

St Andrew's River Heights United Church
255 Oak Street
Council Meeting May 20, 2025, 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: Rob Siddall, Karen Lumley, Bill Craddock, Glenn Neufeld, Lorilee Friesen, Leigh Harris-Carlson

Regrets: Rita Swan, Heather Ragot

1. Call to Order: Greetings/Vision Statement

To live as Christ would have us live, in love, with compassion and seeking justice, by sharing God's grace, learning from scripture, growing through the Spirit and being transformed by faith.

2. Devotion: Leigh

3. Approval of April 15, 2025 minutes: Eliminate sentence *"This will decrease the cost per copy but increase the annual cost by 7.5%"* from the Treasurer's Report. Bill moves the minutes are accepted as amended; Lorilee seconds. All in favour.

4. Church Groups:

- Presentation – Fellowship: Betty Jubinville shared a very informative presentation and update from the Fellowship and Caring Community Interest Group - see report; the hard work, dedication and support this group brings to the St. Andrew's community is very appreciated and does not go unnoticed.
- Other Group Liaison Updates:
 - Stewardship: Glenn informs us that there have been short, informational notes added to the bulletin each week to outline key aspects of the Church's finances for the congregation to consider. These will continue to be featured through the end of June.

- Choir Executive: Lorilee shared that the Choir Executive met April 27th and were busy working on the 100th anniversary concert. They have formed an Ad Hoc committee to go over the Choir's constitution this fall, the first time it has been examined in possibly 20 years. There was a hope that new name tags for the choir could be acquired, and it was suggested that perhaps we could feature choir members in the bulletin/E-News to help the congregation get to know the choir, especially the new members.
- M&P update: Rob – An outline of the role of the M&P Group has been prepared, but it is primarily information from the United Church of Canada and not necessarily tailored to St Andrew's. The current St Andrew's Terms of Reference for the M&P Group was sent to the 3 members and the plan is for them to meet soon and start without a chair. Rob will keep in touch with the Group.
- June Presentation – Outreach

5. Minister's Report: Karen - No official report but Karen is very busy as always; she would like to encourage congregants to add their input to the UCC timeline being created for the 100th anniversary by Westworth United.

6. Rental Policy Update: Rob – It has been agreed that the staff use of the church premises is not the concern, provided that there are no costs to the Church, but rather the concern is the reasonable likelihood of the loss of potential rental income. Rob will collect further information.

8. Succession Planning: Rob – Looking one to two years into the future, it is agreed that filling the next Treasurer's position is most logical by splitting it into 2 roles: a bookkeeper to record, account for and allocate church revenue and expenses to their proper accounts, to prepare cheques for signing by the Treasurer and to prepare preliminary budgets; and a Treasurer to oversee the bookkeeper, to sign cheques, to make bank deposits, to finalize budgets, to deal with other substantive issues as they arise and sit on Council; it may be wise to start thoughts on this matter and

possibly hire the bookkeeper sooner to take the weight off from Bill and allow more time for him to train the new bookkeeper and Treasurer.

9. Treasurer's Report: Bill presented a summary of the Profits and Loss Budget vs Actual for January to April 2025. Everything is in line overall and as expected. Donations are coming in steadily and income remains strong from rentals. Income is up over the budget so far, but replacing tiles in the daycare has also put us over budget for building repairs.

10. Other Business:

- May Report to Congregation: Glenn to present on June 1 as there are many activities already planned during service on May 25.
- Other – June post-service coffee - Glenn

11. Next Meeting:

- Tuesday, June 17, 2025 at 7:30
- Devotion: Rita
- Report to Congregation: Bill

12. Adjournment