**Mission and Discipleship Commission**

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

***Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith***

***DRAFT MINUTES***

***December 07, 2021 @ 10 am
via Zoom***

**Roster:** Richard Auckland (Chair), Linda Badke, Cheryl Bolton, Tabitha Carey, Robert Harris, James Haupt, Glenda McMillan

**Staff Support:** Diane Matheson-Jimenez - Minister, Social Justice

Kathy Douglas - Minister, Faith Formation

 Thérèse Samuel – Minister for Right Relations and Social Justice

 Dave Jagger - Stewardship and Gifts Officer

 Michele Petick – Website Management, Administrative Support

 Ruthanna Mack-Administration

**Present:** Richard Auckland (Chair), Linda Badke, ~~Cheryl Bolton~~, Tabitha Carey, ~~Robert Harris~~, James Haupt, Glenda McMillan,  ~~Diane Matheson-Jimenez~~, Kathy Douglas, Thérèse Samuel, ~~Dave Jagger~~, Michele Petick, ~~Ruthanna Mack~~

**Agenda**

1. **Acknowledgement of the Land/Territory** We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional territory of a number of First Nations and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages. This Land known as Antler River Watershed, was once settled by the Attawandaron Peoples.  Later the Algonquin, the Anishinabe, the Lenne-Lenape and the Haudenosaunee Peoples who used their lands as their traditional gathering, hunting and congregating place.  Let us also recognize our three closest neighbours from these nations: The Chippewa of the Thames First Nation, The Munsee-Delaware Nation, and the Oneida Nation of the Thames.  We seek a new relationship with the Original Peoples of this land, one based in honour and deep respect.
2. **Opening Prayer/Worship;** *Tabitha Carey*
3. **Establishing/reminder of Equity Monitor and Pastoral Presence for our meeting(s):**

Equity group monitoring will be done and a reminder to all members of the commission to act as individual equity monitors in our discussions together.

1. **Approval of Agenda for** December 7, 2021

MOTION by Name / Name Glenda/Tabitha that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

1. **Approval of Minutes from** September 7, 2021

MOTION by Name / Name Linda/Jim that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council be accepted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

1. **Business Arising:**

None

1. **New Business:**
2. Kathy Douglas will be asking for honorariums of $150 each to pay 3 people for helping in leadership with Music Ministry Gatherings being planned in January/February 2022.  She will have those motions made and distributed to you each.
3. Kathy Douglas asked the commission to consider **endorsing**a project for youth and Young adults across all three regions.   Vanessa Shuttleworth-Spence has been working to create a program that will include an event in the spring for Young Adults and an event for youth in the fall. (Youth Rally) This would be (in her hopes) a regular occurring set of events.  The spring event for Young Adults would offer community, education and faith development…but one of its main goals is to ‘plan’ the fall event for youth (Youth Rally). She has a proposal and she would be prepared to attend a meeting to explain and/or I can answer questions about the proposal should you prefer not to invite her to a meeting. At this time, we are looking for **endorsemen**t from the regions.

Main question….would you like to invite Vanessa to a meeting of M&D?

The Antler River Watershed Mission and Discipleship Commission agrees this is an important area to focus on and support. Endorsement will be available for this program. These programs offer meaningful community building and lifelong friendships.

1. Kathy Douglas will be meeting with Dave Jagger and C-A Stadelbauer-Sampa to consider how to communicate information about grants & do some education around Stewardship…..within the church of the three regions.    We think there needs to be input from the M&D Commission…by means of a person named from the commission to join in the planning. Can you name **or** suggest **or** ask if there is anyone who would like to be a part of planning and perhaps offer some leadership for this?
2. Application for funds (see document in drop box under 21.12.07 meeting). FYI – The first one is in our area. The other two are not.

* Asking for $5K by First-St. Andrew’s, London
* To be used to support the new ministry position (full time) Youth Minister shared among 3 congregations in London. The grant will not support the salary, but program plans.
* Other churches may come on board for participation in the events.

The second application was for the Silver Lake Camp which is not in our area, but is in Western Ontario Waterways. A note has been sent to them to advise them that funds would not be forthcoming.

The third application was from Trinity United Church, Kent-Wentworth.

· Trinity United Church, Kitchener-Waterloo in partnership with The Hub is asking for $10K (More than actually is available).

· Developing Sub-Hubs (House churches led by young adults for young adult populations around the regions. This group also offers larger worship services 3 or 4 per year. There is a 4-5 year phase in for this ministry and they intend on building the Sub Hub in London with Western University plans. (For more detail, check out the application)

· Kathy and Richard intend on finding out more information about this application for further discussion at the January 11, 2022 meeting

A decision on both the first and third applications was deferred to January 11, 2022 pending further investigation about each ministry and the funds available for granting. An email was sent to both applicants advising them that their application was under further review and a decision would be made January 11.

Add for further discussion to Business Arising for January 11, 2022 meeting. Review documents in DropBox and emails for additional information.

1. **Reports:**
* **ARW Region Social and Ecological Justice Network**
	+ Met about a month ago
	+ Improving communications from the regions
* **Kathy**
	+ On holidays from Dec 16 to Jan 10th
* **Diane**
	+ On Holidays until January 2022
* **Thérèse**
	+ On vacation for a week starting December 8th
	+ Three fall programs have completed. Networking session: Very successful roughly 60-70 participants. Connections were made to furnish bedrooms for a Manse, delivered and set up, meaningful connections. One Indigenous community has expressed desire for Non-Indigenous faith communities to come and visit with them. Together in Song was a vigil with successful participation. Engaging the TRC’s Calls to Action: Feedback was that the events were helpful and some communities of faith are moving forward in responding to the Calls to Action.
	+ Plans for the new year: there have been requests for more information about acknowledging territories and why it’s important.
	+ Learning about gifts, and giving gifts in addition to honorariums to the Indigenous leaders.
	+ Possible upcoming event working with Otis Bell and Rue McDonald re: Lenten Series called “Coming out of Exile”. There will be a request for funding if this goes ahead.
	+ Indigenous peoples have raised concerns about the use of the word “Mission;” it has negative impacts for Indigenous Communities.  It’s not a biblical term rooted in the New Testament.  We will look to discuss this more in the future.
* **Ruthanna/Michele**
	+ ARW Website updates: blog, video and events sections added.
1. **Next Meetings on Tuesdays at 10am:**

**January 11, 2022 - Zoom Link:** [**https://united-church.zoom.us/j/92958458372**](https://united-church.zoom.us/j/92958458372)
**March 1 2022** (8th is executive),  **May 10, 2022
June 14, 2022 (budget preparation for August),
September 6 & 8 (if necessary), 2022
November 8, 2022
December 13, 2022**

1. **Closing Prayer:** shared prayer with Commission members and Staff Support.
2. **Adjournment**