

ANGLICAN & UNITED CHURCH MINISTRIES
Minutes of Church Council & Vestry Meeting
May 11, 2026 at 7:00 pm, Friendship Room & Zoom

Present In-Person: Bill Rowe, Antoinette Fortier, Ellen Johnstone, Jim Bragg, Joanne Veldkamp, Shirley Rattray, Ardythe Butler, Dee Henderson, and Irene Sabados

Present On Zoom: Holly Cependa, Rev. Laureta Blondin, and Lisa Topilko

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Holly Cependa at 7:00 pm

Devotion: Treasurer (Irene) read a devotional out of the new “Our Daily Bread” booklet for next month (June 23rd Shining Faces).

Approval/Additions to Agenda: Ellen Johnstone made a motion and **Bill Rowe** seconded the motion to accept the agenda with an addition under **New Correspondence - Volunteer Appreciation. CARRIED.**

Approval of Minutes for April 20, 2026: Dee Henderson made a motion and **Shirley Rattray** seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. **CARRIED.**

- New Correspondence: Questions for Shared Ministries (from Rev. Susan Lukey, Editor, Gathering) - Holly read out the questions that we are to answer for Rev. Susan Lukey. These questions will be sent to all the congregations and also noted in our Sunday bulletin. It was discussed that no names are to be listed on our answer sheet and it is to go in a sealed envelope and brought in to the office. Rev. Laureta stated that she will do a separate response together with Bishop Stephen London and Rev. Adam Hall as a Clergy response. **ACTION:** Anyone wanting a hard copy of the questions can get a hold of Irene in the office and the rest will be emailed and mailed out. Please have your answers in by June 1st. Holly and Lisa will be compiling the answers and then we will send it in to Rev. Susan by June 20th.

- Volunteer Appreciation BBQ - Irene read the email from FCSS inviting everyone to the Volunteer Appreciation BBQ at the Vegreville Centennial Library gymnasium and grounds on June 18th from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm. They’ve asked for community groups to sponsor this event from \$100 to \$1000 or more. Also, they are welcoming in-kind contributions. After some discussion, **Joanne Veldkamp** made a motion to donate \$150 out of the Vegreville United Church account towards this event and **Shirley Rattray** seconded this motion. **CARRIED.**

Old Business/Business arising:

- **Fundraisers (and Camp Whitney Fundraisers)** - Holly stated that the Spring Tea and Bake Sale was one of our best fundraisers we’ve had and our profit was just over \$1827. When posters are put out closer to the date of the events, it seems we have a better turnout. Our Camp Whitney Bingo Fundraiser went well and we got a Blackout Bingo which will fund one youth to go to camp this summer. Our Camp Whitney Chainsaw Fundraiser raised \$600 out of the \$800 we are needing to raise. We will discuss donating the last \$200 from Vegreville United Church funds at our next meeting if we don’t bring in that amount before then from our congregation. It was discussed that we are going ahead with our Garage Sale (Rummage Sale) on June 13th from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (closing early if it is quiet). Pat will be helping Laureta get set up for the sale during the week but she can’t be there on the Saturday.

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- **Fundraisers (and Camp Whitney Fundraisers)** continued - Our Hot Dog Sale is this Thursday at the Co-op. Freeman and Bill will be loading up the BBQ and taking it over there. Holly says we have enough workers and Bill will be bringing the cooked onions in a slow cooker. The two large tables are provided by the Co-op along with some of the supplies we need.
- **Sale of the Anglican Church Building** - There is another showing tomorrow and it is someone new that is looking at it. Prayers requested from our committee in hopes that this will work out this time.
- **Committee Operations Manual - Fellowship & Christian Education** has their list of duties completed and handed in to the office. **ACTION** This should be completed by the end of this year. Reminder that the first draft is due before our September Council/Vestry Meeting.
- **Rental Inquiry - 2 Homeschool Co-ops** - Irene stated that Susan was here on May 11th with her Homeschool group for a trial and it went really well. She will be e-transferring the payment to us. (\$225) The next trial run for Susan's group is set up for May 25th. Jessica from the other Homeschool Co-op took a look at our church and will get back to us after she looks at another possible facility to rent out.
- **Sanctuary Roof Repair** - We will have to get a new piece of tin (roof flashing) to repair the area where it blew off. **ACTION:** This needs to be fixed. We will check with a contractor who has a lift or a longer ladder to reach the roof.
- **New Banner** - We are looking to put our new logo, church name, phone number and address on a new banner to be used for events. We will check locally to see who does this kind of work and get a quote. (Veg. Fire & Safety or RJV?) We will think about it and make a plan at the next meeting.
- **Stained Glass Window** - **ACTION:** If anyone knows of any local wood workers who can do this kind of job, let Joanne know as we still haven't found anyone. Joanne to talk to Dee about the electrical work that needs to be done for this.
- **Baptism** - The Baptism that we discussed at the last meeting is set for July 26th but Laureta needs to meet with the family first.

Committee Reports:

- **Rev. Laureta** - The Wedding in Two Hills that is set for July 25th is still not confirmed until Laureta gets to meet with both the bride and groom to be. It has been a busy few weeks. Laureta had the Clergy Meeting in Edmonton at the Cathedral. Services were done at Long Term Care, Century Park, Veg. Manor, and Heritage House. Agnes Shukalak is in the Palliative Suite at the Hospital and Laureta was there to visit her as well as Clara Nawrot and Marvin's Mom. On October 4th Rev. Dr. Scott Sharman is coming to our service and maybe Rev. Adam Hall. This will be our Anniversary service as it is the closest Sunday to the date we signed our Ecumenical agreement (Oct. 5, 2025). We discussed when Rev. Laureta will be retiring and so far her last day is December 31st but it could be changed and it might be sooner. We will have interim ministry at first before there will be a permanent placement at our church after Laureta retires.
- **Rector's Warden** - Ardythe reported that she had a lot of Doctor's appointments this past month but did do coffee after services yesterday.
- **People's Warden** - Jim reported that all is quiet. No one has come to him with any concerns so everything must be good.

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- **Treasurer's Report (Irene)** - Cash Flow sheet for April 2026 for Vegreville United Church was distributed to everyone. Under **Income**, Fundraising \$1,687.00 was brought in from our Ham Supper. Rent of Facility \$150 was for the Celebration of Life for Dwayne Resch. Camp Whitney Bingo Fundraiser brought in \$910 (e-transfers and cash) plus 2 cheques were made out straight to Camp Whitney (\$100). \$200 cash was brought in for the Chainsaw Fundraiser in April. Under **Expenses**, we made out a cheque to Camp Whitney for \$910. Once we receive the total \$800 for the Chainsaw Fundraiser, we will make out a cheque to Camp Whitney for that amount. Janitorial Supplies \$127.35 was for garbage bags and toilet paper. Power & Gas, \$1,279.89

April Cash Flow Sheet:	Previous Balance:	\$15,740.35
	Total Inflows:	+ 6,199.50
	Total Outflows:	- 7,438.77
	Current Balance:	\$14,501.08

General Account	\$14,501.08
Memorial	1,109.43
Capital	0.91
Common Share (Profit Share)	487.00
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	\$16,098.42

- **Treasurer's Report (Joanne)** - Joanne went through the financial report as emailed to all the committee members. As of April 30, 2026 **St. Mary's account balances are:**

Community Spirit	\$ 1,437.46
Savings	\$ 17,117.08
GIC's	\$ 72,955.35
Total	\$ 91,509.89
- **Finance** - Some recommendations from our Finance Meeting - **Ellen Johnstone** made a motion that we transfer \$2,000 to our RSV Pastoral Charge account this month to cover expenses, seconded by **Bill Rowe. CARRIED.** The \$200 left to complete our Chainsaw Fundraising can wait until June as they are not in a rush for these funds. **Joanne Veldkamp** made a motion to pay for the organ maintenance out of Veg. United account (estimated \$260-as long as it is under \$1000), seconded by **Bill Rowe. CARRIED.** Laureta's Clergy Camp on June 16, 17, & 18 will cost \$180 and **Joanne Veldkamp** made a motion to pay the \$180 out of St. Mary's account, **Ellen Johnstone** seconded the motion. **CARRIED.**
- **Worship** - Ellen stated that the hymns for the first two Sundays in June have been picked out. It was discussed and requested that we need to pick out easier songs. Ellen and Lisa are not available for June 21st, 28th, and July 5th services. **ACTION:** Need to talk to our other casual organists Brenda Tuck and Lucille Landry.
- **Christian Education** - We had 12 children for our last Day Camp and it went really well. They all went bowling in the afternoon. Summer Camp for the children was discussed and Holly was not able to get a hold of Taylor from Salem but maybe we can send some of our regular Day Camp children over to the Lutheran Church for their summer camp. We need to get a hold of Lorraine Ziegler or Colleen Albert. Bible Study was discussed and Irene mentioned that the three regular participants can get together anytime during the month.

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- **Property & Maintenance** - Wolf changed the light in the ladies washroom last month. Bill fixed the toilet seat in the ladies and the men's washroom. Our grass will be cut this Friday. Our tap will be turned on in a couple weeks once Bill replaces the washers in the tap. Ellen, Pat, and Heather will be getting together soon to clean up the flower beds.
- **Fellowship** - Heather and Pat were both not in attendance. They will continue with their visiting once they are back from holidays. Irene has been sending out the cards for Pat.
- **Ministry & Personnel** - Rob met with Irene and everything is going good. Shirley talked to Traci and she is doing good. She is keeping up with our busy schedules of events and she is coming in tomorrow to clean the church. Bill bought some more bleach as we were out.
- **Regional News** - Holly was not able to go to Grande Prairie for the Regional meeting. Emails are being sent out for everyone and a reminder to read through them.
- **Diocesan News** - Has been pretty quiet for news as everyone is winding down for the summer. Emails are still being shared.
- **Motion to accept reports** - **Dee Henderson** made a motion to accept the reports as presented, **Ardythe Butler** seconded the motion. **CARRIED.**

New Business:

- No new business.

Devotions next meeting: Treasurer (Joanne)

Closing Prayer: Rev. Laureta

Next Meeting: June 15th at 7:00 pm

Adjournment: 8:35 pm

Holly Cependa, Council Chair

Irene Sabados, Secretary