

Trinity United Church Leadership Team Meeting
Trinity United Church
Wednesday, October 25, 2023 – *held in lower hall at 7 pm*

Present: Pam Lotun, Denise Stairs, Alan Brown, Donna Matthews, Kim Guy, Tanis Essery, Diane Routledge, Lesia Case, Lynne Sanderson (via Zoom)

Regrets: Stephanie Verhoeven

Call to Order: 6:58 p.m.

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

Approval of the Minutes

Motion: to approve the minutes from September 13, 2023 as circulated.

Moved by: Kim Guy

Seconded by: Lesia Case

Carried

Correspondence:

Discussions and Decisions:

Advent: Advent consists of the four Sundays before Christmas. This year, that 4th Sunday is Christmas Eve. A number of churches have decided to begin Advent on November 26 rather than December 3 so that December 24 can be dedicated to Christmas Eve (whether or not that involves morning services). What is your desire for Trinity?

As of right now, there is no one to lead a service on Christmas Eve, morning or evening. We have been invited to join at McKenzie's in the morning, they do not have an evening service planned. Given that information, it makes sense to then begin Advent on November 26. Kim will let Sylvia know to contact the pulpit supply people with the change of start of Advent to November 26.

United Church Calendars: MacGregor United has asked if Trinity would be willing to buy 10 (or more) United Church Calendars. They need an order of 50 to qualify for the discount of \$6/calendar instead of \$7.50/calendar. Mary Kalberg of MacGregor is reaching out to all of the churches in the area to see if there's interest to go ahead and place an order. Jacquie has told Mary that Trinity will commit to purchasing 10.

Motion: Trinity will purchase 10 calendars

Moved by: Kim Guy

Seconded by: Diane Routledge

Carried

Danny Carroll, Winnipeg Musician/Composer is hosting a concert here on November 03 (previously approved by the Leadership Team). At last meeting it was motioned and carried that he would be responsible in full for the charge of piano tuning. Since then he has come back with the following information for consideration, below (though whatever decision is made, he will absorb the full cost – “If the committee decides to help with the cost great, but I will be paying Ernest no matter what the decision”)...

Ernest Unrau, a piano tuner from Morden, will be out to tune the piano.

And the piano absolutely needs to be tuned. It is really quite off above the Middle C all the way up. A cautionary note - if pianos are not regularly tuned it can be more expensive when it is done because it can take multiple passes for the tuner to get it to pitch. The general rule of thumb for most pianos is to tune your piano a minimum of 2 times a year. It is temperature and humidity fluctuations that cause the piano to go out of tune. My piano was just tuned in the spring, but because of the climate and weather changes we have all been experiencing it has been going out of tune faster. I believe that is what is happening to your piano.

Part of my concern with the tuning is that the Advent and Christmas season are approaching for the parish, and I'm sure you would want it to be in top tuning shape for that.

The Parish Committee has stated that because the piano was tuned in April that I would be responsible for the payment. So I am making arrangements to pay Ernest when he does the tuning.

I would like to propose a question. This is a lot more expensive to have a tuner come in to do the tuning. I cannot wait to possibly get connected with Dale Cramer somehow, I need to act now to book a tuner. I know Ernest will attest to the fact that the piano is in dire need of the tuning. This will cost \$225.00 or more.

Because of the present tuning state of the piano, and to get it into a good shape for Christmas season rehearsals and presentations, would the Parish committee consider helping with the cost of the tuning. Perhaps a split? That would work out to be a normal cost of tuning for you.

The piano has a nice touch to it. I really love the sound in the church, and want the best sound to be presented for the Portage audience, and for Trinity United.

Thanks for your consideration.

Motion: That Trinity cover the cost of \$225.00 for the piano tuning

Moved by: Kim Guy

Seconded by: Tanis Essery

Carried

Finance Report:

Motion: to accept the financials as presented:

Moved by: Donna Matthews

Seconded by: Lesia Case

Carried

Calendar Review: Reviewed

Worship Plan and Pulpit Supply:

Communion is planned for Sunday, October 29, with Karen Tjaden.

Pulpit Supply is filled to the end of the year, with the exception of December 10 (Karen Tjaden is tentatively booked, but not confirmed). Sylvia will be starting to find people to fill spots for the new year.

*Sylvia has exhausted all efforts and is unable to find anyone to lead Thanksgiving Sunday.

Motion: To cancel Trinity services on Thanksgiving Sunday, October 8 as we will have no Leadership.

Moved by: Kim Guy

Seconded by: Diane Routledge

All in Favour

Carried

*Addendum to the minutes:

Motion to cancel Trinity services on Thanksgiving Sunday, October 8 rescinded. Sylvia received an email September 14 from John Stanford saying he is able lead worship on October 8.

Sunday School: No report

M&P Report: Met via zoom with Doug Martindale. Will be available for funerals and pulpit supply soon. Kim and Sylvia's terms will soon be up, but Sylvia is willing to extend her term if allowed.

UCW Report: No report

Property:

- Traffic signage has been placed at the east end of the south parking lot & nursery school canopy to encourage motorists to slow down. The boiler needed to be fixed and has been done.

Stewardship: is working on their Fall Campaign. Details & theme to follow.

Trustees: Quotes have come in to possibly have our boiler replaced with 2 new 850m BTUH High Efficient modulating condensing boiler for \$65, 000 and electrical work by Point West for \$4, 285
Trustees met today with tenants (BBBS & Nursery School) for their annual check in. BBBS indicated they would like to have a celebration at the church December 2024 for their 50th Anniversary, utilizing several different rooms over the course of a weekend. BBBS would like to

look at first Sunday of Advent, December 1 2024 and see how the worship that Sunday may work with them as well to incorporate the event. Going to see if there are any grants available or funding from the United Church to help with funding for the boilers. Was looking for clarification regarding the janitorial fee to be paid by the Girl Guides as it has only been received for a couple weeks.

Structure Support Team: Per our meeting after church on Sunday, October 15, the following is the **House Group schedule for 2024.**

House Group A (Patti/Hans) - February and December

House Group B (Sylvia) - May and October

House Group C (Cassandra) - January and September

House Group D (Lori) - April and November

House Group E (Denise) - March and June

They have a list of names to contact to ask about joining Leadership and/or M&P. Perhaps a "Minute for...." Before church one Sunday to fill in the congregation on what is needed for help.

TriniTidings: Newsletter needs to be created/sent out soon, which should include the stewardship theme, Advent, Christmas, etc. Tanis can help Jacquie with this if she needs (let me know!)

Tech Support and Equipment needs: No report

Prairie to Pine Region: Lesia is stepping down from this committee. Kelly Haapamaki might be interested in joining this.

Affirming Ministry: No report

Saturday Breakfasts: Will put information in Trini tidings

Coverage for Julie's work and other church stuff. As listed:

Sundays:

- Music: Then Let Us Sing! The United Church of Canada is working on a new music resource. It is not a new hymnbook, but a digital collection of music that will include Voices United, More Voices, as well as music to represent the changing cultural realities of congregations and the intercultural vision for the church. Trinity is one of 350 "focus group" congregations who have been asked to offer feedback on new music. These sampler songs are noted on the screen during worship. Feedback can be sent to the church office or directly to Lori Mackedenski.
- Big picture themes and coordination (worship committee?) Not really happening at present except through Jacquie.
- Pulpit supply – covered above
- Technology – Pam uploads Sunday's sermons to Youtube. Julie programs social media content, and Tanis and Pam also add content.

- Sunday Hosting: has been absorbed into house group duties

Pastoral care:

- Funerals – we have a list of people who are able to do funerals for us. Lesia Case is the volunteer point person for ‘after hours’.
- On demand pastoral care calls – Brenda Brand has suggested that she might be available for emergency on demand or pastoral calls. Jacquie and Lesia are working together should any of these referrals be required.
- Personal care homes – shut ins
- Hospital and palliative care
- General community building

Meetings:

- Lynne Sanderson is required for any decision making meetings (Trustees, Leadership Team, Annual meeting)

New or unfinished Business:

Search Committee Update: We are still waiting on Immigration so do not have any timelines as of yet. The immigration application has been extremely challenging. Unfortunately there is no way to contact Immigration Canada when one has questions. Housing was a prerequisite for the immigration application so that is in place & it is furnished.

Donna reported there has been some extra hoops to jump through due to new clarification from Immigration Canada indicating we need to submit an Employer Compliance Fee of \$230.00. She has done what is needed but has not heard back as of yet.

Category 3 Remit: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization.

Remit—NIC 01: Restructuring of the Indigenous Church

Lynne has posed the question, “Are we prepared as a Leadership team, to vote on this matter?”

Most would like to review the information again. Planning to vote at our November meeting.

Membership Status Update:

New members

Transfer: Debbie Nelson transfer request to St. Paul’s United (Morden, MB), October 25, 2023

Motion: With blessings we accept the transfer request of Debbie Nelson to St Paul’s United Church

Moved by: Kim Guy

Seconded: Denise Stairs

Deaths

Members:

Art Klassen, January 01, 2021

Mary Klassen, October 21, 2023

Adherents & Other:

Dale Braden, September 26, 2023

Louise Greenaway, October 11, 2023
Closing Prayer

Next Meeting: November 8 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: 7:44 p.m.

_____ Pam Lotun, Chair

_____ Tanis Essery, Secretary