

Knox Church Council Meeting

May 21, 2019

Chair: Sharon Christmas

Secretary: Sharon McIntosh

Present: Rev. Craig Miller, Sharon Christmas, Coleen Wall, Diane Shepherd, Roger Bright, David Barrows, Leanne Sprung, Wayne Digby, Wayne Clayton, Alan Moulin, Laura Crookshanks

Regrets: Shelley Tataryn

Call to Order: 6:32 pm

Opening Worship: On behalf of the Worship Committee, Diane Shepherd read "Old Farmer's Advice" (words of wisdom).

Adoption of Agenda and Adoption of Minutes of the April 16, 2019 meeting:

Motion: Diane Shepherd/Coleen Wall

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes/Old Business:

- a. Let's Talk Knox (Visioning Sessions Update)
Coleen Wall, Debby Dandy and Laura Crookshanks made a presentation at the Annual Congregational Meeting (Part 2). A number of items will be/have been forwarded to the committees for action. We now need to bring together an action plan based on the findings of the previous discussions. It was suggested Council put out announcement inviting members of the congregation who wish to take part in a small group (Next Steps Committee) to put an action plan together in the fall. Deadline for submitting your name will be Monday, June 17 (before the next council meeting). It was also mentioned that a community round table discussion will be planned for the fall to bring together community groups to see what is already offered to the community and where the needs lie. It was suggested council bring their ideas to next council meeting as to who we think need to be part of the community round table.
- b. Preparation of a Covenant of Mutual Commitment, Accountability and Support with the Prairie to Pine Region (Update – Leanne Sprung)
This is in progress, but not complete yet. Hopefully it will be ready in time for council to make a decision as to whether to share with the Region at regional meeting.

- c. Funeral policy for Knox United Church (update)
 A draft of a funeral policy was been e-mailed to council. Discussion indicated a need for clarification regarding
 - flowers, in particular lilies.
 - honorarium for sound system operator and for power point/video operator.
 - will the funeral policy be made public.
 - having the remains (casket or urn) at the service.
 - luncheon (advise luncheon can be available, but no need to give details).

The policy will be edited and distributed to Council for June.

The idea of local funeral chapel(s) using Knox as a large service facility was brought forward, however, this is not part of the funeral policy.

- d. Corporate Credit Card (Update – Sharon McIntosh)
 Application for the card has been delayed due to upcoming changes in signing authorities.

Correspondence:

May 20/19 Norman K. Brown
 Subject: Possibility of Hiring a Grounds Keeper
 Referred to: Sharon Christmas will discuss with Norm Brown.
 A call will be put out to the congregation for volunteers.

Discussion:
 -Taking care of the flower beds is not part of the Caretaker’s duties.
 -Need someone who knows something about flowers and plant care.
 -Suggestion we get a quote from a landscaper.
 -Suggestion we get a quote for a drip system.

May 6/19 Debby Dandy
 Subject: Funding Request to attend program at Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre
 Referred to: Sharon Christmas to advise Debby Dandy of Council’s approval.

Discussion:
 -UCC will provide a \$700 bursary.
 -Monies are available in the New Ministries budget.

Motion: Laura Crookshanks/Leanne Sprung Carried
That we take money in the amount of \$525 from New Ministries to support Debby Dandy to attend the “Deepening

Understanding of Intercultural Ministries” program at Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre.

Discussion:

-It was suggested Debby do a workshop/presentation with the congregation afterwards to share what she learned.

-It was noted Debby has done a lot in supporting the Outreach programs at Knox.

Financial Report: prepared by Shelley Tataryn

Motion: Laura Crookshanks/Coleen Wall

Carried

That the April 2019 Financial Report be accepted.

Roger Bright spoke to the expenses under Property-Repair & Maintenance as a number of issues have arisen this year requiring repair.

Committee Reports:

- 1) *Ministry & Personnel (M&P):* verbal report by Coleen Wall
 - Staff appreciation supper is planned for June 19.
 - All Sundays are covered for the summer except August 25. M&P are hoping the choral director and organist will lead worship this day.
- 2) *Property:* verbal report by Roger Bright
 - Coffee cabinet has been refurbished and installed.
 - Hot water tank was replaced.
 - Flower beds have been cleaned out thanks to Norm Brown and company.
 - Elevator backup emergency power pack was replaced.
 - Regarding the vehicle/building accident, quotes are being obtained and we have been in touch with MPI.
- 3) *Minister's Report:* Attached.
- 4) *Worship:* verbal report by Diane Shepherd
 - Committee met on April 22.
 - Amended the wording regarding offering that appears in the weekly bulletin.
 - Reviewed the draft of the funeral policy.
 - Reviewed the worship portion of the constitution. No changes are required at this time. Worship will review with M&P as to who should be responsible for recruitment of powerpoint operators.

- 5) *Congregational Care and Membership (PC&M)*: -verbal report by David Barrows
 -Nothing new to report.
 -The committee continues with the ongoing routine items of congregational care.
- 6) *Christian Education*: Attached.
 -With regards to the presentation of bibles to SKC families, Christian Education asked Council's input as to who would/should be involved in this presentation. They would like a representative from Council. Sharon Christmas advised she can be available on June 2.
 -Christian Education also asked for Council's input as to a wording to insert on the cover. Leanne Sprung and Craig Miller will decide on a wording.
 -The Outdoor Adventure will be held Sunday, May 28, at Dinsdale Park.
- 9) *Trustees*: verbal report by Wayne Clayton
 -Will be meeting tomorrow (May 22). One item of discussion will be doing the inventory. We will also review the inventory policy.
 -Our insurance policy will be coming due for renewal. We do not yet have a premium quote. It will be brought to Council next meeting prior to payment.
 Discussion: It was suggested we make sure people are aware of resources such as our constitution and various policies. We need to build it into the process how such information should be shared. Laura Crookshanks and Coleen Wall volunteered to look after this in conjunction with the constitution review.
- 10) *Stewardship*: No Report
- 11) *Outreach*: Attached
 Refuge Brandon
 -A Rohingya family just arrived. The committee is working to get everything settled.
 -Abraham Tenkla is expected to arrive in July. He will be staying with his uncle. Refuge Brandon is not sure how much support they will need to provide for him.

Discussion:

If we are looking to hire someone to look after flowers, could any of the refugee families be asked to do this. We will check with the congregation first for volunteers and see what we get.

- 12) *Green Team:* verbal report by Wayne Clayton
 -Wayne Clayton advised they are working with Christian Education on the Outdoor Adventure. They are still looking at Eternal Springs for a nature event, but nothing is scheduled yet – possibly in the fall.
- 13) *Affirm Committee:* Attached
- 14) *Chair:* verbal report by Sharon Christmas
 -With regard to the request and motion passed previously to provide camperships for Knox kids attending Rock Lake Camp, the InBetweeners have provided the funds for this.
 -Council felt this support should be brought to the congregation. It will be put in the weekly Connexions.
 -Victim Services is doing a memorial service in Brandon on May 28, and will recognize 32 victims, one of which is related to Irene Bromley. She has asked for support from members of the congregation by attending the service but does not wish to have a formal announcement made.

Motion: Coleen Wall/Roger Bright
The adoption of all Committee Reports

Carried

New Business:

- a. Motion to amend signing authorities for Knox with Westoba Credit Union. This Item is deferred until the June meeting.
- b. June Council Meeting and Potluck Dinner
 Sharon Christmas offered to host the potluck dinner at their house. It will be at 6:00 pm, followed by the regular council meeting. Incoming and outgoing council and committee members, plus partners, are welcome to attend. There's no expectation that all committee members stay for the council meeting after supper. Sharon Christmas will provide dessert.

Next Council Meeting: June 18, 2019
 Opening Worship – Christian Education

Closing prayer was offered by Craig Miller.

Motion to Adjourn: 9:04 pm Wayne Digby

Rev. Craig's Report - 21 May 2019

Pastoral Matters

Funerals - Bradley Kingdon on 20 April; Coralie Meagher on 24 April; Shirley Smith on 27 April

Wedding - Kendra Carnegie and Jon Naturkach, 11 May at 4:30 pm

Communion

Next date for communion is 16 June during worship at the Inaugural Meeting of the Prairie to Pine Region.

Covenanting Service for Marianne Olfrey at Reston United Church

The Covenanting Service for Marianne Olfrey with the Reston Pipestone Pastoral Charge to be held at Reston United on 26 May at 7 pm. I will deliver the sermon.

Tri-Church Worship Services

Knox will attend worship at Trinity United on 30 June for an outdoor service and celebration of Canada Day. Knox has invited Central and Trinity to join in our worship service on 4 August.

Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks

I attend the Emerging Perspectives II gathering in Winnipeg on 7/8 May. The keynote speaker was Dr. Diana Butler Bass (she is a senior research fellow with the Lily Foundation and teaches at the Virginia Theological Seminary — Episcopal/Anglican Church) and her workshop focused on the research behind her new book on gratitude. Folks from across the ecumenical spectrum participated — I learned that the Salvation Army does not practice the sacraments — and it was interesting to hear similar stories being shared regarding life in the Christian Church today. I plan to use the information to design a worship series for this fall.

Intercultural Ministry Network

Debby Dandy, Susie McPherson Derendy, and myself joined in the first meeting of the Intercultural Ministry Network for the Prairie to Pine Region held on 30 April at the Centre for Christian Studies. In the group we shared our experiences in the UCC and discussed challenges and opportunities in the previous structure and new structure of the church. We also discussed opportunities for leadership and intercultural initiatives that are either already underway or that could be initiated now.

There is concern of possibly more disconnect between racialized groups and the church with the elimination of Presbyteries. The circle also noticed that the restructuring of the church provides some opportunities for this group to create what needs to be created and to challenge the church to live up to its promise to be more intercultural. As the church is figuring out how to live its new structure there is some 'leeway' to take initiative and "form communities of faith that address immediate needs."

The group also recognized the need for initiatives and relationships at the ground level, between churches in the region, and while it continues to be important to inform and participate in national committees – which continue to operate according to the dominant culture – it is essential to work and form relationships at the local and personal levels. People identified a

CE Committee Report
May 21, 2019

- * Thank you to Roger for the purchase and installation of the new tables and chairs!
- * A youth event held Friday, May 17 was well attended with insightful and thought provoking discussions. Craig and Antoinette were the group leaders.
- * Knox Outdoor Adventure is planned for Sunday, May 26 after church at Dinsdale Park, All Ages are Encouraged to participate for a wiener roast lunch and scavenger hunt. Please bring chairs and wiener roasting sticks.
- * SKC is preparing to lead worship on June 2nd. We will be downstairs for the whole service on May 26, so there is no need for a theme time that day in worship.
- * Bible presentations will take place to families on June 2 during worship - a couple of questions around this:

- 1) who will be part of the presenting group from Knox?
- 2) do we wish to insert something on labels in the bibles?

- * June 2 will be the last day of Spirit Kid's Club, although there may be some youth involvement for Pride Sunday, including a sign making workshop on Friday, June 14th for all ages of SKC.
- * SKC will start up again September 8
- * Please, could the newspaper ad be adjusted to reflect this?

**Knox Outreach Report to Council
May 21, 2019**

- **7th Street Access Centre**
 - Chris Blaikie, Service Navigator for the 7th Street Access Centre will be presenting during the May 26 Knox service.
- **Samaritan House Work Bee**
 - In response to a need by Samaritan House for more volunteers, a work bee was organized to package flour, sugar and rice.
 - There was an excellent response with Congregational members from Knox, Central and Trinity participating.
 - Trinity has volunteered to hold a similar Work Bee in the fall.
- **Neechi Camp (Funding Support and Congregational Awareness)**
 - A big thank-you to Knox Congregation in response to providing funding support for Neechi Camp. \$435 was received in donations from Knox Congregation, \$250 from In-betweeners and \$100 from Christian Education. These funds will be forwarded to Neechi Camp.

Affirm Committee Report to Council

May 21, 2019

Two members of the Affirm Committee attended the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia hosted by SERC on May 16.

Brandon PRIDE celebrations will be held June 10 to 15. Because there will be no worship service at Knox on June 16th due to the gathering of Prairie to Pine Region, Knox will hold a PRIDE worship service on June 9. Events Knox is involved with include:

- Sign-making with youth June 14 (organized by Deidra & Antoinette)
- Parade followed by PRIDE in the Park June 15

An email to the congregation with details will be forwarded prior to PRIDE week.

Laura Crookshanks