

Leadership Minutes October 15/2024

7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Attendance: Co-Chairs Robert McFarlane, Laurie Aitken, Reverend Lori Campbell, Dan McArthur, Betty Seminowicz, Daphne Rappard, Rick Sinnamon, MaryRuth Job, Lene MacLean, Secretary Neil Aitken, and by zoom Norm Eygenraam.

Regrets: Gerry Wilkinson , Al Leach, Diane Johnson.

Bob McFarlane called the meeting to order.

Laurie Aitken opened the meeting with prayer.

Everyone gave uplifting remarks about the weather; rainbows, northern lights, fall colours. Leadership members involved with upcoming production of Steel Magnolias in Holstein. Rick is volunteering 3x's a week at the VCPS breakfast program. Sue McArthur is progressing well after such a long ordeal waiting for and enduring hip surgery. Norm off to Ottawa and back again tomorrow.

Norm Eygenraam moved that we accept the September minutes, seconded by Betty Seminowicz, carried.

Business arising from the minutes:

Fellowship Hall lighting. No update, UCW will pay for the lighting. Still looking.

Pictures are going up in the hall.

Looking for a woodworker to repair the basement pulpit.

Committee Reports for Information:

The Finance Report from Chair Al Leach was attached to the agenda for everyone's perusal. It will also be attached to these minutes.

United Church assessed has risen....will check on the figures.

Minister Report from Reverend Lori Campbell. Wondering the protocol regarding when new groups ask for space. We hadn't had that discussion since before 2020. We were glad she opened the spaces for the outreach groups.

Lori asked if we were interested in hosting a 100th anniversary service next June for the United Church of Canada. Maybe June 10?

Lori wondered about the status of the renovation? Robert McFarlane had been on the front line of that committee and reviewed what had been done. Preliminary drafts had been finished and quotes just before the 2020 shutdown.

It was agreed that this would for the time being remain "On Hold".

Reverend Campbell informed us that many of the church's archives are still in an upstairs room at church house. They will be moved to Toronto for safe storage in the near future if anyone wants to view them before that time.

Lori's final request was the Covenanting Service. We all agreed since we are all so busy in November and December, we could wait for an agreed date in January. It won't be during a church service, but a special service on its own to allow dignitaries to join in.

The suggestion of rekindling our outreach community dinners was discussed. The Mission & Service is currently without a chair. Suggestions were brought forward about approaching the committee to see if interest was there. Would Virginia Byers shadow us for one dinner to show us the ropes. Would Brenda Calder from CowTown Lunch offer us some suggestions.

Laurie Aitken will talk to the group regarding being a contact to communicate between them and Leadership.

Christian Education is having a meeting next week

Membership & Fellowship has two new helpers on the board, but MaryRuth Job and Lene MacLean are still hoping for extra committee members.

Ministry & Personnel: Dan McArthur is trying to organize a "Get to Know You" meeting for all the new and old staff.

Property is also Dan's specialty. The heat is going. \$2000 in boiler repairs. Need help raking leaves. Possibly purchase a new to use snow blower.

Office Manager Juliann Ellis and Reverend Lori spent a great deal of unneeded time trouble shooting from community worries regarding the upcoming "Trunk or Treat." This happens in our parking lot each year close to Halloween. There are upwards of 300 children attending. There is a funeral in our church prior to the afternoon so we will wait until after the family leaves to start decorating the cars. It must be noted that the BIA is also hosting trick or treat that afternoon and the St Mary's priest is worried that families will be parking in their parking lot. We can't do anything about where people park for these events, so if they want their parking lot to remain open for mass, they will have to get their pylons in place.

*******All bookings for church and for the parking lot are requested to go through our church office and Juliann.**

Also, St Mary's have shown little interest in accommodating the annual Wellington North Christmas Cantata that has been preformed at St Mary's for many, many years. Derek Moore has asked that Mount Forest United Church host this year's Sunday Cantata. It has been booked in for December 22. The next evening they will be at St John's in Arthur.

WOW. Norm Eygenraam informed us that the WOW meetings will be November 15, 16, and 17. This will only give Norm one day to make a report for the next Leadership Meeting, so do what you can Norm. He encouraged us all to subscribe to the "Weekly WOW Update."

Lene MacLean moved that we accept the reports are received, seconded by Rick Sinnamon. Carried.

Daphne Rappard gave an update on the Green Team, at our request, and a history of how the Green Team group grew as a small group from our church, into a large Mount Forest community group. They have done significant itemizing of local trees and a tree database of the surrounding area. They also have become involved in another Wellington County group called Green Legacy. Green Legacy is not affiliated with our church, and any donations to Green Legacy are strictly on their own.

The following discussion centred around whether donations to Green Team should be written as charitable donations to our church, and if the Green Team was allowed to have significant funds in the church without spending them.

The Green Team is supposed to be reporting to the Mission & Service, but since M&S is without a chair they have been unable to send their goings on to the Leadership Team.

It was suggested that we find what can or can not be done.

Reverend Lori will find out if United Church has someone we can talk to.

Leadership Members discussed whether we wanted the Green Team to continue using Mount Forest United Church in their name.

Raw Carrot is changing the license somehow and thus will become Mount Forest and Surrounds Raw Carrot. It will remain an outreach of the Mount Forest United Church. Laurie and Bob will with the 'mother company' from Paris for the final negotiations.

180th Mount Forest United Church Anniversary is this Sunday. Robert McFarlane requested that the Leadership Team organize the pot luck and cleanup. The new bricks in the memorial garden will be dedicated after the service. Reverend Bonnie Holliday is the guest minister and work with Lori on the service.

Saturday, October 19 is the Licensed Lay Leaders meeting at our church. UCW is providing food.

The same day, our Green Team is having an Interpretive Walk.

The next Death Café by our own Roseanne Demaris will be October 23

November 23 will be a "Mini-Bazaar" with lunch.

The Mount Forest United Church Christmas Choir Cantata will be December 13

The next day at our church will be the funeral home's annual memorial service, December 14. This will also be the day for distributing the Christmas Hampers, thanks to Daphne for years of leadership in this community volunteer committee.

UCW Christmas dinner will be December 3, \$25.

Reverend Lori is looking at holding a longest night of the year, solstice service; December 21.

The meeting was adjourned by Rick Sinnamon.



Following is Financial Report.

Financial Report

Financial Report to Leadership Team Meeting- October 15, 2024

➤ September Financial statements have been received.

- General Operating Fund balance to end of September is approx. \$75,425.
 - Total income (operating & non-operating) is now approx. at 110% of YTD (year to date) target largely due in part to a \$25k bequest received this year.
 - Operating income (receipt-able and non-receipt-able) is approx. at 82% of the YEP (year end projection) and ahead of 2023 YTD revenue by approx. \$7,700.
 - Total Operating Expenses are only at approx. 56% of the YEP and at only 69% of YTD projection.
 - Excess Income/Expenses is at approx. \$25,700, (i.e. Total revenue – Total expenses to date or \$181,550-\$155,860). Budgeted projection at end of 9 months was for a deficit of -\$37,745 and the Church budget is currently at +\$28,690.
 - A year end deficit of \$48,500 was the original approved budget projection, however with the current revenue & expenditure picture & the hiring of a new Minister; a revised projection, with possible financial support from Trustees only if needed, is estimated at an approximate break- even year-end projection for 2024.
 - We currently have a short term GIC at BMO for \$25,000 (approved by Leadership Team)
 - Preliminary indicators are, that after 9 months, the Church is in a positive financial position. ➤
- COMMITTEES EXPENDITURE PICTURE at end of 9 months or 75% of the budget year:
- M&P is currently at 53% of the projected budget.
 - Worship Service- on target. (58% spent to date)
 - Choral – on target (65% spent to date)
 - Pastoral Care –minimal expenditures to date. (3% of projected budget spent)
 - CE – minimal expenditures to date. (13% of projected budget spent)
 - M&S – minimal expenditures to date. (10.0% of projected budget spent)
 - Benevolent- no expenditures to date. (0.0% spent)
 - M&F – slightly below budgeted target. (23.0% of projected budget spent)
 - Media – overspent. (105.5.0% spent to date)
 - Church Property - below YTD target by approx. \$9,340 (45% spent).
 - Church House- below YTD target by approx. \$2,000 or (47% spent).
 - Grounds – currently below YTD target by approx. \$900 or (51.5% spent) This could change depending on snowfall in the early winter months in 2024.
 - Admin – exceeds YTD target by approx. \$615 due to internet & office supplies costs or (84.5% spent).
 - WOW –exceeds YTD target by approx. \$1,300 as assessment cost has increased and the previous “supervising minister costs”. (88.0% spent to date)
 - Fundraising – on target (68% spent to date)

Brought forward from September meeting: a) Under non-operating funds, previously retained funds in a strategic planning and a refugee sponsorship account have been removed and show under “non-receiptable operating” as a new line item for income. b) members of the MFUC Green Team plan to attend the meeting to provide clarification between the Green Legacy, Green Trust and MFUC Green Team groups.

Respectfully submitted:

Al Leach, Finance & Stewardship Committee Chair

