

**Trinity United Church
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 10, 2019**

Finance Chair, Carl Powers welcomed and thanked everyone for staying for the meeting. He called the meeting to order and invited Sandra to give the opening prayer. Carl is filling in for Tim Dolbear, Chair of Council, who is away on vacation. Presbytery representative, Cathy Larmond was in attendance.

Cathy provided greetings from the new Antler River Watershed Region. Information was provided about the new regional boundaries and the reason behind the new name. Plaques were presented as a thank you for the congregational support from the Syrian families in our area. Sprucedale is where the plaques are to be returned once everyone has seen them. Cathy advised that council should define what an adherent should be.

A motion was brought forward by Richard Button and seconded by Liz Morrison to extend voting privileges to those in adherence. The motion was carried with none opposed.

Quorum was present.

It was motioned by Keith Southern and seconded by Tom Morrison to accept the minutes from the Congregational meeting of September 23, 2018 and February 11, 2018 as found on page 5 through 8 of the annual report. The motion was carried with none opposed.

Sandra thanked everyone for coming, and recognized the achievements from 2018. She also acknowledged that 2019 will be a challenging year for our church family. Thanks to everyone for pitching in and helping out.

Motion made by Tom Morrison and seconded by Michelle Garraway to accept the reports as printed in the annual report. All in favour, none opposed. Carried

Financial reports

The balance sheet on page 23 was reviewed. There is a high amount of cash showing as there is money owed to the Trustees from this account. The accumulated surplus is less this year due to the loss experienced at the end of 2018.

Page 25 contains the revenue sources for the church. We did have a deficit at the end of 2018 as general revenue was down. We also didn't receive the Myrtle Martin funds for 2018 due to a change of where the fund is managed and issues with obtaining the information.

Page 26 contains the expenses from 2018. There are a number of things that have increased due to increases in utilities as well as other items needed by the church. In addition, there are increases in the property committee funds due to our aging building and items needing repairs. The last quarter presbytery dues were returned due to the changes in the way the regional councils will be managed.

2018 was the first year that we haven't ended with a balanced budget. Luckily, we still had a surplus from previous years that have covered it. We are not having to borrow from the bank at this point. We do need to be aware of our revenue, but there is no need to panic at this point.

Motion made by Lynne Vanderveeken to accept the 2018 year-end financial report as printed, seconded by Carolyn Bridge. All in favour, none opposed. Carried

The report includes the independent review of the financial report on page 17. No significant errors were found within the review. It was recognized that Lynne does a fantastic job of making the review easy.

Motion made by Evelyn Mayo and seconded by Liz Morrison to accept the report as printed. All in favour, none opposed. Carried.

Lynne presented the 2019 budget as is printed on page 28 and 29 of the annual report. Salaries and allowances are less than previous since we are not likely to have a full-time minister until later in the year, so this has not been budgeted for the full year. There is an increase in travel expenses due to additional mileage required for pulpit supply.

Motion made by Richard Button and seconded by Nancy MacLennan to accept the 2019 budget as printed in the annual report. All in favour, none opposed. Carried

There were questions regarding the insurance policy and if it will go up due to multiple claims. We are currently waiting for quotes to come in related to the latest water damage. The sprinkler system is being reviewed as well to try and reduce the risk of this happening in the future. The rates shouldn't go up since the cause was not due to negligence, it was due to the cold weather.

The review of the Trustee's funds can be found on page 18 of the annual report. The Trustees hold funds on behalf of the congregation. Assets and investments are included within the report. Investments come due at various times to ensure cash is always available when needed. A review of the various funds was completed.

Motion made by Bill Arends and seconded by Lynne Vanderveeken to accept the Trustees report as printed in the annual report. All in favour, none opposed. Carried

The benevolent fund on page 22 is separate from the M&S fund. This money comes from the little envelopes. It is used for when a need presents itself, and we are able to help.

Motion made by Liz Morrison and seconded by Carolyn Bridge to accept the benevolent fund information as printed in the annual report. All in favour, none opposed. Carried

The nominating committee report can be found on page 9 of the annual report.

We also wish to extend thanks to those who have retired from committees and acknowledge their dedication and service.

Motion made by Christine Button to accept the nominating committee's report as presented, seconded by Doug Glover. All in favour, none opposed. Carried

Other business

Herb DeJong, on behalf of the M&P committee expressed sincere appreciation for the hard work and commitment of all the staff, and for their dedication in leading this congregation on our spiritual journey. He wanted to especially thank Sandra Maltby-Mills who has stepped up to help fill the needs while we are searching for a new full-time minister. Thanks to Laura who does a great job with the music ministry and to Ana Noguiera, who does an amazing job of taking care of the inside and outside of the church. Also thanks to our newest member, Debbie Curtis who is really doing a lot to keep us on track.

An update from the interview team advised that changes have occurred with the new process. The team is working through understanding the changes and continuing on our search for a new minister. We will provide updates as they are available.

Cathy Larmond advised that we need to elect a regional representative to be our representative to bring back information and provide information for the region. Everything is being managed, but by a much smaller group of people. There is a lot of confusion right now with so many changes and everything going on line. There is an annual meeting in Port Elgin for this year.

Thank you to the worship and sanctuary committee for hosting lunch today.

A motion to adjourn was brought forward by Richard Button.