

Minutes from September Leadership Team

MOUNT FOREST / WOODLAND UNITED CHURCH

LEADERSHIP TEAM

TUESDAY, September 17, 2024

7:00 p.m. – FELLOWSHIP HALL

1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Bob McFarlane

2. **OPENING PRAYER AND DEVOTIONAL TIME**

Laurie Aitken

3. **AROUND THE TABLE DISCUSSION**

It doesn't feel like fall. Beautiful weather to swim, boat and travel. Sue McArthur is in hip surgery rehab and steadily improving. Smiling kids at the Safety Village.

Betty read from Jane Philpot; "Health For All".

Attendance: Lene MacLean, Gerry Wilkinson, Reverend Lori, Rick Sinnamon, Dan McArthur, Al Leach, Betty Seminowicz, Mary Ruth Job, Diane Johnson, Bob McFarlane, Laurie Aitken.

Regrets: Norm Eygenraam, Neil Aitken.

4. **ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES –**

Motion: Rick

Moved: carried

Seconded: Lene M

That the minutes of the August 6th Leadership Team meeting be hereby approved. (attached at end of Agenda)

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

Church house basement issue is currently "all dry."

Casserole freezer to the church basement is done.

Church house custodian is now Kelly Eves.



Vacation Bible School, the attendance was 24. Well done!

6. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Finance: report from Chair Al Leach:

***** Al spoke on the highlights of the attached financial report.*****

Financial Report to Leadership Team Meeting- Sept. 17, 2024

➤ August Financial statements have been received.

- General Operating Fund balance to end of August is approx. \$69,700.
- 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 (receiptable and non-receiptable) is approx. at 72% of the YEP projection.
- Total Operating Expenses are only at approx. 51% of the YEP.
- Excess Income/Expenses is at approx. \$58,100, (i.e. Total revenue – Total expenses to date or

\$160,830-\$137,910. Budgeted projection at end of 8 months was for a deficit of -\$35,200 and the Church budget is currently at +\$58,100.

- A year end deficit of \$48,500 was the original approved budget projection, however with current revenue & expenditure picture & the hiring of a new Minister; a revised projection, with possible financial support from Trustees, 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 8 months, the Church is in a positive financial position. ➤ COMMITTEES EXPENDITURE PICTURE at end of 6 months:

- M&P is currently at 51% of the projected budget
- Worship Service- on target. (58% spent to date)
- Choral – on target (55% spent to date)
- Pastoral Care –minimal expenditures to date. (16% of projected budget spent)
- CE – minimal expenditures to date. (8.5% 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 – on target. (63.0% spent to date)
- Church Property - below YTD target by approx. \$8,000 or (42% spent).
- Church House- below YTD target by approx. \$2,000 or (41.5% spent).
- Grounds – currently below YTD target by approx. \$1,500 or (45% spent) This could change depending on snowfall in the early winter months in 2024.
- Admin – exceeds YTD target by approx. \$850 due to internet & office supplies costs or (63% spent).
- WOW –exceeds YTD target by approx. \$1,000 as assessment cost has increased. (84.0% spent to date)
- Fundraising – on target (67% spent to date)

*****. Brought forward from June meeting: Under non-operating funds, there are currently retained funds in the strategic planning of approx. \$3,600. A follow up was to take place to determine if any restrictions on these funds. We also have approx.. \$432 in an account for refugee sponsorship. Suggest that these be dealt with or moved to non-receiptable operating revenue under a new line item- transfer from Non-Operating Funds.

Respectfully submitted: Al Leach, Finance & Stewardship Committee Chair

***** Moved by Al, seconded by Lene, to move these non-operating funds to the 'General Operating Fund.'

Carried.

Wow. Norm wanted us to know that the fall meeting for WOW has been pushed back until mid November.

Mission & Service. The "Minute for Missions", which is available on-line, will be worked into the service again, either weekly, or monthly.

Pastoral Care..... Although we have not had meetings over the summer, our work as pastoral care has continued and we hope we have supported people with our prayers, cards, casseroles, phone calls and words.

Supporting the 'Gentle Movement', program for cancer patient care. Also supporting the 'Coffee Hour Support for Caretakers.'

We look forward to meeting on Sept 26th with Rev Lori for the first time and perhaps gain new insights and ideas on our role.

We are grateful to be able to share some events from the Family Health Team as you may have seen in today's (Sept 15) bulletin and hope you can share this info if applicable.
respectfully
Betty and Daphne

Ministry & Personnel. No report

Property. Boiler system repaired and shut off until cold weather.

Membership & Fellowship. Only MaryRuth and Lene on the committee. Needs more members please.

Christian Education. Meeting next Tuesday. Looking at a new curriculum.

Worship. Organizing for baptism and Thanksgiving. Communion is October 6. Mount Forest United Church anniversary is October 20. Woodland Anniversary was a big success. Reverend Lori was the guest speaker and the Musical Belles were the guest singers:



Minister's Report

Thursday morning coffee time is off to a good start.

Preaching Conference is at the end of October.

Stewardship workshop also in October.

Trustees

Verbal report regarding signatories at the banks.

Fellowship hall:

Final wiring invoice for repairs comes to \$2276.74. These funds have come out of the Restoration Fund.

Moved by Rick Sinnamon to pay the \$2276.74 out of the Restoration Fund. Seconded by Al. Carried.

The UCW executive has agreed to pay for the new lighting when the time comes.

Motion: Moved by Rick Sinnamon, 2nd Diane Johnson, to accept all the reports as presented.

Carried

Items for Information:

Green Team Minutes - Wednesday, September 4th, 2024

The Green Team sends their minutes to the leadership team as there is no chair of their oversee committee to report to Leadership:

Location: Mount Forest United Church Meeting Chair: Rhoda Seibert

In Attendance: Larry Moore, Rhoda Seibert, Courtney Carson, Marlin Herriot, Sarah Benson, Ann Plume, Linda Dewar, Erin Kiers, Chris Kiers, Joan Jeffrey, John Jeffrey, Ruth Macdonald, Caela Butt

Nature Appreciation - Rhoda brought in a nest from an Eastern Phoebe that lived on her property. We passed around and admired the handiwork, and briefly discussed the species life history. Caela and Rhoda will work together to plan a nature appreciation walk sometime in late October.

Tree Trust Ceremony - Plans are shaping up for our upcoming Tree Trust event, scheduled for **September 21st, from 10am - 12pm**. Manuela is bringing barriers to set up prior to the event. Erin is following up with the local schools to see if they want to participate. The bagpiper has confirmed their attendance. Daphne will be speaking on behalf of the Green Team, and Erin will be MC'ing. Neil and Laurie Aiken will be singing

"What a Wonderful World". Manuela and Toby, with their company Tobertree Management Ltd., will speak about the tree species we picked and why this tree was chosen. They may also speak about and remove another tree on the property, but it is not fully decided yet. It is an Acer negundo (Manitoba Maple) and is considered an invasive species in our environment. Erin has a meeting this coming Tuesday with an employee from Tree Trust, and may be able to pick-up the t-shirts at this time. The land acknowledgement at the event will be done by Rhoda or Daphne, or the local historian. Tents, tables, refreshments and sound system have been confirmed. Members who are helping with event set-up are asked to arrive on location by 9:00 - 9:30am on the day of the event.

Saving Trees on John St. - We spoke about the plans surrounding the Mount Forest Tim Horton's drive-through. There has not been clarity or transparency from the county or the business about what the plan for this area is. Multiple trees on John St. are at risk of being removed.

Tree Inventory Update - Going strong. The trees on John St. have been added to the inventory in hopes of encouraging accountability to their presence.

Tree Trust 2025 - We are hoping to host next year's Tree Trust event on Earth Day, which is April 22nd, 2025. The submission deadline to get nominations in for next year's Tree of the Year is March 15th, 2025. We will talk about and promote next year's event at this year's Tree Trust ceremony. Caela will print nomination forms and a large QR code that links to the tree nomination webpage, and bring these to the event. Chris had the idea to use a colouring contest to help promote the event in the local schools. We could send out the colouring pages the week before schools go on March break.

Pop Tabs and Milk Bags - Sarah is collecting pop tabs for the Lions Club. Members can bring any donations to the next Green Team meeting. The proceeds go to support Camp Dorset, which is a camp that supports children with kidney problems. She is also collecting milk bags for the seniors at Birmingham Lodge to turn into waterproof sleeping mats for those in need. This effort led to us discussing other ways that we can reuse and recycle other common household products. Anne and Ruth have agreed to look into TerraCycle, and the possibility of getting a TerraCycle bin for our community. The Eco Den takes clean glass jars, and the local library takes used batteries.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 2nd, 2024 @ Mount Forest United Church

*******AI is going to speak to the Green Team members to find out how they will proceed regarding the monies they hold in the coffers and the office issuing tax receipts for donations to the Green Team.**

7. **REPORTS FOR DIRECTION:** Church House: what is the ongoing purpose for this building? First we must repair the leaky basement. Needs to be revisited quarterly to insure we keep the house in good repair.
8. **UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.** No bazaar this year but an informal Christmas Bazaar November 22&23. UCW Christmas dinner is December 3.
Lay worship leaders meeting at MFUC November 19. UCW to cater lunch.

Janice and Lene are starting the Knit-Wit Group, for knitters and crafters.
Coming soon Fridays.

9. **Reverend Lori's official invocation:** The Search Committee is to reach out to Rev. Lori regarding this.

10. **NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 15, 7:00 pm**

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

