**Mission and Discipleship Commission**

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

***APPROVED MINUTES***

***March 1, 2022 - 10 am – 12 pm  
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-Administration

Ruthanna Mack-Administration

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

Staff: Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Kathy Douglas, Thérèse Samuel, ~~Dave Jagger~~, Michele Petick, ~~Ruthanna Mack~~

**Guest:** Adam Cresswell

**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:** Richard Auckland – Shrove Tuesday
3. **Motion by Glenda / Tabitha to make Adam Cresswell a corresponding member for this meeting.**

**CARRIED**

1. **Reminder of Equity Monitor and Pastoral Presence for our meeting(s)**
2. **Correspondence:**

**a) ELUCO Annual Report; East London United Church**

**b) UNJPPI**

1. **Approval of Agenda for March 1, 2022**

MOTION by Name Robert/ Name Linda that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council …

MOTION CARRIED

1. **Approval of Minutes from January 11, 2022**

MOTION by Tabitha Name / Name Jim that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council …

MOTION CARRIED

1. **Budget Update**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. ***Fund:*** | 1. **$ Set Aside**  **(Event/mtg details TBA)** | 1. **$ final Approval** | 1. **$ Remaining** |
| 1. **2022 Events Fund**  **($10,000 available)** | 1. $1000 | 1. $1100 (including $400 approved last year for Earth Day event with Carol Kilby in 2022) | 1. $8900 |
| 1. **2022 Meeting Fund**  **($ ???  Available)** |  |  |  |

1. **Business Arising:**

**None**

1. **New Business:**
2. **Loneliness** **& the Spiritual Practice of Belonging: A Study for Ministry Personnel** includes **1 on 1 Spiritual Direction session**

**LONELY: LEARNING TO LIVE WITH SOLITUDE**

By: Emily White

**On-Line with Zoom**

## **FUNDING**

$3000 + HST Robin’s fee  
Each participant will be asked to contribute $50-100 (amount to be determined), plus purchase the book.  
The M&D Commissions from the three regions will contribute $1000 each (total of $3000 and participant fee will cover HST.

* Clergy have continuing education budgets. Staff will go ahead to ask clergy staff to pay for these sessions.
* **This financial request is withdrawn from the commission. See below in Kathy Douglas’ staff report for more information.**

1. **UNJPPI**

* Requesting $1,000 for an event that is happening in London, Ontario in May.
* Will focus on justice for the people and children in Palestine.

Moved by (Robert/Jim) that the Antler River Watershed Mission and Discipleship Commission approve the allocation of $1,000 from the Events Budget for the UNJPPI event in May 2022.

CARRIED

**Corresponding Member: Adam Cresswell (The Hub)**

* The Hub Ministry is geared towards 18-35 years of age, mostly young adults in transition.
* Mission lives to connect young people for a more just and inclusive world**.**
* The Hub - People Together Christ at the centre (tagline).
* Vision established in 2015 with thoughts around the summer camp structure but available all year round.
* What would it look like for communities of disciples to rise up? Bands, devotionals, reflections.
* Relationship based ministry.
* A network of people including sub hubs, more than worship services, or a bible study or book study.
* More of a home church model with justice engagement in neighbourhoods.
* These sub-hubs are grounding centres for their communities.
* Larger events include games, liturgical services, to bring all the sub hubs together. Includes workshops on justice and inclusion throughout the year.
* Focus on moving the communities forward with Jesus, justice and inclusion are the motivators for the participants.
* Most events are currently held online because of COVID-19.
* Recent online scavenger hunt with 40 youth from around Ontario gathered and engaged with each other.
* Worship services like Good Friday are examples of hub ministry activities.
* Podcasts, Quiet Time Series, Justice & Faith for Teens online series.
* There is a 2SLGBTQ+ sub hub.
* “How faith is coming into your life and you are setting up your life” Megan Hub leader comments.
* Adam Kilner is a strong supporter of the hubs.
* Moving forward The Hub will continue the sub hubs and rebuilding “on the ground” relationships.
* Looking to collaborate with the regions and local congregations to be stronger together.
* Metrics are seven sub hubs at 10 folks each. Roughly 200 going into the pandemic. Right now it’s about 250 people and stretching outside of Ontario.
* A proposal of specific ways to support Antler River Watershed Regional Council to come from Adam in the future.
* Works closely with Edge and Trinity United Church in Kitchener.
* Contact: <https://linktr.ee/Thehubcommunity>
* Sign Up for newsletter: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe2lnGshjVpl-2r3MH3siCMfbEONKJUX1PEowAETHnIesr28g/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0>
* Email: hubleadership@gmail.com

1. **Reports:**

* **ARW Region Social and Ecological Justice Network**

- Jennifer Prince has joined the network.

* **Kathy**
* Facilitating a **Clergy Book Study** with Rev Robin McGauley, geared to clergy, ready to be advertised, hopefully this will be a template for spiritual sustenance and support to clergy. Details of book study: Loneliness & the Spiritual Practice of Belonging: A Study for Ministry Personnel, includes 1 on 1 Spiritual Direction session **LONELY: LEARNING TO LIVE WITH SOLITUDE, By: Emily White.**
* April regional newsletters will focus on **Camps and Camping Ministry**.
* **Sarah Charters** with Stewardship at National office is requesting each region to name 2-3 people to attend Mission and Service Round Table. This gathering is March 21 at 1pm. Richard Auckland and Linda Badke agreed to attend this event on behalf of ARW M&D. The aim of the gathering is to compare granting practices, learn from one another, discern future best practices and help my team learn how we can best support your key leaders to promote Mission & Service throughout your region and communities of faith.

Moved by (Glenda / Jim) that the Antler River Watershed Mission and Discipleship Commission approve the allocation of $75 from the Events Budget for the honorarium portion to be paid to facilitator (Tianna Gocan) for their leadership in Children and Youth Leadership Webinars in March 2022.

CARRIED

Moved by (Jim / Linda) that the Antler River Watershed Mission and Discipleship Commission approve the allocation of $75 from the Events Budget for the honorarium portion to be paid to Rev. YongSeok Baek for their leadership in Children and Youth Leadership Webinars in March 2022.

CARRIED

* **Diane**
* **Food and Faith Gathering:** Working with Jeffrey Dale of Shining Waters Regional Council and the Open Food Network. This event will appeal to anyone growing food, running a food pantry, hosting community kitchens, or community gardens.
* Looking to gather folks who are involved with all aspects of food to a Round Table event. Thursday April 21, 2022 at 7pm. Please forward the invitation to the event to your connections to maximize participation. Diane MJ will send the invitation to the commission
* **P.I.E. Day Resource:** A day and time we focus on the inclusion of 2SLGBTQ+ peoples to help us bring us to our mission of unconditional love. The link to the resources is here:
* <https://arwrcucc.ca/p-i-e-resources-ideas-for-worship-sunday-march-13th-2022/> and can be used for the Sunday worship prior to P.I.E. Day.
* Working with **Carol Kilby for Earth Day** resources which will be made available in April.
* Kathy Douglas and Diane MJ have signed up to be Champion participants in the **Korean War Peace Appeal**. If you would like to sign up here is the link:
* <https://en.endthekoreanwar.net/>
* **Thérèse**
* **Together in Spirit –** Richard Auckland attended (acted as Equity Support partner) – Ishkoodeh Kwe Sheila Robson was a presenter. Take-aways are each indigenous community/group has its own traditions and rituals and special significance to each offering offerings. Richard talked with people from Cape Croker UC in British Columbia. The presentation of tobacco ties is an unwritten contract between parties. Thérèse reported there were 81 devices logged on to the Zoom event.
* **Truth before Reconciliation** – Looking for a representative from the commission to attend this event on March 10th 1:30-3pm, Glenda McMillan will plan to attend.
* A resource will be made for preparing territorial acknowledgments to be shared with communities of faith.
* **Anti-Racism** course with Salem Debs. Apprx. $300, it is a deep and intensive course.
* **Ruthanna/Michele**
* Regarding file sharing, the regions will be transitioning from the Dropbox platform to SharePoint over the next couple of months, Michele P. will facilitate the transition.

1. **Budget Tracking**

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| 1. ***Fund:*** | 1. **$ Set Aside**  **(Event/mtg details TBA)** | 1. **$ final Approval** | 1. **$ Remaining** |
| 1. **2022 Events Fund**  **($10,000 available)** |  |  | 1. $7750 2. ( – amount approved in this meeting) |
| 1. **2022 Meeting Fund**  **($ ???  Available)** |  |  |  |

2. **Next Meetings:**

**May 10, 2022   
June 14, 2022 (budget preparation for August),   
September 6 & 8 (if necessary), 2022   
November 8, 2022  
December 13, 2022**

1. **Closing: Richard Auckland**
2. **Adjournment**