**Niverville United Church**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

**November 22, 2023**

Chair: Lesley Reimer

Recording Secretary: Terri MacDonald

Present via Zoom: Lesley Reimer, Roxanne Anderson, Rev.Simba, Bill McVicar,

                              Ellen Gaudry, Judith Hinton, Judy Limpright, Gloria Nicol

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* Lesley called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm and recited the mission statement;

Rev. Simba offered the prayer/meditation

***The mission of the Niverville United Church is to worship God, care for each other, and seek***

***justice and deepen our faith within our Christian church family***

**REMINDER: COVID-19:** *Masks are optional but encouraged due to poor air exchange in the church.*

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**Minutes –** October Mins reviewed

**MOTION #27:**           Terri made the motion to accept October 2023 minutes as read.

                                    \*Seconded by Ellen

                                    \*Carried, unanimous

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**Treasurer Report** – Gloria presented the financial report and added the following info:

* Thank you to the anonymous donations that have recently been given to the church, which significantly helped our net income for the month ($9190.98).
* Challenge made to our congregation to please give with a generous heart.
* Suggestion made to have some fund-raising events, such as, Trivia Night (February?)

**MOTION #28:**            Gloria made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as read.

                                    \*Seconded by Judith

                                    \*Carried, unanimous

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**Old Business**

* Name tags – List of names presently being compiled and tags may be ready by Christmas

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**New Business**

* Collaboration Team/Joint Worship – Will be meeting to continue addressing the ongoing concerns some congregants have, re: music (songs chosen, amount chosen, etc); length of service (too long?). The teams would greatly appreciate suggestions and ask that everyone remain patient while all the technical bugs are sorted.

Worship Committee will be speaking to the congregation to explain exactly what they do and how much time they put into preparing our services.

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**Invited Guests**: At 6:43pm, Jonathan and Jennie joined to discuss back up computer systems.

* Admin staff need to be able to access work from computer that remains in StUC when at NUC. All files need to be centralized.
* The church owns four computers and those in possession of these will need to email Lesley to let her know of their back up needs.
* The license for EasyWorship is held by StUC (this software puts the words of the songs on the big screens) and cannot be shared; if we wish to purchase our own license, that would cost the church $250.00 per year. This is not a necessity as power point can be used instead.
* NAS – Network Attach Storage – is what StUC is using for back up of their information. Once installed at our church, we can then link to Steinbach. The cost for installation is $400.00 and $1000.00 for the service. It is two hard drives that automatically back up and we can pick which content we wish to share or not share with each other.

Guests left the meeting at: 7:31pm

* Zoom payment is due and since we continue to use this service, we will pay for another year - $224.00

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**Committee Reports**

* + **Minister** – Simba appreciates the improved communication, ensuring that concerns/situations are not missed. Ministry Team – need 5 people from each church to join…more info to follow.
  + **Pastoral Care** – Shawl makers will be meeting biweekly at Clare’s house; 50 shawls were given out this year so far; people have been sharing their gratitude for the thoughtfulness.
  + **Cemetery** – Town of Niv should not be charging taxes if our cemetery is registered so this is being looked into now. The town sends “thanks” for how nice the cemetery looks! Putting up the shed is now a spring time project.
  + **Worship** – Committee continues working with Rev Simba to put together our worship services. They will be trying to use the hymn suggestions made by congregants for Advent and Christmas. The evening of Comfort and Joy will be shared via Zoom on December 14th at 7pm.
  + **Finance** – No changes/concerns noted.
  + **Trustee** – No changes/concerns noted.
  + **Property** – Looking into projector placement.
  + **M & P** – New member will be joining their next meeting. Gloria will deal with the offerings/donations while Heather is away for a while.

**\*\*There will not be a council meeting in December\*\***

Meeting adjourned at: 8:04 pm \*\***Next Meeting – January 17, 2024\*\***