

Present:

Karen Hunt
Joyce Firlotte
John Gray
Brenda Gray
Bob Klatt
Kathleen Williamson

Bill Hughes
Liz Hughes
Sandra Walker
Barb Joynt
Chris McColl
Rev. Lynne Gardiner

Ruth Anne Johnson
Paul Coutts
Jack Johnson
Linda Hamon

Regrets: - none

Welcome:

With quorum present Ruth Anne Johnson called the meeting to order at 12:10pm and welcomed everyone. Rev. Lynne Gardiner offered an opening prayer.

Caring/Sharing:

We hold in prayer Rev. Liz T., David, Luke, and Carolyn.

Minister's Report:

Rev. Lynne gave a quick review of Remit 1 - Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization. She emphasised the importance of submitting a vote since not voting is considered a negative vote.

Aboriginal Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that this meeting is being held on unceded, unsurrendered Territory of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Nation, whose presence and stewardship dates to time immemorial and will continue in perpetuity. We honour their long history of welcoming many Nations to this territory and we acknowledge our shared responsibilities to ensure health and wellbeing for all creation for generations to come.

Agenda:

Karen Hunt moved, seconded by Joyce Firlotte to accept the agenda, as circulated.

All in favour; motion carried

Minutes:

Linda Hamon moved, seconded by Jack Johnson to accept the minutes of the September 28 2023 meeting.

All in favour; motion carried

Business Arising from the Minutes:

Funeral brochure and rentals

A recent funeral experience made us realize that the funeral brochure needs to be updated to include more detailed information. Session will work to improve the brochure.

Remit 1

Ballots were distributed and votes counted; unanimous Yes vote.

Website

Rev. Lynne (*pastor*) and Sandra Walker (*treasurer*) will continue to use email addresses @bethelchurchrideauferry.ca that TerraUtopia will administer. Additional email addresses, as required, will be @xplore.net

Committee Reports:

Ministry & Personnel

The M&P committee plans to meet on December 4th at 9:00 a.m.

Reverend Lynne will be on vacation from November 20th to December 4th and Ruth Anne will be managing the church phone.

On behalf of the M&P committee, Reverend Lynne we wish you a wonderful vacation away with your family in Vancouver. It is certainly well deserved! Remember to enjoy every minute and soak up all the love. We can't wait to hear all about it!

An email was sent out with an invitation to Bethel's employees to attend the upcoming M&P meeting.

Stewardship

1. During the October Stewardship Appeal, the Bethel congregation generously donated \$1805 in support of the Lanark, Leeds and Grenville Children's and Family Services Snowsuit Fund.
2. The Stewardship Committee will organize a Christmas sing- a-long to take place following the UCW's Soup and Sandwich Lunch on Sunday, December 10th.
3. White Gift Sunday will be Sunday, December 17th. Rather than members of the Bethel congregation bringing white paper-wrapped gifts on White Gift Sunday, white envelopes will be available in the pews and people will be invited to place a contribution in the envelopes in support of the local Food Banks – The Table (Perth) and the Smiths Falls Community Food Bank in Smiths Falls.
4. The Stewardship Committee has begun to plan for a Tea and Fashion Show on Saturday, June 1 supporting Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Lanark County. We will work with the UCW on this event. This event will take place here at Bethel. Tickets for the Tea and Fashion Show will be sold in advance.
5. The Annual Bethel Christmas Newsletter has been prepared and is ready for distribution.

6. The Stewardship Committee will next meet on Sunday, February 11, 2024 after the Sunday service.

Property

Duct covers, in the hall, will be installed shortly.
Hoping that the new accessible door will be delivered in the next 2/3 weeks.
The new washroom is almost completed with only the hot water to be connected.

Trustees

The initial \$200,000 investment, through EOORC, rose to \$204,000 but went down and since September 28th has come up again.

Session

Advent/Christmas worship dates:

November 26 Rev. Lynne Gardiner away; Norma Wrightly; Advent 1
December 3 Rev. Lynne Gardiner away; Norma Wrightly; Advent 2
December 10 Rev. Lynne Gardiner; communion; Advent 3
December 17 Rev. Lynne Gardiner; White Gift; Advent 4
December 21 Rev. Lynne Gardiner; Blue Christmas worship at 6:00pm
December 24 Rev. Lynne Gardiner; Christmas Eve at 4:30pm
December 31 Rev. Lynne Gardiner away; no service

UCW - (see Appendix 2)

Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council (EOORC) - no report

Bob Klatt moved, seconded by Sandra Walker to accept the committee reports as presented.

All in favour; motion carried

Financial Report: - (see Appendix 3)

Sandra Walker moved, seconded by Jack Johnson to accept the financial report as presented.

All in favour; motion carried

Budget 2024: - (see Appendix 4)

Sandra noted that the rate of travel, set by the United Church of Canada, has increased to \$0.56/km. The rate for pulpit supply, set by the United Church of Canada, has increased to \$247 plus travel.

Sandra Walker moved, seconded by Brenda Gray to accept the budget as presented to be approved at the Annual Congregational Meeting.

All in favour; motion carried

New Business:

Date of Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, February 18 2024 after a potluck lunch.

Annual Report

Committee reports are due, to Linda Hamon, by January 21 2024 and financial reports are due by February 4 2024.

Correspondence: - none

Announcements and Upcoming Events: - none

Next Meeting:

Annual Congregational meeting on Sunday, February 18 2024

Adjournment:

Bob Klatt adjourned the meeting at 1:40pm.

Ruth Anne Johnson
Chair, Official Board

Linda Hamon
Secretary, Official Board

Initials _____

Appendix 1 – Agenda

1. Welcome, caring and sharing, opening prayer
Minister's report
2. Aboriginal acknowledgement
We acknowledge that this meeting is being held on unceded, unsundered Territory of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Nation, whose presence and stewardship dates back to time immemorial and will continue in perpetuity. We honour their long history of welcoming many Nations to this territory and we acknowledge our shared responsibilities to ensure health and wellbeing for all creation for generations to come.
3. Additions to/adoption of the agenda
4. Approval of minutes of September 28 2023
5. Business arising from the minutes
 - (i) Funeral brochure and rentals
 - (ii) Remit 1
 - (iii) Website
6. Committee Reports
 - a. Ministry and Personnel
 - b. Stewardship
 - c. Property
 - d. Trustees
 - e. Session
 - f. EOORC
 - g. United Church Women
7. Financial Reports and Budget– Sandra Walker, Treasurer
8. New Business
 - a. Date of Annual meeting
 - b. Annual Report
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
9. Correspondence
10. Announcements

Next meeting:

Adjournment:

Initials _____

Appendix 2 – UCW

We usually have an attendance of 15 -18 members at our monthly meeting. Several ladies usually bring a bag lunch to stay and visit with each other or join the weekly Chat 'n Chew session which is often called our free therapy session. Recently we supported Shirley O'Connell's request for help in providing "Izzy" dolls for a gala hosted by the United Nations in Canada Committee. We were joined by several ladies from Trinity United Church, Smiths Falls, who have since continued to join Bethel's Chat 'n Chew. We feel that this is a great partnership and hope to work together, again, in other community projects.

We were very happy to have Annie Bergeron-Oliver and a camera man from CTV news visit us to interview Shirley about the "Izzy" dolls' history and continued support.

The December 10th soup 'n sandwich lunch will be followed by a Christmas sing-along hosted by the Stewardship committee.

Plans are underway for the Cookie/Bake Sale to be held on December 2nd. Pre-orders for cookies will be taken until November 28th.

Two (2) ladies took the safe food handling course offered by the Health Unit - Leeds Grenville & Lanark District.

We reviewed and voted on the community organisations we will support, financially, this year. Donations will be sent out after the Cookie/Bake Sale.

We are a "small but mighty" UCW continuing to support our congregation and community (locally & globally).

Respectfully submitted
Linda Hamon

Initials _____

Appendix 3 – Financial Report

Bethel United Church As at October 31,2023				
		Operating	Stewardship	
Balance January 1, 2023		7,707.17	2,140.75	9,847.92
Receipts	Local Support	58,504.13		
	Loose Collection	1,510.00		
	Mission & Service	6,086.00		
	Bathroom Grant	2,425.00		
	Bethel - UCW	5,000.00		
	Energy Grant	19,000.00		
	Golf Donation	450.75		
	GST/HST Rebate	3,685.28		
	Memorial Donations	1,779.72		
	Stewardship - Lenten Appeal		2,031.50	
	Stewardship - Lunch		626.00	
	Stewardship - Pancake Breakfast		2,640.00	
	Stewardship - Picnic		362.00	
	Stewardship - Snowsuit Fund		1,805.00	
	Trustees	30,000.00		
	Broadview	75.00		
	Lunch Bunch	691.10		
	Buliding Donation	590.00		
	Rental	50.00		
	Stove Project	111.00		
	Supply Donation	60.00		
		130,017.98	7,464.50	137,482.48
Disbursements	Minister Salary/Benefits	66,144.27		
	Continuing Education	1,374.78		
	Puplit Supply	1,387.00		
	Pulpit Travel	207.90		
	Organist Salary	480.00		
	Organist Travel	382.00		
	Secretary Salary	2,535.03		
	Secretary Travel	166.87		
	Internet/Web/Donation	2,996.48		
	Regional Dues	4,912.00		
	Bank Charages	111.57		
	Par Cost	170.50		
	Gifts	100.00		
	Music Licence	354.00		
	Office - Secretary	96.03		
	Office - Treasurer	155.85		
	Photocopier Expense	333.31		
	Photocopier Lease	648.86		
	Telephone	197.92		
	Church - Bathroom	2,956.41		
	Church - Cleaning	1,160.00		
	Church - Hydro	2,262.92		
	Church - Insurance	2,782.65		
	Church - R&M	1,148.87		
	Church - Repairs	6,783.03		
	Church - Snow Plowing	2,288.25		
	Church - Septic/Water	1,078.83		
	Engery Upgrade	8,010.08		
	Broadview	100.00		
	Mission & Services	6,086.00		
	Stewardship - Expenses		858.26	
	Stewardship - Lenten Appeal		2,031.50	
	Stewardship - Snowsuit Fund		1,805.00	
		117,411.41	4,694.76	122,106.17
		20,313.74	4,910.49	25,224.23

Appendix 4 – Budget 2024

Budget Bethel Pastoral Charge:Rideau Ferry			
	Budget	Actual	Budget
	2023	Oct 31/23	
Expenses			
Salary/Benefits	79,213	66,144	84,100
Organist Salary	1,000	480	800
Secretary Salary	3,380	2,535	3,380
Travel	1,200	757	1,200
Con. Ed./Book Allowance	1,541	1,375	1,640
Gifts	700	100	700
Lay Training Fund	3,000	0	3,000
Pulpit Supply	1,400	1,387	1,700
Music License	500	354	400
Treasurer Hon.	500	0	500
Internet/Zoom/Donation/Website	1,750	2,996	2,100
Regional AGM	500	0	500
Regional Dues	4,200	4,912	4,204
Office (Minister)	100	0	100
Office (Secretary)	100	96	100
Office (Treasurer)	200	156	250
Telephone	325	198	240
Par Cost/Bank Charges	325	282	350
Photocopier Expenses	200	333	350
Photocopier Lease	800	649	800
Church - Cleaning	1,200	1,160	1,440
Church - Grass/Snow	1,000	2,288	2,500
Church - Hydro	4,600	2,263	2,500
Church - Insurance	2,940	2,783	3,400
Church - Maintenance	500	1,149	700
Church - Water/Septic	500	1,079	500
Miscellaneous	46	0	46
TOTAL	111,820	93,476	117,500