

Welcome back!

The Worship Leader for Sunday September 3rd is Marg McCulley

This Sunday's volunteers:

Elder in Charge: Linda Kisell

Scripture Readers: Sharon Clay

Greeter: Albina Jackson

Coffee Hosts: Dawn Knowles & Mikki

Minutes for Mission: Debi Hoefling

Sound/Camera Operator: Pat Evans

Weekly activities will commence this week!

Knitting group: Tuesday at 1pm in the lounge

Bible Study: Wednesday at 9:30 am at Chinook Village

Thursday drop-in coffee time: 10 am in the lounge

WUC Choir: Thursday at 7pm in the sanctuary

Chinook Winds rep Rev. Dr. Karen Medland will be leading a workshop on September 12th at 1pm in Memorial Hall to discuss and devise a plan for the future of Westminster United Church's Congregation. This is a very important workshop and all congregants are encouraged to attend. A meal will be provided.

August 16th Congregational Meeting Minutes:

Westminster United Church

Minutes for Congregational Meeting – August 16th, 2023

Chaired by Rev. Dr. Karen Medland, Pastoral Relations Regional Minister

Mission Statement: "We are a faith community building relationships with God, all people and our world"

Our Values:

1. Foster understanding of the divine through the ministry of Jesus Christ
2. Work for justice, peace, love and wholeness for all
3. Encourage ecologically sustainable lives

1. INTRODUCTIONS & MEETING CALLED TO ORDER (at 1:06 p.m.)

-introduced Joel DenHann, Community of Faith Support/Strategy Consultant

2. OPENING PRAYER

-the lighting of Christ candle to guide our thoughts, hearts, minds and conversation

3. QUORUM

-Karen declared there was a quorum for us to gather

4. FINANCIAL UPDATE, attached

5. TRUSTEES

-many listed on the titles have passed away
-is being updated

6. CREATING A MINISTRY PLAN

-first the membership list needs to be current (which is largely done)
-then artifacts need to be listed, precious items, families who donated them, etc.
-the next requirement from Chinook Winds is a Ministry plan
 -it's figuring out what ministry we as a congregation are called to do
 -Karen gave examples of what other congregations' plans were like
-Karen gave assurance of the Region's support to the congregation in doing this

7. CREATING A FINANCIAL PLAN

-Joel gave the history of Westminster's operating finances since 2014
-the long term deficit clearly indicates we are not financially sustainable
-the financial plan is how the congregation will fund their ministry plan

8. OPTIONS FOR SALE OF CHURCH PROPERTY

-we need to consider if selling is the best option

9. PROCESS FOR THE SALE OF CHURCH PROPERTY

-Chinook Winds needs to be part of the process
 -because they have the expertise
 -because we can use their guidance to make the best decisions

10. OPTIONS FOR THE CONTINUATION OF CONGREGATION

-it was clarified that the congregation is an entity separate from the property

-various examples were given where congregations had no property
 -met at another location
 -rented their property and only used it on Sunday's, etc.
 -partnership with other congregations was another example (share staff or resources)
 -partnership is better than amalgamation

- the later means there is a clear mandate very driven by both parties
- the amalgamation process takes up to 10 years, have a new name
- in a partnership, each maintains their own identity
- in a partnership you have a common mission and share resources

11. OTHER BUSINESS (after a 5-minute break)

MOTION: moved by Pat Evans, seconded by Marg Taylor that the congregation of Westminster

United Church direct its Board to request Chinook Winds Region lead a ministry and financial plan development process beginning in September, 2023 to address People, Precious Artifacts, Plans and Property with a progress report to the Congregation by November 15th, 2023. Carried.

WORKSHOP TO CREATE A MINISTRY PLAN

- on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 12th and 13th, 2023
- all congregation members are urged to attend and be an active participants
 - it is deciding what the WUC ministry is (it's a three-year plan)
- Karen Medland and Joel DenHaan will be the facilitators
- on Tuesday:
 - we meet at 1:00 in Memorial Hall at Westminster Church (in a circle)
 - we have supper together, with supper brought in
 - we meet again after supper
- on Wednesday:
 - we meet again in the morning or afternoon to polish and refine our

Ministry plan

12. ADJOURNMENT at 3:23 p.m.