

ANGLICAN & UNITED CHURCH MINISTRIES
Minutes of Church Council & Vestry Meeting
June 15, 2026 at 7:00 pm, Friendship Room & Zoom

Present In-Person: Pat Buehler, Bill Rowe, Antoinette Fortier, Ellen Johnstone, Heather Short, Joanne Veldkamp, Shirley Rattray, and Irene Sabados

Present On Zoom: Holly Cependa, Rev. Laureta Blondin

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Holly Cependa at 7:05 pm

Devotion: Treasurer (Joanne) Heather read the devotional for Joanne - "Our Daily Bread" booklet - June 15th (Giving from God's Gifts)

Approval/Additions to Agenda: Pat Buehler made a motion and Heather Short seconded the motion to accept the agenda with two additions under **New Business** - Publicity Tax and Salem Funerals. **CARRIED.**

Approval of Minutes for May 11, 2026: Ellen Johnstone made a motion and Shirley Rattray seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. **CARRIED.**

- New Correspondence: Piano Donation - Ruptash Family - The piano was delivered and placed in the Friendship Room replacing the old one that we will put up for sale in the Rummage Sale. Discussion took place on ordering a donation plaque and it was decided to have both names on the plaque "Larry & Lillian Ruptash" as both were really involved in our church. **ACTION:** Irene will order the donation plaque.

Old Business/Business arising:

- **Fundraisers (and Camp Whitney Fundraisers)** - There is \$165 left to raise for our Camp Whitney Chainsaw Fundraiser. Shirley Rattray made a motion that Vegreville United Church donate the \$165 so we can reach the \$800 total and Ellen Johnstone seconded the motion. **CARRIED.** It was discussed that we got a large can of beans donated to the Church so we will make some chili to take to the campers at Camp Whitney and also deliver some baked spaghetti that we have in the freezer. Joyce Stewart offered to bake seven dozen cookies as well. We did really well at our **BBQ and Rummage Sale** - over \$2800. Our leftover rummage sale items that were donated will be taken to Viking New to You Thrift Store, Edmonton Habitat for Humanity, and the items on the stage will be picked up by Canadian Diabetes Association. Camp Whitney also had a wish list of items they were needing and we will be donating these to the Camp (items will be picked up next week). Our **BBQ Fundraiser** is scheduled for Friday, July 3rd and July 31st at the **Co-op**. We have enough volunteers for both. We will be serving smokies and hot dogs. As the price of beef is up, we decided to go with smokies instead of hamburgers and also it is easier to have just one kind of bun and we don't need to purchase cheese slices. We are planning a **Rhubarb Crisp Fundraiser** sometime later in July. Anyone who wants to donate some rhubarb, can bring it to the church. **ACTION:** Bring in your rhubarb (washed and chopped) and we will store it in the freezer. Wayne Tuck has some rhubarb he would like to donate. If we have enough volunteers, we can work at the **Ranfurly Fair** on August 9th at the pancake breakfast in the morning. It was a good little fundraiser that we did last year and we've been asked to help out again.

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- **Sale of the Anglican Church Building** - The realtor gave us another update today. There is a young couple looking for a ready to move in home rather than having a home that needs renovations. The price has been dropped to \$249,000. Renting is not something we want to get into.
- **Committee Operations Manual - Fellowship, Christian Education, & M&P** have 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 Homeshool Co-ops** - Waiting for a reply from Susan on the rental in the Fall for the first homeschool group. Jessica from the other homeschool group is okay to go ahead and wanted to book a summer program as well from July 20th to August 10th (one day per week). There will be no summer program for our church this year. Salem United Church has a summer program for their kids and they mentioned their families would not want to travel to Vegreville so we couldn't combine the groups together. We will call our regular Day Camp children and let them know that they can register at the Lutheran or Seventh Day Adventist churches.
- **Sanctuary Roof Repair - ACTION:** Bill will reschedule a meeting with Shirley's son who does some of this kind of work so he can take a look at what needs to be done and give us a quote.
- **New Banner** - The new banner looks good. Lionel Veldkamp made a tube that the banner fits neatly into and it will be stored in stage left.
- **Stained Glass Window** - Joanne talked to a few more companies and sent an email to others about building a wood frame (backlit with LED lights). It was discussed that maybe the frame shop owner downtown can build a frame. **ACTION:** Ellen to call Sharron Othen from the frame shop.
- **Baptism** - The Baptism that we discussed at the last meeting is being postponed due to family issues. Please hold the family in our prayers. Rev. Laureta reached out to her to let her know that she can join us in church anyway one Sunday.
- **Questions for Shared Ministries (from Rev. Susan Lukey, Editor, Gathering)** - 11 responses came in out of the 154 emails and letters sent out. Survey answers were distributed and discussed. **ACTION:** Irene will email the survey answers to Susan with a copy to Holly and Rev. Laureta.

Committee Reports:

- **Rev. Laureta** - Laureta reported that it was a busy month. She is still on call at the Hospital as Dwayne is still on leave until October or November. Laureta did some visiting in the Hospital (Clara Nawrot and Donna McCrimmon). Janet Kolisniak is moving to Vermilion to be closer to family and donated \$200 to our Rummage Sale from her garage sale that she had. July 25th is the wedding for Juan Unger and Savannah Betty Joyce Toma. Laureta has met with both of them. The wedding will be taking place at the Hairy Hill Rodeo Grounds. On June 21st and June 28th there is nobody to play the music for Sunday services but Lucille Landry is available. Irene to reach out to Lucille Landry to see if she is available for July 5th as well. On July 12th Laureta will be doing services at Salem United Church. Val or Ardythe may be able to do lay lead service here that day. On August 23rd Laureta will be in Winnipeg at the Legion National Conference. There will be no lodge services for the summer.

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- **Rector's Warden** - Irene read Ardythe's report as she was not at the meeting: "Over the past month I have taken Coffee Time once and spent time with Vestry for various reasons re: St. Mary's building plus basically tried to be as supportive as able in the various church activities."
- **People's Warden** - Jim was not in attendance. No word on any concerns from anyone.
- **Treasurer's Report (Irene)** - Cash Flow sheet for May 2026 for Vegreville United Church was distributed to everyone. This past month the inflows were higher than the outflows. Under **Income**, Envelope Offerings \$1,720; Fundraising \$2,759.45 was for the Spring Tea & Bake Sale (\$1,835.50) and Hot Dog Fundraiser (\$923.95); Funeral Fees \$250 for Agnes Shukalak service; Rent of Facility \$950 was from Homeschool Group \$450 and a second cheque from Wendy Brook Music Festival \$500. Under **Expenses**, Power & Gas for the previous month was \$1,226.06; Fundraising Expenses \$232.63; and Repairs and Maintenance \$412.99 was for snow removal for last month \$390 and toilet seat \$22.99.

May Cash Flow Sheet:	Previous Balance:	\$14,501.08
	Total Inflows:	+ 6,144.44
	Total Outflows:	- 5,151.18
	Current Balance:	\$15,494.34

General Account	\$15,494.34
Memorial	1,109.43
Capital (Building Act)	0.91
Common Share (Profit Share)	487.00
	\$17,091.68

- **Treasurer's Report (Joanne)** - St. Mary's financial statement was distributed as per the following (as of May 31, 2026):

Community Spirit	\$ 247.20
Savings	\$ 15,643.76
GIC's	\$ 72,955.35
Total	\$ 88,846.31

- **Finance** - Discussion took place on CRA accounts and what needs to be done as we combine churches and become one charity. **Ellen Johnstone** made a motion for transferring funds to our RSV Pastoral Charge account as per our Finance meeting. There are no meetings in the summer so we need to transfer for June \$2,500; July \$3,500; August \$2,500, seconded by **Pat Buehler**. **CARRIED.**
- **Worship** - Discussion took place on options for offering envelopes rather than purchasing new envelopes for the new year. We can create our own envelopes with the new logo along with envelope #. Discussed whether we go to summer hours and everyone agreed that we leave it at 10:00 am so that people don't get confused. Rev. Laureta has finished all the bulletins right up until the end of June. Hymns can be changed if necessary. Lucille can take a look at the ones listed. For September it was decided that we continue with Lodge Services again.

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- **Christian Education** - Antoinette reported that she has been busy with outreach in the community (pride party, poverty simulation, etc.) We are not having Day Camp this summer and Taylor from Salem United Church mentioned that it will not work out to have the children here, it would be too far of a drive. Bible Study will be done on our own this summer when we can schedule a day for our main participants. Irene to call them and work out a day.
- **Property & Maintenance** - There has been some minor repairs to doors. Rob Bown to spray dandelions with Par 3. Ellen to water plants when required. Not needed as often with the rains we've had.
- **Fellowship** - Heather and Pat did some visiting with Elvera in Two Hills, George & Velma in Mundare (their 73rd Anniversary). Heather to go see Donna tomorrow at Continuing Care. Holly thanked them for all they do.
- **Ministry & Personnel** - Rob was not in attendance. Discussion took place on the soap dispenser and that someone put a scented (almond/vanilla) liquid soap in there and not the plain soap we've always used. Shirley to let Traci know to drain all dispensers as some people may have a really bad nut allergy and have a reaction after using the soap.
- **Regional News** - Emails are being sent out. There is lots of information for those who want to go through it. (Youth Council in Northern Spirit looking for people.)
- **Diocesan News** - Irene is forwarding the news from the Anglican Diocese. Synod is being held October 23rd & 24th. We have one lay delegate which is Jim Bragg. Shari Sherburne-Purkis sent in her application We also need an alternate if anyone is interested. Could be either Anglican or United.
- **Motion to accept reports** - **Joanne Veldkamp** made a motion to accept the reports as presented, **Ellen Johnstone** seconded the motion. **CARRIED.**

New Business:

- **Plants** - Ellen discussed the plants in front of the church and that some of them need to be moved and some taken out. (Irises, Rosebush, and Purple Asters) This can be done in the Fall.
- **Publicity Tax** - Discussion took place on the publicity tax that we had in the past and maybe we should have this in place again. Anyone who is announced on the radio, posted on Facebook, or in the Newspaper will have to pay \$2. These funds will be used for buying extra supplies for our fundraisers when we run short of something. **Heather Short** made this motion to bring back the publicity tax as per above, and **Pat Buehler** seconded the motion. **CARRIED.**
- **Salem Funerals** - There was a funeral at Salem United Church for Audrey Miller and Vegreville United Church received a cheque from Autumn Rose for \$250 for Administration charge. Irene brought up the fact that Lorraine did a lot of the work on the bulletins but the bulletins were printed on our photocopier so maybe we should give Salem United Church \$125. **Ellen Johnstone** made a motion that we send a cheque to Salem in the amount of \$125 to cover their portion of the work done on the bulletins and **Heather Short** seconded the motion. **CARRIED.**

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Devotions next meeting: Finance

Closing Prayer: Rev. Laureta

Next Meeting: September 21st at 7:00 pm

Adjournment: 8:40 pm

Holly Cependa, Council Chair

Irene Sabados, Secretary