

**Pinawa Christian Fellowship**  
**Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**Sunday November 26, 2023 in the Lutheran Church**

**MINUTES**

29 people in attendance

1. **Call to Order** – Deb Smith – the meeting was called to order at 12:03 pm
2. **Opening Prayer** – Liz Brasier
3. **MOTION to adopt Agenda** as distributed Bernice Hawton/Leny Ohta, carried
4. **Convenor's Remarks** – Deb Smith  
In addition to her written report, Deb was pleased to mention that the year was fairly quiet with most of our concerns and changes addressed. We would welcome your input and ideas.  
Fall Connect was sent out to everyone for the first time in a few years; we have had a good response and still waiting for some forms to be returned. The info has been passed along to Lori Evenden who will compile lists of volunteers for the various tasks.  
Highlights of the year were the calling of our new minister; we are very pleased to have Liz. She is bringing us new, fresh ideas and perspectives and we hope to continue to grow together. The other major step is moving to the Lutheran Church as our new home. Thank you to Jay Hawton and Garry Buchanan for installing the new sign at the front of the church. In the past week we have new cabinetry in place (thank you to Faye & Garry Buchanan for assembling it) so we will be able to move our things from Gilbert School.  
Next Sunday, the beginning of Advent, is traditionally White Gift Sunday. This year we are not requesting items; people have had the opportunity to give to the food banks and Christmas hampers through the Pinawa Foundation and the Town Market next week is calling for items for the food bank. If people do bring things on White Gift Sunday, we will make sure they are distributed.
5. **MOTION** to approve the Minutes of the September 25, 2022 General Meeting – Garry Buchanan/Margaret Koroll – carried
6. **MOTION** that the reports of the Convenors, Treasurer and various committees of the PCF, as published on [www.pinawa.church](http://www.pinawa.church) and as distributed at the meeting, be received and all recommendations adopted – Leny Ohta/George Montgomery – carried
7. **MOTION** to approve the slate of PCF General Committee candidates (below) – Leny Ohta/George Montgomery, carried

Convenor Committee	Deb Smith, Wally Kukurudz, Betty McCamis
Secretary	Marg Stokes
Treasurer	Karen Ross
Worship Committee	vacant
Christian Education	Chuck Vandergraaf
Missions	Chuck Vandergraaf

Congregational Care	Shirley Pellow
Social	Barb Lambert
Stewardship	vacant

Other positions affirmed by the Congregational Meeting:

Pastoral Relations Sub-committee: Rob Smith, Betty McCamis, Heather Westdal

Special Gifts Fund team – Holly Parcey, Cindy Litke

Denominational Representatives

Anglican	Wally Kukurudz
Mennonite	Ken Reddig
Presbyterian	Joye Platford
United	Brenda Morash

Prayer in acknowledgement of affirmation of these positions – Liz Brasier

#### 8. Treasurer's Remarks – Betty McCamis for Karen Ross

Betty presented the financial information to Sept. 30, 2023.

Our local offering is only 53.3% of the budgeted amount and we have a deficit of \$17,565 to the end of September. Although our cash flow is OK at present because of savings, the growing deficit is concerning and we hope that local offerings will increase.

Betty presented a Charitable Tax Credits chart below.

### CHARITABLE TAX CREDITS

Charitable Donations	Reduction in Taxes	Percent of Donations	Net Amount
\$500.00	\$190.80	38.2%	\$309.20
\$1000.00	\$422.80	42.2%	\$577.20
\$5000.00	\$2278.80	45.5%	\$2721.20

(Based on 2022 tax rates for the province of Manitoba)

This chart shows how much your income tax is reduced due to the charitable tax credit. For example, if you donate \$5,000, you receive a \$2,278.80 reduction in taxes so your net amount paid is only \$2,721.20. This is applicable to everyone who pays income tax and is not dependent on their income. Please keep this in mind when you are considering your charitable donations.

Discussion:

- suggestion that members review their offering through PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance). PAR is the most efficient means of monthly offering. It provides the treasurer with a list of offering to Local and Missions. Offering by transfer to PCF through Access or by e-transfer is possible but it is much more difficult to track and would greatly increase the already demanding job of the treasurer. Please contact Karen Ross to set up or change your monthly offering through PAR.

- Explanation of Insurance and Property Taxes expense account: this title dates back to when we had land across from the mall. We now have insurance on our possessions and also directors and officers insurance to protect people on committees should someone decide to sue PCF. In future, Property Tax should be removed from the title of this category.

MOTION to accept the Treasurer's report – Joye Platford/Jay Hawton, carried.

## **9. New Business**

Discussion on disbursement of our things still at Gilbert School

- We are beginning to bring some of our things to the Lutheran Church and are not receiving the pressure of a deadline from FWG school
- Armchairs will come to Lutheran Church; other chairs will remain at FWG school
- Barb Lambert has removed most of our items from the Community Kitchen which will come to the church
- Will get a group of people to look at backdrop and other banners and make a decision
- Can keep the small side lectern; if the congregation is in agreement, Rob Smith could approach Sandy Saulteaux Centre to see if they can use the pulpit
- Suggestion to donate the choir skirting to Windsor Park United Church who have changed their setup and do not have draping for in front of the choir members
- Several hundred candles we can't use: can Sandy Saulteaux or Marcus Remple's church use them? Barrett at Fort Whyte Alive would be happy to have some to make fire starters
- Music needs to be sorted through by musicians. A lot of electronics will go to e-waste
- Toys in good condition can be donated to daycare or disposed of if they are outdated, etc.
- Large cabinet for the old organ – need to take it away or tell the school it's not needed
- We still have a balance of \$1300 for use of the Community Kitchen. This can be used for Dinner & Conversation sessions
- Dishes – does the Lutheran Church want us to bring them?

## **10. MOTION to Adjourn Meeting – Rob Smith, 12:42 pm**

## **11. Closing Prayer – Liz Brasier**