

**VEGREVILLE UNITED CHURCH**  
**Minutes of Church Council Meeting**  
**September 4, 2024 at 2:00 pm, Auditorium**

**Present In-Person:** Sharon Lashmar, Georgina Baron, Holly Cependa, Bill Rowe, Ellen Johnstone, Heather Short, Shirley Rattray, Rev. Laureta Blondin, and Irene Sabados

Meeting was called to order by Georgina Baron at 2:00 pm - Quorum Present.

**Devotion:** Finance - Georgina read the devotional from “Our Daily Bread” for September 4<sup>th</sup> “Excelsior!”

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

**Approval of Minutes for June 12, 2024:** Holly Cependa/Bill Rowe made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. **CARRIED.**

**New Correspondence:**

- **Sacramental Elder Training** - Northern Spirit is offering a course to be a “Sacramental Elder” for times when there is no minister available. Holly Cependa expressed interest as well as Dee Henderson. A motion needs to be made at an RSV meeting (whether in person or by email). Georgina will call an RSV meeting once we know if there is someone from Salem who is interested in the course.
- **United Property Resource Corporation** - We got an email from the United Property Resource Corporation wondering if we were interested in a Zoom Meeting to discuss our Shared Ministry and our future with the Anglican Church congregation joining us in our building, once their building is sold. It was discussed that maybe we are not ready yet for a meeting and that we will contact them in the New Year for a possible Zoom meeting and include Rev. Adam Hall, Rev. Scott Reynolds, and Bishop Stephen London. Irene to email them back to let them know we are not ready for a meeting yet.

**Old Business/Business arising:**

- **Fundraisers** - Holly commented that our BBQ Fundraiser at the Co-op went really well. We raised close to \$1700 and we had some good conversations with the people who came to support us. Irene to send a thank you card to the Co-op for advertising our BBQ and also in appreciation for some of the supplies they donated to help us out. A thank you card to be sent to Mark Baron as well for creating our beautiful “Vegreville United Church” banner that we are using for our fundraisers. After our fundraiser, Wolf came in to fix the BBQ stand as it was not very sturdy. The BBQ is ready now for our next event, thank you to Wolf and everyone who helped out with the fundraiser. A date for our Rhubarb (Apple) Crisp fundraiser will be set once Holly has a chance to discuss this with Pat.
- **Refugee Sponsorship** - Exciting news with our refugee family, who is now approved to come to Canada. The family is expected to arrive sometime in October but they will give us 10 days notice with flight details and times that we can pick them up at the Edmonton Airport. The committee has secured a townhouse for the family and there is a vehicle available for the family to use, it just needs some repair work. Donated items are being stored on our stage, and under the stage, ready to move to the townhouse as soon as we get the keys.

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**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. Fundraisers on the June Cash Flow Sheet was the BBQ & Jumble Sale \$655.90; no fundraisers on the July Cash Flow Sheet; and \$2076.67 for fundraising income in August (Co-op BBQ and Ranfurly Ag. Society fair breakfast). Rent of facility on the July Cash Flow Sheet \$150 was for the rental of the kitchen/auditorium for a birthday party. Power and Gas bills have been lower during the summer as our heat is turned off. The costs under Repairs and Maintenance for July \$761.50 were mostly donated back to the church (re-pinning of locks, lawn maintenance, and cost of the replacement flood light). We got a credit for the flood light that was not working.

<b>June Cash Flow Sheet:</b>	<b>Previous Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 643.29</b>
	<b>Total Inflows:</b>	<b>+ 5,386.81</b>
	<b>Total Outflows:</b>	<b><u>- 4,192.50</u></b>
	<b>Current Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 1,837.60</b>

<b>General Account</b>	<b>1,837.60</b>
<b>Memorial</b>	<b>1,109.43</b>
<b>Capital</b>	<b>0.91</b>
<b>Common Share (Profit Share)</b>	<b><u>541.11</u></b>
	<b>\$3,489.05</b>

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<b>July Cash Flow Sheet:</b>	<b>Previous Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 1,837.60</b>
	<b>Total Inflows:</b>	<b>+ 3,219.13</b>
	<b>Total Outflows:</b>	<b><u>- 3,983.45</u></b>
	<b>Current Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 1,073.28</b>

<b>General Account</b>	<b>1,073.28</b>
<b>Memorial</b>	<b>1,109.43</b>
<b>Capital</b>	<b>0.91</b>
<b>Common Share (Profit Share)</b>	<b><u>541.11</u></b>
	<b>\$2,724.73</b>

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<b>August Cash Flow Sheet:</b>	<b>Previous Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 1,073.28</b>
	<b>Total Inflows:</b>	<b>+ 4,723.92</b>
	<b>Total Outflows:</b>	<b><u>- 2,823.76</u></b>
	<b>Current Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 2,973.44</b>

<b>General Account</b>	<b>2,973.44</b>
<b>Memorial</b>	<b>1,109.43</b>
<b>Capital</b>	<b>0.91</b>
<b>Common Share (Profit Share)</b>	<b><u>541.11</u></b>
	<b>\$4,624.89</b>

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- **Finance** - There was no Finance meeting before our Council meeting as not everyone was available to attend.
- **Worship** - Discussion took place that alternating places of worship from the Anglican Church then to the United Church and back again, has worked well for the summer. This Sunday is different as both churches will have separate services. There is a special congregational meeting over at the Anglican Church this Sunday after their worship service to discuss our Shared Ministry. Rev. Laureta stated that at the end of next week, the Anglican Church building will go up for sale. For September, the United Church will have services September 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. For October, the United Church will have services October 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The other Sundays will be at the Anglican Church. Rev. Laureta informed everyone about pulling her application out for the Vermilion/Wainwright/Edgerton position but she will be helping them out until December to give them time to fill that position. Discussion took place on maybe having Reegan help with the Sound System at the Anglican Church. It was discussed that since we have extra communion trays and cups we offered to lend them to Rev. Laureta. Discussion on lodge services for the month; this week we are having service at Continuing Care, next week at Century Park and the Vegreville Manor - Georgina and Ellen are not available so we will have to find someone to maybe do a “sing-along” if not a full service; the third week we are over at the Homestead Lodge and the fourth week at Heritage House - Georgina and Ellen are available. The Christmas Tea (Nov. 23) and Nativity Festival (Nov. 29, 30) these dates are tentative for now until we confirm this at the next meeting.
- **Christian Education** - Holly gave us the dates that are set for Kid’s Klub - every Thursday from 3:15 to 4:30 pm starting October 17<sup>th</sup>. For Day Camp the dates are no-school days as follows: October 4<sup>th</sup>; November 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>; January 29<sup>th</sup>; February 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>; March 7<sup>th</sup>; March 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>; and May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Holly & Ardythe are available for Sunday School if there are kids in church. Same as for Kid’s Klub. The Town Fall Registration is this Thursday evening - Holly & Antoinette will be taking the presentation board with all our activities posted on it as well as making up a powerpoint presentation. As part of the presentation - we are looking for a Volunteer Handbell Director, anyone interested to call the church and that there is a Welcome Back BBQ set for this Sunday after Worship Service, to try and get people coming back into the church.
- **Property & Maintenance** - The vacuum that was being used by the janitor is no longer working properly, Bill and Val offered to buy a new one. Rev. Laureta also has one that she can bring in for the janitor to try out before buying a new one. Bill and Wolf fixed the door on the Nursery, now it is opening properly. Bill fixed the baseboard that was loose in the women’s washroom.
- **Fellowship** - Heather and Garth went over to visit with Rod & Joyce Stewart as well as Elvera Miskiw. Pat did some visiting in Grande Prairie.
- **Ministry & Personnel** - Shirley reported that our new janitor has been doing really well, getting more comfortable with her job duties, although she still hasn’t found her lost key which she thinks is behind her desk at home. We have offered to send a couple strong people over to help move the desk and she did not want the help. Holly ran the Sound System last Sunday, she noted that she had some trouble, but she realized she just needed the amplifier turned on.

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- **Regional Business News & Ministerial Meeting** - Regional emails are being sent out to everyone with all the news. United Church of Canada's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is on June 10, 2025. Heather ordered a customized mug for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary that she will show us when it arrives. We will check out what items are for sale on the United Church of Canada website before we purchase any mugs or other items for our celebration. No date set yet for our celebration next year until we find out what day Northern Spirit has chosen for their big celebration.
- **Pastoral Charge Supervisor** - Sharon commented that she appreciates all the hard work we have put into our shared ministry and everything we are doing at the church.
- **St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church** - Starting in October, Rev. Laureta suggested that we start sharing our Council minutes with Vestry. Vestry will also share their minutes with us at this same time. A Vestry/Council meeting has been set for September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm. Irene to set up a Zoom Link to send to everyone. Salem will also be invited to the meeting. Rev. Laureta discussed that after the sale of the Anglican Church building, a portion of the funds go to the Anglican Church of Canada and the rest of the funds can be used for capital purchases and renovations.
- **Motion to accept reports – Holly Cependa/Heather Short** made a motion to accept reports as presented. **CARRIED.**

**New Business:**

- **100<sup>th</sup> Centennial Celebration & Centennial Granting Fund** - Holly suggested that maybe we need to set up a 100<sup>th</sup> Centennial Committee for organizing our celebration at the church. Georgina to contact Rev. Adam Hall to see what date they have chosen so we do not choose the same day. We will wait to choose committee members until our shared Vestry/Council meeting as maybe members from the Anglican Church want to be on the committee. A date to note for next year is March 7<sup>th</sup> which is the World Day of Prayer and it will be held here at the church. Keeping this date in mind so we don't book anything else for the same day.
- **Rental of Space - Sunny Station Childcare Centre** - Irene stated that we got a call from the Centre asking if we wanted to rent space to them to set up a Daycare. Trinity United Church in Edmonton already rents out space to them and it is working well so they are contacting all United Churches in the area. It was decided to keep their contact information and Irene will call them back to let them know we are not interested at this time but maybe in the future.

**Devotions next meeting:** Worship

**Closing Prayer:** Rev. Laureta Blondin

**Next Meeting:** October 9<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**