

First United Church – Hanna, Alberta
Council Meeting, Church Lounge
Wednesday, December 13, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Winona Gutsche
Rev. Leila Currie
Secretary – Rhonda Lund

Gwen Snell
Ron Lowther

Linda Quaschnick

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Winona Gutsche called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

1.0 WELCOME & OPENING WORSHIP

Chair Winona Gutsche welcomed everyone to the last Church Council meeting of 2017 and thanked them for attending. Rev. Currie opened the meeting with a prayer.

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion No. ____ Moved by Linda Quaschnick that the Agenda for December 13, 2017 be adopted as presented.

Motion seconded by Gwen Snell.

Carried.

3.0 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Motion No. ____ Moved by Ron Lowther that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held November 15, 2017 be adopted as presented.

Motion seconded by Linda Quaschnick.

Carried.

4.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Rev. Currie noted that the table in the basement was picked up from the basement and the new fridge was relocated.

Ron Lowther asked about the small hot water heaters that were discussed at the last meeting. The decision was made to advise people not to turn the boiler down low because the thrift store is open 4 days a week. It still takes time to get hot water, but the under sink hot water tanks only provide 6 gallons of hot water, which is not enough.

Winona Gutsche advised that she received a quote from Frosted Impressions to provide a new aluminum sign for the front of the church for \$402.75. The sign has the United Church Crest, address & phone number, Worship service times and Minister's name on it.

Motion No. ____ Moved by Gwen Snell that a new sign be purchased from Frosted Impressions based on their quote of \$402.75 to replace the existing sign attached to the west wall of the church with updated information regarding Hanna First United Church.

Motion seconded by Ron Lowther.

Carried.

Rev. Currie advised that the Annual Turkey Supper was successful with 256 people attending and approximately \$3,800 in funds brought in. There will be before expenses. 256 people attended.

Nativity Scene – Gwen asked Donna Brink to provide a quote to have the nativity scene repainted before it is put away after Christmas.

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

Rev. Currie presented the following correspondence, noting that there are a number of newsletters included:

- 5.1 United For Justice – online newsletter. Discussion that a link can be put on the Website so people can access the newsletter.
- 5.2 Embracing the Spirit – online UCC magazine.
- 5.3 Mission and Service giving report. Hanna First United has submitted our pledged amount of \$9,200.00 for 2017.
- 5.4 United Church of Canada Right Relations Committee. Letter inviting people to join the committee.
- 5.5 United Church Observer – monthly magazine

6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Finance Committee – Written Reports

Linda Quaschnick reviewed the Balance Sheet, Budget & Income Comparison Report and Notes to the Financial Statement for November 2017. She noted that revenue is approximately \$22,000 less than budget and expenses are on track.

Linda Quaschnick advised that the Finance Committee is meeting on December 19th to review the 2018 proposed budget.

The Church has been approved for the NEET (Non-Profit Energy Efficiency Transition) Program.

6.2 Board of Trustees – No Report

Linda Quaschnick advised that the insurance quotes from our current provider and the United Church Coverage Protection Plan have been reviewed. Our current provider quoted \$7,700 annually and the UCC plan quote was \$8,400, so we will stay with the current provider.

6.3 Worship, Mission & Service – Verbal Report

Rev. Currie advised that the Worship Committee had a meeting last night and discussed the following:

- November 28th – 7:00 pm decorating the Church for Christmas
- December 12th – Coffee house
- December 19th – Caroling
- December 20th – 7:00 pm Service of Light at First United Church. Coordinating with Pastor Millang from Redeemer Lutheran Church and Laurie Palmer from Hanna Funeral Services.
- December 24th – Regular Sunday morning service and Christmas Eve Service. Greeters and communion servers are needed.
- December 31st – New Year's Eve – as in the past, will not be a service on this Sunday. The committee didn't feel there would be enough people in attendance.
- The chairs in the lounge are very bulky and heavy, so the committee would like to sell them and use the burgundy chairs from the fellowship room.

Motion No. ____ Moved by Ron Lowther that, as recommended by the Worship Committee, the orange and yellow chairs from the lounge be offered for sale and the chairs from the fellowship room be used in the lounge.

Motion seconded by Gwen Snell.

Carried.

Motion No. ____ Moved by Ron Lowther that, as recommended by the Worship Committee, the Regular Sunday Service on January 31st, 2017 be cancelled as it is New Year's Eve day.

Motion seconded by Linda Quaschnick.

Carried.

6.4 Christian Education – No Report

6.5 Pastoral Care – No Report

6.6 Memorial Park – No Report

6.7 Ministry & Personnel – Verbal Report

Ron Lowther advised that Rev. Currie has accepted a call to a new pastoral relationship with Gaetz United Church in Red Deer. She will be leaving Hanna following the Sunday Service on March 4th, 2018

Rev. Currie stated that it is a healthy thing for a church to take stock and see what can be done differently. She has certainly loved Hanna and that is why she and Finlay have stayed for 6 years. She advised that she is not leaving because she is unhappy here, but she would like to be living closer to her children.

Council discussed the process to advise the congregation members that Rev. Currie is leaving. Winona and Laura will work on a newsletter to be mailed to members. Presbytery will start the process to form a Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC), but members of the Church will need to be involved. This will help us determine how this may change our church and determine our options going forward.

6.8 Property – Verbal Report

Gwen Snell advised that no one has come forward for a roster to do snow removal on a regular basis. She advised that Ray Hickie broke the ice out of the eavestroughs and the leak in the furnace is repaired. The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting, but have emailed about things that need to be done.

6.9 Thrift Store – Written Report

Rev. Currie reviewed the Thrift Store report, noting the following:

- November sales were \$5,982.30, volunteer hours were 278.25 and customers numbered 402.
- Two of the days included in the report were ½ price days.
- Will be closed December 23rd to January 4th for Christmas holidays.
- Will have a sorting day and meeting on January 3rd, 2018.

Motion No. ____ Moved by Ron Lowther that Council ratify the following motions made at the December 4, 2017 Thrift Store Board meeting to authorize the Board to:

- 1 Price all kids clothes size 0-5 at \$1.00 effective January 1st, 2018.
- 2 Purchase 2 large and 2 smaller tables to replace the broken ones.

Motion seconded by Linda Quaschnick.

Carried.

The 5th Anniversary celebrations were very successful. The gift bags from Church Council were very well received by past and present volunteers. Shopping exceeded expectations and both days had record breaking sales. Thank you to everyone who helped.

7.0 PRESBYTERY REPORT – No Report

8.0 MINISTER'S REPORT – Written Report

Rev. Currie confirmed that she has accepted a call to Gaetz United Church in Red Deer. She is extremely grateful for the people of Hanna First United Church for the 7.5 years she has been here. Her wish for this community of Faith; May the Spirit of Holy Love, and the gifts of the Spirit continue to move you in new directions, with bold compassion, grace, hospitality, and love.

Rev. Currie reviewed her report, noting the following:

- Committee meetings – Ministry & Personnel December 4th to submit her letter advising that she accepted the call to Gaetz United Church, Thrift Store December 6th and Worship Committee December 11th
- Hanna Ministerial Association – December 12th
 - Very successful Carol Festival on December 3rd 2017 at 7:00 pm at the Community Centre.
- Centre Street Thrift Store – Enjoyed helping at the 5 Year Anniversary celebration and sale. Also helping out while Laura was away.
- Pastoral Care – visits to the hospital, calls and emails. Also met with individuals to inform them of her move.
- Other events – Turkey Supper December 5th, Coffee House December 12th
- Wider Community – Carol Festival December 5th, Hanna Food Bank Review Board December 11th. Women Empowering Women Workshop.
- Wider Church – Presbytery representative for Delia, Communion in Delia December 10th, Presbytery representative for Consort Joint Search Committee & Attended DUCC (Diakonia of the United Church of Canada) gathering in Olds on November 16th
- Funerals – Graveside service for Kelly Grantham on November 29th
- Continuing Education
 - November 20th – 29th – In Cochrane – *Journey Toward Wholeness*.

- Upcoming –
 - December 19th – Christmas Caroling
 - December 20th – Service of Light
 - December 24th – Christmas Eve Service
 - January 15 -23 Days off & Vacation days

Motion No. ____ Moved by Linda Quaschnick that Committee Reports 6.1 to 6.9, Presbytery Report 7.0 and Minister's Report 8.0 be accepted as presented at the meeting tonight.

Motion seconded by Ron Lowther.

Carried.

9.0 NEW & OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Turkey Supper

Rhonda Lund suggested that at the next Turkey Supper, a Thank You card be placed on each of the tables (like the prayer card) giving special recognition to the conveners of the supper and maybe the people that donate the turkeys. Council consensus was to implement the card for 2018 and that it also be advertised in the bulletin.

10.0 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

Chair Winona Gutsche thanked everyone for attending and stated that business being concluded, the meeting is adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Chair

Secretary