ANGLICAN & UNITED CHURCH MINISTRIES
Joint Council / Vestry Minutes
October 19, 2026 at 7:00 PM, Friendship Room & on Zoom

Present In-Person: Ellen Johnstone, Ardythe Butler, Rob Bown, Bill Rowe, Shirley Rattray, Antoinette Fortier, Joanne Veldkamp, Jim Bragg, Lisa Topilko, and Irene Sabados
Present By Phone: (Audio): Holly Cependa and **Present By Zoom**: Rev. Laureta Blondin

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Holly Cependa at 7:10 pm

Devotion: Worship – Ellen read a devotion from "Our Daily Bread" booklet. "God's Unexpected Ways"

Approval/Additions to Agenda: No additions to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes for September 21, 2026: Ellen Johnstone made a motion to accept the minutes as presented with corrections on **Page 3 to St. Mary's Financials**, GIC's should read $72,955.35, changing the total to $83,707.07 **Joanne Veldkamp** seconded the motion. **CARRIED.**

New Correspondence: None – (Previous Correspondence: No reply from Jacob Enns to look at rooms to rent out at Vegreville United Church.)

Old Business/Business Arising:

- **Fundraisers** – Our **Christmas Tree & Wreath Fundraiser** went well, we received less orders for wreaths this year, but more orders for trees. (Delivery November 28th) Our **Christmas Tea & Bake Sale** will be held on December 5th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. **Apple Crisp** sales totaled $440 plus more being sold which will increase our total and will be shown on our next cash flow sheet. Pat was not in attendance but she is wondering if we should go ahead with the **Purdy's Christmas Chocolate Fundraiser** – **Rob Bown** made a motion to go ahead with the Purdy's Fundraiser and **Bill Rowe** seconded the motion. **CARRIED.** There has been no confirmation on St. Anne's Manor catering of their Christmas meal so just two catering functions (Parkview Manor on Dec. 8th and Golden Villa on Dec. 15th). **Alongside Hope Parish Rocker Challenge** is this Sunday. One team so far has registered and there will be fellowship afterwards.
- **Sale of the Anglican Church Building** – There was an offer come in from a single young lady from BC (offer was $110,000). The buyer withdrew because of her distance. No offer made from the Mennonites (two churches are combining). Tracy to follow up on this.
- **Committee Operations Manual –**Rev. Laureta will come in one day to help Irene gather all the information into one consolidated document.
- **Sanctuary Roof Repair (Sanctuary Wall Repair)** – No quote from Dustin Rattray yet.
- **Stained Glass Window –** Joanne received an email from them last Friday. They had to re-sauder the perimeter and add missing support bars. We will be paying $400 plus tax for the window to be transported back to us. Dee will be looking after getting the LED lighting installed behind it.
- **Questions for Shared Ministries –** Irene read the response we received from Susan Lukey about our write-up in the Gathering magazine. "Our write-up will be part of the Exploring section of the Lent-Easter 2027 issue of Gathering. It will be mailed to us at the end of November."
- **Plant Removal in Flower Beds** – The date was set for this Thursday at 9:00 am for anyone who is able to come out and help pull weeds in the flower beds. Lisa and Ardythe volunteered to help out.
- **Temporary Church Sign** – The invoice from "Eldon Design Arts and Signs" for the 5' x 4' new building sign was $350. It was discussed that we split the cost of the sign. Joanne will e-transfer the funds for payment of the sign and Irene will make out a cheque to St. Mary's for half the cost ($175).

- **Nativity Festival –** To have the festival at the Roman Catholic Church would mean that we would have two days only – set up and then we would have to take it down right away. The Principal at St. Martin's said they don't have the space for it. We discussed that we set up for the Nativity Festival to be displayed here on the 27th and 28th of November and people can still view the display on the 29th of November for our Lessons & Carols.

Committee Reports

- **Rev. Laureta –** Laureta reported that it has been a very busy and tiring month with her Mom being hospitalized and she officiated two Funerals (Donna McCrimmon & Carol Love).
- **Rector's Warden** – Ardythe reported that she is available for any help that is needed.
- **People's Warden** – Jim did not have anything to report.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Joanne went through her financials for **St. Mary's** as distributed. September's Statement showed a loss -$1,707.36. The following is the Statement of Financial Position as of September 30, 2026.

Community Spirit	**$ 918.31**
Savings	**$ 8,117.56**
GIC's	**$72,955.35**
Total	**$81,991.22**

Trust Fund – Diocese $20,816.46

Irene went through the cash flow sheet for **Vegreville United Church** for September 2026:

Previous Balance	**$13,276.26**
Total Inflows	**$ 5,042.15**
Total Outflows	**$ 4,696.85**
Current Balance	**$13,621.56**

General Account	**$13,621.56**
Memorial	**$ 1,109.43**
Common Share (Profit Share)	**$ 487.00**
	$15,217.99

- **Finance** – **Ellen Johnstone** made a motion to transfer $2,000 to our RSV Pastoral Charge account this month and **Bill Rowe** seconded the motion. **CARRIED.**
- **Worship –** In November we will have Remembrance Day services at the senior's homes. Discussed whether we put banners up in the Sanctuary and decided that maybe just put some up in the Narthex. So far for the Lessons & Carols service on November 29th, we have one church that will come and join in with us (Holy Trinity) as well as the Handbell Choir. Rev. Laureta has put together part of the service. The committee can take a look at it and offer any suggestions.
- **Christian Education –** Antoinette reported that Bible Study is going well. We have four participants and we are enjoying it. Shari was interested in hosting a Book Study in the evenings but after discussion, our participants preferred studying the Bible. Also, Antoinette is helping with Senior's services each month and that is going well.
- **Property & Maintenance** – There is not too much to report. Bill trimmed the hedge in the front corner and Jim did some clean up at St. Mary's.

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- **Fellowship** – Heather and Pat were not in attendance but they did three visits this past month and sent out five cards for birthdays and anniversaries as well as hosted the first Sunday potluck lunch at the church.
- **Ministry and Personnel –** Rob met with Irene – all is well. Shirley talked to Traci and she is staying busy. She is needing more Murphy Oil as she will be cleaning the benches next week. Shirley brought up a wage increase for Traci and Holly mentioned that first there needs to be a performance review filled out and then the recommendation can be brought up at the meeting.
- **Regional News** – Rev. Adam was out for our First Anniversary service and Holly talked to him about Rev. Laureta going half time in January 2027. Holly will be having a meeting with Rev. Adam and Bishop Stephen in November to discuss details of next year's plans. Irene is sending out Northern Spirit newsletters to everyone and just a reminder to click on some of the links as there are some interesting items in the newsletters.
- **Diocesan News** – The 70th Synod will be held October 23rd and 24th. Shari, Joanne, and Rev. Laureta will be attending. There is a very long schedule for these days but it will be very interesting**.**
- **Motion to accept reports – Rob Bown made a motion to accept reports as presented. Seconded by Ellen Johnstone. CARRIED.**

New Business:

- **St. Mary's Apportionment to Diocese (2027) –** Joanne reported that St. Mary's has to approve and sign off on the form for next year's apportionment. **Joanne Veldkamp** made a motion and **Ardythe Butler** seconded the motion to approve the amount of $1,464.00 for 2027 Apportionment. **CARRIED.**
- **Veg. United Denominational Assessment (2027) –** Irene informed everyone the 2027 Target Assessment for RSV Pastoral Charge (Vegreville & Salem) is $5,179. This is 5.5% of our net revenue for 2025. As this is a lot higher than the 2026 assessment of $3,816, Irene will take a look at the figures again and contact the regional office. This amount would change once Salem is not a part of our Pastoral Charge. Discussion took place on how Fundraising increased our income this year.

Devotions next meeting:	**Christian Education**
Closing Prayer:	**Rev. Laureta Blondin**
Next Meeting Date:	**November 16th at 7:00 pm**
Adjournment:	**8:20 pm**

Council Chair, Holly Cependa _____ Secretary, Irene Sabados_____