

**Trinity United Church, Brandon**  
**“To Grow in Faith, Fellowship, and Service through Christ Jesus.”**

**Official Board Meeting**  
Tuesday April 13th, 2021 @ 7:00pm

**AGENDA**

- 1) Welcome - Jason
- 2) Covenant of Leadership and Prayer - Jason
- 3) Approval of Agenda as presented (amended)
- 4) Approval of Minutes March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- 5) Correspondence
- 6) Finance report – Reg
- 7) Ministers report – Doug
- 8) Committee updates:
  1. Outreach Report - Connie
- 9) Additions to Agenda:
  1. Code Level and the Church- Jason/Alan
  2. Rock Lake Church Camp - Lois
  3. Update from Equity & Diversity and the proposal to vote on becoming affirming in September - Al
- 10) Covenant of Leadership and closing prayer - Jason

**Next Board Meeting – Tuesday May 11th, 2021 @ 7:00pm**

Trinity United Church Official Board Minutes April 13th, 2021

**Mission: To Grow in Faith, Fellowship and Service with Christ Jesus**

**Present:** Jason Splett(Chair), Rev. Doug Neufeld, Reg Atkinson, Miranda Edwards, Darlynn Smith, Connie Haigh, Gloria and Murray McMillan, Al Friesen, Alan Silvius, Dave and Irene Thompson, Alison Murray, Lois Riley and Shirley Kernaghan(Secretary).

**01.** Jason called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Jason thanked us for joining our ZOOM Meeting and welcomed us to our fourth meeting in 2021.

**02.** Jason read the Covenant of Leadership and led us in prayer.

**03. Motion 1. Miranda Edwards made the motion that we accept the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Al Friesen. CARRIED**

**04. Motion 2. Alan Silvius made the motion to approve the minutes of March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Seconded by Dave Thompson. CARRIED**

**05.** There was no Correspondence.

**06. Finance Report-**Reg explained that his report shows the actual numbers in Column 1 until the end of March 31, 2021 or 25% of the current year. Reg went on to explain that in the first quarter of 2020 we had 107 contributions of \$100.00 or more and in 2021 we only had 90. Essentially a loss of \$5,831.00. He wonders if we should be concerned that these folks may not have access to online services and that a letter could be sent to the whole congregation. Miranda thought that a letter sent out quarterly would keep everyone connected. Darlynn suggested that Stewardship should be active 12 months a year not just for a couple of months in the fall. Darlynn reported that 30-35 people receive News Letters. Doug suggested that we could send out a letter to everyone explaining that the giving's are down (16% drop in giving). Al Silvius wondered if we should be contacting some of the people to have a more direct contact. Murray reported that 30-35 people used envelopes last year but no one has asked for envelopes this year. Al Friesen suggested that this topic be included in the Newsletter. Murray and Reg will get together to discuss this topic.

Reg congratulated Rev. Doug and his group of volunteers for the Online Sunday services. They are indeed very well done and appreciated by many.

**Motion 3. Reg moved his report seconded by Gloria McMillan. CARRIED**

**07. Minister's Report-** Reverend Doug explained that we are trying to add new pieces into the services to be creative. Reverend Doug did some changes in the Good Friday service of 2020 and received a lot of good comments.

Alexander Church is thinking about doing once a month gathered Worship Service. They were hoping to start on Sunday April 18<sup>th</sup> but things are starting to spike up again and they have decided not to gather at this time. They are going to put it off for a month.

Reverend Doug was excited to see the new stove show up for the kitchen. The kitchen is being put back together and will be ready to use when we can get back to regular services.

Rev. Doug is trying to connect with people that he would normally see in church to keep them informed of what is happening.

Trinity is down in gifts but we are in good shape. We paid our Assessment all in one shot in the first quarter and if we had not done that we would be fine. We are not in a hardship situation as our costs are down. Stewardship should be continuous.

Darlynne reminded us that we had a lot of new people come to our church last year and she has been touching base with them. We don't know how many of the new people are donating this year because we have not been having services in Trinity. We need to look at some folk who may need one-to-one contact. Reg will discuss this with Doug to see what needs to be done and how we should handle this to get the new people involved and included in our worship when we start having services in our church.

Al Friesen suggested we send a letter to the new people who were coming/donating to Trinity when we were open. Murray McMillan will meet with Reg to see what can be done to try and keep the new people interested in giving and getting involved with Trinity when we can re-open.

Lois Riley thanked Rev. Doug for the Bible Study. It was very well attended and the discussions that he initiated were excellent. Rev. Doug thought it was a good experience for everyone. Connie also thought it was a great Bible Study. The Sunday School Easter Event was not very well attended. We had fun but hoping that the next time we will have more in attendance. It happened during Spring Break and maybe some people were away.

## **08. Committee Updates:**

**1. Outreach Report:** Connie Haigh reported that the Outreach Committee expressed that they wish to continue with Outreach within the Trinity Congregation. They have been working with the Pastoral Care Committee. There was financial assistance given to a Trinity family in need in the form of \$100.00 Sobey's Gift Card. Lois Riley has offered to do Mission and Service. Christmas cheer, Samaritan House, Helping Hands and YWCA will remain the Outreach Committee focus. We will revisit financial donations to Bear Clan. Some Outreach Members have donated blankets and winter clothing to the Bear Clan.

There was a discussion about how safe it was to car pool to take people for their vaccine. Lois explained that there would be a plan in place which would be only one person in the back seat of the car. There were no calls for a ride.

### **Motion 4. Connie approved her report and Lois seconded it. CARRIED**

**2. Pastoral Care:** Darlynnne informed us that Ieleen Turner passed away on Saturday April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 member #536. This will be placed in the Historical Roll.

### **Motion 5. Darlynnne approved her report and Connie seconded it. CARRIED**

## **09. Addition to Agenda:**

**1. Code Level and the Church-** Jason/Alan would like to see Trinity United open in September. Darlynnne thought it was a great idea to use this date as a tentative re-opening. Al Silvius suggested that we should work toward the September date and place the information in a Newsletter under the title **Trinity United Church Opening in September 2021**. Jason will place this in the Newsletter and keep people informed of what is happening. We have to move forward with HOPE.

**2. Rock Lake Church Camp-**Lois Riley spoke to Twila McNaire from Prairie to Pine. A question was asked as follows: **"Would Trinity United have some people (14-18 years) that would help out at Rock Lake Camp?"** Lois has mixed feelings about this due to Covid. We could send out this information to three students from Trinity. Gloria suggested to e-mail the three students that we have in mind and let them decide. If they decide to do this, Lois needs to know and the applications need to be in by the end of April.

**3. Update from Equity & Diversity re: Proposal to vote on Becoming**

**Affirming.** Equity and Diversity Committee believes that the learning and discernment initiatives for Trinity have addressed the issues and questions about becoming an affirming ministry. Al pointed out that a vote this fall would make it three years from the first exploratory meeting on becoming Affirming held at Trinity in September of 2018. Thus, the committee feels that Trinity is ready to proceed with the calling to become an Affirming Ministry and would like to propose having a vote in September, 2021 for Trinity United Church to becoming Affirming. It is hoped that this can be done at an in-person congregational meeting, however, depending on health regulations in effect at that time, the vote may need to be conducted via Zoom/telephone. Either way, details of the meeting and voting instructions would be communicated well ahead of the meeting.

**Motion 6. Al Friesen moved that Trinity United Church conduct a vote on Sunday September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 on becoming an Affirming Ministry. Seconded by Alan Silvius. CARRIED.**

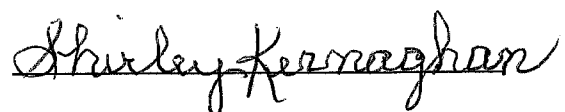
Gloria wondered if we are not together by September will the vote be delayed until October? The vote could be by ZOOM if we are not open in the church.

Darlynne suggested that people could drop off their response at Trinity United. Jason wondered if we could use the basement of Trinity United as well as the Sanctuary to have a live vote. Doug pointed out that Affirm United requires a "live" vote, thus it would have to be at an in-person meeting or via Zoom. Gloria said it would be a nice celebration if we could be in person to vote. Al informed us that the celebration comes after the voting day as there are some steps that need to be taken before the official celebration can take place.

**10. Covenant of Leadership and Closing Prayer:** Jason adjourned our meeting at 8:08pm. He thanked us for a great meeting. We certainly covered a lot of good ideas and hopefully will be able to bring more ideas to our meeting in May.

Jason recited our closing prayer.

  
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(Chair of Trinity United Church Board)

  
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(Secretary)

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**Additional Treasurer Report**

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**From :** Reginald Atkinson <A7268279@outlook.com>

Tue, Apr 13, 2021 10:48 AM

**Subject :** Additional Treasurer Report**To :** trinityucbdn@wcgwave.ca**Cc :** Reg <reginald1948@gmail.com>

Hello Everyone:

I wanted to add this to my report and thought it might be clearer if you had it in writing rather than verbally at the meeting tonight.

Firstly, I want to congratulate Rev Doug and his group of volunteers for the Online Sunday services. They are indeed very well done and appreciated by many.

However, I keep wondering who might be falling through the cracks.

I have been checking our contributions through the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2020 in which we operated normally, and the first quarter of 2021 where we used virtual services.

In the first quarter of 2020 we had 107 contributors who contributed \$100 or more. In 2021 we had 90. The average contribution in both time frames was \$343 per missing contributor or a loss of \$5,831 in revenue.

To summarize, 16% of the people that contributed more than \$100 in the first quarter of 2020 are missing financially, and may or may not be missing from the virtual services for whatever reason.

For your information and consideration.

Reg Atkinson  
Treasurer

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

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## Outreach Report

April 5, 2021

The Outreach Committee have expressed that they wish to continue with outreach and at the same time safely. So therefore decided that we would provide outreach within the Trinity Congregation. We have therefore been working with Pastoral Care Committee:

1. a) COVID 19 Vaccinations: Working alongside with Pastoral Care, we have volunteered, if requested, to provide assistance with consent forms, making appointments, offer (transport-carpooling) to Brandon vaccination sites.

b) Phone visits to congregation members: outreach committee members chose to contact 2-4 people over the next month or so &/or identified people that require contact.

2. There was financial assistance, given to an identified Trinity affiliated family in need, in the form of a \$100.00 Sobey's gift card.

3. Mission and Service: Lois Riley has volunteered and will also check for this years targeted amount.

4. The usual projects of Christmas Cheer, Samaritan House, Helping Hands and YWCA will remain our focus. We will revisit financial donations to Bear Clan. However there has been donations of blankets and winter clothing to the Bear Clan from outreach members.

Respectfully Submitted:

Connie Haigh, Convenor

2021-03-31 Treasurer Trinity Board Report

Dear Trinity Board:

I am attaching a Written Report, a Monthly Profit and Loss, a Year-to-Date Profit and Loss, a Balance Sheet as of March 31/2021, and a BUDGET report. Please do not hesitate to tell me if you think you have found something that should be adjusted. I have inundated you with paperwork this month so if there is a motion to replace me at the board meeting, there will be no hard feelings.

The budget report shows our actual numbers (Column 1) up to March 31 or 25% of the year. The budgeted amount (Column 2) is the total approved budget for 12 months. Therefore, the percent in the 4<sup>th</sup> column should be 25% if we are on budget. The total of ordinary donations (Account 4000) shows 22% in column 4 and is therefore 3% below (25%-22%) our budget, after the first quarter. It is very time consuming to split the budget over 12 months and it is extremely easy to make mistakes. It is also difficult to allocate the right amounts to the right month. I am thinking quarterly budget reports would suffice, but I can make one anytime.

The monthly March P&L is significantly different revenue wise as you will see. March 2020 was the last "normal" month in the operation of the church. Extra maintenance expenses were incurred due to expensive furnace repairs. We did receive another \$2,024 Covid unbudgeted wage subsidy in March. We share 10% of the Minister reimbursement portion with Alexander. Speaking of Alexander, they are right up to date. They send us \$671.15 every month. The amount on account 6177MP varies because I net the COVID refund to Alexander against this account. The refund was \$177.52 in March.

Note the huge difference in envelope revenues in the Y-T-D P&L. Envelope revenue is down 89%. Overall, the bottom line is down \$7,608 for the quarter however we have paid in full our allocation (Account #5450BA) to the United Church for the year. That accounts for \$4,763 of the loss.

The attached balance sheet gives a monthly balance since Dec 31,2020. The balance sheet links with the P&L with the net income figure. You can tell Y-T-D income or loss immediately by looking at the Net Income on the balance sheet. It is a snapshot. The March balance sheet shows a loss of \$923 as does the March Y-T-D P&L. If it did not, we have a problem.

We had a situation recently relating to issuing a receipt for Life Insurance Proceeds payable to the church. I was reluctant to do so as the monies did not come from the allocating donor but from the insurance company. After being told by two life insurance agents and one CA that there should be no receipt issued, I did some web research that suggested to me that there should be. I called MNP at my own expense and was informed that it was indeed correct to issue a receipt and in fact the University takes advantage of this on a regular basis. This might be something for the church to pursue. It could also be promoted in the newsletter. RBC have an excellent article on the web about ways to donate through Life Insurance.

Sincerely

Reg Atkinson - Treasurer - Cell 204-724-6646 email: a7268279@outlook.com