

Present: Heather Lamb, Dave Falkevitch, Tara Bray, Monica Madden, Alastair McFadden, Lynn Madden, Jamie McFadden, Lori Kiesman, Rev. Barb Jardine, Dianne Kowalchuk.

Chair Heather Lamb called the council meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Rev. Barb gave an opening prayer. The minutes of the June 10, 2025, meeting were reviewed. ****Moved by Tara Bray, seconded by Lynn Madden, that the minutes of the June 10, 2025, Rivers United Church council meeting be accepted as circulated. Carried.**

Business arising from the minutes: None

Correspondence:

- E-mail from Megan Lelonde re: carnival
- E-mail from Rev. Ryan McNally re: UCC Structure Evaluation
- Thank you from Rivers Palliative Care Committee
- Thank you and receipt from Prairie Mountain Health
- Receipt from Red Cross
- Receipt from Riverdale Early Learning Centre
- E-mail from Judy Hare re: Sacrament elder
- E-mail from Rivers Kids Club
- UCC Mission & Service Fund

Reports

Spiritual Leadership: The committee met on September 2, 2025:

- Greg will put up an usher list. Tara will put up a scripture leader list. Banners are green for Sept. 7th and then turn to orange until Oct. 12th.
- Glenna will be doing the service on Oct. 5th which is also Worldwide Communion. Tara will set up and Megan will put up a sign up sheet for servers. Glenna is on a waitlist for surgery. Dianne will be a backup for performing Communion if Glenna is away.
- Connie Van Dixhoorn looks after PowerPoint people and has sent out an email regarding filling Sundays.
- Pulpit supply has been arranged until Nov. 9th. Tara is trying a service bought from the United Church Bookstore on October 19th. Dale Friesen from Canadian Foodgrains Bank has been booked for April 19th.
- Glenna has been doing the care home services monthly, and Dianne has been playing. Our next service is Sept. 11.
- Due to the retirement of George Bott, the *United in Worship* resources will no longer be available. They are making the resources available to be downloaded onto an external hard drive, or George will download the resources onto a hard drive and send it to us for \$101.28. Our committee recommends that we purchase the hard drive from George. *United in Worship* has been a fairly useful resource.
- Our next meeting will be November 11 by Zoom.

Outreach: Lori Kiesman reported that the committee met on September 4th:

- They are making plans for *Orange Shirt Day* on September 28th. People will be encouraged to wear orange to church, and orange ribbons will be available as well. The service will include a video (hopefully).
- Karen Cullen looked after finding drivers for *Meals on Wheels* in September.
- On September 14, the committee will serve cake, coffee, and juice after church.
- Dave is looking for a video for a Mission Minute on October 5th.
- Plans for the future include the advent Christmas social, an amnesty luncheon in 2026, distribution of valentines, and a spring cookie delivery.
- They will encourage congregation members to support *10,000 Villages*. Perhaps there will be a Mission Minute on this topic.
- Next meeting: November 4.

Ministry and Personnel: Lynn Madden reported that a meeting will be held soon. It was suggested that next summer, the watering of the flowers may be included in the duties of the outside caretaker. The Braun boys have not been paid yet; Lynn will remind them (or their mother) to be in touch with Monica. Lynn was asked to remind the inside caretaker to vacuum the basement (including the kitchen) before the fall supper.

Trustees: Dave Falkevitch reported that Lawrence Donald is working on getting the names changed at the Land Titles Office.

Prairie to Pine Region: Dianne Kowalchuk reported:

- General Council met from August 5 – 11, 2025, in Calgary. Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath was elected as Moderator. Dianne read the highlights of a statement issued by the UCC about the work of the 45th General Council.
- UCC will host a Zoom Cross Country Check in on September 22nd at 4 pm ET.
- The UCC website includes resources for *Orange Shirt Day*.
- An in-person training for Pastoral Care Visitors is being held in Portage on September 27. Rev. Barb is a co-facilitator. At the October meeting, Council will consider paying expenses if we have any attendees from this congregation.
- As a member of the regional committee for Lay Leadership Support, Dianne will be attending a gathering for the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders on October 27th in Portage.

Search: Nada

Stewardship (Property): Jamie McFadden reported that after the planter was installed, flowers were planted, and Heather Lamb looked after watering them. Jamie was asked to get rid of the junk under the landing of the ramp.

****Moved by Al McFadden, seconded by Kori Kiesman, that the reports be accepted. Carried.**

Stewardship (Finance):

The financial statement for the months of June, July, and August 2025 were presented by Jamie McFadden. As of August 31, 2025, total RUC funds were \$218,717.07. ****Moved by Jamie McFadden, seconded by Tara Bray, that the financial report for June, July, and August 2025 be accepted for information only. Carried.**

Old Business:

1. **The ramp:** RUC has received a Government of Canada Enabling Accessibility Grant for \$12,163 for the purpose of replacing the handicap ramp. Within the next few weeks, the old ramp will be taken away, and a new ramp will be installed by G2J's Mobile Welding. Total cost for the ramp will be \$17,136.
2. **Step 2:** Step 2 will continue in Friendship Hall on certain Friday mornings.

New Business:

1. **Nursery School:**

- a. A contract for the 2025-26 year was signed by Dani Wood and Dianne.
- b. ****Moved by Tara Bray, seconded by Al McFadden, that Rivers Kids Club be granted permission to provide a before-and-after-school care program. Carried.** They will be accepting kids as early as 7:15 and closing as late as 6 pm. This program is on a trial basis.
- c. A health inspection has determined that the water is too hot. Jamie will turn the water down (slightly), and we will turn it back up when needed. The nursery school was also asked to have the stained ceiling tiles replaced. They have suggested that they will paint the offending area with stain blocker. Council is fine with that remedy.

2. **Thrift Sale: **Moved by Jamie McFadden, seconded by Lori Kiesman, that the Fall Thrift Sale be held on October 2 (9-8), 3 (9-5), and 4 (9-1). Carried.** Council will decide how the proceeds will be disbursed at the next meeting. Lynn's first choice is the Rivers Collegiate Breakfast Program.
3. **Fall Supper: **Moved by Dianne Kowalchuk, seconded by Tara Bray, that the proceeds from the fall supper be split evenly between Riverdale Harvest and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Carried.** The supper will be held on October 18th. Convenors are Pat Dyck, Lesley McFadden, and Dianne Kowalchuk. Phoners are Tara Bray, Suzan Ramsey, and Michelle McFadden.
4. **Pastoral Charge Supervisor's report:** Rev. Barb, as our Pastoral Charge Supervisor, is tasked with completing a report about this charge to send to the Region. She had a few questions for us.
5. **United in Worship: **Moved that RUC purchase George Bott's archives from the United in Worship project for the cost of \$101.28. Carried.**
6. ***Then Let Us Sing!*: **Moved by Lori Kiesman, seconded by Dave Falkevitch, that RUC purchase the *Then Let Us Sing!* accompanist edition for \$75.42. Carried.**
7. **Passing the Peace: **Moved by Dianne Kowalchuk, seconded by Dave Falkevitch, that the congregation resume the traditional manner of Passing the Peace when communion is being served. Carried.**

Roundtable:

- Rev. Barb reported that she has received a good health report. Council celebrated that good news.

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 7 pm

The meeting was adjourned. Rev. Barb gave a closing benediction.