

Trinity United Church Leadership Team Meeting
Wednesday, January 13, 2020
The meeting was held online via our Zoom meeting platform.

Present: Julie Baker, Alan Brown, Cindy Curry, Kim Guy, Denise Stairs, Donna Matthews, Angela Mills, Pam Lotun

Regrets: Lesia Case

Call to order: Cindy 7:00pm

Land acknowledgment

We are all treaty people. As we meet, we remember that we gather on Treaty 1 land. This is the traditional land of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Dene, Dakota, and Oji-Cree nations and is the homeland of the Metis.

Opening Prayer and Thoughts for Reflection were offered by Julie

Approval of the Minutes from November 18, 2020

Motion: to approve the minutes as circulated. Moved by Kim, seconded by Alan. Carried.

Correspondence:

Poster was sent to McKenzie Church to celebrate them becoming an affirming ministry. Thanks to Izela Lopez, Charlotte Essery and Olivia Pehura for providing original artwork.

Discussion and Decisions:

Advent & Christmas activities were reviewed.

- I'll Be Home For Christmas – Advent services all via zoom
- Facebook Live Christmas Carols
- Virtual Choir Anthem for Christmas Eve
- Virtual Christmas Pageant
- Ecumenical Service of Remembrance and Hope
- Christmas Solitude Music Night with Communion
- Two identical Christmas Eve Services
- Interior and Exterior Décor

Leadership Team expressed appreciation for everything Trinity did for Christmas.

Nominations – Structure Support has had some brainstorming about the vacancies that exist. Auna-Marie Brown was co-coordinating a house group and working with structure support at the time of her death. Denise will connect with the structure support team to address the vacancies, including: chair elect, 3 M & P positions, structure support and house group leader vacancies, and Steve Bergson has tendered his resignation in writing from the Board of Trustees.

Provincial Public Orders remain unchanged until January 22. There was some discussion about approaches depending on changes that may or may not come as of January 22. The plans that

the leadership team previously made for red, orange and yellow are still applicable, unless group sizes or other guidelines for worship settings are changed dramatically. If, for example, we were restricted to having only 25 people in person, the Leadership Team recommends that we do not consider in-person services at that time.

Ongoing Think Tank / Worship Committee – conversation postponed from October; Where should Julie get feedback for the ongoing changes regarding worship life? Julie will ask the people in the church Facebook group, as well as tag the people who were part of the Christmas think tank to create a Lent/Easter think tank.

Baptism??? – Conversation postponed until the January 22 provincial announcement. If church must remain virtual, it might be possible to have baptisms one at a time on Sunday mornings with the congregation attending online. Julie will be in touch with baptism families depending on what is determined by public health. Decisions may be postponed until the February meeting.

Internet considerations

Internet provider/wifi/email – Our internet was very unstable throughout November and especially December. After many phone calls to Bell MTS for answers (without much help), we had Byte Me Computers come in to rewire the phone line for the MTS modem, relocate modem and reconnect the internet. Our hope was that it would rule out any building issues, but the issues still exist. Next was a call to St. Mary's – John Dolloff says while there is no easy way to do it, the benefit of switching to Shaw from MTS makes it overall worth it. St. Mary's is paying ~\$100 for both phone and internet, combined. Trinity is currently paying ~\$100 for internet alone (and \$125/mo for phone, with Shaw). Changing email address would be difficult. Leadership team agrees to give MTS Reps one month to get the issues resolved, otherwise we will look at switching to Shaw. Decision postponed until February meeting.

Cell Phones for Ministers' Use; Cell Phones for Recording Worship – It is a United Church of Canada mandate that the church provide Julie with phone allowance for, at minimum, a land line telephone. However, the leadership team is aware that Julie is using her cell phone for much of her work during this pandemic.

Motion: to pay Julie pay \$50 per month for a device allowance above what we pay per month for her land line. Moved by Kim, seconded by Donna. Carried.

Annual Meeting Date and Format

It was agreed that Trinity's annual meeting for 2020 will be held February 21, 2021 at 1:00 pm by Zoom.

Ministry Profile Report - Cindy shared the information she had received from Jocelyn on behalf of the ministry profile team. We are currently waiting on information about how to get our CDM job description approved by the region so that we can proceed with recruitment.

Finance Report

Financial statements for 2020 were reviewed. It was noted that we received grants of \$19,053.20 from federal government, and \$5,000 from provincial – COVID relief assistance that does not have to be repaid.

Motion: to approve December 2020 finances as presented. Moved by Donna, seconded by Denise. Carried.

Motion: to approve draft 2021 Budget and be taken to the congregation– deficit position of just over 11,000, includes withdrawing \$25,000 from our investments, and includes staff positions based on the Ministry profile team’s recommendations for half the year. Moved by Donna Matthews, seconded by Alan. Carried.

M & S Covenant Goal will be set at : \$50,000

M and P Report

Kim reported on their most recent meeting. M & P members acted as worship hosts at the end of December when Wilma was here for to lead worship, and will do so again this coming Sunday when Norman Collier is leading worship.

Prairie to Pine Region

Annual meeting will be virtual, likely at the end of May or June.

Calendar was reviewed for information.

Team and Interest Group Updates –

- Structure Support – major task is nominations, as noted above
- Property: The emergency light at northeast door buzzed and blinked for most of December. After several calls in and Kel-Gil coming in for most of the calls, we finally have it fixed! In September the Province (Inspection & Technical Services Dept) was in to do their inspection and only recently noted through a letter that there were “broken/damaged hall buttons in need of replacing/repairing”. The only thing brought to our attention when the inspector was here was that the instruction signage inside the lift should also be on the outside. Jacquie will call to find out more information. Organ was broken on December 21 – had to call the organ repair people, and they talked them through fixing the organ remotely. Waind MacDonald up his time as Property Contact for November & December, Mitchell Omichinski is on for January & February. The boiler continues to behave itself. Our beautiful nativity display was put up the start of December (south side) and has just recently been taken down. It’s living at Bob & Donna Matthews for now, until a suitable storage place is found. Thanks to Bob & Donna for providing the display.
- Caring Friends – Patti & Iris coordinated (through the office) sending a Christmas card with a Trinity Christmas decoration enclosed. All were mailed, or delivered by Iris in bulk to personal care homes. More cards were sent out than usual, due to the nature of the pandemic and forced isolation. 57 cards sent: In addition, 84 cards were sent (as usual) to people who had experienced a loss through death in the past year. A memory token was added this year, given the nature of the year, and the fact that the Service of Remembrance and Hope was offered only online.
- UCW – no report

- Stewardship – There was no separate stewardship mailing this year. Stewardship material was included in two issues of the newsletter, as we had an extra newsletter in the fall. Next meeting for this group is scheduled for January 20, so that a full review of 2020 is possible and the leadership team has set a draft budget.
- TriniTidings – next one at the end of January.
- Sunday School – During Advent, families were invited to participate in the creation of our virtual Christmas Eve video. 13 different families took us up on that invitation. In addition, 36 families with children up to grade 8 received an email mid December with a link to a 30 minute animated Christmas video provided by our Sparkhouse curriculum, as well as some suggestions for observing Christmas as a family.
- Study Groups – Tuesday afternoon study is on hiatus during the circuit breaker lock down
- Choirs and Singing – As noted above, a virtual choir anthem was put together for Christmas Eve thanks to Elaine Verwey and 19 singers, recorded one voice at a time.

Membership Status Update:

New members

Deaths

Members:

Auna-Marie Brown, December 15, 2020

Art Klassen, January 1, 2021

Adherents & Other:

Margaret (Peggy) Rushton, November 27, 2020

Edna Kane, November 29, 2020

Closing Prayer was offered by Julie, and Cindy adjourned the meeting at 8:49 pm

Next Meeting: If restrictions change, February 3. If they don't change, February 17.

Cindy Curry, Chair

Pam Lotun, Secretary