

**Mill Woods United Church
Council Meeting
B 19/20 -Meeting #4
June 25, 2019**

We are a spiritual community where you can explore your purpose and place

Location: Church lounge

Present: Rob McPhee (Chair), Randy Round (Finance), Darlene Hayward (Congregational Care), Bill McGregor (Member-at-Large), Elfrieda Penner (Recording Steward), Karl Kropf (Property), Carol Hickmann (Building Use), Lindy Mair (Member-at-Large), Francisco Rico (Ministry & Personnel), Kathy Poechman (Building Use), Cathy Bayly (Worship)

Regrets: Rev. Ian Kellogg, Carla Janzen (Past Chair), Andrew Langstone (Member-at-Large)

Guests: Jennine Jensen, Laura Goss

1 Gathering time

1.1 Welcome

1.2 Opening reflection: Lindy Mair

1.3 Living our Purpose: *We are a spiritual community where you can explore your purpose and place*

- As follow-up to our April 2019 motion approving the Future Steps recommendations related to making our purpose statement an active and living representation of who we are as a congregation, during September and October 2019 we will be including three short articles based upon the writing of Gretta Vosper and resources from St. Stephen's College. The intent is to share some ideas with the congregation, which might lead to some personal reflection.
- The three short articles will be titled: What is God? and will be available in the weekly bulletin and in What's the Buzz.
- These would culminate with an evening of discussion during the last week of October 2019.

2 Housekeeping

2.1 Changes to the agenda - none

2.2 Approval of minutes of May 28, 2019

- **Motion19/20-17: That the minutes of May 28, 2019 be accepted as presented.**
 - **Moved by Carol Hickmann, seconded by Karl Kropf**
 - **Carried**

2.3 Showing our Gratitude

- Cathy Bayly and Ethel Ray for arranging all the summer musicians and leadership for Sunday gatherings
- Laura Webster for the great job of waxing all the basement floors
- All the participants in the Instant Choir during the first two services in June
- Dave Borynec, Celia Conway and Elfrieda Penner for their assistance with Communion on June 9th
- The special music provided by Bryan LeGrow, Georgia Englot, and Len Penner during the month of June
- Don Grabinsky and Francisco Rico for hosting a barbecue for all Bread Run volunteers
- Karl Kropf for his painting of walls throughout the church, and for hanging curtains and fixing shelves in the Clothing Bank
- Wanda Egilsson for her weekly office coverage during Liliana Angel's holiday period
- Wendy Edey, Laverne Boswell, Carla Janzen, and Jennifer McPhee who have volunteered to play the piano for Sunday worship this summer
- Everyone from both the United Methodist and Mill Woods United congregations who participated in the old-time picnic after church on June 23, 2019. We had over 40 people attend and it was great fun enjoying good food and being together.
- Jo-Anne Kobyłka for leading the June worship services
- Jennine Jensen and Laura Goss for their leadership with the Food Bank distribution at MWUC

3 Correspondence - none

4 Join in – Reach out – Make a Difference

4.1 Food Bank: Jennine Jensen and Laura Goss

- We are distributors only; clients phone Edmonton Food Bank, who delivers the boxes of food every Tuesday and Thursday
- Volunteers help with unloading and organizing the boxes and distributing the right boxes to the right people
- We started about 30 years ago
- Every week 60 families pick up these food hampers
- Laura schedules the 22 volunteers
- Jennine is the liaison with the Food Bank
- Liliana has been very helpful with problem-solving

5 Committee Updates and Business Arising

5.1 Committee Updates and Communication to Congregation

- Stewardship: nothing new to report
- Property:
 - Some electrical work needs to be done but is on hold for now
 - Smoke detectors need to be changed after the inspection
 - Painting will be continued in August

- Congregational Care: nothing new to report

- Building Use:
 - July 5-7 revival event by the Zimbabwean congregation
 - New contract is in place for the yoga group for September
 - Tai Chi and Weight Watchers will continue all summer
 - New Sunday pm renters seem to be working out well
 - Muster point needs to be designated; evacuation instructions are being compiled

- Worship:
 - Summer coverage (**Attachment 1**)
 - Pulpit supply will be needed for September 15

- Ministry and Personnel:
 - Liliana is away June 24 to July 22. Wanda Egilsson is coming in once a week to check email etc.
 - Laura Webster will start her vacation on July 22; coverage for her has been arranged

- Forward Steps:
 - Book study planned for November:
 - Homes: A Refugee Story by Winnie Yeung and Abu Bakr al Rabeeah
 - Abu was born in Iraq, moved to Syria and then to Edmonton
 - Monday night discussions; \$10 per person to cover the cost of the book
 - Wonder Conference at Southminster-Steinhauer United Church on October 4-6
 - Registration for up to 6 people will be paid by MWUC; Ian is going

- Social events planned for the fall:
 - Friday November 15: A card night, likely crib
 - Friday December 20: Christmas Family Evening
 - Saturday January 25: Movie Night
- December Fund Raiser:
 - Wine tasting event at Color de Vino

5.2 Business Arising

- Moving Forward With Reconciliation:
 - This is no longer operating
 - Evelyn Day has moved out of the counting room
- Committee Responsibilities Update: **(Attachment 2)**
 - This will be incorporated into the MWUC Leadership Manual
- Council members were asked to check their mailboxes in the workroom regularly.

6 New Business

6.1 Emergent Summer Issues

Motion 19/20-18: That Council give the chair and past-chair the authority to make decisions on emergent issues between now and our September 3, 2019 Council meeting and that any decisions be shared through email during this period and formally at the September Council meeting.

- **Moved by Carol Hickmann, seconded by Lindy Mair**
- **Carried**

6.2 September Welcome Back Activities

- Kathy Poechman will coordinate with Heavenly Hospitality to provide snacks/ baking after each Sunday service in September.

6.3 Planning for 2020: (Attachments 3 and 4)

- Focus Questions discussed:
 - The most important things to include in the 2020 budget
 - Staffing levels for 2020
 - Funding for our Children's Program: whether to include this within our 2020 budget or to fundraise outside of budget
 - Presenting a budget based upon projected revenues only or including drawing from the reserve fund if needed
 - How best to make the congregation aware of finances during our Stewardship work this fall

- This discussion led to the following considerations as we plan and budget for 2020:
 - We felt that it was important to maintain our present staffing levels for 2020 to ensure the positive momentum we see in the congregation is maintained and enhanced.
 - We felt that our Sunday morning children’s program is an important part of our work and that funding for it should be included within budget.
 - We deferred the discussion on the use or non-use of reserves in the 2020 budget until our October 22 council meeting when we will have the results of our stewardship work to consider.
 - Finally, Council felt it was important that during our stewardship work in late September and early October we share with the congregation financial information clearly showing the costs of both supporting the work within this congregation and the outreach work in which we are involved.

Next Meeting: Tuesday September 3, 2019 – 7:00 pm (Carla will be chairing)

Adjournment at 9:30 pm:

- **Motion 19/20-19: That the meeting be adjourned.**
 - **Moved by Darlene Hayward**

Rob McPhee (Chair)

Elfrieda Penner (Recording Steward)

Attachments are filed with a paper copy of these minutes in the church office:

1. MWUC Summer Sunday Schedule and info
2. Individual Council Member and Committee Responsibilities
3. Planning for 2020

Further pondering:

Who was the greatest moneyman in the Bible?

Noah. *He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.*

Who was the greatest babysitter mentioned in the bible?

David. *He rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep!*

Who was the fastest runner in the race?

Adam. *He was first in the human race!*