**Niverville United Church**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

**January 23, 2024 via Zoom**

Chair: Lesley Reimer

Recording Secretary: Terri MacDonald

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

                              Ellen Gaudry, Judith Hinton, Gloria Nicol

Regrets: Judy Limpright

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* Lesley called the meeting to order at 7:05 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 –** November 2023 Mins reviewed (there was no meeting in Dec 2023)

**MOTION #1:**           Terri made the motion to accept November 2023 minutes as read.

                                    \*Seconded by Roxanne

                                    \*Carried, unanimous

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

* M & S has been paid for the year, so balance owing = 0
* Pastoral charge, Prairie to Pine – unsure if any money is owing as nothing was paid in 2023; should there be a bill? Roxanne will follow up on the issue.

**MOTION #2:**            Gloria made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as read.

                                    \*Seconded by Ellen

                                    \*Carried, unanimous

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**Old Business**

* Computer back up software – no decision has yet been made.
* New Christmas tree will need to still be purchased as the right size was not found by the end of 2023.
* Remit vote – Each church council within the United Church has to vote on whether or not to allow for creating a space in the church organization for Indigenous autonomy, making them “partners in God’s call”. On June 30th at 7:30pm there will be a Zoom presentation, re: this plan. Our council voted a unanimous “yes” so Lesley will put forth our vote to church hub.

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**New Business**

* AGM set for March 17, 2024. Roxanne will follow up with the Worship Committee to rearrange Rev Simba’s time in NUC to coincide with the meeting.
* Budget – any questions regarding the proposed budget should be emailed to Gloria by the end of Jan, 2024. Council will vote on the new budget during the Feb meeting.
* Grounds keepers – The Pritchard family has now resigned their position of maintaining church grounds. Council sends a heartfelt “thanks” for all the work they have done over the years! New volunteers are needed; Bill will check with his son, Dustin to see if he would be interested in mowing the lawn; Gloria has volunteers to plant flowers.
* Ad Hoc team, Reaching Beyond Our Walls, to focus on reconciliation. Congregation needs to be advised that the team needs volunteers to join in the planning of events. This is supported by NUC.
* Prayer Shawl/Pastoral Care – To plan a pancake supper if there is enough interest; Shrove Tuesday at 6:00pm. Donations received at this event will be given to the church, minus expenses. Sign-up sheet will be left at the church and the event will be noted in “News and Notes”.
* It has been noted to council that one congregant has requested to have Communion once per month. No decision made at this time.

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**Committee Reports**

* + **Minister** – No report given.
  + **Pastoral Care** – Team is considering adding to their title: And Fellowship. This year, so far, 54 prayer shawls have been given out.
  + **Worship and Ed** – Planning for Lent; suggestion given for a theme – Radical Gratitude.
  + **Cemetery** – One internment.
  + **Finance** – Stewardship campaign – need to increase the church’s income with events, such as, Trivia Night which will be open to the community.
  + **Trustee** – Myra is investigating insurance options for the church.
  + **Property** – Dealing with issues as they arise.
  + **M & P** – Rev Simba has study leave in Feb. The service he is not available for will be “Beyond Our Walls”. Gloria resigned from this committee and Terri joined.

Meeting adjourned at: 9:02 pm \*\***Next Meeting – February 21, 2024\*\***