

Trinity United Church Leadership Team Meeting  
Trinity United Church  
Tuesday, February 04, 2025  
*Held in-person Meeting Room*

Present: Tanis Essery, Donna Matthews, Julie Baker, Diane Routledge, Cassandra Pehura, Sandra Falk, Kelly Haapamaki, Elijah Mwandila

Regrets: Stephanie Verhoeven, Kaylee Routledge

Appointment of Chairperson for the Meeting: Donna Matthews  
Call to Order 7:05 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 Reflection and Prayer offered by Julie Baker

Correspondence:

A thank you note was received from Big Brothers, Big Sisters for our support of their Winter Wonderland event.

A thank you note was received from the Youth leaders and participants for hosting and feeding them for the January 10-12 event.

Discussions and Decisions:

The Annual Meeting will be March 2. It was agreed that Diane Routledge will chair the meeting, with support from Julie. In addition to the regular agenda items, Julie and Kelly will put something together regarding the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The United Church of Canada and centennial observations.

There was some discussion about filling vacancies for our teams and committees. Sandra Falk reported that the membership of the committee is currently strong, but that they are looking to fill one spot this year. They have reached out, and are working to fill that vacancy.

After some discussion and brainstorming of ideas, Tanis agreed to take on the role of chairperson, and Diane (and/or Stephanie?) agreed to fill the secretary position. Donna agreed to connect with a couple of suggestions regarding positions on the leadership team as members. Everyone will take the opportunity to discern whether they, or anyone else they can think of, would consider the role of chair elect.

Finance Report:

Motion: to accept the financial report for 2024 as presented

Motion: Donna Matthews  
Seconded: Cassandra Pehura  
Carried

Motion: to approve the draft budget for 2025 as presented, noting that \$50,000 will be transferred from our Investing in Our Future fund

Motion: Donna Matthews  
Seconded: Diane Routledge  
Carried

Motion: to receive the January 2025 financial statements as presented

Motion: Donna Matthews  
Seconded: Kelly Haapamaki  
Carried

M&P Report: Annual reviews are to be done for the March meeting. As previously noted, they are working to fill their vacancies. They are planning to switch the format of some of their meetings so that they may occasionally not meet with all staff, unless an issue arises, to give them time to act on the reports and reviews as well as their other responsibilities.

Calendar Review: Reviewed

#### Worship Review and Plans

As communicated earlier, for January and February, we have been following the lectionary cycle for our worship themes through Epiphany, and Cadence has been utilizing leftover “Go!” curriculum materials for Sunday School. This will continue until Lent, which begins on March 9. Elijah and Julie have met to start working on the theme for Lent and Easter. Once this is concluded on Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, it will be communicated.

Worship Schedule is a work in progress and Julie and Elijah will be working this week to firm up the schedule:

February 2 - Elijah

February 9 - Julie

February 16 - Elijah

February 23 – pulpit supply (Julie away, and Elijah in MacGregor)

March 2<sup>nd</sup> –Elijah (Annual General Meeting)

March 9<sup>th</sup> –Julie

March 16<sup>th</sup> –Elijah/Julie

March 23<sup>rd</sup> –Julie

March 30<sup>th</sup> –Julie/Elijah (To be confirmed if Elijah will be here at Trinity as this is one of the fifth Sundays of the year. The Joint Coordinating Team is meeting March 11 and will look into that.)

#### Joint Coordinating Team

The Joint Coordinating Team will meet March 11 in MacGregor.

### CE/Faith Formation/ Sunday School Report:

Sunday School had several participants on January 11 when the youth event was here (extra effort had been made to advertise their presence). For the other Sundays in January no children have been in attendance, so Cadence has not had any participants at all. Our experience this year seems to be that we do get some uptake when we advertise special activities, but that we are not seeing young people on “regular” Sundays. This theory was proven incorrect when 5 participants were present on February 5. It was reported that it was a very good experience for the participants, and that they had come up with a plan to make cookies for coffee after worship in a couple of weeks. This inconsistency further emphasizes how difficult it is to plan for what comes next, but we are grateful for Cadence’s dedication.

The youth leadership event was held at Trinity January 10-12, and participants from the event joined in leading worship Sunday morning. Thanks to Amy Chappellaz in particular for catering food for the event.

### Group Study

We are looking into the possibility of having a study group during Lent and Easter season. We plan to use the theme of Lent and Easter to create more opportunities of reflection and sharing our experiences of God.

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Kelly and Julie met with reps from McKenzie and Gladstone for the January meeting. It is expected that MacGregor and Oakville will return to the table for our next meeting. A lot of responsibilities were shared out and timelines were created for various parts. We were pleased to have already received \$1000 grant from the Prairie to Pine Region to assist in covering costs (like a tent). Unfortunately, the Foundation grant we were counting on has been denied, so we will have to adapt our plans. We had applied for \$4000 to cover our costs. All of the congregations are on board for a joint worship service at Island Park on June 8. No separate services will be held in any of our buildings that day. The next meeting is February 26 at 1:30 p.m. at McKenzie church. Would Trinity be willing to offer any funding for the event, given that the grant money has fallen through?

Motion: To spend \$2500.00 from the Future Projects Fund for the 100<sup>th</sup> celebration

Moved By: Donna Matthews

Seconded: Sandra Falk

Carried

UCW Report: The annual Irish Stew lunch is planned for March 16, the day prior to St. Patrick’s Day. They will be meeting February 19, and will also discuss at that time the idea of having a UCW service some day this year to recognize the Centennial through the lens of 100 years of women’s ministries. (Resources from the national UCW have been provided for such a service).

Property: Annual emergency lighting & smoke detectors maintenance was performed by All Star Alarms. Biannual lift maintenance was performed early January, yet ongoing issues with the south lift continued. Access Lifts was called in to troubleshoot/fix the sanctuary level door that wouldn’t latch or unlatch. While the technician believed it was fixed, we discovered on Sunday

that the problem remained, and another service call is being scheduled. Meanwhile, the street level door was found to have a broken motor. For now, the door has to be manually opened and closed. To supply & install motor, Access Lifts has provided a quote of **\$4,815.46** (travel included). The cost for this repair may need to come from the repair and maintenance budget, as the budget for elevator maintenance is generally less than this quote. However, in recent years repairs and maintenance have been under budget so we will not adjust the budget numbers at this point.

Stewardship: The stewardship “campaign” ended at the end of November, and the team met in January to follow up. They created a statement to include with tax receipts, and plan also to send out a personalized thank you card to donors as a follow up a couple of weeks after tax receipts go out. The next meeting is scheduled for early April to be brainstorming stewardship plans and themes for 2025.

Trustees: The Trustees met early December. No next meeting date is planned at this time.

Safe Workplace Task Group:

Confusion about whether the sanctuary doors are to be locked during the church service has been resolved and communicated with house group leaders. The sanctuary doors are to remain open throughout the service, the lower level office door is to be locked at 10:40 a.m.

TriniTidings: The next one is scheduled for March – deadline of March 07, go out March 14.

Prairie to Pine Region: Many UCW groups across Canada are dedicating Sunday March 2 as a Centennial service to remember the faithful and dedicated services of woman over the 100 years of the church’s life. Our UCW group will choose an alternate date for this service at Trinity.

A book study is being offered weekly via zoom, Feb 1-April 19 (3:30-5:00 pm). Book Title: Truth Telling: Seven Conversations about Indigenous Life in Canada\*Importance of Indigenous Literature by Michelle Good.

February 22 will be a regional training for Ministry and Personnel Committees. It is recommended that new members of M&P and those who have not attended a training session in the past 3 years participate in the training if possible. Our M & P Committee members have been invited to participate.

Coming up very soon is the Teens Grade 7-12 Zeebu retreat in Selkirk Feb 15-17.

The region is also having a rural ministry town hall February 26.

Affirming Ministry:

Membership Status Update:

*New members*

*Transfer:*

*Deaths*

Members:

Waind MacDonald, January 13, 2025

Adherents & Other:

Linda Wright, January 06, 2025

Doddy Blight, February 03, 2025

New or unfinished Business:

Hybrid meetings and tech support decision is deferred indefinitely.

***Next Meeting: Wednesday March 12, 7:00***

Closing Prayer was shared by Elijah Mwandila

Adjournment: 8:47 pm

\_\_\_\_\_ Donna Matthews, Acting as Chair

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