

**Leadership Team Meeting
Minutes
April 2, 2020
Zoom Meeting**

Present: Lynda Pyzer, Thelma Bretel, Cathy Zroback; Elora Carver, Rai Therrien, Peter Fox, Brenda Shodin, Meg Illman-White

Guest: Cheryl Dyck

Regrets: Don Cameron

1) Opening Devotions:

Presented by Meg Illman-White; Diana Butler-Bass has a video series the study group is watching. The recent one they watched dealt with ethics. "On The Table" the table is a circular one. This allows a spot for each person without providing a sense of priority for anyone at the table. The author suggests that instead of a cross we should wear a circle. In the present climate we are beginning to understand that injury to one is injury to all. Meg cited the words of the British MP who pointed out that those who are most essential now are those who were often considered "lesser" before the pandemic. Christ's table is one of abundance for all-often starting with little (loaves & fishes).

2) Check In: Lynda Pyzer solicited feelings and happenings from each participant and spoke about ZOOM issues that have surfaced.

3) Approval of Agenda: Cathy Zroback will add "Footprints" to her building report.

Motion #1 Moved by Brenda Shodin and seconded by Cathy Zroback
THAT the agenda be accepted as amended.
Carried

3) Approval of Minutes:

i) LT Minutes - Conference Call - March 14, 2020
Zoom Meeting - March 19, 2020

Motion #2 Moved by Elora Cavner and seconded by Brenda Shodin
THAT the minutes from March 14, 2020 be approved as circulated.
Carried

Motion #3 Moved by Thelma Bretel and seconded by Cathy Zroback
THAT the minutes from March 19, 2020 be approved as circulated.
Carried

ii) Business Arising from Minutes: None noted

4) Correspondence: None noted

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5) Reports:**i) Minister - Meg**

The last few weeks have been a challenge with virtual worship production.

Meg commends her "production team" and those who have volunteered to take part in the services for the time spent in production. People have been very receptive when she has approached them about taking part. She tries to involve different parishioners each week. ZOOM seemed to work well for coffee time but apparently some people couldn't "get in" to join. There have also been security issues identified recently in use of ZOOM. E-mails from the church to congregants are also not arriving in a timely fashion. Meg would like to have Easter Service live, but so far has not determined if this is "doable". Brenda Shodin moved in an email seconded by Peter Fox that Knox purchase a new microphone to help with acoustics of our virtual services. Carried. Our new microphone should help with sound problems but the capabilities of the mic are still being learned.

The shelter is operating with reduced hours. Keewatin arena is being prepared as an isolation site for any symptomatic/diagnosed shelter patrons or street residents with COVID 19 infections. The Fellowship Center is still providing meals. Jubilee is providing bagged lunches.

Our congregation has been contacted by the House Group Leaders and Meg has done some pastoral contacts. Feedback so far is positive to the contact calls. The Affirming Committee talked to Sally Hunt for possible ideas for actions. She suggested we build on what we are doing now. A concern regarding help is that people on ODSB and Ontario Works have not had any support announced yet.

ii) Youth and Young Families - Brenda

All activities are on hold because of current physical distancing restrictions. There will be some youth and young families involved in the Palm Sunday and the Easter services.

iii) Ministry & Personnel - Brenda

Louise Marston and Heather Gropp are looking into eligible aid to the church as employers and if a layoff would be of benefit to any staff members.

iv) Finances & Stewardship - Peter

Our March revenues were only down 7% so we do not qualify for announced subsidies. There is a \$40,000 interest free grant. Eric Matheson suggested all United Churches should apply for this now. Discussion ensued and it was decided that we should wait for more information and the qualifying criteria.

Congregation Donations - People can be asked to increase their donations and/or begin to donate by PAR. Donations can be mailed or can be made via our web site. Currently our mail box is external and unsecured. Richard Shodin will investigate the "old" mail slot in the Fifth Avenue choir door to see if it can be restored. It will be stressed that people should be invited to donate as they are able in today's climate of less income.

v) Worship Interest Group (WIG)

The group has not had a meeting. They have been involved in preparation of worship. There have been many compliments about the services.

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vi) Pantry - Cathy

Cathy has to find ways to fund & pack the hampers due to the COVID 19 restrictions. The account is down.

MOTION #4 Moved by Peter Fox and seconded by Cathy Zroback
THAT Cathy Zroback be approved to apply for a Kenora Community Foundation Grant to help fund our Pantry supplies.
Carried

Could information be put on the web page and in the newsletter about Pantry donations? Meg Illman-White asked if Affirm could help since restrictions prevent a large group from meeting to pack hampers at church. Cathy is still debating what to do. Rather than a hamper she may prepare a small basket with gift certificates.

vii) Building - Cathy

There is nothing being done because of the Covid 19 directives. The contractors for the stain glass windows can come in as long as there is physical distancing. Cathy spoke to Public Health for local approval. Discussion ensued.

MOTION #5 Moved by Peter Fox and seconded by Elora Cavner
THAT the Leadership Team agrees to go ahead with work on the stained glass windows with approval of Public Health (done) and the United Church head office (General Secretary).
Carried

There has been no reply from the electricians after many messages about assessment of and conversion of the sanctuary ceiling lights to LED fixtures. Peter Fox will call Degagne's to find out why they have not responded to our requests.
FOOTPRINTS - Green Audit: Everything is uncertain. Funding is still available (Peter Fox checked). We do not know if monies will come, but we have not had or submitted the necessary quotes. Unsure if the funding is time sensitive.
When Lynda Pyzer speaks to the General Secretary, she should ask if it is permissible for contractors to come in to the church in order to provide quotes for possible work to be done. We would like to know if the Minister has to be one of the 3 people present at the time the work is carried out, or if it can be a member of the congregation.

6) New Business: None

7) Adjournment: Lynda Pyzer adjourned the meeting at 7:30
Date of next meeting - April 16, 2020
Devotions - Rai Therrien

8) Closing Prayer - Led by Thelma Bretel

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Signature of Chair



Signature of Secretary

Motions:

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Email Motion

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Reports and Tasks Pending from April 2, 2020

Tasks	Person(s) / Responsible
Investigation reactivation old mail slot in choir door	Richard Shodin
Easter Hampers	Cathy Zroback
Grant for funding hampers	Cathy Zroback
U.C. Head office approval for proceeding with Stained glass window work & contractor quotes for church repairs needed	Lynda Pyzer
Call DeGagne's about lack of response	Peter Fox
Virtual Worship preparation	WIG, Meg and Brenda
Investigation of most beneficial employment outcome for Knox Staff during Covid 19 directives	Louise Marston & Heather Gropp