Our Finance Committee met on Wednesday, September 6th, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Committee reviewed the June, July & August financial statements. Currently, at the end of August our bank balance was \$1,513.29.

Finance Committee decided to transfer the \$16,000.00 from Legacy to the General Account as per the budget approved at the Annual Meeting, and at our June Council meeting.

New Term Deposit was renewed in the Legacy Fund including amounts to be endowed from the Meadows Funds & other donations to Legacy Account.

Finance Committee recommends that Council approve a Legacy Fund request from Julie Hutton for material to make new kitchen aprons to the value of \$200.00.

The Finance Committee discussed how our Spring Appeal campaign went and were pleased that we came close to our budget target (\$14,350.00 and budget was \$15,000.00).

A Big Thank You to those who helped meet our goal, and to those who updated their PAR contributions!! We are keeping in touch with Vicki Nelson, who led us in the Stewardship training last fall.

Minnedosa United Church has had a couple of inquiries about using the piano in the multi-purpose room for piano teachers to give piano, or guitar lessons. Rental rates were discussed and comparing them to the Community Hall rates.

A couple of people looking at using the commercial kitchen in our church.

- Natalia baking cakes - she ended up at the Ukrainian Hall.
- Debbie Haywood cookies was using our kitchen.

Finance Committee had a discussion on projects our church may be involved in (through Visioning process).

Our committee agreed that we would acknowledge new bequests each year at our Annual Meeting, to celebrate those gifts to our congregation.

Discussed planning for a Fall Appeal Letter. We'll aim for this letter to go out around Friday, October 20, 2023. Some of the suggestions to be included in the letter:

- Letter to be a "Thank You"
- Provide information as to our current financial status, where was their money used (opportunity to promote the good work we do)
- hand written comments to donors/active participants – Council and committee members will be asked to assist in writing these notes.

Next meeting planned for Wednesday, November 8th, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry McNabb