

Minnedosa United Church Council Meeting

2024 - 8

Wednesday April 10, 2024 7:00 pm United Church Multipurpose Room

"Pre-Meeting" at 6:30pm to discuss plans for Kathy's retirement.

PRESENT: Fran Erven (Chair), Ray Orr (Past Chair), Nicole McLenehan, Colleen Wallace, Maxine Gray, Barb Kingdon, Barry McNabb, Gregg Kingdon, Susan Nelson, Michelle Gunderson, and Kathy Platt.

REGRETS: Gord Kingdon, Heather Currie

Quorum present.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Chair Fran Erven

REFLECTION: in memory of Wilf Taylor

Kathy shared a reading "Blessing for the Day of Mourning" by Kate Bowler, and a prayer. Council shared thoughts and memories of Wilf.

Next Meeting: Pastoral Care

HOLY MANNERS:

Fran read and highlighted the point that we shall be mindful of our body language.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- none

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Agenda for this April 10, 2024 meeting.

Motion: moved by Ray Orr and seconded by Nicole McLenehan

"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Agenda for the April 10, 2024 meeting as circulated."

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES: no errors or omissions.

Minutes from the January 24, 2024 Council meeting.

Motion: moved by Maxine Gray and seconded by Susan Nelson

"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Minutes of the January 24, 2024 meeting as circulated."

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- PROFILE COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Committee: Julie Hutton, Barb Kingdon, Cheryl McNabb-Davis, Graeme Kingdon, Charlene/Lily/Grace Kingdon, Don Jury, and Stacy Wilson

They have collected the surveys and plan to meet tomorrow to look at them.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Effect Hope: Leprosy Mission Canada – Thanks you for sending stamps.
- Tanner's Crossing Planning District: Implementation of Fire Inspections.
- P2P: Committee on Lay Ministry Support – Provide a motion of support for Julie Hutton.
- P2P: Engaging your financial institutions on divesting from fossil fuel.

Motion: moved by Barb Kingdon and seconded by Barry McNabb

"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church agree to support Julie Hutton's application for re-licensing as Licensed Lay Worship Leader with the Prairie to Pine Region."

CARRIED

Michelle will type a letter to P2P indicating our support for Julie and include this motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council asked Kathy to clarify the meaning of de-covenanting and what is involved. It is a liturgy during a worship service, often involving the chair/M&P/regional reps – the ritual is not an official process, but rather a journey of letting go.

REPORTS:

OFFICE: Michelle G.

APPENDIX "G"

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

-While the power doors for the bathrooms are wonderful, it does not yet address the issue of having gender neutral facilities.

-Food Bank continues to be very busy and regularly has "overflow" boxes in MPR.

FINANCIALS: FS 24-01, FS 24-02 and FS 24-03

Barry McNabb reviewed the statements for January, February and March 2024.

**Motion: moved by Barry McNabb and seconded by Susan Nelson
"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the
Financial Reports for the months of January, February and March
2024 as circulated, including the cheque register for the above
months."**

CARRIED

REGION 5 (PRAIRIE TO PINE): Barb Kingdon

- Retirement dinner (including for Kathy) in Winnipeg on May 15.
- Fall P2P meetings on Oct 10 & 17 by zoom.
- Remit 1 has passed (Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization).
- SW Manitoba/Assiniboine Area UC cluster: gathering on May 2nd at Knox UC Brandon

FUNDRAISING:

- Meat Pie sales (cleared the waiting list from last fall, using leftovers) done Feb 3rd.

Thoughts about possible ideas for the future: a talent auction, a spring choir concert

NOMINATIONS:

- Judy McFadden onto Worship, Learning and Membership committee
- Linda Bertram onto Church Life and Outreach committee

COMING EVENTS: none so far

MINISTER: Kathy Platt

- Getting Confirmation/Exploring Membership classes planned for four Thursdays in May, with possible confirmations held on June 9
- She has 4 Baptisms booked before she leaves. After that, Baptisms can be done by our trained Sacrament Elders.
- As time gets closer to her last day at the end of June, more things are getting squeezed in! It is a busy time and quite a roller coaster to retirement. Kathy reminded the Council of the UC policy that retired ministers must "remove themselves" from the activities of the congregation for a year to leave a respectful space for those filling the role.
- Kathy is grateful to have the May Long Weekend Sunday off.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

PASTORAL CARE: Susan Nelson

APPENDIX "H"

Coverage for pastoral care at the hospital and the personal care home will need to be arranged following Kathy's retirement.

CHURCH LIFE AND OUTREACH: Nicole McLenehan

APPENDIX "I"

WORSHIP, LEARNING AND MEMBERSHIP: Colleen Wallace

APPENDIX "J"

Approval of upcoming Baptisms:

- Everly Hislop (child of Heidi and Kevin Hislop) on May 5th
- Camilla Cameron and Sophie Cameron (children of Cloe and Shane Cameron) on May 12th

**Motion: moved by Colleen Wallace and seconded by Maxine Gray
"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the recommendation of the Worship, Learning and Membership Committee to approve the baptisms of: Everly Hislop, Camilla Cameron and Sophie Cameron."**

CARRIED

PROPERTY: Gregg Kingdon

APPENDIX "K"

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL: Maxine Gray

APPENDIX "L"

FINANCE and STEWARDSHIP: Barry McNabb

APPENDIX "M"

Legacy Fund Application: from the "Sanctuary Lighting" committee

The Committee is exploring new lighting options for the Sanctuary to increase illumination. They anticipate replacing 10 ceiling lights and maybe the lights on the wall too. They have ordered two sample lights from "Super-Lite", a company in Winnipeg. The anticipated cost of the project is estimated to be from \$15,000-20,000 to have the new lighting purchased and installed.

**Motion: moved by Maxine Gray and seconded by Barb Kingdon
"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church approve the recommendation from the Sanctuary Lighting Committee to spend up to \$20,000 from the Legacy Fund Account to install new lighting in the Sanctuary."**

CARRIED

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: June 12, 2024 at 7pm

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

REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION: Fran Erven will share a report on April 14th.

Motion: moved by Barry McNabb

"That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church adjourn this meeting at 8:23 pm."

HOLY MOMENTS

CLOSING PRAYER

Michelle Gunderson, Clerk

Fran Erven, Chair Elect

APPENDIX "G"

OFFICE REPORT TO COUNCIL

Since the last Council meeting in January:

- assisted the Profile Committee with completing the Financial Viability Review, and distributing & collecting the Questionnaire/Survey.
- verify information for T4's with ADP and confirm remittances to CRA.
- type Minutes from January Council meeting.
- volunteer in the sound booth ~2x/month
- collect reports to include in the printed Annual Report, print & distribute.
- arrange for coverage in the office while away on vacation & do orientation.
 Thanks to Elaine, Colleen and Fran for your help! I appreciated the opportunity to visit my Mom in Mexico.
- send out 2023 Tax Receipts
- Feb 11th service, Kathy away so I edited the recording, loaded to YouTube & emailed link
- having problems with Microsoft on my computer – using LibreOffice temporarily.
- attend Annual Meeting, record Minutes and type them after.
- ongoing monitoring of Together We Can (Parent/Child program) grant income/expenses.
- prepared lots of sign-up sheets for: Lenten Walks, Friday Feast, Lent'n Lunch, PIE Sunday
- extra bulletins to prepare & print for Holy Week services.

Thank you very much for the acknowledgment and gift in honour of my 15 years with the church!

FACILITY USE SINCE LAST COUNCIL MEETING:

CHURCH: Crochet Club, committee meetings, Together We Can, World Day of Prayer service, Friday Feast, hand bell choir.

OTHER USER GROUPS: drop-in play group, Food Bank (Thursday mornings, cooking Mondays, and meetings), guitar and piano lessons, 4-H Communications Day, yoga, Healthy Baby, Lion's meeting, Gold Leaf Events: Women in Business, Rolling River Festival of the Arts and 40th anniversary concert, Valley Life Recreation annual meeting, CUPE meeting.

FUNERALS: none.

APPENDIX "H"

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

The committee has not met since November 2023.

Linda Birch and myself were at the church service at the PCH on March 12th with Kathy Platt and Alexis Harvey. It was much enjoyed by the residents.

Submitted by Heather Currie

APPENDIX "I"

CHURCH LIFE AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Hat and Mitten Tree – Now that the weather is warming up, the Hat and Mitten Tree will be disassembled until next year.

After Church Lunches – On February 25th, a congregational lunch was held with proceeds going to the 3 prairie theological schools.

Friday Feast – Tanya Dalgarno arranged a very successful Friday Feast on March 1st with a menu of pizza buns, salad and strawberry shortcake. Games and fellowship were enjoyed by approximately 40 people. We hope to plan for another gathering in the near future.

PIE Day – A special service for PIE (Public Intentional and Explicit) Day was held on March 17th with Rachael Wu from SERC (Sexuality Education Resource Centre) in Brandon providing us an overview of services and support they offer. We have set up two evenings for her to meet with us – Thursday, May 2nd and Thursday, May 9th from 7-8:30pm to provide workshops about gender identity and other topics. Thank you to our generous pie makers for making the delicious pies we all shared in eating after the service.

Affirming Membership – Michelle has paid our annual fee of \$100 to Affirm United as part of our membership.

Together We Can – Once the grant application is submitted to the Assiniboine North Parent Child Coalition, there will be 6 further sessions held for this spring, two each in April, May and June.

Spring Supper – There will be no Spring Supper held for this year. Hopefully other ideas will be pursued to raise funds this spring.

Respectfully submitted by Nicole McLenehan

APPENDIX "J"

WORSHIP, LEARNING AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The committee met on April 2nd.

Sunday School:

Mary and Colleen continue to plan with Kathy, to teach the children about this church community and the groups in it, their jobs and call.

Due to no attendance last June, we will wait to see if attendance drops again or if we will still offer Sunday School for June.

We have concerns about the need for plans for the 12 year and older children. Possibly something on another day/ after school. How do we fulfill the definite need for this age group? How could we facilitate a program for them?

Baptisms: May 5th – Everly Sky Marie Hislop child of Heidi and Kevin Hislop

May 12th – Camilla and Sophie, children of Chloe and Shane Cameron

Kathy: Upcoming services possibilities:

June 2- Pride Sunday

June 9 – 100th Anniversary United Church Of Canada

June 16 – First Nations Sunday

June 23 – Kathy's Last service, de-covenanting (board present)

Kathy has Continuing Education May 13-21. This will include the long weekend – we are working to see if someone will consider hosting a *coffee party on May the 19th*.

We had Julie Hutton, Carol Frost and Dora White join us to plan for the summer and fall Worship services.

Lots of discussion about what summer at the church would look like and needs for this fall. As chair of this committee, I appreciate Julie, Carol and Dora joining us and giving so much support and expertise as we continue to look at moving forward in worship and the needs of the congregation.

We see that there will need to be lots of open and honest communication with this group. I am so thankful and proud to be surrounded and support by all those who worked hard on these plans.

Funerals - Both Carol Frost and Julie Hutton plan to work with Kathy to train for leading worship at funerals.

Sacrament Elders – This will provide leadership for Communion and Baptisms.

Dora White and Linda Bertram will take the online course for this as soon as it is available. (We believe at some point this fall.)

We had a lot of discussion around whether to have Sunday gatherings both July and August. After much debate it was felt that gathering in some form on Sundays all summer provides support and fills a definite need for a number of people.

We propose the following for the Sundays this summer:

The July Services will be considered pulpit supply.

June 30th (the July long weekend) - No church

July 7th – Julie Hutton

July 14 – Carol Frost and Dora White

July 21 – Julie Hutton

July 28 – Carol Frost and Dora White

For the month of August many felt they could help with either coffee, leading music or offering a prayer or discussion time. We will talk this up with folks and work on an actual schedule in the next 2 months. This will not be pulpit supply but sharing of time and gifts from many of the congregation.

August 4 – Coffee Party (Long Weekend)

August 11 – Coffee Party

August 18 – Coffee party

August 25 – Coffee party by Carol Frost and family

Sept 1 – Coffee party (Long Weekend)

Services for the fall: These fall services will be considered pulpit supply.

Sept 8 – Julie Hutton (with help from others- a welcome back with lunch after the service)

Sept. 15 – Dora White and Carol Frost

Sept. 22 – Colleen Wallace

Sept. 29 – orange shirt day – looking into pulpit supply

October 6 – Possible Communion – Julie Hutton

Oct. 13 – possibly ask choir?? or arrange pulpit supply

Oct. 20 – Colleen Wallace

Oct. 27 – Carol Frost and Dora White

Nov. 3 – Julie Hutton

Nov. 10 – Carol Frost and Dora White or Dan Jardine

Nov. 17 – Sunday School Lead

Nov 24 – Colleen Wallace – Communion

Something to think about. The Brandon Ministerial meets once a month. Thinking that in the fall maybe someone from council could take in these meetings. It will keep our church connected to the wider church community.

We traditionally do the odd service with other denominations during the year and Lenten service. It does keep us up to date in what is happening church wise in Minnedosa.

Submitted by Colleen Wallace

APPENDIX "K"

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

-The bathroom power door project has been completed and is functioning as it should. We have completed this upgrade and now are handicap accessible facility.

-Still struggling with roof leakage although it is currently restricted to the multipurpose room. It has yet to be determined if the leakage is from ice buildup, vent leakage and/or exterior stucco leakage. This is now causing severe floor covering lifting and buckling in the northwest corner of the multipurpose room and drywall damage to the ceiling area and wall. It also has damaged the window casing in the same room. A complete assessment will be carried out by a professional once the leaking has stopped. There is no use repairing the flooring and wall damage until the source of the leakage is determined and repaired.

-Lighting – replacement of the fluorescent bulbs with the newer LED bulbs will begin as the old ballast units fail. There are 2 or 3 bulbs burnt out in the sanctuary but we have not replaced them as we are waiting for directions due to the possible replacement of the whole unit(s) with a new Sanctuary lighting project.

-There has been some suggestion that an assessment of the sound system be initiated if we are going to continue recording the services. The present system has some glitches in it and has been causing failures in the sound recording. These issues are not consistent and seem to be from different areas of technology. Although this is important, with the other issues or leakage and kitchen floor covering project it may have to be done later.

-The switch for the vacuum has been ordered and should be here shortly.

Thanks for your patience.
Gord K.

APPENDIX "L"

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

M&P (Lorna Hislop, Barb Kingdon and myself) met February 8, 2024, in addition to follow-up communication. The primary focus has been on general staffing issues. We continue to work on developing clear procedures and processes for managing staffing related issues. A combined group made up of representation from the Search Committee and M&P (Barb Kingdon, Lorna Hislop, Don Jury) met with Kathy in January for an Exit Interview as part of the Search Process.

Submitted by Maxine Gray, Chair

APPENDIX "M"

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Minnedosa United Church finance committee met on Friday, April 5th, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m. Present were Michelle Gunderson, Elaine Thomson, Kathy Platt & Barry McNabb. Regrets Jean Garbolinsky.

Thank you was expressed to Michelle for filling out the financial viability form in early January. This form was a requirement of the Profile Committee in the process of finding a new minister.

Committee reviewed the January, February & March financial statements. Currently at the end of March our bank balance was -\$2,011.55. We are now working with our line of credit. The finance committee is concerned about our current financial situation thus the need to get the spring appeal letter out as soon as possible.

LEGACY FUND:

Finance Committee is recommending to Council to approve the Legacy application for new lighting in the sanctuary. This will include new lighting fixtures as well as installation. For informational purposes to Council, the executive of Minnedosa United Church at the end of January made a decision to financially support an individual for \$500.00 to attend a course in Brandon. The funds were taken out of the Legacy Fund.

Minnedosa United Church Council Meeting

2024 - 15

Wednesday April 10, 2024 7:00 pm United Church Multipurpose Room

SPRING APPEAL: The Finance Committee then discussed wording options to be put into the spring appeal letter to inform people of our current financial situation and words of encouragement of how people could respond. Hoping for spring appeal letter to be mailed by April 19th.

Next finance meeting planned for Wednesday, June 5th, 2024 @ 9:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Barry McNabb