

NUASM Board Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2025

The June meeting of the NUASM Board was held by Zoom teleconference on Tuesday June 17, 2025 at 1:00 pm.

Present: Leona Kucher, Anita d’Armada, Daphne Hall, Lynda Lowry, Jane Goudie, Betty Ebner, Murray Hart, Pat Fedoruk, Rev. John Lea

Regrets: Judy Elgert, Susan Phillips

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

2. Opening Prayer – Rev. Lea

- Rev. Lea led a short meditation on “Call”, and asked board members to reflect on something recent which they were thankful for.

3. Additions/Changes to Agenda - none

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Lynda Lowry / Jane Goudie

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

5. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting (May 20, 2025)

Motion: Murray Hart / Pat Fedoruk

That the minutes of the May 20, 2025 meeting be approved as circulated. **Carried.**

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Follow Up/Comments about Recent Celebrations

i) Rev. Chad Farewell

- the event was attended very well

- thanks was expressed to Jane, Betty and Colleen for making contact with Weiming Zhao and arranging for him to do a painting of the church for Rev. Chad. In the picture, the figure crossing the street is Rev. Chad.

- it was felt that Rev. Chad very much appreciated the farewell comments and gifts.

- the chili lunch was much enjoyed ... hats off to the organizers! Many folks pitched in to help do cleanup.

- there was a very generous silver collection at the lunch ... \$890 was donated for the Salvation Army.

ii) United Church 100th Anniversary

- Susan reported as follows:

The June 8th celebration service was well attended. A big thank you to Rev Joe Ball, Rev John Lea, and Rita Friesen for helping to make the service meaningful and memorable. Many other people need to be thanked as well: Judy Elgert, Dawn Gardy, Brian Bailey and Blair Chapman and the choir, Leona Kucher, Murray Hart, Glen Cummings, Anita d’Armada, Nancy Hunter and everyone who helped to make the service happen. Also, many, many thanks to everyone who helped to make lunch such a fun and successful time! It takes a lot of people cooking, baking, setting up, cleaning up, doing dishes, doing laundry, etc. etc. etc. We think we served about 90 people. The donations to Habitat for Humanity totalled \$953.00! Well done!

And finally, a big thank-you to Betty Ebner and Donna Newton for all their help! Many heads are always better than one. (It takes a village!)

Comments:

- special thanks was expressed to Susan Phillips who was a main organizer of this event you and your committee did a great job!
- the historical notes about the history of our local church proved very interesting, informative, and were much enjoyed.
- the choir anthem The Great Parade was the same one performed 50 years ago, and was led by the same choir director Brian Bailey!
- the lunch was delicious thank you to the organizers!
- the silver collection for Habitat for Humanity was very generous an amount of \$953 was raised.

b) Travel Expenses Re: Holy Eucharist Services

- Lynda reported that the NUC board passed a motion at their last meeting to pay travel expenses and honorarium for folks who come out to lead Holy Eucharist services.

7. Correspondence - none

8. Committee Reports

a) Treasurer – Judy Elgert

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Budget Balance</u>
NUASM						1,500.00
	2025-04-04	Oil refills for the candles	162.40		162.40	1,337.60
	2025-04-14	Communion supplies, palm branches and fellowship time supplies	55.86		218.26	1,281.74
	2025-05-29	-MULTIPLE-	7.84		226.10	1,273.90
	2025-05-31	Chad's farewell	100.09		326.19	1,173.81
	2025-05-31	Chad farewell gift		100.00	226.19	1,273.81
	2025-06-08	Farewell gift for Chad	260.00		486.19	1,013.81
Total NUASM			<u>586.19</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>486.19</u>	<u>1,013.81</u>
TOTAL			<u>586.19</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>486.19</u>	<u>1,013.81</u>

Discussion:

- thanks was expressed to Judy for the excellent detail in the Treasurer’s report.

b) Worship – Pat Fedoruk

The Worship Committee met on June 2, 2025.

There will be no formal choir in July and August. Choir members may sit in the choir loft if they wish. The Sunday school room will be tidied on June 13, with excess supplies being donated. Bibles will be given to two students who have graduated from Sunday school.

The Worship Committee, (Linda Dick) has taken on the scheduling of the reader’s rotation, candlelighters and offering volunteer. Dawn Gardy has been doing this for the past five years and requested help so she can focus on the extra jobs that she handles now, without a minister. We will be sending congratulatory cards to graduating students from NACI who have affiliation with our faith family.

It was decided that we take a break from offering fellowship coffee time before the Sunday service for the months of July and August.

In past years, we have made donations to a worthy charity in recognition of Mothers' Day (Christian family Sunday), and Fathers' Day. Since two recent events, May 25 and June 8, included good will offerings to Salvation Army and Habitat for Humanity, Neepawa, we felt that the faith family had participated sufficiently to community organizations at this time.

July 1 marks the 5th anniversary of the formation of NUASM. We feel that this event should be recognized in a significant way and at a time when many people will be in church. A "Save the Date" message for a celebration on September 21 will be sent out in a future Friday email. There will be food included but the menu has not yet been determined.

c) Ministry & Personnel – Jane Goudie

Some members of the M and P committee are part of the Profile Committee. They are working toward putting together all the information necessary to find a new minister.

As things progress, the NUASM Board, the Vestry and the United Church Board will be kept updated.

Discussion:

- Dawn is on holidays in August. During that time, members of the M and P committee will be filling in at the church office on Fridays.

d) Mission & Service and Outreach – Susan Phillips

Our focus since last month's meeting has been our outreach project for Habitat for Humanity.

We've had the little house out on the table in the narthex, collecting donations for the Neepawa Project. Up until Sunday, approximately \$700 had been collected. On Sunday, we had the little house at the stew lunch for donations, and \$953 was collected! So, so far, our total is close to \$1700.00.

Judy will take care of the cash and issue a cheque to Habitat for Humanity—Neepawa Project. We will leave the house out, collecting donations until the end of June. After that, people can leave donations with Dawn at the office and we'll see that they get to the Neepawa Project. We are still working on the two quilts that are being donated. I've spoken with Amanda Naughton-Gale and they are expecting the house to be completed sometime in September. We will find an appropriate time to present the quilt around then.

A huge thank-you to members of this community of faith for their continuing generosity!

On a sad note, one of our members—Daphne Hall—has announced that she will be leaving our committee. Daphne will definitely be missed, but we are very thankful for her time working with us!

e) Stewardship – Lynda Lowry

- the United Church of Canada is promoting Legacy Giving. Lynda is doing some work on this topic as it may have a connection to the NUC Fall Stewardship Campaign.

f) Pastoral Care – Betty Ebner

Cards sent in May, 2025

- Sympathy...2
- Get Well...3
- 1 Year Anniversary of Death..3
- Celebrations...8

g) Regional Representatives

i) Prairie to Pine

Comments by Rev. Lea:

- it would be great to have NUASM representatives at regional meetings ... currently there is no Prairie to Pine representative
- regional meetings are by Zoom for two years, then in-person the third year
- this November 10 and 13th in the evening they are by Zoom. Next year the regional meeting will be held in Selkirk and will be in-person.

ii) Brandon Diocese – Anita d’Armada

- St. Matthews Cathedral is undergoing some renovations on both the main and basement levels. The pews are being replaced with chairs, and a new bathroom is being constructed in the basement as well as additional renovations in order to accommodate Westman Immigrant Services. The vision of the Anglican Centre as it is now called is to “create a community hub that is adaptable to meet the needs of any group using our space, as well as our ministries aimed at serving specific communities.”
- on July 23 the Anglican priest from Hamiota will be here to lead a Holy Eucharist service.

h) Minister – Rev. John Lea

- Rev. Lea described his role on our board as being a “hearing” person to be available for contact by the M and P committee and other groups, and to provide information, advice and input on any questions that we might have.

i) Website – Murray Hart

Recent updates include:

- updates to the Stewardship Seconds image on the main page and meeting dates on the Events page
- changed meeting dates listed on the calendar page.
- added a poster to the Events page to advertise the special 100th Anniversary Sunday Service and Brunch
- added minutes of recent board minutes of St. James’ Vestry, NUC and NUASM to the Board Minutes page
- an announcement asking community of faith members to Save the Date of September 21 2025 in order to celebrate the 5th Anniversary of NUASM will be posted on the Events page

j) Community of Faith Profile Committee

Here is what we have been doing so far:

1. Meeting with Judy Hare

- Since our appointment, Judy has provided the committee with a 43-page handbook that is meant to guide a group in producing a Community of Faith Profile. This is a link to the document whose title is “Pastoral Relations: Guidelines for a Community of Faith Profile”:

<https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/pastoral-relations-guidelines-community-of-faith-profile.pdf>

- Judy wishes to meet with the group for a two hour “training conversation” ... we are currently negotiating a time to do that.

2. Financial Viability Form

- Judy Hare has sent out the Financial Viability Form which needs to be completed as part of the process. Our treasurers have been looking up the desired information and Judy Elgert is filling out the financial viability form giving “total” figures based upon our two congregations together.

3. Consultation with and Feedback from our Community of Faith

- the profile handbook mentions the necessity of consulting with the community of faith and other groups like the M & P committee when preparing the profile, and suggests a few ways in which this might be done.

- we are tentatively planning to solicit written feedback from our members by either issuing a questionnaire consisting of several questions, or perhaps using a “question of the week” approach to allow members to provide feedback on our current practices and what they might like to see changed as we move forward.

4. Elements of a Community of Faith Profile this is what we are working on

From what we have learned so far, the following are just the most basic elements that we need to provide information about, in order to produce a “community of faith profile”:

- **Our Living Faith Story** (our current activities in these areas, also goals if any)
 - Administration
 - Community Outreach and Social Justice
 - Denomination and Communities
 - Faith Formation and Christian Education
 - Leadership
 - Pastoral Care
 - Self-Care
 - Worship
- **Financial Statement**
- **Demographics**
- **Manse report if applicable**
- **Real property**
- **Learning Site requirements if applicable**
- **Financial Viability Review**
- **Position Description** (expectations of the minister/priest in these areas)
 - Administration
 - Community Outreach and Social Justice
 - Continuing Education
 - Denomination and Communities
 - Faith Formation and Christian Education
 - Leadership
 - Pastoral Care
 - Self-Care
 - Worship

- Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities
- Other Preferred Assets

5. The Profile Committee will meet next on June 24, 2025.

Discussion:

- as is shown by the list of topics above, compiling the Community of Faith Profile involves detailed analysis of the present activities in our NUASM ministry, and also some thoughts of what direction we would like to go in the future. There is no thought of proposing any major changes in our organization.
- it will take the committee a while to accomplish this task, and they will be guided in their deliberations by input provided by the members of our community of faith.
- the completed profile will be presented in due course for approval by: the Prairie to Pine Region and Bishop Rachael, our local governing boards, and our community of faith.

k) Acceptance of Reports

Motion: Lynda Lowry / Jane Goudie

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

9. New Business

a) Plans for the Summer

- there will not be regular NUASM board meetings in July and August unless the need arises for the Chair to call a meeting.
- before-church coffee and tea will resume after the summer months
- the church office will have regular hours in July, and the office during August will be open on Fridays as mentioned in the M and P report.

10. Next Meeting - Tuesday September 16, 2025 at 1:00 pm by Zoom.

11. Closing Prayer - Rev. Lea

12. Adjournment - by the Chair at 1:53 pm.

Signatures:

(Chair – Leona Kucher)

(Secretary – Murray Hart)