

VEGREVILLE UNITED CHURCH
Minutes of Church Council Meeting
April 19, 2023 at 2:00 pm, Auditorium

Present: Georgina Baron, Rev. Pamela Milton, Sidney Milton, Holly Cependa, Bill Rowe, Pat Buehler, Ellen Johnstone, Heather Short, and Irene Sabados

Meeting was called to order by Georgina Baron at 2:02 pm - Quorum Present.

Devotion: Sidney read from an online devotional "Inspirations" - Smiling From The Inside Out

Approval/Additions to Agenda: Sidney Milton/Pat Buehler made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. **CARRIED.**

Approval of Minutes for March 15, 2023: Holly Cependa/Bill Rowe approved the minutes as presented. **CARRIED.**

New Correspondence: Letter from Ellen Johnstone - Ellen read her letter to Council members, dated April 12th. After Brenda Tuck resigned, Ellen agreed to fill in for the time being as a temporary organist as per the following:

- a) Volunteer in this position (will not accept any monetary payment).
- b) Holly will be looking into permanent coverage for this position and coverage for Sundays when Ellen is not available.
- c) Ellen is willing to stay on as Worship Committee Chair, if possible; is open to suggestions regarding music; and re-introduce hymn sings before services, once a month, if interested.

Georgina thanked Ellen for volunteering in the organist position. She will be able to remain as Worship Committee Chair because she is not being paid. A hymn sing once a month was discussed and that it was a good idea.

Old Business/Business arising:

- **Fundraisers** - Pat commented on the Purdy's Fundraiser and there is approximately \$400 profit, which we will be getting in the mail soon. Pat and Holly went over to the Vegreville & District Co-op and confirmed the days that we will do our Hot Dog Fundraisers - May 18th and June 30th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, also, a tentative booking for August 9th if Lions Club cancels. We have a barbecue now for our use, it is being stored in the Janitorial Room. Holly will get a propane tank that we can use with it. A date has been chosen to have our Community BBQ at the Church (June 10th - 11:30 am to 1:30 pm). Discussed maybe that we can have a table where we can sell used books (by donation). On May 13th we have our Mother's Day Tea & Bake Sale and also have some jewelry for sale. Marlene Giebelhaus will have a table with her books (Lamplighter Books & Gifts) for sale, which proceeds will be donated back to the Church.
- **Amalgamation** - The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Two Hills United Church will have final review/approval at a Northern Spirit Regional meeting on April 24th.
- **Church Council Committee Member Job Description** (Finance & Fellowship)
Finance - Finance Committee met and discussed - everything will stay the same except take out UCW membership. **Fellowship** - Heather and Pat met and discussed - change 5 members to 2-3 members (take out UCW membership).

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New Business:

- **UCW-** Georgina went to a UCW Presbyterial Meeting in Lloydminster. We are the only ones who do not have a UCW now. There is a procedure to follow to disband the UCW. We have to dedicate a Sunday as UCW Sunday, where Marjorie Wright will come to our service. Georgina to call her to see what days in June she is available to come here. Marjorie will be reimbursed for her mileage for that day. We will invite past members of the UCW to join us that day as well (give each of them a rose). Members that come to mind so far are: Janet Duckett, Joyce Ziegler, Jennette Ferguson, Lillian Ruptash, Phyllis Warburton, and Millie Hansen.
- **June Meeting (Date Change)** - Rev. Pamela Milton is not able to make the regular scheduled June Meeting date of June 21st so it was decided that we can postpone that meeting to the next week which will be June 28th.
- **Memorial Donations** - Total of last year's memorial donations (\$2780) would usually get transferred to the Memorial Account in March, but as we are struggling financially we have kept it in our General Account. **Ellen Johnstone/Pat Buehler** made a motion that depending on the response we get from the Northern Spirit Regional Office or the National office on getting some emergency funds available to us for month end, we may have to transfer the \$1109.43 that we have in our Memorial Account into our General Account if absolutely necessary. **CARRIED.**

Committee Reports:

- **Treasurer's Report** - Cash Flow sheet was distributed to everyone. Benevolence fund income is from our Publicity Tax and Loose Change Sunday (\$32.95). Our Purdy's Fundraiser sales totalled \$1458.04 in March (\$95.55 came in at the end of February) for a total of \$1553.59. Stew Supper and Meat Pies Fundraiser totalled \$799.85. Facility rental for the Wendy Brook Festival was \$600 (for the Auditorium & Friendship Room). Administration costs were for new deposit books and receipt books (\$231.62). Repairs and Maintenance \$438.24 (\$200 for snow removal and the rest was our Emergency Exit Lights, which the cost was donated back to us.)

March Cash Flow Sheet:	Total Inflows:	\$ 8,078.92
	Total Outflows:	<u>7,700.27</u>
		\$ 378.65

General Account	872.92
Memorial	1,109.43
Capital	0.91
Common Share (Profit Share)	<u>601.23</u>
	\$2,584.49

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- **Finance** - Georgina gave an update on our financial situation this month. We have all our bills paid up to date but are needing to collect more funds to meet our Payroll deadline for month end. We have emailed Northern Spirit Regional and National Offices and just waiting for a reply on what emergency funds are available for us at this time. Our MOU with Two Hills will not have final approval until April 24th, giving them more time to review it. Discussion took place and for now our Payroll schedule can be extended so that the payout date is May 2nd. Irene to adjust the date to give us extra time for funds to come in. Joint services are at St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church this Sunday, but next Sunday St. Mary's congregation will join us here. Georgina will get a stewardship letter drawn up and this will be sent away as soon as possible. **Pat Buehler/Holly Cependa** made a motion to again transfer only \$4000 to our RSV Pastoral Charge Account. **CARRIED.**
- **Worship** - If anyone is interested in any changes to music, etc. feel free to discuss with Ellen. Comments were received on how nice the Sanctuary looked for Easter. Thank you to Ellen for donating all the new banners.
- **Christian Education** - Holly commented on our Day Camp and what an amazing turnout with 15 kids registered for the week. Highlights of the week, the kids enjoyed the stories, songs, snacks, playroom, playground, hide & seek, making the paper flowers that opened up (bloomed as they watched). On April 10th there were 3 kids that attended (3 different nationalities) and it was very interesting to learn and hear about all the similarities/differences of each. May 5th is the next Day Camp date. Thank you to Holly for coordinating and Georgina, Antoinette, & Reagan for helping out. Meeting to be scheduled to discuss Summer Camp.
- **Property and Maintenance** - Snow removal was only \$200 the last couple months. Utilities are high, but we did have a lot of events the last couple months where we put the heat up. Still waiting on a Class "K" fire extinguisher for the kitchen (on back order).
- **Fellowship** - Heather and Pat had a good meeting. Also did some visiting of parishioners, which went really well. They have scheduled to do some visiting every month. In regards to lodge services, Georgina and Antoinette have been doing the services while Rev. Pamela was isolating at home. They both did a lot of visiting with the residents in the lodges. The Century Park service this month had a large attendance.
- **Ministry & Personnel** - Holly commented that we are just waiting to hear back on our situation from Northern Spirit. Holly is still looking into a replacement for our organist.
- **Minister's Report** - Rev. Pamela commented that she will be doing an Easter Service in Two Hills. Salem's Good Friday service got postponed to the 16th. As Rev. Pamela was isolating because of COVID, she did not go on any Pastoral Care calls this month. She is waiting to do a Boundaries course online. Police records check needs to be renewed. She will attend the Northern Spirit conference (May 4th to 7th) through Zoom instead of in-person (cost of \$50). Georgina will be attending the conference in-person (cost of \$175), she is staying with a cousin, and coming home Saturday evening. Georgina to report on the conference when she comes back. On May 7th we will broadcast the Worship Service from the Northern Spirit conference "livestream" instead of having our own Worship Service.

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- **Regional Business/News** - Emails are being forwarded to Council members.
- **Motion to accept reports** – **Bill Rowe/Sidney Milton** made a motion to accept reports as presented. **CARRIED.**

Devotions next meeting: Christian Education

Closing Prayer: Rev. Pamela Milton

Georgina thanked everyone for coming to the Senior's Luncheon and attendance at the meeting.

Next Meeting: May 17, 2023 at 2:00 pm

Adjournment: 3:10 pm

Georgina Baron, Chairperson

Irene Sabados, Secretary