

**Parish of the Northern Lights
Parish Council Meeting
Monday, March 21, 2016**

Teaching

Since there are a number of new people on the Parish Council, Lesley Wheeler-Dame called the meeting to order at 7:00PM with introductions all around. The group then did a study of Mark 11:12 to 25.

In attendance were: Wendy Lawrence, Richard Loken, Hazel Lund, Pauline Morey, Vernie Mosich, LeRoy Overacker, Jodi Pisarewski, Joyce Pusiarski, Shirley Raaflaub, Lesley Wheeler-Dame.

The business portion of the meeting started at 7:30PM.

Information

1. **Minutes of the Meeting of February 15, 2016:** The minutes were adopted as distributed. Moved by Shirley Raaflaub, Carried.
2. **Business Arising From the Minutes:** There was no business arising from the minutes that was not covered under another agenda item.
3. **Summer Student:** The application for a summer student has been submitted and acknowledged but it has not yet been approved.

Discussion

1. **Congregational, Youth, and Clergy Reports:**

Saint Paul's, Boyle: Vernie Mosich and Shirley Raaflaub reported that somebody has been hired to repair the siding and roof of the church. The congregation also has books that need repair so a book repair bee has been organized. A regular weekly small group meeting has been organized.

Saint Andrew's/Zion, Colinton: Wendy Lawrence reported that the annual plant sale will be expanded this year to include all things garden related. Saint Andrews/Zion is considering having an additional service on Thursday evenings.

Saint Thomas, Perryvale: Pauline Morey reported that the Good Friday service will be at 10:00AM on March 25.

Christ Church, Wandering River: Joyce Pusiarski reported that there will be a baptism on Pentecost Sunday, it will be an adult baptism of a father and son.

Youth Group Report: Joanna Muzyka submitted a written youth group report which was distributed at the meeting.

One highlight of the report is that the youth group is still about \$400.00 short of the funding they need to attend the YC youth conference in Edmonton in May so they are collecting bottles from the parish members in hopes of collecting that \$400.00.

Joanna thinks it is time to hold another Youth Alpha programme, she would like hold it early in the 2016/2017 school year and she will need active help from the parish members if

the programme is to run successfully.

Clergy Report: Lesley Wheeler-Dame reported that she attended a meeting in Fort McMurray pertaining to the upcoming General Synod and Canon XXI *On Marriage in the Church*, Lesley found the meeting troubling.

Lesley reported that the Diocese of Athabasca has assembled a study guide which can be used to guide congregations through a study of the marriage canon.

Lesley reported that a woman named Gerda who she has been visiting in Edmonton has passed away.

Chris Boyce will start leading the first Sunday service of each month at Saint Andrews/Zion, her first service will be on Sunday April 3. As mentioned in the St Andrew/Zion report above, St Andrews/Zion is considering adding a weekly Thursday evening service to their calendar and Lesley will ask Bill to lead the services if he is able to do that.

As part of his ongoing training, Bill will soon write an exam on Anglicanism.

2. **Refugee Sponsorship:** LeRoy reported that the Athabasca United Church congregation has joined the refugee sponsorship group, this is a good thing since the family being considered at the moment is an extended family with 11 members.

Blue Heron had offered a rent free house for use by the refugee family for a year but that house has been rented to somebody else. Meanwhile, another house has been offered for the use of the refugee family when they come so all is not lost.

The refugee sponsorship committee has been offered the chance to do a fund raiser, this would be a food concession for an event to be held at Edwin Parr High School on Saturday April 16.

3. **Vestry/Council Workshop:** Lesley reported that it has been arranged for Terry Leer to host a workshop on the roles and obligations of a vestry member and she wants all vestry and council members to attend the workshop. It is suggested that workshop be held for half a day on Saturday April 30. Some members of parish council suggested that Terry present one of the congregation training sessions while he is here.
4. **Graduating Students Gifts:** Nate Day and Lydia Dame are both graduating from high school this year. It is traditional to give graduating students a bible as a congratulatory gift but the parish has already given bibles to both students. It was suggested that they be given a quilt instead, this idea was accepted but it led to a lot of discussion about applying the art of quilt making to this particular project.

Decision

1. **Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer's report was adopted as distributed.
Moved by LeRoy Overacker, Seconded by Shirley Raaflaub, Carried.
2. **Next Meeting:** April 18, 2016