

M&M  
November 20, 2018

**Our Mission:** The Congregation of Kincardine United Church seeks to foster a journey of spiritual growth through hospitality, service, fellowship and study, and, in community, to build up the ministry of every person and together experience God's abundant love and grace.

PRESENT: Gord Dunbar, Liz Dillman, Krista Ritchie, Charles Ludlow, Bernd Portz, Ursula Portz

REGRETS: Melinda Smegal

CALL TO ORDER: 7:15

OPENING PRAYER by Gord

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA with the addition of new business 5 and 6

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF OCT 16, 2018 MEETING, Moved by Bernd, Seconded by Ursula, Carried**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM OCT 16 MEETING**

1. Becoming an Affirming Church: Attached is a brief summary of the process which was presented by Gord.
2. Creche display. Charles will send an announcement to Sarah which will invite congregants to share nativities on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of December in fellowship hall. M and M members are asked to set up tables with white lace cloths on them for the display prior to service these days.
3. Monthly soup or stew lunch – Liz will create a sign up
4. Michael Coren Event – 59 people were in attendance. Some feedback discussed was as follows. More questions from the group would have enhanced the presentation. Perhaps an outline to the speaker more specific about what we want would create more back and forth, and be of benefit to both speaker and audience. It was felt that there was great value in the evening with respect to it's opening up a conversation of an affirming topic. Total cost to host event was \$1324.50 with the following income. Knox \$250, Pine River \$250, Kincardine Pride \$333.50, Offering \$240 leaving \$251.50 out of pocket. Following the Coren event, Emily Perry expressed an interest in being part of an affirming church committee at KUC. Individuals can expect an 18 month to 2 year commitment to the endeavour. We are encouraged to think of members who would be interested in this committee and bring ideas forward in coming meetings. Liz will prepare an invitation for the bulletin and spoken announcement to be delivered by a M and M member surrounding the conversation of becoming an affirming church.
5. Christmas Carolling-deferred to 2019
6. 2019 Budget Presentation
  - Prepared by Liz to be presented by Charles.
  - annual report will be prepared by Melinda.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. White Gift Sunday-based on last years' suggestions, large X large and XX large adult clothing is appreciated. Gord and Liz may get more ideas from Cape Croker in the coming days.
2. Pre-Church Coffee – need more help. Instructions and sign up sheet will be prepared by Liz.
3. Ice Cream Sunday – need more help. Instructions and sign up sheet will be prepared by Liz. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month
4. Loaves and Fishes – need more help. Instructions and sign up sheet will be prepared by Liz. 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month.
5. M and M confirmed that our committee require the following three categories of members to be in Power Church Software. Members, adherents and non-resident members.

6. Taise. Those who attended found it to be a beautiful service. We are to consider how to encourage better attendance. The following suggestions were given. Have those who attended spread the word. Try 7 over 7:30 making it an earlier night. Try another night of the week? An afternoon?
7. Of the forums below we prioritized Death and Dying including Assisted Death-work with HSH

## **FUTURE FORUMS**

Interfaith Dialogue  
 Women and Poverty in Kincardine  
 Blanket Exercise at KDSS  
 Reconciliation Events  
 Death & Dying including Assisted Death – work with HSH  
 Round Table with community leaders – what do they want from KUC

Next Meeting – January 15, 7 pm

Council Attendee for Dec 4 meeting: Bernd

Next Chair: Bernd

Next Secretary: Ursula

Next Location: The home of Bernd and Ursula Portz

## **AFFIRMING MINISTRY PROCESS AN “EXECUTIVE” SUMMARY**

- Entering into the Affirming Ministry process of discernment is not a guarantee that you will become an Affirming Ministry. It is an exploration of what becoming an Affirming Ministry means and whether that is to where God is calling Kincardine United Church.
- The wider the consultation and the more varied the opportunities for exploration the better for the process. Dialogue is encouraged, not dispute.
- There is no set time limit on the process. It needs to be organic and contextual. However, too long a process or too short a process can be harmful.
- There are many resources available for this process through the “Open Hearts: Resources for Affirming Ministries in The United Church of Canada” document.
- Gord should NOT be a part of the Team that leads this process, although he is a resource for aspects of it.
- The group which leads the process should to be recruited by the end of this year.
- Pine River United Church is already engaged in the process and interested in working together on offering elements of education for the process i.e. Michael Coren’s visit with us on Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, offering the study sessions based on the DVD “Transfigurations – Transgressing Gender in the Bible” by Peterson Toscano (of which Gord has a copy, including the study guide), possibly bringing in guest speakers for specific aspects of the conversation, Gord has a library of books – including for children – on lgbtq+ issues, etc.
- At the end of the process, as determined by the group leading and with the approval of the Council, the congregation will have to vote on becoming an Affirming Ministry with 75% of the votes cast or more.

