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Holy Manners*

- Keep God at the center of everything we do
- Ensure that everyone has what they need in order to fully participate
- Speak for ourselves
- Speak for a purpose
- Separate people from problems
- Allow for full and equitable participation
- Listen carefully without interruption
- Welcome the conflict of ideas
- Take a future orientation
- Demonstrate appreciation
- Honour the decisions of the body
- Commit to holding one another to account when we do not keep our holy manners
- Keep the discussion at the table
- Watch our body language
- Check in about good use of time
- Provide a process for allowing the quiet people to speak, with an invitation to speak
- Sincerely say what we really feel

** The phrase "holy manners" comes from Behavioural Covenants in Congregations by Gil Rendle. United Church Moderator Marion Pardy made extensive use of the term during her time as moderator. There are a number of versions of "holy manners".*

Accessibility Statements:

We want to ensure that accessibility needs are met and that everyone can hear, see and communicate effectively. Is there anything we need to know or do so everyone can participate fully? Tell us of any difficulties you may face participating today.

For participants who have difficulty with accessibility concerns as they relate to a conference call, please check with your phone service provider for options which they support.

Bell: http://www.bell.ca/Accessibility_services

Mission Statement

Called to serve all in the name of Jesus Christ, Northern Waters Presbytery in Toronto Conference will work in an inclusive way to build connection and community by encouraging and challenging the congregations and people of our area.

Statement of Commitment

In fulfilling our mission, Northern Waters Presbytery strives at all times to provide its programs and services in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. We are also committed to giving people with disabilities the same opportunity to access our programs and services and allowing them to benefit from the same services, in the same place, and in a similar way as other participants.

Quorum

Quorum be set at 50% for the Commissions and that quorum be set at 66.67% (2/3rds) for the Northern Waters Executive.

Knox United Church, Durham – beginning at 10:00AM

Attendance: Eleanor Firth, Mary Hawthorne, Rev. Janet Jones, Cris Pagett, Cassie Vermeer-Korittko

Regrets: Barbara Downie, Greta Horton

Corresponding Member: Rev. Kerrie Perry,

Welcome:

Rev. Janet Jones welcomed all and gave thanks to Cris Pagett and his church for hosting our meeting.

Constituting the Meeting:

Rev. Janet Jones constituted the meeting in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ the one who cares for us and guides us.

Checking in:

Transitioning Well– how are our congregations feeling now that the boundary report and new Executive Ministers have been communicated?

Prayer/Devotion:

Rev. Kerrie Perry led us in a reflective piece from Janice MacLean at the Prayer Bench titled “All the Way to Pentecost” – an online devotional based on Godly Play. Week Two: Discovering the Divine Reality, All of God. “All of God is everywhere – wherever you sense beauty or feel moved or feel God is in that place, place a rock or pebble.

Opening Motions:

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Eleanor Firth / Cassie Vermeer-Korittko that the agenda be accepted as distributed.

MOTION Carried

Approval of the [November 10, 2017](#) Program Commission Minutes

MOTION by Cassie Vermeer-Korittko / Mary Hawthorne that the Program Commission of Northern Waters Presbytery approves of the minutes of the meeting held on [November 10, 2017](#).

MOTION Carried

Approval of the [January 12, 2018](#) Program Commission Minutes

MOTION by Cris Pagett / Cassie Vermeer-Korittko that the Program Commission of Northern Waters Presbytery approves of the minutes of the meeting held on [January 12, 2018](#).

MOTION Carried

Business Arising

- 1) Camp Simpresca Minutes – completed
- 2) Sunday School Workshop Dates – May 4-5, 2018

New Business

- 1) Women's Ministry Network

Northern Waters Presbyterial met on March 21 for the Ninth Annual Meeting at Trinity Centennial United Church at Rosemont. The theme was Celebrate Our Past, Faith for the Future. To celebrate our past, Joyce MacKinnon spoke about the Morogoro Project, that had been approved when she was President of the National UCW. UCWs across Canada raised \$260,000 for the project, to train women in Morogoro Tanzania, to safely deliver babies in their home community. Angela Schwarz spoke about the Bread Not Stones Project, the current National project, to bring attention to child poverty in Canada. The guest speaker was Rev. Betty Lou McNabb, Georgina Island Native United Church, speaking about her history with Living into Right Relations.

The Executive of Northern Waters Presbyterial will meet on May 17 to discuss the fall meeting/s of Presbyterial. This Presbyterial will be split between Regional Council 8 with 23 units and Regional Council 10 with 9 units.

The Annual Meeting of Toronto Conference UCW will be on April 30 to May 1 at Scarborough Bluffs UC, where we will discuss the changes to Regional Councils.

At Toronto Conference UCW Executive – looking for space to store their materials that the archives do not want. A motion was made in January an archival committee has been already been struck. Also requested UCW requested representation at the new Regional model. At the meeting on May 17th, they will be asked to agree in September meeting – connecting and networking those moving to Region 10 and inviting some who are already in that area to come.

Question about criteria for the gifts you give to students – always been someone just going through ministry. Eleanor Firth to be in touch with Rev. Kerrie Perry regarding NWP UCW funds and what will happen.

- 2) Staff Report – Rev. Kerrie Perry

- a) VBS – Go Project

High Country July 09-13
Creemore July 16-20
New Lowell July 23-27
Owen Sound July 30-Aug 03

Contracts have been signed and cheque from NW requisitioned.

\$4,000 of the \$5,000 budgeted and the left over \$1,000 will help to cover low registrations fees for congregations that may need it. Kerrie will connect with Paige for an update on registration.

- b) Youth Leader Retreat – June 8-9, 2018

Confirmed for Five Oaks – “Nourish and Flourish 2.0”

Regional focus drawing youth leaders from Five Ontario Conferences together for networking, worship, support and future planning. The program is full, and Rev. Kerrie Perry is looking to see if there is an opportunity to make room for more people to register.

Leadership will be done by Kerrie Perry, Amy Crawford and Hillary Merritt

- c) Experiences Canada Trip
An exchange between a first nations community and our area, possibly attending the Evolve conference out west. On hold. Not able to organize before the end of the current structure. Working with BC Conference to find a partner and hope to bring this to the new region.
- d) Future Staffing
No work being done currently. New information from GC around employment law prohibits the new hire unless it is housed in a congregation. At this time, no further conversation is happening. May return to this conversation once the new Regions meet with their Executive Ministers.
- e) Sunday School Workshop – May 4-5 at High Country United Church (Camilla)
Based on a new resource from a local congregation in The United Church of Christ in the US called Picture the Bible. You can see more on their website. <http://firstchurchrf.org/picture-the-bible/>
Currently 9 registered. We will move forward this event. Rev. Kerrie Perry to confirm with Stacy.

Revenue (based on 4 registrants on Apr 19):

Program Budget - \$1500
Registration – 4 x \$50 = \$200
Total Revenue: \$1,700

Expenses:

Stacy's Fee - \$405
Flight – \$620
Snacks - \$100
Accommodation - \$200
Stacy's meals - \$80
Volunteer meals - \$80
Workshop Materials - \$100
Total Expenses: \$1,585

- f) Evolve Conference – Nov 9-12, 2018 in BC
Youth and Young Adults conference. With the reality that we can't do the Experience Canada event, we are considering going. To do that would cost a lot of money – airfare and registration costs. Kleinburg Grant Request for \$14,000 to cover the airfare for 10-15 people and participants would be responsible for the \$325 conference fee. In BC Conference, they cover all transportation costs for people to attend their events and we would like to adopt their policy for this event. The proposal went to Governance and they have requested our attendance at their meeting in May.
- g) Labyrinth Proposal:
Creating a 44-foot labyrinth with less circuits, so it would be fully accessible (walkers and wheelchairs) to be installed at Trinity Centennial UC in Rosemont. Likely costing about \$50,000. Kleinburg fund could provide \$30,000 and \$5,000 from St. John's Alliston Foundation, \$5,000 possibly from Trinity Centennial and then any budget money left over or a community fundraising project or... we could raise the funds. Bell Let's Talk grants can be applied for as well. This could be a considered a legacy-type project, giving thanks to Kleinburg for their support. Program Commission supports the grant application and project.

- 3) Camp Simpresca
a. Clean Up Day: May 5

- b. Open House: June 16
- c. Annual General Meeting on June 25th. Dinner is at 6pm and meeting begins at 6:30pm. Need to let them know attendance (need 10 reps from Presbytery) and dietary needs. Who confirmed they can attend: Mary Hawthorne, Eleanor Firth, Rev. Kerrie Perry, Who is unsure: Rev. Janet Jones, Cris Pagett and Cassie Vermeer-Korittko Unknown but likely: Greta Horton and Barbara Downie Who have we tapped: Ingrid Remkins, DM, Ann Harbridge, DLM Need to let camp know attendees and needs by June 18th.
- d. As of March 18, (total registrants are at 180 in total, which is ahead of last year)
- e. Staff – in fairly good position, most hired. Having difficulty finding NLS staff for waterfront
- f. The Board has not applied for a PTCC grant and our disappointment is noted.

4) Faith Formation

- Open Hands United Missions to Nicaragua
 - a. Adult leader applications due April 15 (1 male and 2 females applied)
 - b. Junior leader applications due April 30 (I know of 2 who are applying)
 - c. Youth participant applications due May 15 (interest from Midland, Markdale, Shelburne, Camilla, Owen Sound)
 - d. Trip scheduled for July 2-14, 2019, cost \$3,200
- Youth Leader Support Network - Next gathering is the retreat at Five Oaks June 8-9.
- Confirmation Retreat Weekend – cancelled. Unable to gather a leadership team.
- Regional Youth Next gatherings:
 - No response to recent emails regarding this – so no plans made but we welcome any plans to step into
 - March was held in Tottenham – skating and a theme of making a statement
 - April was held in Rosemont – Easter story through symbols
 - May gathering is Youth at Conference
 - If your youth group is gathering, please invite area churches in hopes that they can join in.
- High Country Youth Group – open to all.
 - Please contact Rev. Janet Jones for more information. Making plans for late April or early May to go to LaserQuest in Kitchener on a Friday night. Info will be shared with the regional group and youth leader network.
- Youth at Conference
 - Currently 32 registered. 21 youth. 11 Young Adults
 - 15 are from NWP
 - 9 leaders
- General Council Commissioners – Mel Stenson will be representing Toronto Conference. The Youth Forum delegates will be in Toronto Conference the August long weekend. Volunteer drivers are needed.

5) Peace & Justice

Meeting with Ren Ito didn't happen. Ren will not be retaining his position.

Kairos presents “Feast of Gifts” being held at High Country United Church on Saturday, April 21st from 11:00AM to 3:00PM. Potluck lunch followed by participating and engaging in learning about our neighbours – immigrants and settlers of all kinds. Free event.

6) Worship

Rev. Kerrie Perry is planning the worship for the June 19th meeting at Knox United in Durham (9:30AM to 4:00PM). Theme “Dream”. Worship team – Ann Harbridge, DLM, and Kerrie. Cris Pagett will take care of communion elements and Eleanor Firth will be the backup.

7) New Items for Our Attention

Insurance Conversation

Increased costs due to requirement of waivers. Contacted General Council for information, they are not being very helpful. Pursuing this with Rev. Jody Maltby, Executive Secretary. Looking to find out when we are required to have an additional waiver and how we can reduce these costs. Perhaps there is a broader umbrella policy that Conference or the General Council can investigate.

Actions and Decisions

Rev. Janet Jones to send letters of support & hope and encouragement – to the person who promotes the event (Jane Capstick and Hilary Merritt), the current Conference Executive Secretary and the future Regional Executive Ministers of those regions; (copy current and new conf ministers of our new region) (and we’re open to conversations around funding if that is the only barrier).

Rev. Kerrie Perry and Eleanor Firth will have conversations about UCW designated funds.

Reflection of Presbytery Mission

Called to serve all in the name of Jesus Christ, Northern Waters Presbytery in Toronto Conference will work in an inclusive way to build connection and community by encouraging and challenging the congregations and people of our area. Have we done this? How have we done this?

A lot of conversation about the new regional councils and the transition. We are thinking positively as we move forward – creating opportunities to dream, connect and network ahead of the major changes. Most of our focus was on Women’s Ministries, Youth Ministry and finances.

Closing Prayer & Benediction.

Next meeting date to be determined

Rev. Janet Jones, Chair

Rev. Janet Jones, Recording Secretary