

VEGREVILLE UNITED CHURCH
Minutes of Church Council Meeting
September 20, 2023 at 2:00 pm, Auditorium

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

Meeting was called to order by Georgina Baron at 2:05 pm - Quorum Present.

Introduction of Pastor Paul Allard, DLM - Pastoral Charge Supervisor - Pastor Paul Allard told us a little bit about himself - He has been a minister for 10 years, previous to that he was in Telecommunications for 24 years in Northern Ontario. He moved to Alberta three years ago and is serving the towns of Hardisty, Hughendon, Sedgewick, and Loughheed until June of 2024.

Devotion: Heather read from “Our Daily Bread” devotional for September 20th

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

Approval of Minutes for June 21, 2023: Holly Cependa/Pat Buehler approved the minutes as amended (under Old Business - Fundraisers - Legion should be changed to Lions). **CARRIED.**

New Correspondence: We received an envelope from Rev. Pamela Milton to be read aloud at our Church Council Meeting - this was read out as an information item only. Rev. Pamela Milton officially retires on December 1, 2023 and it was discussed that for her retirement party we will have a luncheon and this will be scheduled for the second last Sunday of November.

Faith & Fun Night - Holly received a letter from the Edmonton Oil Kings in regards to their Annual Faith and Fun Night that will take place on January 19, 2024 for a 7:00 pm game at Rogers Place. Last year we received the correspondence too late to plan anything. This year it was decided that we try and get enough youth from our church as well as some of the other faith groups in town. Georgina attends the Ministerial Association meeting each month and will let the others know our plans. We are required to have our own transportation and supervision. Holly to coordinate.

Old Business/Business arising:

- **Fundraisers** - Over the summer we had some very successful fundraisers with our BBQ (\$427.45) and Book Sale at the Church (\$190.50); our Hot Dog Sale at Co-op (\$1275.80) and our Rhubarb Crisp Fundraiser (\$356). Our Apple Crisp Fundraiser is set for September 23rd; Spaghetti Supper will be on November 1st; Christmas Tea & Bake Sale will be on November 25th, and a Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser for November/December - Pat will be setting this up, details to follow.
- **UCW – Action** - Georgina to call Marjorie Wright and set a date for a service to disband the UCW. Summer has been busy, we will discuss at the next meeting.
- **Discuss Proposal from the Wendy Brook Music Festival** - Laura Lillies attended our meeting in June and presented a proposal for a Permanent Wendy Brook Recital Hall to be set up in our Church Auditorium. With the recent passing of Li Giebelhaus this past year, they are thinking of naming it “The Li Giebelhaus Memorial Hall”. Laura will also be approaching the Town and County of Minburn to propose a similar permanent venue. Council in favor of the proposal, Irene will notify Laura/Wendy Brook Committee.

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- **Schedule for Pulpit Supply** - September 24th is Creeann Anderson; October 1st and October 8th is Rev. Joanne Kobyłka; October 15th is Holly Cependa; October 22nd is Elizabeth Nawrot; October 29th we are at the Anglican Church; November 5th Rev. Laureta Blondin will be here.

Committee Reports:

- **Treasurer's Report** - Cash Flow sheets for June, July, and August were distributed to everyone. Irene went through some of the items listed. Under Funerals there was a graveside service and two funeral services. Fundraising total in June \$1893.75, total in July \$356. Expenses under fundraising and maintenance were all donated.

June Cash Flow Sheet:	Total Inflows:	\$4,822.51
	Total Outflows:	<u>6,435.40</u>
		-\$1,612.89
General Account	9,747.72	
Memorial	1,109.43	
Capital	0.91	
Common Share (Profit Share)	<u>601.23</u>	
	\$11,459.29	

July Cash Flow Sheet:	Total Inflows:	\$4,554.00
	Total Outflows:	<u>5,418.18</u>
		\$ -864.18
General Account	8,883.54	
Memorial	1,109.43	
Capital	0.91	
Common Share	<u>601.23</u>	
	\$10,595.11	

August Cash Flow Sheet:	Total Inflows:	\$6,764.75
	Total Outflows:	<u>6,837.73</u>
		\$ -72.98
General Account	8,810.56	
Memorial	1,109.43	
Capital	0.91	
Common Share	<u>601.23</u>	
	\$10,522.13	

- **Finance - Pat Buehler/Holly Cependa** made a motion (as per discussion at our Finance Meeting) that we transfer \$4000 into RSV Pastoral Charge for the month of September plus an additional estimated \$1000 to cover 8.5 months of Rev. Pamela Milton's Continuing Education payout. **CARRIED.**

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- **Finance (continued)** - **Bill Rowe/ Heather Short** made a motion (as per discussion at our Finance Meeting) that we transfer only \$2500 into RSV Pastoral Charge for the next few months starting in October. **CARRIED.** Another item brought up at our Finance meeting was a booking for the Auditorium for a Fencing Club (once a month on Wednesdays), we agreed that this would be okay. Also, a booking for the Auditorium and Friendship Room for a Gently Used Clothing sale on October 15th from 1pm to 4pm - this event has been placed on our calendar.
- **Worship** - Discussed Christmas services - On December 24th we will only have one service in the evening (with communion). Ellen to book a minister for Christmas Eve. It was brought up that maybe we can get a Handbell Ringer group together for this evening as well. Discussed that we will have services for December 31st (New Year's Eve). More members are needed for the Worship Committee as Dee is only available for Holy Communion days. Pre-filled communion cups were discussed and Heather offered to order a box of 100 from Amazon.
- **Christian Education** - Fall Registration & Information Night took place on September 7th - Holly, Antoinette, and Reegan were in attendance - a powerpoint presentation with photos of all the kids from Day Camp were put up on a TV Monitor for everyone to watch. We didn't get any children registered but lots of questions were asked and lots of interest. OMG Day Camp will continue on "no school days". Kid's Klub will start up after school on Thursdays (first day is October 5th from 3:15 - 4:30pm). Discussed that we are needing extra caretaking for these days and our caretaker would love to have the extra hours.
- **Property and Maintenance** - Bill let us know that he changed the light in the handbells storage room. Also, Vantage came to assess our windows where they were leaking; no more leaks since the first day that we had heavy rain/wind so we should be okay. Vantage did not give us a quote yet for painting the tower and window trim.
- **Fellowship** - Heather and Pat to do some visiting on Monday with some of the seniors and a good idea brought up was to take them some fresh apple crisp. Pat is still writing up cards for Birthdays and Anniversaries and these are very much appreciated by those who receive them.
- **Ministry & Personnel** - Holly discussed that everyone is doing okay (Ellen, Melissa, and Irene). Brenda Tuck is helping out with music ministry while Ellen is away on holidays. Irene to send out a thank you note to Brenda. Discussed that we need to have an RSV meeting in November to get together with Salem members.
- **Regional Business/News** - Newsletters are being emailed out to all Council members. Holly has two sessions booked through ChurchX in October on the topic of Social Media. Reminder from the newsletter is that September 30th is "Orange Shirt day". Rev. Adam Hall (the new Pastoral Relations Minister for Northern Spirit) has a new email (adam.hall@united-church.ca).
- **Motion to accept reports** – **Pat Buehler/Bill Rowe** made a motion to accept reports as presented. **CARRIED.**

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New Business:

- **Motion for Rev. Pamela Milton to be an Honorary Associate for 2023/24 - Holly Cependa/Heather Short** made a motion to make Rev. Pamela Milton an Honorary Associate for 2023/24 in order that she can do weddings for us.
CARRIED.
- **Fall Newsletter Items** - Items that you would like to be included our Fall Newsletter should be emailed or handed in to Irene by October 10th.
- **Take out last pew in the Sanctuary beside the sound system** - Discussion took place and it was decided that this is a good idea and will give us more room. Bill offered to do this for us.
- **Decorate for Thanksgiving** - Discussed that there are numerous decorations in Stage Right. There is already a note in the Sunday bulletin about anyone having any fresh flowers, vegetables, or fruit that they would like to bring for Thanksgiving Sunday, that this would be greatly appreciated.
- **Get together to wash pews** - Date was set for November 21st starting at 10 am to clean and decorate the Church, then it is ready for our Christmas Tea and all our seasonal events.
- **Corner Stone from Old Church** - Pat informed us that Li Giebelhaus had a cornerstone from the old church at her home. The family has given it to us and it was decided to put it in the flowerbed in front, maybe with a plaque on it.
- **News from Rev. Carolyn Woodall** - Carolyn let us know that if we are stuck for a minister on any Sunday that we can Zoom in on their Service (Kitscoty 9:30 am; Vermilion is 11:00 am; Mannville is 1:30 pm)
- **Change Meeting Date** - Discussed changing our meeting date to earlier in the month - next meeting date will be October 11th (same date for our senior's luncheon).
- **Ministerial Meeting** - Georgina read out the minutes from the last Ministerial Meeting she attended. Next meeting scheduled for October 17th. Need to discuss taking turns, which church hands out money to those calling for assistance.
- **Church Family Pictorial Directory** - Everyone agreed that it would be a good idea to take photos. There is no cost to us, only to those who want to buy their own photos. Irene to email them back and set a date for phototaking.
- **Nativity Festival** - Dates set for festival - December 1st - 3rd (first week of Advent). Suggested having a one hour carol sing on Friday evening and on Saturday.

Devotions next meeting: Ministry & Personnel

Closing Prayer: Pastor Paul Allard

Next Meeting: October 11th at 2:00 pm

Adjournment: 4:30 pm

Georgina Baron, Chairperson

Irene Sabados, Secretary