

Minutes for Bridgenorth United Church (BUC) Council Meeting

APRIL 15 2025 Time 7 pm- via ZOOM

Attendance P-= present, R= regrets, A= absent

Sandi DesLauriers Worship and Christian Ed/Faith Development P	Jeff Julian Regional Council Representative P	Membership and Pastoral Care - No chair -- A	Ian DesLauriers – Chair Stewardship- P
Judy Amsbury -P Secretary	Sue Pettersone Chair- BUC Council; Trustees Council Rep. P	Outreach and Social Justice - No Chair A	Lane Vance – Finance P
Tanna Edwards P Communications			
Sharon Baptie P Ministry and Personnel	Rev Cathy Gradante P	Property - No chair A	Joe Latour – Affirming P

Item/Presenter	Discussion	Action
1.0 Welcome	Sue Pettersone	
2.0 Opening Prayer	Sue Pettersone : from “Dipping Your Toes 2” by Janet Stobie	
3.0 Land Acknowledgement- read by chair	Sue P - We respectfully acknowledge that Bridgenorth United Church is located on the Treaty 20 Michi Saagiig territory and in the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations, collectively known as the Williams Treaties First Nations, which include: Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Alderville, Scugog Island, Rama, Beausoleil, and Georgina Island First Nations. Bridgenorth United Church respectfully acknowledges that the Williams Treaties First Nations are the stewards and caretakers of these lands and waters in perpetuity, and that they continue to maintain this responsibility to ensure their health and integrity for generations to come.	
3.0 Minutes	Minutes- approval of Feb 18, 2025, minutes motioned by Jeff J seconded by Tanna E. and carried .	
4.0 Correspondence	None	
5.0 Action items	<u>1. Community Garden:</u> Sue stated we need to form a team and do some planning in order to apply for a grant in the fall, to begin the work next spring. She suggested a book on raised bed gardening at the Lakefield library as a good reference source. Margaret Grills and Dave Carbert have indicated interest in volunteering.	
6.0 New Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>1. Buy Canadian</u> : Moved by Judy A that Council encourage any purchases of goods and services should be made in Canada. Seconded by Tanna E. Carried <u>2. Benevolent Fund policy (Minister’s Discretionary Fund):</u> Cathy agreed to continue the same process of using funds donated to the Food Bank , but to modify the policy guidelines to reflect the fact that BUC has not received large sums of money to require monitoring of the frequency or the recipients. Confidential records are kept of any 	

	<p>assistance provided. The existing limit allocated is up to \$300.</p> <p>3. <u>Council Retreat</u> –a Sat. in June, details TBA . An in person meeting (4-5 hours in length followed by a meal) to allow current and new members to do some team building and planning for the next year.</p> <p>4. <u>Treasures and Junk in the Trunk</u> - Sale at the park on May 17.</p> <p>5. <u>Archive inventory</u>: Joe reported having sorted and organized much of the Archive room, which has been dormant since 2003. There are a number of loose photos needing identification in order to cull or keep. They will be made available at Coffee hour over the next few week for perusal. Sue thanked Joe for all the work he has put in to this project.</p> <p>BRIDGENORTH UNITED CHURCH – ARCHIVES INVENTORY</p> <table><tr><td>Council Minutes</td><td>1996 - 2020</td></tr><tr><td>Session Minutes</td><td>1996 - 2008</td></tr><tr><td>Stewards Minutes</td><td>1994 - 2004</td></tr><tr><td>Annual Reports</td><td>1957 – 2024 (1969 missing)</td></tr><tr><td>Historic Annual Reports</td><td>1926 – 1930, 1933, 1945</td></tr><tr><td>Building Files (New Sanctuary)</td><td>1995 - 1996</td></tr><tr><td>Baptism Registers</td><td>1997 - 2024</td></tr><tr><td>Baptism Certificates</td><td>1980 - 2001</td></tr><tr><td>Baptism Records (alphabetical)</td><td>1912 – 1946, 1968 - 2009</td></tr><tr><td>Marriage Registers</td><td>2004 - 2022</td></tr><tr><td>Marriage Records</td><td>1915 – 1959, 1980 - 1992</td></tr><tr><td>Marriage Licenses</td><td>1980 - 2010</td></tr><tr><td>Burial Records</td><td>1911 - 1959</td></tr><tr><td>Burial Permits</td><td>1975 - 2005</td></tr><tr><td>Book of Remembrance</td><td>1973 - 1994</td></tr><tr><td>Historic Membership Role</td><td>1985</td></tr><tr><td>Guest Registers</td><td>1972 - 2003</td></tr><tr><td>Newspaper Clippings</td><td>1943 -</td></tr><tr><td>Photo Albums</td><td>14 (plus numerous loose photos)</td></tr><tr><td>Drafting Blue Prints</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Random Files</td><td>A few - to be discussed</td></tr><tr><td>Genealogical Files</td><td>Joe to review and find homes, ie. family, Trent Valley Archives.</td></tr></table>	Council Minutes	1996 - 2020	Session Minutes	1996 - 2008	Stewards Minutes	1994 - 2004	Annual Reports	1957 – 2024 (1969 missing)	Historic Annual Reports	1926 – 1930, 1933, 1945	Building Files (New Sanctuary)	1995 - 1996	Baptism Registers	1997 - 2024	Baptism Certificates	1980 - 2001	Baptism Records (alphabetical)	1912 – 1946, 1968 - 2009	Marriage Registers	2004 - 2022	Marriage Records	1915 – 1959, 1980 - 1992	Marriage Licenses	1980 - 2010	Burial Records	1911 - 1959	Burial Permits	1975 - 2005	Book of Remembrance	1973 - 1994	Historic Membership Role	1985	Guest Registers	1972 - 2003	Newspaper Clippings	1943 -	Photo Albums	14 (plus numerous loose photos)	Drafting Blue Prints		Random Files	A few - to be discussed	Genealogical Files	Joe to review and find homes, ie. family, Trent Valley Archives.	
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7.0 Committee Reports	<p>See Appendices</p> <p>Judy A moved that all committee reports be approved, seconded by Sharon B., and carried.</p>																																													

8.0 Adjournment/Closing Prayer	Sue gave the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8pm.	
9.0 Next Meeting	May 20, 2025, at 7 pm via ZOOM	
10.0 Appendices	<p>Minister's Report – Rev. Cathy</p> <p>As we come to the end of our Lenten journey, we can see the experiences many of us have shared over the past several weeks in deepening our faith. Our weekly bible study, Texts & Tea, has regular attendance between 4 and 7 participants and lively conversation about the upcoming Scripture passage for Sunday. Our Lenten Book Study this year, is entitled, Something Sacred – Reflections on Music and Faith, which was produced by UCRD – in anticipation of the new digital hymnbook that is set to be released this year. 8 of us gathered to listen to a variety of music and reflect on its influence in our lives and faith. We also have 4 young people enrolled in Confirmation Classes using the resource from The GO Project. We are tackling tough questions and having fun along the Way.</p> <p>We have also officially entered into our Shared Ministry with Grace United Church and I now have office hours at Grace on Wednesdays and will be in the office at Bridgenorth on Tuesdays and Thursdays. A joint Covenanting Service is being planned for Sunday, May 18th, 2025.</p> <p>My work with the wider church continued with in-person interviews in Kingston, ON in March with the Candidacy Board of Quebec and East Ontario. I have completed my supervision of one Candidate who has been recommended for ordination in May 2025. My supervision of a second candidate for commissioning will wrap up at the end of May.</p> <p>I have tendered by resignation as chair of the LLWL Forum for the Region and will wrap up my work with them in June.</p> <p>This should bring my required service to the wider church into the 10 percent range.</p> <p>As we look forward to the resurrection joy of Easter, may we be guided by God's unending grace and love in our work and witness together.</p> <p>In faith and hope, Rev. Cathy</p> <p>Worship and Christian Ed/Faith Development – Sandi Deslauriers</p> <p>June 22nd picnic slated for Selwyn Conservation area which is currently closed due to storm cleanup.</p> <p>1. Sandi did the Land Acknowledgement. 2. Rev. Cathy led us in an opening prayer. 3. Confirmation class is going well. There are 4 girls who ask lot of</p>	

	<p>questions. Confirmation will take place May 25 for those who wish to be confirmed. There will be a cake. Rev. Cathy is look at a book to give them. She is wondering about: " A Book of Belonging". Lois Moore will look at the book and see if it is appropriate for her Granddaughters age and interest.</p> <p>4. There is one more Lenten Study left at BUC. It has been a good study group.</p> <p>5. Maundy Thursday April 17th at 7pm at the tables. This is a joint event with Grace and BUC. Ian will be playing that evening. There will be bread , grapes and Almonds etc.. Taze style. Rev. Cathy will get the food and set up. Sandi and Mary Ruth will serve to the cafe tables. Sandi , Mary Ruth and Paula will clean up.</p> <p>6. Good Friday will be at Grace UC. At 11am. Bev Templar is playing for it. There may be some music by choir but not yet decided. Some BUC people may go in the choir loft?</p> <p>7. Easter Sunday Sunrise service: At the Deslauriers and they are organizing it. It is at 6;30 am..</p> <p>8. Communion on Easter Sunday. Bev Templar will play at Grace UC and Beth Chambers will play at BUC. The tarnished Angels will sing at BUC. Cathy will get the bread and Juice. Sandi and Mary Ruth will set up at BUC</p> <p>9. Breakfast on the Beach. This will be on May 4th. Joint Event for both churches. It will be a café worship event. Like Jesus cooking Fish on the beach. There will be coffee and tea and Fish which Cathy will prepare. When it is time Sandi and Mary Ruth will put the fish on plates at each table. This will happen at BUC with Grace UC invited to join. It will not be live streamed. The first half will be in the chairs in the sanctuary and then we will move to the tables. There will be a fire pot burning as you come in for the theme. Sandi, Mary Ruth and Lois and Paula with get the plates prepared downstairs to bring to the tables upstairs.</p> <p>10. Apr.27 is Holy Humour Sunday.</p> <p>11.Messy Church is at BUC for their people on Apr.11 at 5;30. Sandi, Lois and Mary Ruth will help serve the crockpots of Mac and Cheese. There will be salad , buns and the mac and cheese as well as Ice cream sundaes for dessert. Cathy is doing the shopping.</p> <p>12. Grace UC. Roast beef supper is on April 12,th . BUC has sold some tickets. Cathy will take the money and extra tickets back.</p> <p>13. Covenanting service for Rev. Cathy and the two congregations who have entered into shared ministry. This will take place May 18th at Grace UC at 11am. Grace asked if they could have it at their church. This was agreed. There will be a potluck lunch after the service.</p> <p>14. Rev. Cathy is on study leave the week of May 11.</p> <p>15. Summer services. They will be joint services with both congregations together. The first two weeks will be at Grace UC . July 27th and Aug.8th at 9;30 am. Buc will hold the joint services for Aug10, 17, and 24th at 11am.</p>	
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	<p>16. There will be a joint Church picnic June 2nd at Selwyn conservation area at 11am. After the church service in the picnic shelter, we will have a finger food potluck. People will bring their lawn chairs and finger food. We will get instructions and direction to Grace people before that. Sharon will book Selwyn in May.</p> <p>17. May 17 BUC is having a Treasures in the Trunk yard sale at the Lions park on the way into Bridgenorth. Spots to sell your treasures are \$20.</p> <p>18. June 8th is our Regional Service at Laing. Both congregations will be involved in this. It is the 100th of the UCC anniversary service. There will be a mass choir led by Bev. Templar. There will be a clergy meeting in May to plan the picnic. You bring a picnic lunch or buy lunch. They are planning to have booth eg the Lions Club to have lunch to buy. The staff at Laing are going to do pioneer games. The pioneer village will be open to see most of it if people wish to. They are hoping to get a golf cart to take people with mobility issues around and community vans to bring people. People are to bring their lawn chairs.</p> <p>19. There will be a Legacy Lunch for Retired clergy in the area. This will be at noon at BUC. Worship committee will help serve.</p> <p>20. Bible Study will start at GraceUC Apr. 8th.</p> <p>Finance – Lane Vance – No report. Ian is planning to present 3 skits to encourage givings.</p> <p>Trustees – Sue Pettersone – No report.</p> <p>Ministry and Personnel – Sharon Baptie – No report.</p> <p>Property – Ice storm damage cleaned up quickly. Thank you to all who volunteered.</p> <p>Membership and Pastoral Care – No Chair. Pastoral Visiting training will be held in the Fall for both BUC and Grace. Membership records are kept up to date, but reviewing around activity no longer as important as UCC assessment is no longer based on numbers.</p> <p>Outreach and Social Justice –Joe stated March had the highest traffic ever, and growing quickly. Some concern about future need for more volunteers and space, but Finances are healthy. Getting larger individual donations due to offer of charitable receipts.</p> <p>BUC Food Bank Council Update for April 15, 2025</p> <p>In February, we helped 84 households, 215 family members.</p> <p>In March, we helped 96 households, 253 family members!</p> <p>The number of food insecure people in our region is increasing. In March, we had 14 new clients sign up, and in April we are also having more new individuals visiting our food bank.</p>	
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	<p>During the month of April, for Easter, each household is receiving a ham and a chocolate bunny for each child 16 years old and under. Members of our congregation have graciously been donating hams and chocolate bunnies.</p> <p>Joe Latour has submitted our annual Kawartha Food Share 2025 Hunger Count. This information is used by Feed Ontario to determine funding to KFS.</p> <p>Kawartha Food Share has generously waived the annual membership fees for all its member agencies again this year.</p> <p>Patty will be signing and delivering our 2025 Kawartha Food Share Membership Agreement (12 pages!) to KFS this month.</p> <p>Food Drive at John's Independent, Bridgenorth Saturday, April 12 from 10:00 am to 2:00pm Thank you to everyone who shared the Bridgenorth United Church Facebook post on their Facebook pages.</p> <p>Donations Ennismore Ladies Curling League - \$425 Enbridge Gas will be donating \$5,000 to the Bridgenorth United Church Food Bank and to the Lakefield Community Food Bank. Due to the challenges from the recent ice storm, Enbridge Gas reached out to Selwyn Mayor, Sherry Senis, to find out how they could help out Selwyn Township. Mayor Senis asked Enbridge to donate to the food banks. When we receive our cheques, Sherry wants us to meet at the Selwyn Township Office for a media photo op. Patty Latour</p> <p>Regional Council – Jeff Julian – Property will need to submit a report by June to the Region around how Manse proceeds will be allocated.</p> <p>Membership and Pastoral – No Chair – no report. A young man who visited this past Sunday was overwhelmed by the welcome he received, he loved Cathy's sermon and made special mention to Joe about how much the Affirming symbols meant to him. He will be back!!</p> <p>Affirming – Joe Latour –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted a very successful and well attended book study at the church on March 14 to discuss the book "Stranger in the Mirror," by Erin LeBlanc. We were delighted to have 25 people join us for a very informative and educational discussion of what it means to be transgender. • Celebrated PIE Sunday on March 16 with lots of delicious pie served after the service. Pie slice sales after raised \$80.00 • Purchased a "pull-up" banner similar to the three on display that were on loan to us. The theme is "Love is Love" 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arranged for Christian Harvey, Executive Director, One City, Peterborough, to be our guest speaker at our June 1, 2025 United Church Pride Sunday service <p>Communication – Tanna Edwards – The updated website will be up in 3- 4 weeks , with a new Google calendar of events.</p> <p>Secretary – Judy Amsbury – no report.</p>	
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