ANGLICAN & UNITED CHURCH MINISTRIES
Joint Council / Vestry Minutes
September 21, 2026 at 7:00 PM, Friendship Room & on Zoom

Present In-Person: Ellen Johnstone, Heather Short, Ardythe Butler, Shari Purkis Sherburne, Dee Henderson, Rob Bown, Bill Rowe, Antoinette Fortier, Joanne Veldkamp, Pat Buehler, Jim Bragg, Lisa Topilko, and Irene Sabados
Present By Phone: (Audio only as Zoom not working): Holly Cependa and Rev. Laureta Blondin

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Holly Cependa at 7:21 pm

Devotion: Finance – Joanne read the September 21st devotion from "Our Daily Bread" booklet. "The Heart of the Matter"

Approval/Addition to Agenda: Dee Henderson made a motion to accept the agenda with the following additions: Under **Old Business add** Donation Plaque, Plant Removal in Beds, and Publicity Tax. Under **New Business add** Nativity Festival and Lessons & Carols. Seconded by **Rob Bown**. **CARRIED.**

Approval of Minutes for June 15, 2026: Heather Short made a motion to accept the minutes as presented with one correction on Page 2 under **Stained Glass Window**: Ellen to call the **former** owner of the frame shop, Sharron Othen. **Ellen Johnstone** seconded the motion. **CARRIED.**

New Correspondence: New Message from our website – re: Rental of the Anglican Church Building – Irene read the message that was sent in to us from Jacob Enns who was wondering if the Anglican Church Building was still available. Jacob was looking to rent it out weekly for Bible Study, Kids programs, and Ladies events. If it worked out well they would consider buying the building. Vestry discussed that we would not consider renting the Church building but would rather sell it. A consideration would be maybe if Vegreville United Church would like to rent out their rooms. **ACTION:** Irene to email Jacob back with our decision (copy to Laureta and Holly). Rev. Laureta will talk to The Venerable Travis Enright about repurposing the Anglican Church space.

Old Business/Business Arising:

- **Fundraisers** – Holly gave an update on our fundraisers: The **BBQ Hot Dog fundraisers** this summer at the Co-op went really well and we brought in $3268.40 for both of them. We will be having an **Apple Crisp Fundraiser** this Friday and the ladies will be preparing and baking on Thursday. We are looking on the calendar to find a date for our **Christmas Tea & Bake Sale**. We are confirmed to do the **catering of the Christmas meals at the Golden Villa and Parkview Manor**. Also, discussing maybe catering at **St. Anne's Manor**. Our **Christmas Tree & Wreath Fundraiser** has an order deadline of October 4th and will be delivered November 28th.
- **Sale of the Anglican Church Building** – There have been a few people interested but no offers made yet. The sale price has been lowered to $199,000.
- **Committee Operations Manual –** All Committees are done with their draft updates of their duties and they were handed into the office. Rev. Laureta will come in one day to help Irene gather all the information into one consolidated document.
- **Rentals of the 2 Homeschool Co-ops** – This will be taken off our agenda as they did not email or call us back to confirm rentals.
- **Sanctuary Roof Repair (Sanctuary Wall Repair) –** Bill reported that we are awaiting a quote from Darren Rattray, who took a look at our building a few months ago.

- **Stained Glass Window** – Information email was sent out to everyone. **Joanne Veldkamp** made a motion to approve the quote of $2,950 plus tax to get the company from Edmonton to enclose the stained glass window into a shadow box frame with LED backlight installed. Funds to come out of St. Mary's account. This quote includes a $500 discount as we will give them a tax receipt and letter of recommendation for their work. They will clean the window before it is encased as it needs to be handled carefully and it is better for a professional company to do this work. **Shari Purkis Sherburne** seconded the motion. **CARRIED.** Discussion took place on the exact location to hang the window. Maybe take a picture of the space and see what looks best by doing "Interior Design Visualization" online. A big thank you to Joanne for all the hard work with this.
- **Questions for Shared Ministries** – Our Ecumenical Shared Ministry experience survey was sent in and we are just waiting on word of when we will see this article in the "Gathering Magazine". **ACTION**: Irene to email Susan Lukey.
- **Donation Plaque** – Irene ordered the donation plaque and put it on the piano that the Ruptash Family donated.
- **Plant Removal in Flowerbeds** – It was discussed that we should pick a day for fall cleanup of the flowerbeds in front of the church. We chose Thursday, October 22nd at 9:00 AM for whoever wants to come and help clean the flowerbeds.
- **Publicity Tax** – We made a motion in the spring to bring back the publicity tax. This money was to be used for any last minute supplies we need for fundraising events. It was discussed that we put into effect the cute little jingle from when Rev. Carolyn was here "God Loves A Cheerful Giver". Collection of the tax will be part of the service and the collection jar passed around.

Committee Reports

- **Rev. Laureta –** Laureta reported that it was a busy summer. She is very thankful for everyone who stepped up when she got hurt. She has completed typing up all the services right up until the end of December. Laureta reported that she sent an email to Rev. Adam Hall and Rev. Stephen London offering to be on half time only for next year instead of retiring at the end of the year. We are awaiting a reply.
- **Rector's Warden** – Ardythe reported that she has been helping Rev. Laureta when required. She has also been hosting coffee and fellowship time after worship once a month.
- **People's Warden** – Jim reported that there has not been any concerns come in but to remind everyone that he is available if anyone needs to talk to him.
- **Treasurer's Report** – The cash flow sheets for the last three months (June, July, & August) were distributed for **Vegreville United Church** as well as the January to August 2026 report for RSV Pastoral Charge. Irene reported that our account has been staying steady as we've been getting large donations throughout the year to keep us going.

June Cash Flow Sheet Previous Balance $15,494.34 – Current Balance $15,544.32
July Cash Flow Sheet Current Balance $14,659.00

August Cash Flow Sheet	**Current Balance**	**$13,276.26**
Memorial		**$ 1,109.43**
Common Share (Profit Share)		**$ 487.00**
		$14,872.69

Our Capital (Building Account) was closed in June (inactive) and the $0.91 was transferred to our General Account.

Treasurer's Report (continued) - Joanne reported on **St. Mary's Financials** that were distributed to everyone. Antoinette asked about the REACH account and what that stood for. It was created in 2012 and this money could be used for certain things for the church like Christian Education or building upgrades. This account will be used for our stained glass window to be encased and installed.

Community Spirit	**$ 2,147.23**
Savings	**$ 8,604.49**
GIC's	**$72,955.35**
Total	**$83,707.07 (as of August 31st)**

- **Finance** – Our Finance Committee met and we completed our "finance committee duties" report. **Ellen Johnstone** made a motion to transfer $2000 to our RSV Pastoral Charge account this month and **Pat Buehler** seconded the motion. **CARRIED.**
- **Worship –** Ellen read her worship report for the summer. They will be getting together in mid-October to pick out hymns. All the lodge services have resumed this fall as well as the Viking lodge services. Status for Holly's "Sacramental Elder" certificate has been extended to 2026/27 and Rev. Laureta has confirmed this. Ellen is needing helpers to change the banners in the Sanctuary and clean up the banners in the Choir Room. We are awaiting to hear back to see if Rev. Laureta is extended on half-time basis before trying to schedule next year's worship and senior's services. Remembrance Day Service is on November 12th at Century Park and Vegreville Manor.
- **Christian Education –** Bible Study has been during the daytime on a day that works for everyone. Shari would like to start up a Bible Study in the evening. This will be discussed with those who regularly attend to see what day of the week works for them. Antoinette mentioned that she also attends a Housing and Basic Needs Meeting, Veg Proud meeting, Lodge Services, as well as meeting up with people as she walks the dog every day. Holly and Rev. Laureta thanked Antoinette for all her involvement in the community.
- **Property & Maintenance –** Bill informed everyone that our previous sidewalk snow removal contractor has retired and Jim Bragg is willing to take this on for the winter season. Harvey from H & K Services will continue doing our parking lot snow removal as well as grass cutting in the summer.
- **Fellowship** – Pat and Heather have done about 10 visits this summer, including visits that Pat did when she travelled to Grande Prairie and Calgary. Thank you to Pat and Heather for taking the time for visitations.
- **Dee left the meeting at 8:20 pm as he had an early morning work shift.**
- **Ministry and Personnel –** Rob met with Irene - Irene let everyone know that they discussed her hours that will not always be the same every day (more flexible) as she is needing to spend more time with her Mom in more of a caregiver role. With medical appointments or time spent at the lodge early mornings, Irene may not always be here right at 9:00 am. Any work done at home to keep on top of any weekly job duties that need to be completed will not be marked on the timesheet, in order to save money for the church. Shirley was not able to make it for the meeting but the janitor seems to be keeping caught up with cleaning even though she has had more shifts at Wal-Mart this summer. There hasn't been a lot of events at the church or any children's programs which helped keep janitorial hours lower than normal.

- **Regional News** – In the Northern Spirit news, there are a lot of grants for community projects that we can apply for. Holly mentioned the CiRCLe M grant – CiRCLe M is an interdenominational non-profit organization dedicated to rural ministry leadership development. Discussed that the Anglican Church has grants as well. We all need to think about what project we would like to fund with a grant. For our information, Rev. Laureta mentioned that there are parking placards available for when we are visiting a Covenant Health site.
- **Diocesan News** – The 70th Synod will be held October 23rd and 24th. Shari, Joanne, and Rev. Laureta will be attending. The Diocese is collecting winter gear at the Synod (Deacons' Outreach Collection for Sanctuary of Peace). Rev. Laureta will take any items that are donated with her on October 23rd including men's and women's gloves or mittens; toques in black or grey; men's and women's long underwear; and "hot shots" or some other brand of warming inserts for boots or gloves. The Diocese is also running a coffee hour fundraiser to collect money for medical cards for Buye in Burundi. Every $5 allows a grandmother and all children in her care to access medical coverage for one year. We will be collecting at coffee time after worship service on Sunday. Shari is thinking about renewing her license to be a lay leader. **Joanne Veldkamp** made a motion that we endorse the application for Shari to be a lay leader; seconded by **Heather Short**. **CARRIED.** Alberta Rocks Parish Team Challenge Benefit for Alongside Hope – This is a rocking chair challenge to support Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Teams are to register and get pledges. Teams consist of 4-10 people who must keep their rocking chair going for a full 3 hours. We decided to have this after Sunday service on October 18th. Poster to be made up and sent out to our congregations as well as downtown.

Motion to accept reports – Pat Buehler made a motion to accept reports as presented. Seconded by Heather Short. CARRIED.

New Business:

- **UCW Account Balance** – Irene informed everyone that there is $205.22 left in the UCW account that we want to use up. Pat mentioned that we can pay for the Anniversary Cake $99.99, buy 4 turkeys for our Christmas catering functions, and whatever funds are still left over after these purchases it would be good to buy coffee for our fellowship after worship services. **Ellen Johnstone** made a motion that we buy the Anniversary Cake, Turkeys, and coffee with the UCW funds we have leftover and then the UCW account can be closed off. Seconded by **Heather Short**. **CARRIED.**
- **Temporary Church Sign** – A temporary metal church sign was made up as per Holly's email to everyone. Wolf and Pat will be putting this up tomorrow.
- **Nativity Festival – To be tabled to the next meeting.** We can check with the Roman Catholic Church if they are interested in putting this on.
- **Lessons and Carols** – After discussion, **Ellen Johnstone** made a motion that we have our Lessons & Carols on the first day in Advent on November 29th from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM (the afternoon allows some of the senior's to join in who don't go out in the evenings in the winter time). Turkey Soup will be made here and people can bring desserts (cookies or squares) for a potluck dish. **Pat Buehler** seconded the motion. **CARRIED.**

Devotions next meeting: Worship **Closing Prayer: Rev. Laureta Blondin**
Next Meeting Date: October 19th at 7:00 pm **Adjournment: 8:55 pm**

Council Chair, Holly Cependa _____ **Secretary, Irene Sabados_____**