

Trinity United Church Leadership Team Meeting
Trinity United Church

Wednesday, October 13, 2021 – held in Trinity Lower Hall at 7 pm

Present: Cindy Curry, Julie Baker, Alan Brown, Denise Stairs, Donna Matthews, Lesia Case, Kim Guy, Gloria Ross, Pam Lotun

Regrets: Stephanie Verhoeven, Diane Routledge

Call to order: 7:00pm

Land acknowledgment

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 Reflection was offered by Julie

Approval of the Minutes

Motion: to approve the minutes from September 8, 2021 as circulated.

Moved by: Alan Seconded by: Kim Carried.

Correspondence: none

Discussion and Decisions:

Public Health Orders

Effective October 5 the health orders have shifted and are current until October 26 at this point.

FOR SUNDAY MORNING CHURCH – We may welcome up to 148 (33% capacity) people into the sanctuary without checking vaccination status. Masks must be worn. Distance must be kept. **Our current practice meets these guidelines.**

If attendance was restricted to those who can show proof of full vaccination (and any ineligible to be vaccinated, like those under 12), then neither distance nor capacity limits need to be followed. Masks are still required.

FOR FUNERALS IN THE CHURCH – Without checking vaccination status, the attendance limit at a funeral in the church is 25 persons. Masks must be worn. Distance must be kept. If attendance is restricted to those who can show proof of full vaccination (and any ineligible to be vaccinated), then neither distance nor capacity limits need to be followed. Masks are still required.

FOR MEETINGS, RECEPTIONS, COFFEE TIME, ETC. in OTHER PARTS OF THE BUILDING – Without checking vaccination status, group size is restricted to a capacity limit of 25%, up to a maximum of 25 people. (3 people in the family room, 25 in the lower hall or auditorium). Distance must be kept. Masks must be worn, unless people are eating or drinking, while seated at a table. If attendance is restricted to those with proof of full vaccination, (and any ineligible to be vaccinated) then distance and capacity limits do not need to be observed. Masks must still be worn, unless people are eating and drinking while seated.

Decisions at this time:

Even if all present have proof of vaccination, we will limit capacity for funerals to 150 persons. We hope to start coffee after church November 7 for people with proof of full vaccination. We will confirm whether the house group is willing to try this out. (proof of vaccination also required for coffee hosts). We may put up reminder signage in the kitchen that masks must be worn during preparation of food/drink/communion.

Church Engagement

How do we feel about the level of congregational engagement at present? Are we offering what people need at this time in the world or in their lives? The leadership team had an open and real conversation about the barriers to engagement and our desire to be a safe place where people can find spiritual nourishment at different points in their journey. We agreed that we feel good about the things we have been able to offer during a challenging time.

Finance Report

Financial statements attached. We are in a positive financial position, due to consistent donations, government grants, the use of our investments, as well as the lack of a second ministry staff person.

Motioned by Donna to approve the financial statements as presented, seconded by Alan, carried.

M & P Report

M & P met this morning. They have pulpit supply arranged through to January 2. They received a report from the Search committee who are planning a meeting in the near future. They have been making calls over the past few months with no results.

Calendar Review

Team and Interest Group Updates

Structure Support Team – Sandra volunteered to coordinate a meeting with the house group leaders to work on the 2022 calendar. Pam has agreed to let her name stand for Chair. Now the search begins for a secretary. Sandy Bazin and Kelly Haapamaki have agreed to work with leadership team volunteers to find a secretary. Robin Young has agreed to make phone calls. Looking for volunteers to brainstorm for candidates. Some suggestions were made that will be followed up by the brainstorming group.

Property – Matt Morais has been our Property contact for September & October, and hasn't had any building issues to deal with, but did make the pulpit shield. In other building issues, the kitchen fridge (closest to the window) needed repairs – the condenser fan motor stalled and the compressor wasn't running. New parts were ordered and it's now working. Accurate Fire & Safety has done annual inspection and maintenance on the fire extinguishers throughout the building, and RG Sales was out to do annual service on the boiler; when the cold weather arrives, we're good to flip the switch and go. Kim Harkness will start his property rotation in November and finish off at the end of December.

UCW – To date, the Bakeless bake sale raised \$2,745. Have dipped their toe in the water for catering, and to see if people still want to be part of a catering group. Have catered a funeral that

had 15 people and it was very easy. They have made themselves available to requests for up to 50 people. More updates may come now with the vaccinated/non-vaccinated rules.

Stewardship – The fall Stewardship theme is called “Making the Connection”. The Stewardship team plans to engage this theme through several methods:

3 worship services will develop the theme – October 3, October 24 and November 14

Printed material will go out in the next TriniTidings newsletter, and perhaps the November one as well.

Congregation members are being recruited to create testimonial videos about what difference church connection makes to them, which will be circulated on social media and placed on our website.

TriniTidings – A TriniTidings with stewardship material will go out October 22. We will also have one go out November 26 with information about Christmas plans.

Sunday School – Julie sent out a digital Thanksgiving kit to families with children up to grade 8. Julie and Jacquie plan to send out a mail kit to families at the end of October for All Hallow’s Eve (Halloween) and All Saints. At the last meeting Donna agreed to help organize a Sunday school (children and youth engagement etc) think tank/idea lab. Denise and Pam have offered to help.

Pastoral Care – Caring Friends – Nothing new to report

Games Night – Games Night is still on hiatus. However, Amy Chappellaz is planning to do a small recognition for Ferne Green to present her with her Manitoba 150 Award. Due to the public health orders limiting group size, the event will be by invitation only.

Study Groups – No movement has been made with regards to the Friday Book Study group. No other groups are currently meeting.

Choirs and Singing – People are being invited to sing softly behind their masks in church. No choirs are currently gathering.

Affirming Ministry – Has Pam done the Annual Report for 2020? Not yet, sorry!

Tech Support – During September, we had some difficulty with the Zoom program. After much investigation and little solution finding, we had no issues with it on October 3. We do not know whether the source problems have been resolved. We have had some inconsistency with our modem. We need to make sure that if Julie is not in the building that there are people who know how to troubleshoot for that.

New or unfinished Business

Further discussion on Think Tanks/Idea Labs and Hybrid Worship were tabled at last meeting
Christmas think tank – needs to be scheduled for October

Fresh air exchange in the sanctuary will be an ongoing challenge. At this time, the doors will be propped open when the weather allows. However, we anticipate the weather will soon require us to keep doors closed, which will further reduce air exchange. Indoor mask use will help mitigate this problem in the short term.

Motion to purchase two charging cables for the backup phones we need to use for camera in the event that Julie and Pam aren't here to use their own phones. Funds to be taken from the Memorial Fund with a budget of \$50.

Moved: Denise Seconded: Donna Carried.

Membership Status Update:

New members

Transfer

Deaths

Members:

Wilma Plenty, October 6, 2021

Adherents & Other:

Deborah Mills (died August 17, 2020 burial September 27, 2021)

Brenda Asham-Smith (died August 5, 2021 burial September 18, 2021)

Eldon (Al) Glen Wayne Cutler, (died December 8, 2019 burial October 2, 2021)

Closing Prayer

Adjournment: 8:45pm

Next Meeting: November 10, 2021 at 7:00pm

_____ Cindy Curry, Chair

_____ Pam Lotun, Secretary

Kim Guy will not be here for the November meeting.