

NUASM Board Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2025

The February meeting of the NUASM Board was held by Zoom teleconference on Tuesday

February 18, 2025 at 1:00 pm.

Present: Leona Kucher, Pat Fedoruk, Jane Goudie, Daphne Hall, Susan Phillips, Rev. Chad, Judy Elgert, Anita d'Armada, Lynda Lowry, Betty Ebner, Murray Hart

Regrets: none

1. Welcome and Call to Order – Leona Kucher called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2. Opening Prayer – Rev. Chad

3. Additions/Changes to Agenda

- the agenda was amended by the addition of Nominating Committee to Business Arising and Pancake Lunch to New Business.

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Lynda Lowry / Pat Fedoruk

That the agenda be approved as amended. **Carried.**

5. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting (January 21 2025)

Motion: Murray Hart / Judy Elgert

That the minutes of the January 21, 2025 meeting be approved as circulated. **Carried.**

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Feedback about Wheelchairs in the Center Aisle

- Jane had taken this topic to NUC Property Chair Grant Babcock at the last meeting of the NUC board. He has subsequently checked with the Fire Chief, who has said that wheelchairs in the center aisle of the sanctuary do not present a problem.

b) Nominating Committee

- Jane reported there is a vacant spot remaining in each of the following committees/areas: an NUC rep on the Ministry and Personnel committee, Regional Representative, and Vice Chair.

7. Correspondence – none

8. Committee Reports

a) Treasurer – Judy Elgert

- no funds have been spent so far this year from the NUASM allocation
- a thank you has been received from Northern Spirit Regional Council for funds donated last fall in support of the Jasper churches.

b) Worship – Pat Fedoruk

- The Worship Committee met on February 3, 2025.
- Activity bags for children will be replenished with new activities as needed. A rotation to keep them current will be worked on.
- The Advent candles need to be replaced as they have been well used. The estimate for four nylon sleeve oil candles for Advent is \$475.00 plus taxes. These candles would use the same oil canisters as other candles currently used for services and would have a long lifespan. More discussion to follow under new business at the NUASM Board meeting.
- We are looking into moving the land acknowledgment message to a different place in the service.
- The Ash Wednesday service will be at 11 a.m. March 5, with the weekly Holy Eucharist service.

Motion to NUASM board for discussion and action:

Motion: The Worship Committee makes a special request to NUC and St James' Vestry to purchase four new nylon sleeve oil candles for Advent, from their respective Memorial accounts.

c) Ministry & Personnel – Jane Goudie

- the M & P Committee met on February 12, 2025.
- We met with Rev Chad and will meet with Dawn on Thursday, February 20. (Concerning any issues/concerns they may have.)
- We are continuing to plan/organize the required duties of the M & P Committee with the goal to be able to have limited meetings unless a situation arises which requires our attention.
- Rev. Chad has been nominated as a candidate for Bishop of the Saskatoon Diocese
- the committee is starting to look at arranging staff holiday times and possible office coverage during two weeks in August.

d) Mission & Service and Outreach – Susan Phillips

- meetings continue with ladies from the PAC church, working on three quilts which will be distributed through the Bear Clan organization in Brandon.

- the committee will be meeting to prepare the 2025 version of the Lenten Calendar.
- it was agreed that Leona Kucher will continue her membership on this committee

e) Stewardship – Lynda Lowry

f) Pastoral Care – Betty Ebner

Cards sent in January 2025

- Sympathy...1
- Get Well...3
- 1 Year Anniversary of Death..4
- Celebration...4

- Visits...1

g) Regional Representatives

i) Prairie to Pine –

ii) Brandon Diocese – Anita d’Armada

- links to the Mustard Seed publication continue to be circulated for each edition
- a letter from Bishop Rachael was recently read in church

h) Minister – Rev. Chad

Dear Friends,

January is typically a month where we turn our attentions in the Church toward planning and preparations for annual general meetings, and if we are being honest, there are few amongst our number who relish this endeavour! It takes a great deal of work for those who write and submit reports for the convening circulars, especially anything financially related. It takes a great deal of work on the part of our extraordinary office administrator to collate and organize said reports, for not one, but three meetings. And it takes a great deal of effort to not skip church on AGM Sundays.

All of that said, two things strike me this year about our common lack of enthusiasm for annual meetings, quite likely because of the current geopolitical climate and rising tensions around the world. Firstly, how privileged we are to have the freedom to worship where and how we feel so called, and to be able to call a meeting of any sort connected to our faith, because this is a freedom many people around the world do not have. Secondly, it strikes me

that the three annual meetings of our faith family over the past while have been exceptionally smooth and without the characteristic tensions and arguments that often are part and parcel of congregational meetings. This is remarkable, and as I see it, indicative of the health and comradery that our NUASM faith family enjoys.

Many thanks to everyone who goes the extra mile to make our annual meetings happen each year, to those of you who attend them and participate, and especially to all of you who are committed to loving one another in such a way that this sense of peace and good will permeates our common life. Bless you!

Chad⁺

Yours in Christ,

Funeral planning with mourners: 3	Benedictine Chapter: 1
Funerals: 2	Habitat for Humanity Meeting: 2
Hospital visitations: 9	BARDS meeting: 0
Sunday worship: 4	Executive (diocesan):0
United Church Communion: 0	Ministerial Gathering: 0
Wednesday Holy Eucharist: 4	Zoom meetings: 8
Country Meadows visitations: 6	Days off out of allotted 8: 6
Home visitations: 1	Committee meetings: 3
Grief counselling sessions: 0	Office days: 18

i) Website – Murray Hart

Recent updates include:

- posted January NUASM and NUC board minutes
- posted Annual Meeting Minutes for the 2024 year for NUC, St. James' and NUASM to the board minutes page
- put a poster on the Events page advertising the Pancake Lunch on March 4, 2025.
- added meeting dates for 2025 for the NUC board and St. James' Vestry to the Events page
- weekly updates of the Stewardship Seconds messages, and meeting/event dates on the Events and Calendar pages.
- the new poster promoting the Pancake Lunch will be posted to the Events page, and an advertisement for the World Day of Prayer coming up on March

7 at Knox Presbyterian will also be added.

j) Acceptance of Reports

Motion: Jane Goudie / Betty Ebner

That the reports be accepted as presented and discussed. **Carried.**

9. New Business

a) Motion from Worship Committee Re: Advent Candles

- as mentioned in the Worship Committee report (see above), the wax Advent candles are in need of replacement, having been well used for several years.
- the proposed nylon sleeve oil candles would use the same oil-burning system as other candles presently being used; and would last for many years. The cost is \$475. plus taxes and possibly shipping.
- the Worship Committee is proposing to ask our two denominational boards to share this cost through their Memorial funds, rather than having funds taken from the NUASM budget allocation.

Motion: Pat Fedoruk / Susan Phillips

That we support the Worship Committee making a special request to the NUC board and St. James' Vestry to purchase four new nylon sleeve candles for Advent, from their respective Memorial accounts.

Carried.

- Daphne will take this request to the St. James' Vestry, and Judy will take this request to the NUC board.

b) United Church of Canada 100th Anniversary

- the 100th Anniversary of Church Union, which resulted in the formation of the United Church of Canada, is June 10 2025, so will be celebrated on Sunday June 8, 2025.
- board members are asked to discuss in their committees and think about ideas as to how to celebrate this anniversary. We will revisit this topic at our next meeting.
- Betty and Susan have already been working on this, and will meet again soon to talk about ideas.
- Some ideas that were mentioned in discussion were:
 - some UCW members have talked about selling potted flowers as a fundraiser, or planting flowers outside the church.
 - have Communion during the church service that day
 - have a Sunday brunch on June 8, 2025 or perhaps an evening banquet. It

was suggested there may be a better attendance at a brunch.

c) NUASM 5th Anniversary

Some ideas of items to include in a possible celebration included the following:

- date would be the Sunday closest to October 18 ... which would be Sunday October 19, 2025.
 - include Bishop Rachael Parker
 - include a United Church dignitary eg. someone like Shannon McCarthy who is the Executive Minister, Northern Spirit, Prairie to Pine and Living Skies Regional Councils
 - Sunday brunch after the special Sunday service. A banquet was also mentioned as a possibility.
- board members and their committees are asked to think of additional ideas.

d) Delays in Availability of Services on YouTube

- some delays have been experienced since December
- Judy reported that it could be due to a computer or internet problem. Various solutions are being tried, to see what solves the problem.
- the services are always recorded and are put up a few hours later if the livestream function doesn't work.
- Thank you, Judy, for all the work you do in this department!

e) Pancake Lunch

Jane outlined plans for the Pancake Lunch on Tuesday March 4, 2025 from 11:00am to 1:00 pm:

- tables will be set for 100
- Jane is putting out a call for griddles, and some men have been contacted to help cook pancakes
- Susan and a couple others are working on fruit
- Nancy is looking after sausages and syrup.
- the UCW will be approached to supply coffee servers and clean-up personnel
- Dawn has made posters 30 will be distributed around town, and 3 sandwich boards will be used to help inform folks of the event
- Dawn has been publicizing the event in the Friday emails, and it has been put on the Events page of the website.
- Betty will do her famous "Hat" promotion this coming Sunday February 23; Jane may do a reminder on Sunday March 2.

10. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday March 18, 2025 at 1:00 pm by Zoom.

11. Closing Prayer – Rev. Chad

12. Adjournment – by the Chair at 1:48 pm.

13. Action Motion from Today’s Meeting:

Motion: Pat Fedoruk / Susan Phillips

That we support the Worship Committee making a special request to the NUC board and St. James’ Vestry to purchase four new nylon sleeve candles for Advent, from their respective Memorial accounts.

Carried.

Signatures:

(Chair – Leona Kucher)
Murray Hart)

(Secretary –