

Trinity United Church Leadership Team Meeting
Trinity United Church
Wednesday, March 9, 2022 – held in Trinity Lower Hall at 7 pm

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

Regrets: Tanis Essery, Stephanie Verhoeven, Cindy Curry, Diane Routledge

Call to order: Pam called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm

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 – Julie shared the Moderator’s prayer with regards to the current war in Ukraine.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion: to approve the minutes from February 9, 2022 as circulated.

Moved by: Donna

Seconded by: Kim

Carried.

Correspondence:

United Church statement on Ukraine and invitation to send letters to Ukrainian communities.

Discussion and Decisions:

After some discussion it was agreed that Trinity would send letters of support and care to the Ukrainian Catholic Church and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, if the church is still functioning. If there is a Ukrainian Community Association, we might also send something to them. Denise offered to do a little digging to see if there is an organized group at this time. Offices will be generated through the office and be signed by Pam.

Follow up from Annual Meeting – It was agreed that zoom is not an ideal format for people to have their voices heard. Many people signed on at the last minute. Thanks to Max Chappellaz, Pam Lotun and Tanis Essery for some of the behind the scene tech support and facilitation.

Public Health Orders – Public health restrictions have all been lifted, except for mandatory masks in public spaces until March 15, at which time that restriction will also be lifted.

We have made considerable adaptations for Covid. It was agreed that:

We will continue to have No bulletins for the foreseeable future.

We will create a printed announcement insert until Easter to see how it goes. We will start with 10-12 and see whether they are used.

We will continue to leave the offering plates at the back without passing them in the pews.

We will stop collecting contact tracing information.

At this time we will keep the hymn books at the back for people who wish to pick them up, rather than placing them in the pews.

We will keep sanitizer at all the entrances; door hosts may choose to actively offer it to those who come through the door.

We will continue to have hymns mostly recorded to sing along to. We would consider having some live congregational song leading up front by Easter.

When the provincial mandate is lifted, we will also let go of the mask requirement, and instead strongly encourage masking while speaking and singing – we will require masking while people are moving about the church. We will reassess at our next meeting.

The ropes on the pews will stay up until the next meeting, and then be removed if trend continues in a positive direction. (there may be flexibility with regards to a funeral, should that be necessary)

We will, however, lift capacity limits. It is unlikely for that to impact anything but a funeral.

Until next meeting, Julie will stay at the front after church to prevent crowding in the narthex.

We will continue the adapted method of serving communion at this time. (individual portions, not passed)

Coffee time will return March 13. Those serving and preparing food will continue being required to mask.

Baptism adaptations may depend on the comfort level of those who are participating. We will continue to ensure the safety of those most vulnerable.

Proof of vaccination will no longer be required.

Virtual worship via zoom will be continued for the foreseeable future. It increases our accessibility, which is an important goal for us.

Lent- Easter Plans

We have committed to doing something joint with McKenzie for Good Friday. We would prefer if we could have a zoom or recorded/online option for our members.

For Easter Sunday we will plan for Easter snacks (a la Easter breakfast). We will invite a planning group together that includes those from last year's think tank (and other interested parties), and invite them to make modifications as they determine wise.

Sunday School – It's probably time to start thinking about this in an intentional way. We have no plans, and have not had attendance of children for a long time. Where to begin?

Maybe we need to work towards September. Next meeting we can put energy toward how we will do that.

Team and Interest Group Updates

UCW – The UCW met and it was decided to hold off having any large functions, specifically the Irish Stew lunch they had thought they may host. With it being so soon into eased health order restrictions, they feel more comfortable taking a slow approach and may try to plan something for Easter instead.

Property – Mitchell has wrapped up his 2 month term and Leith is ready to start in for March & April. BBBS requested a brighter light on their exterior (purple) door for safety, and that work's been done. Dawn & Laura (as well as Taekwondo) all offer a very big thank you, and say it makes a world of difference! The nursery school access to storage project is nearing completion. The finishing work is almost done. Accessing their toys and supplies will now be much more convenient for them.

Stewardship – Tax receipts went out the second week of February. They were enclosed in handwritten thank you notes. The notes were appreciated.

TriniTidings – The newsletter was sent out last Friday (March 4). Depending on Easter and April plans (Irish Stew like things) we may need to have something go out in April.

Study Groups – A Tuesday afternoon discussion group is planned for Lent. Julie is really hoping she can get families to commit to a confirmation schedule soon.

Choir – A volunteer musician will be providing live music on Sunday March 13. He will work with Julie to see if this is something he wishes to do on a semi-regular basis. Decisions regarding covid restrictions may help guide plans for Lent and Easter music.

Tech Support – We continue to work on the underlying computer buzz issue. It's often one step forward, several steps back! If people on zoom have feedback about the sound quality, please be in touch with Pam or Julie.

Structure Support Team – We continue to have a vacancy on M & P. We also continue to have a house group leader vacancy. Denise will connect with Brent and Lori about whether they feel up to leading their house group during their month of April. She will then schedule a structure support team meeting.

Finance Report

Alan reported from the finance team with regards to the printed financial statements.

Motion to approve the financial statements as presented.

Moved by: Alan

Seconded by: Gloria

Carried.

M & P Report – meeting was cancelled due to road closures!

Trustees

Trustees have been speaking about ventilation in the sanctuary and are setting up a plan to review information that has been collected.

Calendar Review

New or unfinished Business

Membership Status Update:

New members

Transfer

Deaths

Members:

Jannie Kok, March 05, 2022

Adherents & Other:

Ellen Keele, February 27, 2022

Julie offered a closing prayer.

Adjournment: Pam adjourned the meeting at 9:26 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 13, 2022 at 7:00pm

_____ Pamela Lotun, Chair

_____ Julie Baker, Acting Secretary