

Leadership Team – December 4, 2016

Present: Lesia Case, Julie Baker, Beth Kerr, Debbie Nelson, Gloria Ross, Angela Mills, Dianne Sloan, Auna-Marie Brown, Greg Cochrane, Iris Yuill

Regrets: Brenda Moorhouse, Deanna Mitchell, Kristin Zwarich

Thank you notes.....

Debbie called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

Opening Prayer – Julie led us in prayer

Minutes and Correspondence

Moved by Iris, seconded by Auna that the minutes of the November meeting be adopted as distributed. CARRIED

- Habitat for Humanity
- Pastoral Oversight Visit – report from Neepawa
- PCRC Revitalize Portage! Grants - Information Sessions

Discussions and Decisions

1. Remit #1 – We voted Yes on the Three Council Model
2. O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree – Our current Christmas Tree is showing its age. Carol found a 10 foot tree for \$100 that had been a floor model at Solomon's.

Moved by Iris, seconded by Lesia that we purchase this new tree for approximately \$100 and that the money come from the Memorial Fund. CARRIED.

3. Follow Up to Debbie's Meeting with Structure Task Group -- Debbie joined a meeting of the structure task group in October. We have restructured the house groups to increase the size of the groups and decrease the number of groups. The structure task group is currently Auna Brown, Iris Yuill, Val Garlick and Sue Hiltz supported by Beth Kerr. They have been meeting a couple of times a year to support the house group structure. There was consensus that some level of support to the house groups going forward was necessary. We agreed that this could not easily be passed off to the Leadership Team because there is already enough on the Leadership team agenda. We discussed how we might go about replacing people on the Structure task group and that having some fresh ideas and fresh perspectives might enhance the work of the task group. We have some members on the structure task group on the Leadership Team which facilitates communication but we might want to build in something structural to ensure this. We may also want to think about how to continue visioning around volunteers for the future.
4. Nominating -- for 2016 Annual Report

Leadership Team

Chair – Debbie Nelson (year 2)
Chair-Elect – Angela Mills (year 1)
Secretary – Deanna Mitchell (year 1)
Treasurer – Greg Cochrane (year 1, second term)
M and P – Auna Brown

Members at large – Patti Brown is eligible to renew for a second term (Iris will ask), Brenda Moorhouse (year 3, second term), Iris Yuill will step down at the end of her term creating 1 vacancy, Kristin Zwarich is eligible to renew for a second term (Angela will ask)
Presbytery Reps – Dianne Sloane, Charlotte Jones, Lesia Case, 1 Vacancy

Ministry and Personnel

Chair – Auna-Marie Brown (2018 final term)
Evelyn Rheaume – 2nd term, eligible to renew, Auna will ask
Mary-Liz Miazga – 2nd term, eligible to renew, Auna will ask
Henry Verhoeven – 2nd term, eligible to renew, Auna will ask
Louise McManus has resigned creating one vacancy
Yvette Brown – 2018 second term
Bev Bachalo – 2018 first term

Structure Task Group – Val would like to resign so we need one more person minimum

Structure Task Group will work on the nominating function for this year. This will need to happen in January. Greg would be willing to help with this.

Debbie will check in with Garry Brown about what needs to happen around the Property Team

5. Annual meeting date/theme etc. – February 5, 2017 and the Leadership Team is committed to helping with set-up so that the ministers are not trying to set-up upstairs for worship after the Folk Fest as well as setting up the auditorium for the meeting. We will think about what we would like to do as a theme, perhaps something visioning oriented.

Reports and Updates

1. Finance (and budget requests) – Budget meeting will take place on Wednesday this week. We need a new laptop. We are a little shy of our giving goal for November. Greg has had three discussions in the last while about the donation of shares to the church. Greg would like to explain a bit about this at the annual meeting. If you have any other budget requests, please get them to Greg by Wednesday.

Moved by Greg, seconded by Angela that we accept the November statement of financial position as circulated. CARRIED

Moved by Gloria, seconded by Iris that Gregory Cochrane, Deborah Nelson, Angela Mills and Jacqueline Bennet be the signing officers for Trinity United Church effective immediately. CARRIED

2. Church Calendar

3. Team Updates

- Stewardship – The campaign went well. We would welcome feedback.
- Structure - Covered earlier
- Sunday School – Going well. Enjoy the curriculum that we are currently using.
- Property – We have a new hot water tank because the old one was leaking. We have had an on-going dilemma about the organ motor and now have a plan for fixing it.

4. Interest Group Updates

- Saturday Breakfasts – last one scheduled is December 10. We will defer the question of what next until our next meeting.
- Affirming Interest Group – They are meeting next Sunday after worship. They had a conversation after church on November 13. It had a good turnout. There was some really good discussion.
- Refugee Coalition
The last while has been very eventful for our group.

On November 2, the Bakr family arrived from Turkey (originally from Syria) at the Winnipeg airport. This is a family of 5 with three adults (parents and their 19 year old son) and two younger daughters (13 and 14). This family was a “replacement” family that we were given when one of the families we had been waiting for since January was refused this summer. We did not know much about this family at all when they arrived but have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know them since then. They are settling in well and many of the key initial appointments have happened in terms of banking, immigration, school registration, public health, adult English classes and so on. Many thanks to the team who have organized all of this and particularly from Trinity to Robin Young, Stephanie Verhoeven and Auna-Marie Brown.

At the end of November, we got a pleasant but shocking email that the second family we had been waiting for who had been delayed had been given visas and were coming in 4-8 weeks. Two days later we received word that they were actually coming in 10 days. So, a team of people will be at the airport on Wednesday to welcome this second family to Portage la Prairie. This is also a family of 5 with two parents and three children, ages 6, 11 and 16. This family is coming from Lebanon but are also originally from Syria. Many thanks to Jennifer Baker who has found us housing on very short notice.

Because we ended up spending money on pre-occupancy rent and utilities for the properties we rented last winter in preparation for what the government said would be an imminent arrival at the end of January (it is hard to believe we had temporary plans in case they arrived before our rentals were available), we are short about \$15,000 to finish out our commitment to both families. We are asking MCC if they will do a Charity of the Day for us in 2017, have made a grant application to the United Way and are considering other fundraising possibilities for 2017. We have also launched a “Make Room at the Inn” campaign through the churches this Advent/Christmas encouraging those who have more than enough “stuff” to consider giving a gift card that says that someone has helped to “make room in the inn” as a creative Christmas Gift.

Thanks for your support.

The Leadership Team was supportive of the way we have been doing Minutes for Mission about the Refugee Project this Advent and doing further focused fundraising for this work.

- Conference Planning – Planning is on-going for May
- Caring Friends – Iris and Patti are working on this for Friday delivery of Christmas flowers to Shut-Ins using donated rose bowls.
- Folk Fest

Our announcement of Hot Blizzard line up and tickets for sale has gone public December 1. You may want to put some of the information on your website as we hope it to be a good outreach and fundraiser for Trinity. As well we would like to report that no funds will be needed from Trinity ahead of actual folk festival. Any receipts will be kept. We expect expenses to be within the vicinity of \$2000. Friday we will be in the Santa Claus Parade for a dance walk handing out Christmas cards with a sucker donated by A&W taped to back of card promoting our folk festivals. Press releases went out to 30 outlets today. An article is in today's Herald Leader Dec. 1 http://eedition.cpheraldleader.com/doc/cp-herald-leader_eeedition/heraldleader/2016120101/#9

- Handivan Transportation Report

On Sunday, November 27, there were seven people that used the Handivan (Queens 2, Dalton 2, Windsor 1, Oddfellows 1, residence 1).

We will talk more about how to organize this going forward at our January meeting since communion is not until January 29.

5. Ministry and Personnel --- They had a meeting in November and 2 of them attended the oversight visit. They received a resignation from Bill Carruthers, our caretaker, effective immediately. His restorative care ends next week and we do not believe that he has applied for long term disability. We are going to continue with the current arrangements with Don Morrison. Auna will talk with the M and P committee about how to recognize Bill's departure.
6. UCW – UCW will give lists to the office about how their new structure will work. Each group will take two months and one of the duties will include attending Leadership Team. This will start in January. The tea was a success but a lower attendance than some years. There will be no Spring Tea.
7. Agassiz Presbytery – Presbytery met in Neepawa on November 12. The Presbytery voted to become an Affirming Ministry. Next meeting is in MacGregor on February 11.
8. Membership Status Update – Confirmation Classes start on January 8. We will need to plan for gifts and a celebration supper. Confirmation is being planned for Easter Sunday.

Deaths:

Adherents and Other:

Paul Verwey, November 11, 2016

9. Snacks for the January meeting Iris Yuill

10. Closing prayer – Julie led us in prayer.

Next Meeting: January 11, 2017

Debbie Nelson, Chair

Beth Kerr, Secretary