

**VEGREVILLE UNITED CHURCH**  
**Minutes of Church Council Meeting**  
**November 13, 2024 at 2:00 pm, Auditorium**

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

Meeting was called to order by Georgina Baron at 2:06 pm - Quorum Present.

**Devotion: Worship** - Ellen read a poem from Airborne Tulip Memorials “Lest We Forget” by Paul Hunter

**Approval/Additions to Agenda:** Pat Buehler made a motion and Heather Short seconded the motion to accept the agenda with the addition of Wendy Brook Music Festival, Trustee Meeting Date, & Nativity Festival Set Up. **CARRIED.**

**Approval of Minutes for October 9, 2024:** Holly Cependa made a motion and Bill Rowe seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. **CARRIED.**

**New Correspondence:** None

**Old Business/Business arising:**

- **Fundraisers** - Pat reminded everyone of the deadline for the Purdy’s Chocolate Order is coming up on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Discussion took place on the Christmas Tea on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and the volunteers that are available.
- **Refugee Sponsorship** - Holly commented that our Refugee family that we sponsored have moved into their townhouse and their furniture was hauled over there and set in place. Moving day went well and we had a lot of volunteers. Holly made lunch for everyone that day. The family is very happy and settled. They have about 90% of what they need to be comfortable in their new home and even got a piano donated to them. The two children are settling in quite nicely and one of them joined in on our Day Camp. Holly to set up an information sharing afternoon so that anyone in our community can attend and hear more about “how the family came to be refugees”.
- **100<sup>th</sup> Centennial Celebration** - Heather & Pat had a meeting to discuss some items for our celebration. For next year’s Spring Tea we will sell raffle tickets for a quilt that Pat made. Also, special centennial mugs can be purchased at our Spring Tea. Discussed updating our Honorary Board with all the ministers from previous years, as there are about four to add to make the list complete. We will have to go through our pictures that we may have from 100 years ago, maybe a copy of our opening in 1969 and make up a “Poster Board” of memories.
- **Sacramental Elder Training** - Holly commented that her mentor for the training is MaryAnn Pastuck out of Camrose. Next week she will be sending her Baptism Liturgy to MaryAnn. Holly to ask MaryAnn if she will be available for a covenanting service here at our Church for January 19<sup>th</sup> and we can also make this date our Annual Congregational Meeting as well.
- **4-H Club Kitchen Booking** - There needs to be another motion made to accept the 4-H Club to book the kitchen for two days a month instead of the original request of one day a month. **Ellen Johnstone made a motion, seconded by Bill Rowe** that the 4-H Club be allowed to use the kitchen on a Sunday evening twice a month. **CARRIED.**

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**Committee Reports:**

- **Treasurer’s Report** - Cash Flow sheet for October was distributed to everyone. Irene went through some of the items listed. Under Fundraising we brought in \$900 for our Apple & Rhubarb Crisp Fundraiser. Under expenses, the cost of all the supplies and snacks for Kid’s Klub and Day Camp were donated, as well as janitorial supplies donated, and cost of the lawn maintenance was donated. Cost of the online kid’s programming \$217.14 (ROOTS) was donated. Quarterly payments - for photocopier copies \$168.76, Mission and Service Fund payment to United Church of Canada \$352.25, and CRA payment \$21.46.

<b>September Cash Flow Sheet:</b>	<b>Previous Balance:</b>	<b>\$5,655.91</b>
	<b>Total Inflows:</b>	<b>+ 3,764.72</b>
	<b>Total Outflows:</b>	<b>- 4,145.03</b>
	<b>Current Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 5,275.60</b>

<b>General Account</b>	<b>5,275.60</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>\$6,927.05</b>

- **Finance** - A copy of the 2025 Budget was distributed to everyone. We reviewed and approved the budget at our Finance Meeting. At this time there were no changes as it can be changed any time throughout the year if our situation changes. **A motion was made by Pat Buehler and seconded by Ellen Johnstone**, that we are in favor of the proposed budget for 2025 as presented. **CARRIED.**
- **Worship** - Discussion took place on clean up of the Church and set up for the Christmas Tea on November 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. Discussed maybe bringing over a “cross” banner from the Anglican Church so we can put it up in our Sanctuary. White Gift Sunday will be on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Donna Melenka will be dropping off a box for the Christmas Bureau that we can use to put all our gifts in, after White Gift Sunday. The box will be delivered December 4<sup>th</sup> so we don’t miss the deadline.
- **Christian Education** - Holly reported that our Kid’s Klub after school program on Thursdays is not bringing in very many kids (1 or 2 attending). There seems to be so many other after-school programs happening. For Day Camp we had 7 children registered, some days not all of them attended. Day Camp is going well and the kids are enjoying it. Discussion took place on adding a “Nativity Trail” family event to our Nativity Festival if we get enough volunteers - Holly to check with the 4-H Club if they will be able to help out. Georgina will be away the weekend of the festival and Ellen will be away on the Friday of the festival. Discussed doing a carol-sing on Saturday afternoon (November 30<sup>th</sup>).

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- **Property & Maintenance** - It has been a beautiful Fall. H & K services was able to come one more time to pick up the leaves before snowfall. Bill mentioned that the broken bench that was outside our doors, along with a stack of chairs that needed to be disposed of were taken to the landfill. There is a cost for some items that we bring to the landfill - Bill paid \$15 for the stack of chairs as they were metal & wood. All wood is free to bring to the landfill. Irene to get a copy of the costs of certain items we bring in to be disposed of at the Vegreville landfill. Bill and Val replenished our janitorial supplies the other day. Our vacuum cleaner needs to be fixed, Irene to check with Linda to see where it was placed or if she took it home to be fixed.
- **Fellowship** - Pat and Heather have been doing some visiting this past month - George Sample, David & Joyce Ziegler, Ruth Juravinski, Phyllis Warburton, and Elvera Miskiw received visits this past month. Pat delivered meals to our janitor who hurt her shoulder and Wolf took her up to Edmonton for a specialist appointment.
- **Ministry and Personnel** - Holly commented that everything is going okay, although our janitor, Traci, had an accident and hurt her shoulder then ended up in Camrose Hospital with other major health issues. Linda Henderson has been covering for Traci and doing the cleaning in the Church while Traci is in the Hospital. Laureta went to Camrose to visit Traci after her emergency surgery.
- **Regional Business News & Ministerial Meeting** - Our Joint Vestry/Council meeting will be held on November 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. World Day of Prayer is on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Georgina to attend a Zoom Meeting on November 23<sup>rd</sup> in regards to getting ready for next year's World Day of Prayer.
- **Pastoral Charge Supervisor** - Sharon commented that she enjoys listening to our meetings and that we are doing great.
- **St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church** - Rev. Laureta stated that she went to see Traci, our janitor, in the Hospital in Camrose after Dee called to let her know that Traci had emergency surgery. Traci was glad to have visitors and it sounds like she will be transferred to the Royal Alex Hospital to get surgery done on her shoulder once she is ready. Rev. Laureta stated that the "for sale" sign went up at the Anglican Church. The property is zoned for residential or commercial. Once the building is sold, the Anglican Diocese in Edmonton passed a motion that 10% would go to Indigenous Ministries and then the rest of the funds comes to us and not the Diocese. If the building does not sell before the New Year, Rev. Laureta will push for a move into our Church anyway, early in the New Year, so that all the services will be here. On December 1<sup>st</sup> there will be no communion as Rev. Laureta will be doing a service of lessons and carols at all the churches. Christmas Eve we will have a communion service at 8:00 pm here. Christmas morning at 10:00 am will be at the Anglican Church. Our Nativity Festival set-up will take place November 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (drop-in) for whoever is able to come and help out. The larger Nativity scenes will be put out on the stage for our Christmas Tea.
- **Motion to accept reports - Pat Buehler made a motion and Heather Short seconded** the motion to accept reports as presented. **CARRIED.**

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**New Business:**

- **Wendy Brook Music Festival** - Just for everyone's information, the Wendy Brook Music Festival will be held here at our Church on March 6, 2025. They will be using the Sanctuary, Friendship Room, and Auditorium.
- **Trustee Meeting** - Holly, Bill, Val, and Tim (all our Trustees) will be meeting in the New Year. One of the items to discuss is our building insurance.
- **Nativity Festival Set-Up** - this was discussed earlier in the meeting.

**Devotions next meeting:** Property and Maintenance

**Closing Prayer:** Rev. Laureta Blondin

**Next Meeting:** December 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm

**Adjournment:** 3:40 pm

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**Georgina Baron, Chairperson**

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**Irene Sabados, Secretary**