



The United Church of Canada

Mount Forest – Woodland Pastoral Charge

Leadership Team Meeting

October 21st 2025

In attendance: Laurie Aitken, Mary Allen, Norm Eygenraam, George Harris, Al Leach, Lene MacLean, Bob McFarlane, Ruth Mundy, Rev Lori, Rick Sinnamon

VIA ZOOM –

Guests – Dan MacArthur (Property), Janice Benson (Media)

Regrets –

Opening Prayer and Devotional Time – Rev Lori....

Around the Table Discussion – WELCOME HOME to Laurie and Lene, are prayers now answered through email, Rae Gibson's 95th birthday is being celebrated, GO JAYS GO !!

Adoption of the September 16th Meeting Minutes -

MOTION:

Moved: Bob McFARLANE

Seconded: Norm EYGENRAAM

CARRIED

Adoption of the September 28th Congregational Meeting Minutes -

MOTION:

Moved: George HARRIS

Seconded: Mary ALLEN

CARRIED

Business Arising From the Minutes:

- TECH/TELEVISION UPDATE -
 - Tech/Television UPDATE, sanctuary sound system has been checked and the sound board has been serviced. All is working properly. Klaus is working on his Job Description
- CHURCH HOUSE – UPDATE – see NEW business
 - Wightman has been in and has completed the wiring for phone and internet connections. Painting and flooring completed in Rev Lori's office. Flooring is complete in the Church Office, with painting to be completed shortly. Both offices should be moved from the Church House by November 7th. Raw Carrot will move to the storage room next door to the Church Office.
 - **ACTION:** Dan MACARTHUR to make an announcement in Church on October 25th of assistance needed for the move from the Church House on Saturday November 1st.
- LAW Van and HEALTH Van
 - Referred to Mission & Service Committee to follow up. Working on a date as to when the gymnasium will be required.
- CHURCH SECURITY UPDATE
 - **ACTION:** As the issue is ongoing, User Groups are reminded to shut off all interior lighting, and LOCK all Church doors at the end of their event. There is a key to the Church located in a lock box at the rear parking lot door

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES -

Minister Report

- ✓ Rev Lori just back from a week of Study Leave
- ✓ Have performed 10 Funeral Services within the past few weeks. There doesn't appear to be a Funeral Policy in effect
- ✓ **ACTION** – Leadership Team to consider implementing a Funeral Policy

Financial

Financial Report to Leadership Team Meeting- Oct. 21, 2025

*YTD = year to date projection and **September represents 75% of YTD***

% spent = % of total annual budget

Draft financial statements for September have been received.

General Operating Fund balance to **end of September** is approx. \$39,600

Operating income (*receiptable and non-receiptable*) is at 78%

Total Operating Expenses are below the **YTD** by approx. \$17,940

Excess Expenses/Income is at approx. (\$43,686) vs YTD projection of (\$70,450) or approx. \$26,765 less than YTD.

COMMITTEE EXPENDITURE PICTURE at **end of September: or as of 75% of the year or 9/12th of year.**

M&P is approx. \$17k below YTD projection (**66% of spent**)

Worship Service- *minimal expenditure to date (29% spent)*

Choral – *minimal expenditure to date (24% spent)*

Pastoral Care – *minimal expenditures to date (7.5% spent)*

CE – *less than 50% expenditure to date (32% spent)*

M&S – *minimal expenditure to date (11% spent)*

Benevolent- *no expenditures to date*

M&F- *slightly below target (54% spent)*

Media – *slightly ahead of YTD (82% spent)*

Church Property – *expenditure is approx. \$4,000 ahead of YTD (90% spent).*

Church House- *expenses ahead of YTD by approx. \$2,600 (110% spent)*

Grounds – *expenditures slightly below YTD target (67% spent)*

Admin – *slightly ahead of YTD by \$500 (80% spent)*

WOW – *exceeds YTD target by approx. \$4,100 (117% spent)..includes WOW conference expense*

Fundraising – *no expenditures shown to date*

The Annual Budget projects at an excess of expenses over income of **\$90,235**. Currently excess expenses sit at approx. \$43,686 or 62% of YTD projection and 69% of annual projected budget. The General Fund balance sits at \$39,500 and in addition, there is a \$25,000 GIC registered with BMO, which matures in January 2026 which can help offset any shortfall.

The Community BBQ in September raised \$820 of non-receiptable income.

Respectfully submitted:

Al Leach,

Mission and Outreach

Minutes: Mission and Outreach Tuesday, October 7, 2025

Attending: Kerry Hale, Patty Sinnamon, Janice Benson

Sharing Shelf:

Do we want to do just food, or food and toiletries?

How often would we do it?

Would we just take it to CMHA for them to distribute?

We need more of a discussion around this. Sounds like a good idea, just need to flesh out the details.

See Sept. 2 email from Rev. Lori.

Law Van - see what their needs are: what do they want, how often would they need our space etc. Get an agreement in writing, if they are interested.

Oct. 8, Oct. 22, Oct. 29. We think it's a great idea.

Raw Carrot

Beer and Hymns

Friday, November 21

- Admission by donation
- food wrapped food from Costco
- charcuterie tray for tables
- Derek is on board. Get others involved like Frank and Patty's friends.
- beer and wine and non-alcohol drinks
- Patty and Rick looking after the booze
- Janice will make a poster
- Patty has smart serve. Who else does?
- Patty will look after insurance

Sunday Dinner

- Sunday, November 30
- Janice has 5 turkeys
- Prep on Saturday LET JULIANN KNOW
- Patty will do the grocery shopping
- We have leftover rhubarb crisp
- Patty will make carrot pudding and put it in the freezer
- have some cookies we can make at home???
- mashed potatoes
- cabbage salad?
- dressing
- frozen corn and peas together
- dinner rolls with butter
- cranberry sauce

Spoke to Daphne Oct. 8. She wants to do a blanket exercise for the Palestinian people. I suggested that M and O might want to help her with that. She would like to come to our next meeting to talk about it. (Janice)

Oct. 10 - emailed Juliann re booking the space for Saturday and Sunday.

Worship

W.O.W.

John Neff hosts a monthly meeting over zoom for all of the W.O.W. regional representatives. It is a time for fellowship, connection and learning. Most times there is a guest speaker from the larger church. On September 25, Susan (sorry for not recording last name) who is in charge of United Church statistics. Her presentation was not the boring talk you might think.

She shared her work so far in Vision 2035, which is a project of analyzing data to be able to predict some trends on where the church may be in ten years. most of the trends she uncovers are a bit scary and sad but there is the realization that only by identifying these trends now would there still be time to make changes to enable a different outcome.

One of the areas she talked extensively about was volunteer hours. This is a statistic that the church needs. We all know that there are a lot of volunteer hours that go into running a church. Susan suggested taking a random week and documenting every minute that someone does something for the

church. This will add up to a number bigger than we anticipate. That number shows the kind of impact our church is having in the community. Not only will that make us feel good about the efforts we are making, but it will also encourage us to keep up the good fight.

Another area that you would expect to come up in discussions would be around children, the lack of which usually scares us about the future of the church. Susan gave statistics showing that some pretty small actions by communities of faith have had a far-reaching impact on growth and energy. It made me think back to the time when Rev. Gail was here in her role with the community youth. For the sake of our church's future in Mt. Forest, I firmly believe we need to resurrect that work.

Norm Eygenraam

Regional Rep

P.S. The fall regional meetings are happening over zoom on Nov. 7&8

Trustees

Thursday, October 17/25.

Board of Trustees Meeting

Present: Mary A, Paul H, Bill K, and Robert H

Regrets: Mike B

The trustees met to discuss the next step with regard our church manse building.

With the endorsement of the congregation regarding the demolition of the manse, the Trustees filled out the regional form regarding church property from WOW. All trustees signed the document except for Mike B. Once he has signed it will be forwarded to the Congregational Support Commission at WOW for approval to move forward.

We also discussed the most recent balance sheet for the church investments looked after by the Trustees.

We will meet again as needs of the church dictate.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Aitken

Secretary and Chair

Membership & Fellowship

- Continue to work on a print version of an updated Church Directory

Property

- The steeple exterior roof light on the east side has been repaired.

- AED battery packs have been replaced. The AED from the Sanctuary is being moved to the Fellowship Hall.
- Lines in the parking lot have been repainted.
- Leaves will be picked up.

Use of Building

Ministry and Personnel

- Meeting next week

UCW

- There will be NO Bazar this year. In place of the Bazar, the UCW is proposing a Silent Auction on a number of items. UCW Christmas Dinner is scheduled for December 2nd.

Pastoral Care

Minutes – Pastoral Care Team meeting held on Thurs Sept 18, 2025 at 1 pm

Present: Rev Lori, Daphne, Jackie, Kelley, Betty

Regrets: Paula, Bill and Rose Marie

Opening – Daphne read “Awaken” and Prayer

Visiting – discussion held re a number of congregation members and their current situations.

Casseroles were discussed. The freezer will be moved to the church as the church house closes. Suggested location – just inside the elevator entrance. Lori mentioned a food truck that provides meals at home and will check into this.

Birthday cards- Kelley has offered to take over sending birthday cards to our children. She will coordinate with Christian Ed and Juliann to get an updated list.

Other – We will try to work more closely with the Membership and Fellowship committee – eg coordinate Christmas cards, etc.

Lori mentioned new ideas for prayer to enrich the Prayers of the People.

Closing – Betty closed with a reading and prayer.

Next meeting: Thursday, Oct 23, 2025 at 1 pm in FH

Woodland

Christian Ed

CE Meeting September 24, 2025 Present: Sharon Duncan, Rev Lori Campbell, Shawn Redden, Mary Allen 1. Opening Prayer - Rev Lori 2. VBS Review - Received good feedback, great suggestion is that we need to define the tasks for our teenage helpers e.g. bigger contribution to snack time 3. Curriculum - Handout - Oct - Jan. It is a stories outline. Discussion also about the rhythm/ pattern/framework that as we change leader each week, maybe we should have a standard framework. Having attendance sheets outside the door, so the teacher enters the room first and not as crowded around the opposite side of the room where the attendance sheets are currently. Suggestion made for all teachers to meet Oct 19 (Anniversary Sunday) after church. Rev Lori will send out an email to see if this date would be possible. Shawn will research to see if there is a separate children's curriculum that follows the narrative lectionary that Rev Lori is using. Also we need some training on the TVs, and have them programmed to the internet. October 5 Sunday is Communion and Rev Lori has a plan that would involve the children carrying bread from the narthex to the communion table at front of the church. Nancy is the teacher that day - Rev Lori will email her. 4. Compassion Child - received a letter from Fernanda, thanking us for her sponsorship to the Children's Centre she attends. Mary will contact Juliann about sending her a monetary birthday gift as her birthday is in October. Mary would like to continue the contact with Compassion Child and develop letters, cards, and contacts with Fernanda. 5. Trunk or Treat - last Saturday in October - October 25. Mary will email Jess to ask if the Chamber of Commerce/downtown merchants are planning an event the same day. And also ask Jess to send out a poster next wk to our families. Hopefully we can get some decorated cars again this year. Some congregation members donated candies and treats also. We will meet again mid October to finalize details. Mark & Shari Walls helped last year also. Maybe Nancy will do communications again. 6. Closing Prayer - Shawn

Media

MOTION: to receive the reports received and reported upon

Moved: Lene MACLEAN

Seconded: Norm EYGENRAAM **CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS

- SANCTUARY GRAND PIANO TUNING
 - ✓ The Mt Forest Arts Council is proposing to enter into a partnership with the Mt Forest United Church to tune the grand piano. The Arts Council will schedule the tuning. The cost would be shared equally between the Arts council and the Church.
 - ✓ **ACTION – MOVED** by Laurie AITKEN, **SECONDED** by Bob McFARLANE, that the Mount Forest United Church enter into a partnership by which the costs of tuning the Sanctuary grand piano will be shared equally **CARRIED**
- REQUEST TO BE REMOVED MEMBERSHIP AT MT FOREST UNITED CHURCH
 - ✓ Request has been received from an individual that she and her husband have their Membership removed from the Mt Forest United Church.
 - ✓ Both persons, named, are being removed from membership at MFUC by action of Council. This will be reflected in our Historic Roll, to be adjusted by our Office Administrator, under supervision of our Minister, and communicated to the individual by the Leadership Team Chair.
 - ✓ As of October 22nd this has been completed by the Leadership Team Chair.
 - ✓
- FIBRE & FELLOWSHIP PROPOSAL
 - ✓ Lene MACLEAN is proposing to host a time of fellowship and working with textiles beginning on November 7th from 1 until 4pm in the Fellowship Hall
 - ✓ Leadership Team is in support

UPCOMING DATES: 01 November – Church House move
 21 November – Hymns & Beer
 30 November – 1st Sunday in ADVENT
 30 November – Sunday Dinner

Next Meeting – **Tuesday November 18th 2025 at 7:00pm in the upstairs Boardroom,
or at the “call of the Chair”**

Closing Prayer: Rev Lori

Motion to Adjourn: Al LEACH at 8:55pm