

Trinity United Church Leadership Team Meeting
Trinity United Church
Wednesday, December 12, 2023 – *held in Meeting Room at 7 pm*

Present: Donna Matthews (Zoom), Alan Brown (Zoom), Stephanie Verhoeven (Zoom), Lynne Sanderson, Pam Lotun, Tanis Essery, Lesia Case, Denise Stairs

Regrets: Diane Routledge, Kim Guy

Call to Order: 7:01 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 November 08, 2023 with the following addition:

That the Leadership Team voted unanimously in favour of the Category 3 remit: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization.

Moved by: Denise Stairs, as amended

Seconded by: Lesia Case, as amended

Carried

Correspondence:

Prairie Sounds Music Festival requested their week rental of \$500 in April 2024 be reduced to \$300 for the next couple years. They are currently in the rebuilding stage and would appreciate consideration. What is Trinity's requirement for this? What kind of manpower do they need from us. Tabled until next month to have further discussion with M&P and with staff.

Then Let Us Sing! The United Church of Canada is working on a new music resource Then Let Us Sing! Feedback will be collected on the sampler throughout the month of January. An online feedback form link will be emailed early in the new year. We're encouraged to keep our comments and questions coming! Is the congregation to give feedback to Lori or respond to it online in the future? Thoughts were that one point person is better to communicate with and the majority of our attending congregation will not likely respond in an email.

Discussions and Decisions:

Finance Report:

Motion: to accept the financials as presented:

Moved by: Donna Matthews

Seconded by: Tanis Essery

Carried

Calendar Review: Reviewed

Worship Plan and Pulpit Supply:

Advent/Christmas - Advent themes are in place with ongoing worship themes prepared. Again this year, our M & S fundraiser will be to add snowflakes to the Christmas tree instead of lighting up the lights for donations. Donna and Carol have been decorating the Trinity building to suit the Advent theme, Advent 1 "Hope is a Star", Advent 2 "Peace is a Ribbon", Advent 3 "Joy is a Song", Advent 4 "Love is a Flame".

Christmas Eve service is being planned to include carols, poems, stories, scripture, candle lighting, etc. McKenzie & Presbyterian churches have been invited to join our choir and/or join us in worship. Elijah and his family will be joining us for Christmas Eve.

We are very excited that Sylvia has filled many of the vacancies for pulpit supply for 2024.

Sunday School: Our journey through Advent continues each Sunday. Tentative plans are to pause the program after this Sunday. Lent begins February 18?, so will resume at that time.

M&P Report: The office will be closed Dec 25 & 26 and Jan 01.

UCW Report: 25 calendars were sold, a wee profit there. Dainties sale was successful - \$520 profit. Well done! They have finished redoing the blue catering books, taking the three groups to two. Yellow books are also being redone in the next week, ready for the new year.

Property: All Star Alarms will be in within the week to perform our annual emergency lighting and smoke detector inspection. The auditorium has been quite cold (18 C) for some of our user groups, this could be something that needs to be checked. Questions raised about who is responsible for Properties right now.

Stewardship: Campaign wrapped up. Six large donations were received as a result of the campaign with a "thank you for the reminder" note enclosed with the gift.

Trustees: Invoice received in the amount of \$993 plus GST for the work done to cut lines into stairs to increase traction on treads. Jacquie looking for direction as to whether to remit payment or negotiate invoice. The trustees will be having a conversation with the company. Felt we should not be responsible to pay for work that was not properly done the first time. Boiler: Mitchell has been looking into natural gas & electricity costs and consumption over a 3 year span. Manitoba Hydro has provided the detailed information. Building security: After a recent break-in (December 04), Mitchell is looking into surveillance cameras and more lighting. Replacement glass has been ordered for south side office window. Lead time can be up to 3 weeks. Came about that Jacquie was unsure how to make decisions following the break in, as she was the only one there. We hope she feels empowered to make emergency decisions and perhaps M&P can follow up with this and set some boundaries and expectations to make all parties comfortable.

Structure Support Team: Denise listed the various positions that will need to be filled on various committees. She has a list of names to try and contact. Reminders will be sent to remind to lock the church doors before the service starts and to make sure the offering is brought downstairs and secured.

TriniTidings: will not be going out any time soon. That's okay!

We should include Christmas Eve service info on Portage Online for those who do not normally receive our emailed announcements and share the information on social media.

Tech Support and Equipment needs: No report

Prairie to Pine Region: No report

Affirming Ministry: No report

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.
- Pastoral Care – Donna & Bob made deliveries of 43 rose bowls to our "shut ins" as part of our caring friends Christmas project.
- 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 – In preparation for Elijah’s arrival, Judy Hare & Elizabeth Brown of Prairie to Pine offered a 2 hour diversity training session to members of the Leadership Team, Search Committee, M&P and the congregation at large. Elijah and family will arrive on December 21. He will come tour the church December 28, and his start date needs to be revised to January 01. Motion: to change Elijah’s start date to January 01, 2024.

Moved by: Denise Stairs

Seconded by: Alan Brown

Carried

Membership Status Update:

New members

Transfer:

Deaths

Members:

Adherents & Other:

Closing Prayer

Next Meeting: January 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: 8:14 p.m.

_____ Pam Lotun, Chair

_____ Tanis Essery, Secretary