

**KIMBERLEY SHARED MINISTRY
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2023**

PARTICIPANTS:

Chair	Kathy Desbiolles
Vice Chair	Catherine Ripley
Treasurer	Susan Baker
Secretary	Roberta Seifried
Pastoral Care	Val Bromley
Outreach/Fellowship	Jan Simmonds
Personnel Relations	
Worship	Elaine Pickles
Property & Maintenance	Terry Thompson
Communications	Gerda Mann
Member at Large	Barbara Thompson, Linda Johnson

REGRETS: Rev. Alwin Maben, Lois Lafaut

The Christ Candle was lit as a reminder to focus on the work of God.

OPENING:

Kathy Desbiolles called the meeting to order at 1:02 and welcomed all attending.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: Moved by Elaine Pickles, seconded by Gerda Mann the agenda be adopted as presented.

Motion carried.

OPENING PRAYER: CATHERINE RIPLEY

LISTENING CIRCLE: CATHERINE RIPLEY

Catherine provided several questions, which will be used in the congregational listening circles during Advent, and everyone was invited to speak on the topic. Feedback on the process was also requested.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

MOTION: Moved by Roberta Seifried, seconded by Catherine Ripley that the minutes of the Council Meeting held September 19, 2023 be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL ZOOM MEETING HELD OCTOBER 20, 2023

MOTION: Moved by Roberta Seifried, seconded by Terry Thompson that the minutes of the Zoom Council Meeting held October 20, 2023 be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT (submitted by Susan Baker)

Report circulated in the November 21, 2023 Reading Package from Catherine Ripley.

A draft 2024 budget was presented with December 15, 2023 being the final date for the budget amounts to be received by Susan or she will estimate the figures based on this year's expenses.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: submitted by Elaine Pickles

The committee met on November 1st to plan services until the end of December including the farewell service on November 29th for Rev. Alwin and Ida. The service will be at 5:30 followed by a potluck. Everyone will be encouraged to bring food by 5:15 so the service can begin promptly. Kathy and Catherine will lead this service.

Members of the committee will officiate at the December services. There will be 2 additional services in December – December 10th at 7:00 pm a service of Lessons and Carols to be followed with a reception. The longest Night of the Year service will be on December 21st. This will be a daytime service in hopes of having more people attend. There will be one service on Christmas Eve at 8:00 PM.

The committee is hoping to source some supply ministers to do occasional services over the next few months.

The committee will begin meeting once a month for the foreseeable future.

On November 3rd the committee met with Kathy Davies to discuss and share ways we can all work together. The comments and ideas shared at this meeting are confidential within this group. However, there was one concern that was universal – communication between committees and the congregation needs more attention.

Kathy Desbiolles advised that the United Church had not had a grieving service and Brent Woodward from Invermere would be available for a service. Kathy Desbiolles will explore options for the service in January. Carol and Jim Andrews are not available for decorating the Christmas tree in the sanctuary this year, and a Coffee, Cake, & Decorate event will be held December 1 at 1:00 pm.

OUTREACH, PASTORAL CARE & FELLOWSHIP REPORT:

(Submitted by Diana Semenchuk, based on notes from Barb Streich)

Report circulated in the November 21, 2023 Reading Package by Catherine Ripley.

Alwin's Goodbye Service & Dinner will be held at 5:30 and NOT 5:00 as in the report. The new stove is installed in the downstairs kitchen.

PERSONNEL RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

(Submitted by Gerry Semenchuk)

Report circulated in the November 21, 2023 Reading Package by Catherine Ripley.

PROPERTY & MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

(Submitted by Terry Thompson)

Report circulated in the November 21, 2023 Reading Package by Catherine Ripley.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT:

(Submitted by Gerda Mann)

Report circulated in the November 21 Reading Package by Catherine Ripley.

Ryan has requested another slide for the overhead. Another screen is needed for the person playing the piano.

Christmas newsletter deadline is Tuesday, December 5, 2023

MOTION:

Moved by Val Bromley, seconded by Linda Johnson that the Committee Reports be accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A) Kootenay Cluster Gathering November 3-5, 2023 Cranbrook & Kimberley
Moderator Rev. Dr. Carmen Landsdowne
Well attended and outstanding!

NEW BUSINESS:

- A) Listening Circles for the Congregation - Kathy Desbiolles
Catherine Ripley & Kathy Desbiolles will facilitate circles for the congregation to attend. A schedule was provided for the circles with 8 times provided during the week of December 3-10. Sign up sheets will be provided on Sunday, Nov 26, and advertised in the e-letter. Four Council agreed to phone and invite those who have not signed up as of November 30.

- B) Work Plan for January - March 2024 - Catherine Ripley
Report circulated in the November 21, 2023 Reading Package by Catherine Ripley.

Council will meet every month commencing in November as there is a lot of work to be done. Areas for work by Council and the congregation during Epiphany/Lent will be determined after Council reviews the summary of the Advent Listening Circles.

- C) United Church Remit - Kathy Desbiolles
Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization - Vote
Voted Yes

D) Communications - Kathy Desbiolles

Over the last two years our minister has felt micro-managed - told what to do - in a harassing, bullying way. He is not the first United Church minister to resign for this reason, in fact not even the second, who has cited this reason for resigning.

Now that Reverend Alwin has decided to leave, I find that I am being targeted through voice messages and emails. I feel harassed by this attempt to micro-manage me.

This is troublesome. The people who engaged in this harmful behaviour in the past, continue to do so.

I want them to know that this destructive behaviour must stop now.

To that end, communications from any members of the congregation to me will come to the whole council. If any other council member feels harassed by communications, they should send the text to the whole council as well. As a council we must make it clear that these inappropriate attempts to micro-manage leaders will not be tolerated.

Bullying behaviours stop now. Unfortunately, if there are some congregants who want things their way, they can always search for a different church.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting closed at 3:20 with The Grace.

Next Council meeting Tuesday December 19, 2023 at 1:00 pm

PARKING LOT ITEMS:

1. Emergency Preparedness: Working Together - Community in Action