

Knox Church Council Meeting

October 17, 2017

Chair: Vivian Mitchell

Secretary: Sharon McIntosh

Present: Rev. Craig Miller, Vivian Mitchell, Coleen Wall, Kim Bright, Roger Bright, David Barrows, Leanne Sprung, Alan Moulin, Laura Crookshanks, Wayne Clayton, Norm Brown

Regrets: Wayne Digby, Art Godfrey, Diane Shepherd, Irene Bromley

Call to Order: 6:35 pm

Opening Worship: Craig Miller offered a prayer from *A Celtic Benediction* by John Philip Newell.

Adoption of Agenda as amended and Adoption of Minutes of the September 19, 2017 meeting:

Motion: Alan Moulin/Roger Bright

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes/Old Business:

a. Defibrillator

There was no new information to report.

Correspondence: None

Financial Report: prepared by Irene Bromley, presented by Vivian Mitchell

Motion: Alan Moulin/Wayne Clayton

Carried

That the September 2017 Financial Reports be accepted.

Discussion:

-It was suggested we show the previous year's Mission & Service givings month by month for comparison purposes on the report. This can easily be done by cutting and pasting the previous information. We will revise the report beginning January (new fiscal year). We appear to be on target with our M&S goal for 2017.

-Final bills for the kitchen are not in yet. Approximately 60% of costs have been paid so far. There will be money coming in from the Inbetweeners. It is too early to predict the final outcome, but any shortage should be small and will be taken from the building general reserve.

Committee Reports:

- 1) *Ministry & Personnel (M&P):* verbal report by Coleen Wall
 - M&P have received a request for sabbatical leave for Craig Miller. (See new business.)
 - ADP charges went up 1.6%.
 - Our caretaker is due for WHMIS training. None is offered in Brandon, so M&P will check to see if he comfortable training on-line. The cost for on-line training through a company in Brandon is \$47, and there is no time limit for completion. M&P will discuss this option with our caretaker.
 - M&P are getting ready to do annual reviews. They are asking each committee to provide information for the minister's review.

- 2) *Property:* Attached.

- 2) *Minister's Report:* verbal report by Craig Miller
 - Although Craig has not yet discussed with the Worship Committee, he looked to Council for feedback regarding worship plans for Christmas Eve. Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, so Council was asked if they thought we should have our regular Sunday morning worship in addition to the Christmas Eve service in the evening. Craig had discussed with Bernie and Jane, and all felt we should do both. The consensus of Council was to proceed with both services. It was suggested the morning service might possibly be a carol service with just a short message.
 - Through the Outreach Committee there has been a suggestion to fundraise for Susie McPherson and Steve Derendy. Craig has contacted Susie to see what they need and what they are comfortable with. If Susie & Steve see it as being helpful, council was asked to authorize Outreach to go ahead and plan. There was some discussion as to the type of fundraising, and what (if anything) has been in done in the past in such situations. It was mentioned there is a Go Fund Me page on facebook, but it was felt it would be nice to do something from Knox. It seems that Knox has not had this situation in the past, but other (United) churches in the area have held fundraisers to help members of their congregations. Consensus is that this would be a good thing to do. Outreach can go ahead and organize. It was suggested for future, we should have a process in place for this type of situation

Motion: Al Moulin/Roger Bright Carried
That we (Council) give Outreach authority to organize this event.

- 3) *Worship*: verbal report by David Barrows on behalf of Peggy Barrows & Diane Shepherd
 - The committee cleaned/tidied up the Christmas decoration cupboard.
 - The committee plans to be more diligent in holding regular meetings.

- 5) *Congregational Care and Membership (PC&M)*: verbal report by David Barrows
 - A Newcomers luncheon will take place on October 29 after worship (Note: This is not in conjunction with regular brunch).
 - Two people came forward regarding the request for Friendly Visitors volunteers.

- 6) *Vice Chair*: No report.

- 7) *Christian Education*: verbal report by Leanne Sprung
 - Three youth are going to ALF. Antoinette is coordinating transportation with Central who have 2 youth attending.
 - Attendance at SKC has been up and down – good to see numbers increasing.
 - Leanne is working with all (Sunday School) teachers to have criminal record checks on file.
 - Antoinette is working with youth for the Trans Day of Remembrance.

- 8) *Presbytery*: No report.
 - Craig Miller advised he has been named as supervisor for the Reston/Pipestone charge. He also referred Council to Art Godfrey's report in the recent newsletter.

- 9) *Trustees*: Attached.

- 10) *Stewardship*: Attached
 - With respect to the Fall pledge campaign, forms will be distributed around the beginning of November and collected November 19.

- 11) *Outreach*: Attached
 - Discussion regarding the Samaritan House brown bag lunch event indicated 8-10 people were in attendance.

i. Refuge Brandon: No report

- 12) *Green Team:* verbal report by Wayne Clayton
 -The Green Team is saddened by the loss of Dr. Susan Roddy who was a member of our committee.
 -The Green Team Committee meetings will be held the first Thursday of the month
 -The Green Team Speaker Series: As these events were successful last year the Green Team plan to set up another series of speakers again this year. Tentative topics this year include:
 -Solar Workshop – Justin Phillips, ManSEA Director and a solar installer
 -Curt Hull – Discussing the Al Gore film “*An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power, the sequel to An Inconvenient Truth*”
 -Electric Vehicle event – to talk about and show off some electric vehicles
 -The Manitoba Sustainable Energy Association (ManSEA) will partner with the Green Team in promoting these events
- 13) *Affirm Committee:* Attached
 -Eighteen people from Knox attended the “100 Years of Loss” display at Brandon University.
 -The Diversity lunch will be at Sabor Latino on November 12.
- 14) *Chair:* No report.

Motion: David Barrows/Laura Crookshanks Carried
The adoption of all Committee Reports

New Business:

- a. Budget Preparation: All chairs were reminded to consider their committee budgets and submit them to Irene Bromley or Sharon McIntosh.
- b. Sabbatical Request for Craig Miller
 -Craig spoke to Council regarding the process, the background and his plans (see attached report).
 -M&P will be applying for a United Church of Canada grant to help cover expenses (pulpit supply for worship, funerals, etc.). Suggestions from Council for worship during this period included using lay leadership, retired ministry personnel at Knox, or even cancelling worship for a week, etc.

Motion: Alan Moulin/Roger Bright Carried
That Council approve Craig Miller's dates and plan for sabbatical leave.

Motion: Alan Moulin/Wayne Clayton Carried
That Council authorize M&P to apply for funding from the U.C.C.

Motion: Wayne Clayton/Laura Crookshanks Carried
That M&P work with Craig Miller to plan for the provision of pastoral support for crises during the leave.

After discussion, Council asked the congregation be advised verbally at worship right away, and also by letter (e-mail/mail).

Next Council Meeting: November 21, 2017
Opening Worship: Ministry & Personnel

Closing prayer was offered by Craig Miller.

Motion to Adjourn: Roger Bright