

**VEGREVILLE UNITED CHURCH**  
**Minutes of Church Council Meeting**  
**January 10, 2024 at 2:00 pm, Auditorium**

**Present:** Pastor Paul Allard, Georgina Baron, Holly Cependa, Heather Short, Bill Rowe, Pat Buehler, Ellen Johnstone, and Irene Sabados

Meeting was called to order by Georgina Baron at 2:01 pm - Quorum Present.

**Devotion:** Ellen read from the “Christmas Ideals” magazine titled “New Year’s Wishes”

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

**Approval of Minutes for December 13, 2023:** Heather Short/Bill Rowe approved the minutes as presented. **CARRIED.**

**New Correspondence:** None

**Old Business/Business arising:**

- **Fundraisers** - Holly & Pat will be getting together to decide on our upcoming events and they will write it on our Church calendar on the office door. Discussed for March either a St. Patrick’s Day Theme or Pie Day where there will be different pies for sale. We discussed whether we want to do an Easter Purdy’s fundraiser and everyone agreed that we should. Pat will coordinate this again.
- **Church Family Pictorial Directory** - We are waiting for the proof to come back to us for our directory. We are expecting to get our proof through email fairly soon.
- **Faith & Fun Night (Edmonton Oil Kings)** - There has been no response to our posters or social media posts about the 19<sup>th</sup> of January Hockey Game at Roger’s Place. Holly to let the Pastor from North Pointe know that we did not have any interest, due to the costs involved. Discussion took place on how we can have our children from Kid’s Klub and Day Camp help us out with events and in turn maybe the Church can pay for an outing for them in the future. The next event with the North Pointe Community Church youth is Bowling Night on March 1st.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Treasurer’s Report** - Cash Flow sheet for December was distributed to everyone. Irene went through some of the items listed. Under Fundraising we received our profit that we made on our Purdy’s chocolate fundraiser \$555.84, there was also a deposit for the chocolate sales for this month (then under Fundraising Expenses we paid for the Purdy’s orders \$2064.30 and pop for the Nativity Festival \$69.46). Memorial Fund was for donations in memory of Earl Giffin; Under UCW expenses we made a donation to the Bissell Centre \$250 and Our Daily Bread Ministries \$100 as well as \$287.77 was spent for Nov/Dec Senior’s Luncheons. Pulpit Supply was for Rev. Laureta Blondin for Nov 5<sup>th</sup> and December 24<sup>th</sup> services. Under Worship expenses \$667, Ellen donated material for banners, etc. in the Sanctuary, we bought Baptism candles, as well as a payment to Reegan for running the Sound System. Under Administration expenses \$284.74 (cheque order and paper). Janitorial supplies \$147.46 was for a case of paper towels. Repairs and Maintenance \$577.28 (Bill donated sidewalk salt, Vegreville Fire & Safety did their annual Fire Extinguisher Inspection, and Harmony Repair came out to do maintenance on our organ in the Sanctuary.)

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<b>December Cash Flow Sheet:</b>	<b>Total Inflows:</b>	<b>12,451.25</b>
	<b>Total Outflows:</b>	<b>10,965.35</b>
		<b>1,485.90</b>
<b>General Account</b>	<b>9,753.80</b>	
<b>Memorial</b>	<b>1,109.43</b>	
<b>Capital</b>	<b>0.91</b>	
<b>Common Share (Profit Share)</b>	<b>541.11</b>	
		<b>\$11,405.25</b>

- **Finance** - Discussion from our Finance Committee Meeting, we made a recommendation to go ahead with replacing the **6 flood lights in the Sanctuary at the same time as the ceiling fans are being replaced.** **Holly Cependa/Ellen Johnstone** made a motion to accept the amount of \$80 per light, which Irene will order from Amazon (the exact same ones that were recommended by Bortnick Electric). **CARRIED.** Another item we discussed at our Finance Meeting is to **transfer \$2,000 to our RSV account now instead of \$2,500.** **Pat Buehler/Ellen Johnstone** made this motion to go ahead with this change. **CARRIED.**
- **Worship** - Ellen reported, this year's Nativity Festival date will be November 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. This will be added to our Church calendar. Rev. Laureta asked if we can store some of the Nativity sets on our stage. Our Christmas Eve service was very well attended with 63 people and everyone enjoyed the service as well as the fellowship afterwards. We were not prepared with enough candles this year so Pat did up 25 more "real candles" with a drip cup attached. Thank you to Pat for getting these ready, now there will be 75 real candles ready for Christmas Eve this year. Ellen will buy 20 extra flameless candles for the children to have this year for Christmas Eve. New set of Advent candles to be ordered and stored in the Choir Room along with the Christ candle we found, as well as all the Christmas Eve candles that are ready. Pat and Ellen cleaned out the Choir Room (thank you) - we will be giving away our wine colored gowns and hats to a place in Edmonton that reuses fabric (Holly to keep 4); Irene to find a place to send our blue and pink youth choir gowns; angel costumes (blue and white) we will be keeping; Living Last Supper items were moved to one area of the Choir Room; middle section will now be used for hanging banners; pianos were moved around from Auditorium to the Friendship Room and the one from the Choir Room was moved into the Auditorium. Discussed that we need to get someone in to tune our pianos this Spring. Ellen suggested that we reset all the thermostats to 12 instead of 9 as it is better for all the pianos; everyone agreed that this was okay and Irene will reset all the thermostats today.

The following is the schedule for Lent and Easter:

- February 13<sup>th</sup> 5-7 pm - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at Veg. United
- February 14<sup>th</sup> 7 pm - Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion at St. Mary's
- March 24<sup>th</sup> 10 am - Palm Sunday Liturgy of Palms & Passion of Christ Morning Prayer at St. Mary's
- March 28<sup>th</sup> 5 pm - Maundy Thursday Potluck Supper at Veg. United

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- March 28<sup>th</sup> 7 pm - Maundy Thursday Foot/Hand Washing and Holy Communion at Veg. United
- March 29<sup>th</sup> 2 pm - Good Friday Ministry of the Word & Meditations on the Cross at St. Mary's
- March 31<sup>st</sup> 10 am - Easter Sunday with Holy Communion at Veg. United

Ellen to let Rev. Laureta know that Council members were okay with this schedule. Discussion took place on the pre-filled communion cups and that they were disappointing, too small. Irene will order 200 gluten free wafers to have ready for our upcoming services.

- **Christian Education** - Holly reported that Day Camp went really well, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup>. There were 16 registered but 12 children showed up. They are understanding the curriculum from "roots" online which follows the same Church lectionary as Sunday Worship. This website is based out of the United Kingdom. They want to interview Holly and use it as part of a case study of how roots online is a good resource. There are no children for Sunday School. There are a few ladies attending a Bible Study, meeting at a time when they are all available. Dates are set for Day Camps - February 8 & 9<sup>th</sup>; March 1<sup>st</sup>; March 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, & 28<sup>th</sup>; and May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- **Property and Maintenance** - Vantage Builders came to check on the **outside lights**, some are motion sensors and some are always on. Bill checked the lights around the whole building. On Wednesdays, the west exit door lights will be turned on for the evening meetings, then Thursday the switch will be shut off (these are not motion sensor lights). The north exit door to the back alley is a motion sensor light, the light switch will stay on all the time. The south exit door lights, from the auditorium, can be switched on when we have evening functions (these are not motion sensor lights). Discussion took place on a painter that we can get to give us a quote for **painting inside the Church** - Robert Stemberger from Mundare. This will be done maybe in a couple months, not at this time. Discussion took place on the **cold draft coming in from under the exit doors**, Pat will make snakes to place on all the door bottoms (except main entry doors). Bill, Holly, Reegan, & Harley came in one day to check all our **Sound System** equipment and get it all organized and check all the wiring (something not hooked up). Arthur and Devon from VM Systems came in one day to check the Auditorium and Nursery speakers, they will get the cables needed to hook up the speakers. All jacks were labelled and wires were traced and marked. Some mics are not compatible with our system but the "body pack" works and it is being stored under the sound system.
- **Fellowship** - Heather and Pat did not go out and do any visiting in December as it was really busy, although Pat was in Grande Prairie and did have coffee with Bob and Lynda Paul (they are doing well) and also had coffee with Darlene Ziegler.
- **Ministry & Personnel** - Holly discussed the concerns we are having with our janitor. We will continue to wait and see if her performance improves. The M&P committee is needing someone to replace Val Rowe. This position oversees the janitor. Discussion took place on cancelling Service this Sunday, due to the cold weather. (Irene to put a sign out and email everyone.)

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- **Regional Business/News** - Regional news being emailed to Council members. Discussion took place on voting on the Remit - needs to be done before the end of March. Georgina to talk to Brent from Salem to remind him that the vote on the Remit must be in by March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- **Ministerial Meeting** - No meeting held.
- Motion to accept reports – **Holly Cependa/Heather Short** made a motion to accept reports as presented. **CARRIED.**

**New Business:**

- **Annual Reports** - Please have all committee reports to Irene before January 19th.
- **Auditor to Review our Books** - **Ellen Johnstone/Pat Buehler** made a motion to have Rod McMinis do our Review again this year. **CARRIED. Pat Buehler/Ellen Johnstone** made a motion that we buy a \$100 gift certificate for him as an honorarium. **CARRIED.**

**Devotions next meeting:** Christian Education      **Closing Prayer:** Pastor Paul Allard  
**Next Meeting:** February 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm      **Adjournment:** 4:00 pm

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**Georgina Baron, Chairperson**

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**Irene Sabados, Secretary**