

NUASM Board Meeting Minutes – September 15, 2026

The September meeting of the NUASM Board was held by Zoom teleconference on Tuesday September 15, 2026 at 1:00 pm.

Present: Judy Elgert, Lynda Lowry, Jane Goudie, Murray Hart, Rev. Leith Saunders, Pat Fedoruk, Rita Friesen

Regrets: Daphne Hall, Betty Ebner, Anita d'Armada, Susan Phillips, Liz Sumner

1. Welcome and Call to Order - by Rita Friesen at 1:00 pm.

2. Opening Meditation – by Rev. Saunders on the theme “Deep In Our Hearts”.

3. Additions/Changes to Agenda – the agenda was amended by the addition of “Ideas for Vice Chair” 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 (June 16, 2026)

Motion: Murray Hart / Jane Goudie

That the minutes of the June 16, 2026 meeting be approved as circulated. **Carried.**

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Raising the Affirming Church topic with the local boards

- NUASM board members who are also on the NUC board and St. James' Vestry will arrange for the Affirming Church topic to be put on their agendas. Eventually, as was mentioned in our last minutes, we want to receive an indication of their interest in learning about this initiative. Their feedback will come once their board members have had an opportunity to look over the Open Hearts document, the Affirm United website and the Proud Anglicans website, and have a discussion about the topic. If there is a general feeling that we want to learn more about the Affirming Church movement, a small working group would be established to gather information and resources and coordinate some activities so our community of faith members can learn about this topic.

b) Action on Church Door Keys

- a small number of additional keys were made and provided to organists. Dawn has a detailed record of who has church door keys and which doors these keys will open.

7. Correspondence

a) Becoming an Intercultural Church

- information was received from the United Church of Canada about a six-week online course running once a week from October 14 to November 25. The objective of the course is to deepen engagement on topics of anti-racism, cultural diversity and intercultural ministry.

Link for more information: : [Becoming an Intercultural Church](#)

- there is also a good description of this course in the last Prairie to Pine Newsletter

- the secretary will forward information to Dawn for inclusion in the Friday email.

8. Committee Reports

Board members presented reports as follows:

a) Treasurer – Judy Elgert

						Budget
						Balance
Date	Memo	Debit	Credit	Balance		
NUASM						1,500.00
2026-03-23	Battery operated Advent Candles and batteries	65.36		65.36		1,434.64
2026-03-31	Palm leaves for Palm Sunday	17.88		83.24		1,416.76
2026-05-22	Gift for Dawn	122.39		205.63		1,294.37
Total NUASM		205.63	0.00	205.63		
		205.63	0.00	205.63		

b) Worship – Pat Fedoruk

- The Worship Committee met September 14. We discussed the importance of readers and speakers to speak into the microphone so that all may hear. Adjust mic as necessary.
- In working with the five Sundays that UC celebrates communion, Kelly Sneesby (GAP lead), will try to make joint (shared) communion services possible with the authorized sacraments leaders (ie Rita, (UC) and Rev Ray, (ANG). Our committee feels that joint communion is impactful to our shared ministry.
- Sunday September 20 is our 6th anniversary of NUASM celebration, with brunch following the service.
- September 27 is Orange shirt day, Indigenous recognition Sunday. (Wear your orange shirt if you have one).
- Rita Friesen will be presiding for World Communion on October 4. Communion will be served, United Church style, to the congregation.

c) Ministry & Personnel – Jane Goudie

- M & P covered the office on the four Fridays in August. Thanks to Jackie, Susan and Lane.
- In July the landline was not working for several days. Dawn used her cell number to assist. NUC Board needs to invest in a cell phone as this problem is going to occur again.
- A subscription to Chat GPT is also a necessary item for the office.
- Dawn will let us know if there is a need for her to work on Mondays.
- Also pay raises. We need to discuss this as NUC does not meet monthly.

Search Committee

- We are having our next meeting on Monday September 14.
- More information after that.
- We are on Facebook now and have had many shares.
- We are also advertising in the Broadview magazine in November and December. We will be in their online magazine starting October. Cost is approximately \$160/mo.

Discussion:

- ChatGPT is useful in the office for things like making posters, and newsletter production.
- It is not needed to gather worship resources; the United Church website has many resources available.
- if the correct name for our treasurer can be entered, it may be possible to obtain a license for ChatGPT through a website that offers significant reductions for charitable organizations.
- it was mentioned that Westman communications Group can supply landline telephone service if an alternative to MTS is needed.
- if Dawn's work schedule on Mondays changes, M & P will notify the treasurer.

d) Mission & Service and Outreach – Susan Phillips

We have painted all the outdoor nativity figures and the angels. A huge thanks to Murray Newton for storing all the pieces and doing minor repairs the last few years, and for letting us use his workshop for the painting job!

We are collecting donations for the breakfast program at one of our schools. We will make a decision about which school in the next week or two. The donation box will be in the narthex until the end of September.

e) Stewardship – Lynda Lowry

- it will soon be time to think about the Fall Stewardship Campaign. Board members felt that the current information package and format has worked well ... sending a different letter to PAR folks, regular givers, and irregular givers allows us to tailor our message so that it is most relevant to that group.
- Lynda will be looking into a Legacy Giving Program and will provide information to the congregation in due course.

f) Pastoral Care – Betty Ebner**Cards sent in June**

- Sympathy...5
- Get Well...1
- 1 Year Ann. Of Death...1
- Celebration...2
- Visits/Calls...1

Cards sent in July

- Sympathy...3
- Get Well...1
- 1 Year Ann. Of Death...1
- Celebration...2
- Visits/Calls...0

Cards sent in August

- Sympathy...4
- Get Well...0
- 1 Year Ann. Of Death...1
- Celebration...3
- Visits/Calls...0

g) Pastoral Assistant - Rita Friesen

June report:

Sunday morning worship - 1
Funerals- 2
Family meetings - 2
Wedding -1
Meet with couple -1
NUASM board meeting - 1
Home visits - 5
Thank you for all your support.

July Report:

Sunday Worship -1
Funerals - 4
Meeting with families - 4
Elks Manor Tuesday coffee - 2
Home visits - 3
Hospital visits - 6
Country Meadows -1

CJOB is working on a documentary re rural health care to be presented in August or September. The coordinator invited me to be one of the community members that met with the reporter and Dr Desilets.

August Report:

Sunday Service - 1
Funerals -4
Family meetings -4
Country Meadows Sunday afternoon service -1
Home visits - 4

h) Regional Representatives

i) Prairie to Pine – Liz Sumner

ii) Brandon Diocese – Anita d’Armada

Here is the link to the September 2026 edition of the Anglican Journal:
<https://anglicanjournal.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/aj-sep2026.pdf>

i) Pastoral Charge Supervisor – Rev. Leith Saunders

- Rev. Saunders reported that an enjoyable summer holiday has passed all too quickly. The Fall season has arrived with a busy list of responsibilities and commitments. She will be attending the NUC board meeting tonight and is looking forward to renewing an in-person connection with those board members.

j) Website – Murray Hart

Recent website updates include:

- posted the June NUASM board minutes to the Minutes page

- regular updates of the Stewardship Seconds ... thanks to Lynda who supplies the wording and Dawn who supplies the accompanying images.
- update of meeting dates and times on the Events page and the Calendar pages
- added poster advertising the 6th Anniversary Brunch to the Events page
- updated the Photo Page to celebrate the people, activities and events of NUASM.

<https://www.nuasm.com/photos.html>

Discussion:

- it was suggested that a picture of Marivi Bonila should be added to the Custodian section of the website.

k) Acceptance of Reports

Motion: Lynda Lowry / Judy Elgert

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

9. New Business

a) Ideas for Vice Chair

- we are currently operating without a Vice Chair. Board members are encouraged to look around our community of faith and think of folks who could be approached to fill this position.
- it would be nice if someone from the Anglican side would take on this role; it was envisioned in our NUASM Policies and Procedures Manual that the chairmanship position would alternate between our two founding church families.

10. Next Meeting: Tuesday October 20, 2026 at 1:00 pm by Zoom.

11. Closing Meditation – by Rev. Saunders on the theme “Lord Prepare Me to be a Sanctuary”

12. Adjournment – at 1:45 pm by the Chair.

Signatures:

(Rita Friesen - Acting Chair)

(Murray Hart - Secretary)