

Trinity United Church Leadership Team Meeting  
Trinity United Church  
Thursday, February 15, 2024  
*Held in-person Meeting Room, as well as our Zoom Platform*

Present: Lynne Sanderson, Kim Guy, Alan Brown, Lesia Case, Donna Matthews, Tanis Essery, Diane Routledge, Elijah Mwandila

Regrets: Denise Stairs, Pam Lotun, Stephanie Verhoeven

Call to Order: 7:00 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 – Rev. Mwandila

Motion: To approve minutes from January 17, 2024

Moved by: Alan Brown

Seconded by: Diane Routledge

**Carried**

Correspondence:

- Book report from Barb Jones: “Keys to The Kingdon” by Brian Arthur Brown

“Aware or not, the United Church of Canada will be 100 years old on June 10, 2025. Every church, including Trinity, has received two books, the first one entitled Keys to the Kindom 2021, and most recently The Untied Church of Canada 2023. These two volumes have been written as an introduction to a 100 year celebration for the United Church of Canada. The volumes entitled the Untied Church of Canada tell the story of where the church is now. It lists many of the churches there are and tells us in detail about many of them. Not just the buildings but what and where the United Church believes in and how their belief came about. This book should be reading for all committees and members and the others church members as well. It will make you proud to be a member of the United Church of Canada.

The expectation for the celebration is that churches in areas will cluster to celebrate. The book “Untied Church of Canada” has all that the cluster needs to join the celebration – a service, some music, collection envelopes and more.

In the next 18 months we will no doubt be receiving more useful information”.

- Email received from Judy Hare, Prairie to Pine, dated February 02, 2024:

To: To the Affirming Ministries in Prairie to Pine Regional Council  
Hate mail again being sent to Affirming ministries

Transphobic and homophobic hate mail from the US is again being sent to United Church Affirming ministries, this time in the west. December mailings mostly targeted Ontario. The package contains messages and a USB key and often has a Customs declaration that it is a "gift." Some are sent from "Woodward Publications" in Oklahoma. If you receive mail that you suspect to be this or other hate correspondence, you can report it as suspicious without opening it and include this notice to back up your concerns. Report it to the Canada Border Services Agency online form to report it if it has come from outside of Canada.

Discussions and Decisions:

Annual General Meeting: Sunday, March 3, 2024 both in-person and on Zoom  
Lynne will be in contact with Julie as to who would be chairing of the meeting.

Finance Report:

Motion: to approve proposed Draft Budget 2024

Moved: Donna Matthews

Seconded: Alan Brown

**Carried**

Motion: to approve January's Financial Statements

Moved: Donna Matthews

Seconded: Lesia Case

**Carried**

Motion: To allow Kim Guy to be added to list of signing authority on cheques

Moved: Alan Brown

Seconded: Diane Routledge

**Carried**

Motion: To pay for new chairs for Jacquie and Julie, and withdraw the funds from the Val Garlick fund

Moved: Donna Matthews

Seconded: Lesia Case

**Carried**

Motion: To allow Alan's term on the Finance committee to be extended

Moved: Kim Guy

Seconded: Diane Routledge

**Carried**

Calendar Review: Change the time of the AGM on March 3 to 12:00 pm.

### Worship Plan and Pulpit Supply:

We are in need of a worship leader for February 25. Sylvia will try to fill this date. The next date without someone in place is March 24 & 31.

Worship Theme throughout Lent will be "Hope in Our Chaos" and will tie in with SS themes.

Sunday School: resumed February 04. Sunday School themes will explore 7 spiritual practices as we journey through Lent to Easter Sunday.

M&P Report: Jacquie will be on vacation Feb 19-23. Decisions need to be made of how the office will operate in her absence. The office will be closed in the afternoons. An M&P member will be in the AMs. Amy Chappellaz will look after getting the Sunday service prepared (Powerpoint, bulletins, etc). Julie would be ready to give a sermon on the 25<sup>th</sup> but not do the rest of the service so Sylvia is looking.

Julie starts back to work on February 16.

Back to work plan: Gradual hours increasing over the next few weeks.

Joint Coordinating Team: Search Committee – Covenanting service

Our initial planning meeting was held on February 8. We discussed having the covenanting service on Sunday, April 14, 2024, @ 3:00 p.m. @ MacGregor. In attendance, Lynne Sanderson, Elijah Mwandila, Julie Baker, Craig Miller, Chewe Mulenga, Mary Hodge and Elizabeth Brown.

Mary will contact Judy Hare regarding this date (done, Judy is taking this date to Pastoral Relations Commission mtg on February 13).

Since Elijah is scheduled to lead service in MacGregor on April 14, Elizabeth suggested that MacGregor might want to not have a morning service that day and just have the covenanting service in the afternoon. Mary will take this to their leadership meeting. Just something for Trinity's leadership to be aware of.....do we want to do the same.....?

As for the service, the Search c'ttee is responsible for the service and will be participating in the service. We were provided with a template for the service.

Just some FYIs for leadership - Elijah does not lead the covenanting service, another Minister leads this service & Elijah will be speaking with Elizabeth regarding this. During the service, there are symbols from a community member carried to the Minister (eg Bible, water, water towel & basin, bread & cup) so opportunity for some of our members to participate in the service if they would like (this can be done by Search c'ttee members or other members of the congregation). There will be a reception after the service & Mary said they could look after this (we might want to contribute with some baking ...)

UCW Report: The UCW will meet February 21.

Property: nothing to report.

Stewardship:

Trustees: Will next meet February 22. They have been sourcing out security options (camera system, door opener under Jacquie's desk, etc.) Researching grants for the new boilers that are needed.

Structure Support Team: There are several vacancies that need to be filled. Jacquie is running the annual report and will need some direction/names etc. how to send out a report with these gaps. The report will have to be finalized as is, as we don't have any new information to add.

TriniTidings:

Tech Support and Equipment needs: The projector on the south side of the sanctuary showed a message saying that it's time to order a new lamp. Jacquie went looking for answers and found out that there isn't urgency on replacing the lamp - it's logged so many hours and has kept track for us that it is getting low, but not dead (obviously). What it means though is that we need to think soon about replacing it, and that's if we are able to find a replacement; they are hard to find because most providers have moved over to laser projectors, and often times is cheaper to replace the projector than the lamp itself. If we are able to find a branded lamp still available, the cost is about \$200-\$400. A replacement projector can run into about \$2,000-\$5,000.

Motion: Decision deferred at this time

Moved:

Seconded:

**Carried**

Prairie to Pine Region: No report

An email was received by the Prairie to Pine Executive titled:

**"Collective and urgent response to the legislated hatred of trans youth"**

Be watching for information in the coming weeks from our region on how communities of faith can take helpful and constructive action with resources that are available for this purpose.

Affirming Ministry: No report

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

Sundays:

Music: Then Let Us Sing! Feedback survey has been submitted.

- 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. Tanis and Pam add social media 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 – Elijah is covering pastoral care.
- Hospital and palliative care - Elijah is covering hospital visitations
- General community building

Meetings:

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

New or unfinished Business:

Membership Status Update:

*New members*

*Transfer:*

*Deaths*

Members:

Adherents & Other:

Closing Prayer - Rev. Mwandila

**Next Meeting:** March 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: 8:06 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pam Lotun, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Tanis Essery, Secretary