

**Crossroads United Pastoral Charge
Council Meeting minutes
March 19, 2020
Meeting took place using Microsoft Teams**

Present:	Julie Ruban McDonald	Karen McGill	Harold Kenyon
	Karen Tjaden	Betty Park	Lorraine Stevenson
	Diane Unruh	Susan Wepler	Shawna Hayward
	Don Lemon	Terry Gosnell	Judy McGregor

1. Chair, Julie Ruban McDonald called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Shawna Hayward was welcomed as the new chair of St. Andrew's board.
2. Karen Tjaden led in opening worship with us reading "No Distance", from Unfolding Light by Steve Garnaas – Holmes.
3. Karen McGill read the land acknowledgment.

4. **Motion to Approve Agenda**

Motion: Don Lemon/Terry Gosnell
"That the agenda be approved as presented." Carried.

5. **Minutes of January 16, 2020**
Correction – St. Andrew's report should read that Don McKay reported.

Motion: Lorrain Stevenson/Judy McGregor
"That the minutes be accepted with correction." Carried.

6. **Business arising from Minutes**

Karen Tjaden submitted the application. We should hear by mid-May although the current pandemic situation may change the program.

7. **Crossroads New Business**

Information regarding Covid 19 and our church community. Karen Tjaden reported that Ministerial has been working as a team and a meeting was called last Tuesday afternoon and all churches in town decided to close for worship. Ministerial will stay active in community with the grocery assistance program.

Staff have been discussing church hours. The building will remain open Tuesday & Thursday from 9:00 – noon and 1:00 -3:30 and Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 – noon. The hall is set up in such a way that we can meet with 1 or 2 people and follow the social distancing guidelines. We will continue this way until there is further directive from Manitoba Health.

We will not be open to catering or groups.

Right now worship will be cancelled until the end of April and then re-evaluated depending on Manitoba Health guidelines.

Don Lemon will talk to our custodians to make sure that surfaces are being sanitized daily. Most important that door handles, washroom surfaces etc. are done daily. Staff are also sanitizing office surfaces frequently throughout the day.

8. **Crossroads Committee Report**

(focus on ways we can offer ministry when not gathering in person)

9a. **St. Andrew's Report**

Shawna Hayward is the new chair of St. Andrew's board and reported that the offer to purchase St. Andrew's is still on the table. There are two conditions that must be met by June that are being worked on. Both parties – daycare and St. Andrew's have agreed that there will be space for St. Andrew's to continue worshipping once renovations are done.

The Soup & pie luncheon is cancelled. Shawna will check with 4-H to make sure they are not meeting at this time.

9b. **Ministry and Personnel**

Lynn Rempel is the new chair of the committee. Terry Gosnell, past chair, mentioned that Lynn had e-mailed her minutes of the March 4th meeting. The office received these minutes after the meeting. From: Lynn's report: Dorothy Strachan was welcomed to the committee. This meeting was held to evaluate the goals that the staff set last year. As a committee we believe that our team brings a diverse range of interests and skill to the pastoral charge and work together to support each other in a wide range of duties.

We would like to recommend the following items;

-That we approve the additional \$75.00 requested by Karen McGill to cover the cost of a 2 day seminar in May. This is over and above the \$200 in her con-ed budget. It has been \$200 since 2006 and it may be time to consider putting more money into this allocation. (*this meeting has since been cancelled.)

-We also recommend that we work with Karen Tjaden in order for her to attend a DOVE conference in Jamaica Sept. 21 – 25. This may be in the form of a deferment of holidays.

-We would ask that consideration be given at the next council meeting for setting both long term and short term goals.

9c. **Worship Committee:**

Judy McGregor reported that the committee was going to meet this morning but postponed due to social distancing requirements and will meet via e-mail and phone. Harold and Karen will look at different ways of using online services and social media to continue to keep our congregations connected. Karen Tjaden will create some online Sunday School materials for children.

9d. **Ministry Staff**

Harold Kenyon:

Genesis 2: 1 – 3

“Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the 7th day God finished the work that God had done, and he rested on the 7th day from all the work that was completed. God blessed the 7th day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all the work that God had done in creation.”

Seven days. Seven days ago I was just starting our last Sunday sermon.

Seven days ago, we knew that Covid 19 had landed, but we didn't really know what it meant. We knew we had to do some stuff, and not other stuff, but think of the things that have changed in seven days.

These last seven days have been a bit of a whirlwind. We've been trying to figure out how to gather for worship without gathering. We've been trying to figure out how to care for people while we practice social distancing. We've been trying to figure out whether ZOOM is better than Microsoft Teams. We've been trying to figure out how to share good news with business people who are worried about meeting pay roll, and for people who are afraid they will lose their jobs. Lots has changed in seven days.

But in the last seven days, we've seen and heard and witnessed a lot of good things. A whole lot of food has come into the church and a whole lot has gone out to feed the hungry. We've had people call and ask, "How can I help?" We've been able to give some of them jobs to do that make a difference.

Although it's a pain that we can't do church the way we used to, that might not be a bad thing. We're being forced to find new ways to share Christ and the good news of God's love. We've succeeded at some new things, like meeting over the internet. Hurray! We'll try new things, and some will work and some won't and that's OK. God is asking us to take a leap of faith. God made the world in 7 days, and it might feel like it's our job to reinvent the world in 7 days, but it isn't. God made the world and it is very good. We'll do our part, and be thankful for what God is up to in our neighbourhood and for God's people who are also doing their part. All of us can take a breath and rest in God's grace and goodness. We are not alone, and we'll get through this.

Karen Tjaden:

Karen is reporting in committee reports.

9e. **Crossroads Finance**

Crossroads Financial reports to February 29, 2020 were distributed by e-mail before the meeting. Terry Gosnell went over the reports explaining how the pastoral charge account works. Terry would go over with Shawna at a later time if required. Statistics are done and our national assessment for 2021 looks like it will go up about \$445.

9f. **Christian Education**

Karen Tjaden reported that the committee has not met. Karen will be reading some stories on Facebook, looking at doing Sunday School via Zoom. She has looked at starting a pen pal project and there is an online virtual daycamp through the Go Project.

Following our environmental theme, the committee purchased 8 books around Earth Day to donate to the Boyne Regional Library.

The 3rd early dismissal program took place last week with 9 kids attending. Theme was caring for the earth. Jeannie Baker was the guest speaker talking about gardening. Jeannie gifted the kids with jars of jam.

9g. **Pastoral Care**

Susan Weppler reported that the committee has not met but that she met with Harold and Karen and reviewed our mailing list and split people up into groups to be contacted. Jean Carruthers and Lynne & Wayne Sanderson have offered to help keep in touch with congregation members. Pastoral care visits will happen by phone. The Moderator has invited everyone to think of 3 people in your circle and check in regularly to make sure they are doing okay.

9h. **Mission and Service and Outreach**

Diane Unruh reported that the committee has not met since January 10th. The Kairos blanket exercise has been postponed. There is food coming into the church that needs to be distributed and we will be looking at how best to do that. There is an opportunity to show our "faith in action" during this time.

Motion: Betty Park/Terry Gosnell
"That the committee reports be accepted as presented." Carried.

Date of Next Meeting - June 18th at 7:00 p.m.

Shawna Hayward left the meeting.

10. **Carman Business**

Discussion around use of church. Manitoba Health recommending no more than 50 people and this is likely to go down to fewer people.

We cannot spread out people enough in the hall for 50 people and the hall committee can't spread out in the kitchen to prepare meals. We will not have groups and will not be catering.

We could hold small funerals spreading people out in the sanctuary and the Reformed churches have offered their spaces as they have lots of room to spread out in their sanctuaries. Would not be able to do lunches.

11. **Carman Committee Reports**

11a. **Technology Committee**

Karen McGill reported that the committee has not met but invites council to think about the possibility of security cameras. There have been many break ins in town. We currently have no security alarms or cameras. If we were to buy cameras we would make them usable for multiple purposes – i.e. being able to live stream, video worship etc. in the future.

11b. **United Place**

Betty Park had nothing further to report. This will be a break for the catering committee who has been very busy.

11c. **Property Committee**

Don Lemon reported that the door openers have been installed on the bathroom doors and were adjusted so that they open themselves as soon as you start to open them (if not using the push button).

Don has talked to daycare about the bathrooms and they need to wait until new budget year if they are going to pay for bathroom repairs. We will get contractors in to do quotes when they are ready to proceed.

The quote for the lift is around \$27,000. The memorial fund has received many donations in memory of Bonnie Froebe and \$10,000 of that has been designated for the lift.

Terry Gosnell also mentioned that we have approval from the annual meeting to cash the GIC for the roof – there was \$10,000 designated for the roof and the GIC is \$27-28,000 so extra could be put towards the lift.

It was noted that whenever we have named a project, funds have come in.

Betty Park mentioned that when the addition was built it was always the plan to eventually install a lift.

Comment was made that we could present the possibility of a lift to the congregation. It was mentioned that Council is elected to make these decisions. The congregation is aware of the need for the lift.

Terry Gosnell reported that there is a 2nd term deposit of around \$7,000 that is designated for building as well.

More discussion followed.

Motion: Don Lemon/Betty Park
“That we go ahead with the lift project, spending no more than \$30,000 to install the lift and upgrade the electrical needed.”

Question was asked if there are not other needs that we should be looking at.
Comment was made that significant memorial donations have been made for this project.

Motion was carried.

Betty Park is not in favour of starting to ask for money, or doing fundraisers right away when we are sitting on money in the GIC's that we have not needed for other projects that we have done.

Don will move this project forward.

11d. **Carman Finance**

Terry Gosnell shared Carman Financial reports to end February via email before the meeting. Report is similar to last year. Income is slightly down.

When we are sending information out to members it would be good to remind them that it is good time to sign up for PAR. We will have to wait and see what finances will look like with no worship services.

12. **Communication with our membership**

We are looking at using social media, e-mail, regular mail etc. to keep in touch.

13. **Blessing and Sending Forth**

From Voices United – blessing written by St. Patrick.

Comment about reading together doesn't work very well over virtual meeting!

Meeting adjourned.

Julie Ruban McDonald, Chair

Karen McGill, Secretary