

**West Plains United Church
Wednesday, May 12, 2021
Unified Board Meeting**

Present: Bev Biggley, Judi Honsberger, Shelley Gaylard, Rev. Philip Gardner, Darlene Groves, Brian Hallas, Bert Posedowski, Linda Sanderson. (highlighted are voting members)

Absent: Bev Robertson

Regrets: Peter Fox

Call to Order - The meeting opened via Zoom at 7:04 p.m. followed by a prayer offered by Linda Sanderson on behalf of Social Justice.

Previous Minutes and Correspondence:

The minutes of Wednesday, April 14, 2021 were presented to the Board. **Judi Honsberger made a motion “to accept the minutes of Wednesday, April 14, 2021 as presented.”** Seconded by Brian Hallis. Carried.

Rental Committee Report – Judi Honsberger

There has been a request to rent the hall for a television production next Tuesday, May 18th. Judi Honsberger has requested that this person come in to take a look at the facilities. She will meet with him to go over the Covid restrictions, and she will let Ray Mifflin know so that he can arrange for the custodial concerns.

Faith Formation Committee Report – Shelley Gaylard – no report

Ministry & Personnel (M&P) Committee Report – Bev Biggley – no report

Social Justice Committee Report - Linda Sanderson

Wesley Case for Kids is coming up in June and we got an email from them wanting to know what our option would be: we can either form teams and have the teams contact people to collect their sponsorship, or we could be one big team (West Plains) and our team would just have whoever wants to contribute. Last year we had over \$900 come in for Case for Kids. Steve Burford and Linda Sanderson talked about it and they thought it would be better to have just one team and everyone can donate whatever they wish for Case for Kids. We have the month of June to look after it.

St. Matthew’s Church has been requested to open their front doors again every Wednesdays from 11:00 – 1:00 p.m. for food collection on behalf of the Burlington Food Bank and the Compassion Society. Today would have been the first day of the reopening of the Food Drive.

Property Committee Report - Brian Hallas

Our snowplow contractor called a couple weeks ago to say that he was not going to cash the last month's cheque from the three churches that he snowplows for because there was no work required in the month of March so the last cheque we sent has been destroyed. Brian Hallas has sent a note to Bert Posedowski and Margot Feyerer to inform them that this cheque will not be cashed. So that was a gift.

A mock-up for the new sign is being done, and Murray Biggley will investigate appropriate fonts.

The janitorial company have pretty much worked through the cleaning of the new chairs, which cleaned up quite well. Some of the legs need cleaning up with a different chemical and Phil Groves is trying to source new feet for possible all of the chairs.

Worship Committee Report – (refer to Minister's Report)

Finance Committee Report – Bert Posedowski

Looking at the givings we have \$46,226 compared to \$38,644 the prior year. This is predominantly due to the \$10,000 received from the Squire Trust in March. For Other Revenue we are on track; we have our HST and GST which is already in the bank. Our Salaries & Benefits were almost \$10,000 lower, partly due to us collecting another \$6000 in Federal Grant money to bring down our salary costs. Everything else is well aligned and we are actually recording a surplus right now of \$1,200 and we have a bank balance of \$31,203, so we are in good shape right now. The Grant money was originally ongoing until June but has now been extended until September. *The last cheque for the snowplowing will be adjusted in Property Maintenance Expenses.

The amount of money that we have collected for Wesley Dinners to-date is \$1080. We gave a cheque to Wesley in the amount of \$450 for the Dinner so there is a surplus of just over \$600 on the books for Wesley. This will be added to the next Wesley campaign (Case for Kids).

Margot sent a cheque for \$1800 to Mission & Service and we have had more come in so we now have another \$555 to send them.

Stewardship Committee Report – no report

Trustees Committee Report – no report

Minister's Report - Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner

- Our online worship team continues to do some fine work. In particular, I appreciated Lianne's initiative in organizing the male voice choir for this past Sunday, June 9. A highlight for me was Murray Biggley's solo on the first verse of the anthem. I continue to receive expressions of gratitude not only from the West Plains community, but also from a growing number of people beyond the congregation who appreciate our online services. I find it interesting that there are now many people who participate in more than one worship service each and every week!
- The next Zoom Communion Service followed by coffee hour is planned to take place next Sunday morning, May 23rd (which is Pentecost Sunday). The Worship Committee hasn't yet had a chance to discuss it, but I'm also going to propose that we hold one more of these Zoom sacrament celebrations before the summer, likely on one of the later June Sundays (possibly June 27th). Instead of following it with a coffee hour, I think it might be interesting to hold some kind of virtual sesquicentennial picnic.
- In terms of planning for the autumn, I am tentatively hopeful that with the vaccination programme now underway the Covid numbers will drop sufficiently to make safe in person worship once again possible. In the light of that hope, I have suggested that we hold off both my covenanting and on the covenanting of the community of faith with Horseshoe Falls Region and that we do both at the same service in the sanctuary when we are able. We may have to pivot if this looks like it can't be accomplished safely in-person before the Second Coming.
- I'm also hoping that once it warms up a little more we can re-institute the weekly lunches in LaSalle Park that Lois and Linda organized last summer. These were safe and pleasant occasions (when the weather co-operated).
- The course that I was teaching at Emmanuel has concluded. I'm grateful to have had the experience, but glad to be back to a more normal work existence that includes some leisure time, now that the spring is finally underway in earnest.
- That said, next week (May 17-21) I have registered once again for the annual Festival of Homiletics in the U.S. The festival moved online last spring as a result of the pandemic and it continues online this year. My inner Scot can't resist the idea of getting something for free that has normally been quite expensive (also involving travel to a U.S. city). The festival programme begins around noon each day from Monday to Friday, so I should be able to accommodate it without impeding my usual work.
- The annual spring meeting of the Horseshoe Falls Region will take place, as it normally does, at the end of May (the 27th and 29th). Usually the new ministries service (a.k.a ordination) would be a highlight of this meeting but, in part because of COVID restrictions, the ordination service will now take place at the fall meeting (most likely in November).

New Business

1. Shredding Fundraiser Event – Shelley Gaylard

The date for this fundraiser is Saturday, September 25th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Suggested a flat fee pricing of \$15/small container/bag and \$20/larger box, resolving the donation issue. Payment of \$695 needs to be made to the company prior to the event. We have one month prior to the event to cancel. Shelley Gaylard has agreed to lead this endeavour and suggested that we meet in the summer to work through the logistics and make a final decision on whether we will proceed.

We need to start advertising by putting an announcement in our mid-week update, on Facebook, and advertise on the sandwich board in front of the church, possibly beginning July. Shelley will put an announcement together for the mid-week update.

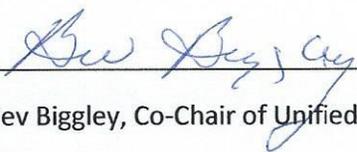
We will likely not be having a Board meeting in July, but most likely still meet in August, which will be a joint meeting with both the Board and the Reopening committee.

Closing Prayer – Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner

Motion to adjourned at 7:55 p.m. was made by Shelley Gaylard

Next meeting – Wednesday, June 9, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Opening Prayer will be offered by **Clerk of Session** (if you are unable to offer prayer, please let Darlene know ahead of the meeting).



Bev Biggley, Co-Chair of Unified Board



Secretary

Appendix I

FINANCIAL REPORT
 April 30, 2021

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Prior Year</u>		<u>Current</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Prior Year</u>
Givings				Expenses			
Loose	151	900	404	Property Maintenance			
Local	29,013	111,000	31,958	Building & Grounds	891	5,000	3,027
Benevolent	1,605	3,635	1,305	Heating	2,471	3,500	2,213
Outreach	1,080	2,025	520	Hydro	1,422	6,200	2,401
M&S Givings	2,355	10,300	2,600	Snow Removal	2,237	2,500	237
Additional Receipts	12,022	8,700	1,857	Maintenance, Lift	-	-	-
Subtotal	46,226	136,560	38,644	Subtotal	7,020	17,200	7,878
				Administration			
Other Revenue				Advertising	-	-	-
Investment Income	3,535	10,600	3,535	Bank Charges	218	-	210
Rentals- Sanctuary	-	-	-	Payroll Charge - ADP	90	920	97
Other Rooms	336	2,800	836	Office Supplies	21	270	666
TAP	-	-	-	Auditor	-	1,500	-
West Enders	-	-	55	Telephone/Internet	530	2,300	882
Fund Raising	20	8,200	5,260	Subtotal	860	4,990	1,856
HST/ GST Rebate	2,036	1,200	-				
Subtotal	5,927	22,800	9,686	Committee Expenses			
				Congregational Picnic	-	-	-
Salaries & Benefits				Faith Formation	-	-	-
Minister Salary	17,846	72,354	23,600	Music	54	745	173
Minister Housing	-	-	-	Sunday School	-	-	-
Secretary Salary	-	-	3,270	Youth Group	-	510	-
Sunday School Coordinatc	-	-	-	Worship	-	-	511
Youth Leader	-	-	-	Subtotal	54	1,255	684
UC Benefits Expense	4,277	12,130	3,827				
CPP/EI Expense	1,807	4,400	1,941	General Expenses			
Minister- Travel Allowance	-	50	-	Benevolent	600	2,400	220
- Study/Books/Phone	300	2,400	450	Outreach	450	2,025	450
Custodian	1,520	4,635	1,595	Insurance Expense	2,893	9,150	2,174
Custodian- Extra	-	-	-	M & S Givings	1,800	10,300	-
Music Director	8,772	21,156	8,551	Observer Subscription	-	125	(200)
Guest Musicians & Supply	-	2,000	90	Other/Miscellaneous	-	5,164	-
Supply Ministers	221	1,080	-	Presbytery Dues	1,291	-	1,291
Subtotal	34,743	120,205	43,325	Subtotal	7,034	29,164	3,935

Account Summary

Bank Balance 01/01/2021	-13,251
Total Revenue	50,918
Total Expenses	49,712
Surplus/Deficit	1,205
Transfers	-5,000
Loans	50,000
General Acct Balance	32,954
Reno Fund Surplus	-2,691
Accounts Payable	940
Bank Balance 04/30/2021	31,203

Notes:

Respectfully submitted,
 Finance Committee

FINANCIAL REPORT
 April 30, 2021

Savings Account			
Date	Debit	Credit	Debit
Jan 1	389.61		Kidz Club (Sunday School)
Apr 30	389.61		Total
Jan 1	223.37		Garden
Apr 30	223.37		Total
Jan 1	1,273.42		Wrap Around Aldershot
Apr 30	1,273.42		Total
Jan 1	6,697.72		Sabbatical Fund
Apr 30	6,697.72		Total
Jan 1	3,095.71		Youth Camping Fund
Apr 30	3,095.71		Total
Jan 1	1,744.68		Piano Fund
Apr 30	1,744.68		Total
Jan 1	1,672.54		Organ Fund
Apr 30	1,672.54		Total
Jan 1	-4,308.41		Interest
Apr 30	691.59		Total
	15,788.64		