Trinity United Church Official Board Minutes April 10, 2018

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

**Present:** Miranda Edwards (Chair), Barb Jones (Secretary), Rev. Doug Neufeld, Lenny Lamirande (Treasurer), Louise Hume, Keith Privat, Linda Friesen, Larry Sage, Gloria McMillan, Shirley Kernaghan, Alan Silvius

**Regrets:** Darlynne Smith, Lois Riley

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Miranda welcomed all those present.

**Covenant of Leadership:**

**Agenda: Motion:** Louise Hume/Lenny LamirandeThat the agenda be approved as submitted. Carried

**Motion:**  Lenny Lamirande/Larry Sage That the minutes of the March 13, 2018 meeting be adopted as circulated. Carried

**Correspondence:**

Email from The Craguns who are an Inspirational Gospel singing group. They will be in the area the last week of May.

From conference. Bursaries are available if anyone is seeking education for Ministry. Nikki has the forms in the office.

**Financial Report:** as circulated. Request for a Year to Date report to be sent to everyone.

**Minister’s Report:** Great lent season. Very engaging Bible Study with many people from Alexander as well. The seven Pastoral Care Home services went very well. Thanks to all the Pastoral Care committee members who attend. Messy church is going strong therefore it will continue. Feedback on the Palm Sunday service was overwhelmingly positive.

**Motion:** Alan Silvius/Linda Friesen That we approve Rev Doug Neufeld to perform the marriage prep and wedding ceremony for Victor Vodin and Amanda Deuchars on July 7, 2018 on their farm property. Carried

**Guests:** Al Friesen, Winnie Black, Connie Haigh, Sheila McCausland, Marlane Wilson, Darlene Silvius, Joanne McMillan

**Let’s Talk:** Miranda presented a summary of the meeting that occurred at Central on March 8, 2018. Five questions were asked at that meeting: Where do you see your church in 2-3 years? What do you think your church holds most dear? What would be most challenging to let go of? Does your church have fears or concerns? Should we meet again?

It is important to be aware of the difference between our own personal opinions and the feeling of the church as a whole.

Discussion occurred regarding the March 8 meeting. There are many examples of how the three Brandon churches already work together and although each church has its own identity, there are many possibilities for how the three Brandon Churches could do more together. There was a push from Central to talk about amalgamation in the future.

Discussion occurred regarding the upcoming “Let’s Talk” event that will be held at Trinity but hosted by Central and facilitated by an EDGE which is a United Church resource on May 5 from 1:00-5:00. It is important to look at this event as an opportunity to discuss possibilities and it is important to be open minded. In attending the event, we are not committing to any thing, but it is a chance to come up with new ideas and opportunities as our church population and financials resources will be changing over the next five to ten years. This event provides an opportunity to be proactive about the future rather than reactive to a future crisis. It provides an opportunity to plan to engage in more joint initiatives and activities and to build relationships and become more comfortable with each other.

Those at the board meeting were encouraged to invite others to attend the “Let’s Talk” event. Everyone is welcome and is encouraged to attend to be part of the conversation. The event will be announced in church and an email blast will be sent out to invite people. If you are planning to attend, please give your name to Miranda.

May 12 will be the IRIDESCE workshop at Knox. This is an opportunity to learn more about becoming an Affirming Ministry. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

**Closing Prayer:** Rev. Doug Neufeld

**Adjournment:** at 8:57p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** May 8, 2018 Committee reports due to Nikki by May 2, 2018