

Church Council Meeting of Quispamsis United Church – Oct 11, 2023

In attendance: Rev Ian Manson, Bill Whittaker, Stu Baker, Una Wilson, Bruce Amey, Hally Kimball, Sue King, Diane Tonge, Chris Young, Brion Crossman, John Hill. **On Zoom:** Barb McBean, Leslie Reid. Regrets from Bob Crowley.

Chris Young opened the meeting at 7:34 PM. Rev Ian offered a prayer and Chris acknowledged the statement of unceded territory.

Approval of Minutes – Brion Crossman moved approval of the minutes from Sept 13, 2023. Bruce Amey 2nd. Carried.

Treasurer's Report - Brion presented the September 2023 treasurer's report. Revenue is higher and expenses are less than last year. Surplus for September is about \$3,400. YTD surplus is about \$4,100. **Brion Crossman moved acceptance of the treasurer's report. Stu Baker 2nd. Carried.**

Business Arising from the Minutes:

- **Safe Church Committee update** – Bill reported that due to the large number of COVID outbreaks in NB it is highly recommended that people wear masks when in public places and keep up to date on vaccinations.
- **Reality Check on Governance** – *no report*
- **Where to from here discussion - Faith Profile Committee** – See attached report.
- **Refugee Family Participation** – See attached letter from St. David's United Church. It was suggested that a speaker on the subject address the congregation during worship and a short congregational meeting be held after the service to vote on the proposed \$2,000 donation. Possible dates are Nov 12 or Nov 19.
- **Remit 1 - Establishing Autonomous National Indigenous Organization** - invitation to review the documents linked – A decision on Remit 1 is to be made at a future Council meeting (*due by March 2024*). Chris suggested that we each view the link to become familiar with the Remit, so it can be discussed at the Nov 8 council meeting.

<https://generalcouncil44.ca/council/remit-1-establishing-autonomous-national-indigenous-organization>

Correspondence:

- 1) See attached email from St. David's United Church regarding the refuge family.
- 2) Sue King received confirmation that her that her license as Lay Worship Leader has been renewed for 3 years.

New Business: Fundraiser - The Cool Chicks and Ugly Doclings band have offered us a free concert, 7 pm in QUC on Dec 9th. Let's consider a Christmas Fair, craft sale, bake sale, etc....to enhance this fundraising effort. Admission is \$15 per person, with all proceeds going to QUC. Sue offered to coordinate the bake sale table in MacDonald Hall during the 25-minute interlude. A volunteer is needed to coordinate a table for Christmas crafts and other fundraising ideas.

Committee Reports:

1. *Christian Life & Growth* – *see attached report*. Una reported that the committee would like to create an activity space in the back of the sanctuary for a small table and chairs for the children. The spare table and chairs from the Godly Play Room could be used. The property maintenance committee will assess what needs to be done to make it work.
2. *Worship* – *see attached report*. Rev. Ian spoke of a change in service format, with the prelude starting at 9:55. We will try passing around a sheet to write prayer requests, ready to be passed to the worship leader by the time prayers are read. Sue inquired about changing the structure of the Affirm Committee to be a sub-committee of worship. Update will be made to egg chart.

3. *Property Maintenance* – see attached report. Bill reported that a request from a weight loss group to use MacDonald Hall conflicts with the time that KidZone uses the hall. We are unable to accommodate the request.
4. *Social Committee* – no report
5. *UCW* – no report
6. *Outreach* –see attached report. Diane noted that about \$1,500 was donated for the sneaker campaign.
7. *Pastoral Care* – see attached report.
8. *Ministry & Personnel Committee* – no report.
9. *Finance & Trustee* – Brion suggested talking about the upcoming roof re-shingling in 2025 at the congregational meeting in Nov. This would allow adequate time for planning fundraisers to pay for the roof.
10. *Youth Representative* – no report.
11. *Affirming Committee* – see attached report.
12. *Region* – no report.
13. *Minister's report* – Rev Ian reported he is still getting to know people. He continues to be impressed with the welcoming, warm, engaging spirit that he sees in the congregation. He is grateful to Leslie and Sue for their guidance and is happy to be with us. He wondered about the use of name tags as a more welcoming environment for newcomers. – It was agreed that we will try name tag labels to see how it works.

Rev. Manson closed with a prayer. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Next council meeting will be in person at the church and on Zoom on Wednesday Nov 8, 2023, at 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

John Hill

Rev. Ian Manson

Correspondence with St. David's United Church

Subject: Re: refugee funds

Thanks for your email Bob and thanks to QUC for their interest in supporting the family.

We hope the family will arrive soon, we will be setting up an apartment for the family so perhaps that is one way the congregation may be able to help as we will need many items, I plan to make a list in the near future of what will be needed. If you would like to have someone speak at your meeting, we could definitely arrange that. Also one of the relatives who is already here is willing to speak to congregations as well and share their story if this is of interest for sometime, doesn't have to be for your meeting could also be as part of worship sometime. I have created a worship service around him speaking.

But as far as your meeting, one of us will attend for sure if that would be of help.

Blessings

Alicia

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Faith Profile Committee

- Committee still working through the surveys.
- Will advise more over the next couple of weeks on workshop, etc.

Christian Life & Growth –

Here are the highlights from the past month:

- The Fall Craft coffee hour was a success with around 14 people making the craft.
- CLG and Worship will plan the service and picnic on June 9 at HRAA.
- The committee would like to create an activity space in the back of the sanctuary for a small table and chairs for the children. The spare table and chairs from the Godly Play Room could be used. Religious related books, puzzles, and colouring sheets would be available. This would allow the children to explore our faith when there are no Sunday School lessons or teachers available.
- CLG are planning to host a Gratitude Journal craft during Coffee Hour on the first Sunday in Advent.
- The Christmas pageant is planned for December 10.

Worship Committee

Upcoming services;

- October 22nd: Lynn MacDonald leading as guest speaker on Bee Me Kidz program.
- Shannex Services: October 25th 12.45 in Concord and Embassy to follow AND November 10th Rev Ian has agreed to do two Remembrance Services -we welcome people from our congregation to come and support.
- November 5th QUC Remembrance Service (Time Change Sunday Fall back)
- November 26th Reign of Christ Sunday -Communion Sunday in this service, Nov 26th Stephen Alexander is giving message on AIDS -He is our "Community Connections" speaker for month of November.
- December 3rd Advent starts.
- December 10th Pageant service
- December 17th Stephen away and Angela Murphy playing.
- Blue Christmas Service Tuesday 12th December at 7 pm in sanctuary
- December Sunday 24th Christmas Eve – Normal 10 am service and then combined Family Communion service at 5:00 pm.
- December 31st service Rev Ian off. If possible, will try to get Food bank in For Community Connections
- June 9th CLG, Worship and Affirming committee will join for Hammond River celebration again.

- There will be no Wednesday night services -instead, an Advent Tuesday morning 10 am Bible study will start -date will be announced in announcements.
- There will be a trial of slight changes made to format of service -shortening the welcome slide and welcome announcement.
- There will be a lighting of candles of blessings early in service to help enter worship.
- Placing of announcements later in service as part of our response.
- Option of placing Affirming Committee under Worship Committee (Sue stepping down as Chair on January 1st) Merit being shared resources and attention to affirming process in worship -disadvantage -extending the Worship committee meetings. Sue advised current affirming committee meetings are every 2-3 months only and it would be helpful for planning of special services etc.

Property Maintenance Committee

- River Valley Environmental Ltd giving an excavation date this week.
- Embers have a leader. Now seeking assistant. Will contact when ready to start.
- New sweep installed on side entrance door.
- New outlet installed at back of Sanctuary (*office side*).
- Broken light shade replaced in MacDonald Hall. Several burned out bulbs installed.
- Rev Ian's name installed on parking space sign. Potentilla in front of sign trimmed.
- Paint touched up on sign, side entrance door edge and downstairs bathrooms baseboards.
- Lock hasp fixed on closet outside downstairs bathrooms.
- Thanks to the Robertson family for installing the QUC banner at the side entrance.
- Sanctuary piano tuned on Friday Oct. 6th as requested by Stephen.
- Request for meeting space in MacDonald Hall (*preferably Tuesday evening between 5 and 7 PM*) by a local non-profit weight loss support group lead by Karen Fillmore.

Outreach Committee

- We have continued to load Welcome bags for multiple Newcomers families.
- Under the direction of Sandy Stanley, and with Carolyn Kimball's help, and with the QUC congregation's generous support, we purchased 34 pairs of sneakers for the SJ inner city school, and we have another \$445 to spend on more sneakers-such wonderful support. Thank you so very much.

Ministry & Personnel Committee

No Report

Pastoral Care Committee

- Visits continue - Rev Ian has made visits with communion to people and has been in touch with people who cannot be visited.
- Shannex Parkland in the Valley care is an extension of our ministry. Rev Ian has agreed to do two Remembrance Services for Shannex on November 10th - members from our congregation will be invited to attend.

Affirming Committee

- Sue stepping down as Chair Jan 1st
- Option to make Affirming Committee a sub committee of Worship Committee?
- Cindy Millican leaving committee December 31st - thank you Cindy for all your hard work.
- Signage: new indoor banner placed in side entrance- thank you to Marilyn, Heather, Ethan, Ben, Robert and Bill .
- Suggestions made again for painting off front steps in spring by Affirming committee members Lynn MacDonald and Doug McDonald .