

NUASM Board Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2025

The November meeting of the NUASM Board was held by Zoom teleconference on Tuesday November 18, 2025 at 1:00 pm.

Present: Leona Kucher, Judy Elgert, Susan Phillips, Lynda Lowry, Jane Goudie, Murray Hart, Pat Fedoruk, Rev. Leith Saunders, Anita d'Armada, Daphne Hall, Betty Ebner

1. Welcome and Call to Order – Leona Kucher at 1:00 pm

2. Opening Prayer – Rev. Saunders

3. Additions/Changes to Agenda - none

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Judy Elgert / Pat Fedoruk

That the agenda be approved as circulated. **Carried.**

5. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting (October 21 2025)

Motion: Murray Hart / Lynda Lowry

That the minutes of the October 21, 2025 meeting be approved as circulated. **Carried.**

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) UCW Donation

Susan reported that the \$602.17 raised by the UCW for catering the NUASM 5th Anniversary luncheon, has been donated to the Salvation Army in Neepawa.

7. Correspondence

a) October Report from Pastoral Assistant Rita Friesen

Activities were as follows:

Sunday worship - 2

Graveside/funeral - 5

Family meetings - 5

Elks Manor - 2

Home visits - 2

Hospital visits - 4

One all day Inservice in Portage for Licensed Lay Worship Leaders

And November is ramping up!

- thank you Rita for all the valuable work you do!

8. Committee Reports

a) Treasurer – Judy Elgert

	Date	Memo	Debit	Credit	Balance	Budget Balance
NUASM						1,500.00
	2025-04-04	Oil refills for the candles	162.40		162.40	1,337.60
	2025-04-14	communion supplies, palm branches and	55.86		218.26	1,281.74

		fellowship time supplies					
	2025-05-29	-MULTIPLE-	7.84			226.10	1,273.90
	2025-05-31	Chad's farewell	100.09			326.19	1,173.81
	2025-05-31	Chad farewell gift		100.00		226.19	1,273.81
	2025-06-08	farewell gift for Chad	260.00			486.19	1,013.81
	2025-06-30	Appreciation gift	25.00			511.19	988.81
	2025-08-15	Chad's farewell	40.82			552.01	947.99
	2025-08-31	working lunch for profile committee & Bishop Rachael	38.02			590.03	909.97
	2025-10-08	UC communion and milk for fellowship coffee	12.59			602.62	897.38
Total NUASM			702.62	100.00		602.62	897.38
			702.62	100.00		602.62	897.38

b) Worship – Pat Fedoruk

We met on November 4, 2025. Discussion topics included:

- Remembrance Sunday service
- Blue Christmas service, which will now be held at PAC (not at our church)
- Advent Bible Study: Rita will lead on Wednesdays December 3, 10 & 17 at 9:30 am, meeting room
- Land acknowledgment; message will continue to scroll on the overhead. A paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer from VU page 916, will be used once per month. This translation speaks more to the Indigenous people. We ask that M&S&O regularly uses M&S and Alongside Hope examples of programs that support First Nations' issues.
- Lynda presented the Messy Church theme for discussion. We were encouraged to check out the website to learn more and think of practical use for our greater community. Perhaps this would be an opportunity for the new minister to become known in Neepawa.
- Advent and Christmas plans are in place. A Lessons and Carols community service will be hosted by our church on December 14.

Discussion:

Pat highlighted the item regarding land acknowledgement and hoped everyone agreed that we could use the paraphrased Lord's Prayer once a month and encourage the M&S and Outreach committee as well as Alongside Hope, to occasionally use examples of activities that support reconciliation.

c) Ministry & Personnel – Jane Goudie

Motion: Jane Goudie / Betty Ebner

That Dawn's extended hours which include working Mondays from home, be extended to the end of June.

Carried.

Motion: Jane Goudie / Susan Phillips

That the Office Manager receive a 3% raise effective January 1, 2026. **Carried.**

- Jane will take these two motions to the next Neepawa United Church Board Meeting, November 18.

d) Mission & Service and Outreach – Susan Phillips

1. Donna Newton and Bea Betts presented our Breakfast program donations to NACI. We have a photo that will appear on the announcements on screen before worship service. It was just over \$500 that was collected.
2. The quilts for Habitat for Humanity will be blessed this Sunday (Nov 16) by Rita, during children's time (Rita calls it "Young at Heart Time") So far, the plan is for the quilts to be given as part of the handing over of keys ceremony. We are still considering serving coffee or lunch to the workers if a suitable time can be planned.
3. We will be putting up the Mitten Tree and the angels, and arranging for Murray Newton to set up the stable and figures for the outdoor Nativity Scene before the First Sunday of Advent (Nov 30).
4. After discussion with Pat, we have set the date for White Gift Sunday: December 14th. We will begin announcing that during Mission and Service story time on November 30th. We will also talk about Gifts with Vision and the Along Side Hope gift program.
5. We have already set dates for 2026 events! Put Friday, February 13th on your calendars for a Games Night!
6. We hope to do a tea at Elks Manor in February. We know there are lots of things going on there leading up to Christmas so decided to choose a quieter time of year.

e) Stewardship – Lynda Lowry

Fall Stewardship packages are in the Narthex at the church. Some have been returned to the office. The NUC board members will be asked to pick up their envelopes and take one or two for distribution to friends, family or neighbours. The remaining letters will be mailed on November 19.

f) Pastoral Care – Betty Ebner

Cards sent in October 2025

- Sympathy...4
- Get Well...3
- 1 Year Anniversary of Death..2
- Celebration...5

- Visits...2

g) Regional Representatives:

i) **Prairie to Pine** - the Prairie to Pine weekly newsletters are being sent out.

ii) **Brandon Diocese: Anita d'Armada**

- the following is the link to the October 2025 edition of The Mustard Seed, providing an update on recent events taking place in the Brandon Diocese, plus a message from Bishop Rachael.
<https://dioceseofbrandon.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/October-2025.pdf>

h) Pastoral Charge Supervisor - Rev. Leith Saunders

- there will be an in-person meeting of Prairie to Pine Regional Council, May 28-31, 2026 at Selkirk United Church. Cost is \$200. It would be good for us to have a representative attend the meeting.

- Rev. Saunders attended the Prairie to Pine Online Annual Meeting by zoom last week and advised that it was a very good meeting with lots of resources for the upcoming challenges being faced by United Churches across the country.

i) Website Updates – Murray Hart

Recent Updates include:

- added the minutes of the October NUASM board meeting to the Boards and Minutes page of the website. <https://www.nuasm.com/boards-and-minutes.html>
- added posters to the Events page highlighting the Cookies for a Cause initiative, and the ordering of Poinsettias
- posted November meeting dates for UCW units, and various boards and committees.

Discussion:

Susan asked if the UCW minutes should be uploaded to the website. Discussion followed that it would be useful to others as our UCW is very active. The NUC and UCW could discuss this at the next NUC meeting. If it will be available on the website, an item could be written for the Friday email to encourage parishioners to check out the website.

j) Motion to Accept all Reports.

Motion: Susan Phillips / Jane Goudie

That all reports be accepted as presented and discussed. **Carried.**

9. New Business

a) Date of NUASM Annual Meeting

Motion: Betty Ebner / Jane Goudie

That the NUASM Annual Meeting be held February 22, 2026 following the Sunday Service. **Carried.**

b) NUASM Nominating Committee

- the NUASM chair, Vice Chair, NUC representative and Vestry representative make up the Nominating Committee. They will seek input from others as deemed necessary.
- the secretary will contact the other two boards to ask them to appoint the required members to the NUASM nominating committee, and will circulate appropriate background documents to Leona and the representatives from the other boards.

10. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday December 9, 2025, at 1:00 pm by Zoom.

11. Closing Prayer – Rev. Saunders

12. Adjournment by the Chair at 1:34 pm.

Signatures:

(Chair – Leona Kucher)

(Secretary – Murray Hart)