

**Meridian Pastoral Charge Meeting  
May3, 2022  
at Sanford United Church**

**Attendance:** Stuart and Jane Manness, Diane Trudeau, Margaret Porter, Michele Ammeter, Cathy Beavis, Georges Cormier, Rev. James deBeer, Nancy Langlois,

**Absent:** Barb Kirk

**Regrets:** Jamie Scharf

**Call the meeting to order:** Stuart Manness

**Opening Prayer:** Rev. James deBeer led with the Our Father

**Adoption of Agenda:**

**Motion:** Michele/Jane. Carried.

**Adoption of Minutes:**

**Motion:** to adopt the November 2021 minutes. Cathy/Georges. Carried.

**REPORTS**

**Minister** – no report but James wants to let everyone know he is available for pastoral care. He will give sacraments personally if needed.

**Worship** – no report

**M&P** – Ministry and Personal met with Rev James via Zoom April 27th. Also present were Michele Ammeter (Starbuck), Julie Ringash (Sanford), Judy Cormier and Stuart Manness (Avonlea). We opened the meeting by singing Its A Song Of Praise To The Maker. We Discussed: Proposed Church times starting in September: Starbuck will have James every Sunday at 11:30 am except the 2nd Sunday of each month. Sanford will be at 9:30 am, except the 2nd Sunday of each month will be at 11:00 until the New Year. Avonlea will be at 9:30 am, except the 2nd Sunday of each month from Jan through June will be at 11:00. Pulpit Supply spots will be filled by local Lay Leaders. Meridian has approved 1 ordained Supply Minister for each church so the decision on which Sunday can be made by each congregations Worship Committee. Once that decision is made please forward those plans to M&P and we will make the appropriate arrangements. James is requesting holidays in July and 1 week in February, and 1 week study leave in August. Communion Sundays will be coordinated by James and the Worship Committees. Typically 6 per year. We discussed James work load and encourage congregations to inform James of individuals needs, visting and personal sacrament requests. James communicates with parishioners who connect by text and email. The M&P committee plan on meeting via Zoom prior to Meridian Board meetings and an in person review with James before next AGM.

Respectfully Submitted

Stuart Manness, Chairperson

Suggestion for next September:

Starbuck UC will have Rev. James every Sunday except the second Sunday of each month when they will share services with Trinity Lutheran Church. A suggestion was made that perhaps next year would see “live streaming” services between Avonlea United and Sanford United Churches.

Sept 4<sup>th</sup> -Avonlea United Church will start their service with Rev James.

Sept. 11 Rev. James would attend both Avonlea United Church and Sanford United Church and Starbuck United Church will have a joint service at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> Rev. James at Starbuck UC and Sanford United Church- Avonlea United Church will stream.

Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> Rev. James at Starbuck UC and Avonlea United Church- Sanford United Church will stream.

This idea should be discussed at each Community of Faith's board meeting and shared with their congregation.

### **Regional Council – Prairie to Pine**

Nothing new to report other than:

There will be a Prairie to Pine Regional meeting this Friday and Saturday, May 6 & 7.

Diane Trudeau

Prairie to Pine Regional Rep.

### **CHURCH REPORTS**

#### **Avonle UC**

Our Annual Meeting was held February 1st via Zoom and a reorganizational Mtg followed.

In person worship began on February 28th.

We hosted in person Meridian Annual mtg on March 22nd.

We've held one Zoom Board mtg on March 29th.

Our Special Needs Fund provided assistance for a pair of eye glasses for a Gr 1 student of Jodi Harrison.

During the month of April, congregants have been encouraged to support Ukrainian through M&S or CFGB.

Holy Week was disappointing in that Maundy Thursday and Good Friday were cancelled because of poor weather. We celebrated Easter Sunday in person and shared communion, decorated the sanctuary with memorial flowers and lit a new Christ Candle in memory of Veronica Black. We were encouraged by the return of one of our longtime members and it felt like a homecoming celebration to see her.

We are focusing on trying to draw young and old back to worship.

We are looking forward to a Games/ Craft evening in May and a Baptism in June.

Thank you Rev. James for you ministry across the charge both in person and virtually.

Respectively submitted,

Jane Manness

-added to their report of an interesting YouTube video at the Atlantic School of Theology – a discussion on baptism and communion – the 2 United Church sacraments. Search: Sacrament in UC of Canada Feb. 12, 2020.

#### **Sanford UC**

The life and work of Sanford United is humming along. The layperson lead services seem to be going smoothly. Thanks to our worship committee for stepping up to that challenge. But of course we certainly enjoy our Sundays when Rev. James is scheduled to lead service.

On April 9, we had a celebration of life service for Lilian Murner in our building including a luncheon hosted by our church members

We also celebrated the baptisms of Jack Default, Eil Langlois, and Cameryn Langlois on May 1.

Our annual meeting finally occurred in-person on March 20, 2022. This meeting was for both 2020 and 2021. At the meeting, we decided to proceed with a roof repair at an estimated cost of \$22,000. We are hoping to get some financial support from the community to help with the expense.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Scharf

-added to their report that they had a food drive for Manitoba Harvest.

### **Starbuck UC**

Starbuck was finally able to hold it's Annual Congregational meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> April after many postponements. This was a productive meeting where the future of the church was raised for people to think about. We were also able to take care of much outstanding business and discuss future projects.

We continue to look forward to a time where there are fewer challenges presented by the pandemic or weather related. We are most grateful to James for his dedication and amazing ability to adapt to an ever changing world.

Margaret Porter

Chair

### **Meridian InterChurch Report -**

-Report was read as the report was emailed at the last minute.

Baccalaureate Service Award application deadline is June 6. Committee will meet to determine recipients June 14th.

Baseball tournament is June 12th starting at 3 pm. Proposed venues LaSalle or Brunkild. Details decided May 10th meeting.

Fall curling evening being planned. Looking at book and speaker options.

Judy Manness

**Motion:** to accept all the reports as presented. Nancy/Michele Carried.

### **TREASURER REPORT**

the report was shared

**Motion** to accept the report Georges/Margaret Carried.

**Correspondence** – none

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Collaborative Ministry Conversation: Jane Manness shared some ideas. Diane and James would be on the look out for possible ideas at next week's Prairie To Pine Regional meeting.

Community of Faiths must discuss the issue of the state of our Meridian Pastoral Charge. At the MPC annual meeting the treasure noted that monies will run out in 4 years. What needs to be done within each COF so they are prepared for this. Hard decision and plans will have to be made.

Starbuck UC will increase their MPC monthly allotment to 1/3 to \$2450.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Service at Union Point is June 27 at 10 am.

Next mtg is September 13<sup>th</sup> at Starbuck. Margaret will make sure the venue is available but if not suggested the meeting be held at Sanford UC.

November 8th's meeting will be via Zoom.

**Adjournment** – 7:55 pm by Michele Ammeter

Submitted by  
Diane Trudeau